

Aquatic Strategy - Feedback from ARC Open House Sept 14/11

Ardrossan Option:

Benefits for Family Use (Swimming Lessons, etc.)

- would be wonderful to have a place for our children to take swimming lessons. We are taxpayers too.
- Lots of young families in this area – would be nice to make their lives easier!!
- As a parent, I did not leave the pool when my kids were in lessons. I saved shopping for later. Also save on foods is a 7 min drive down the yellowhead.
- Worthwhile project. Will make good use of it. Many families in this area from babies to seniors will use it. Good use of our taxes.
- A lot of young families in the area. We would make use of the facility (moms & tots). Try driving 15 km away only to find overcrowded classes & no place to park!!
- My dad stresses out on driving a long distance listening to me and my sister complain. Build it here in Ardrossan!
- I am just learning how to draw...I would like an opportunity to learn how to swim.
- We don't put our kids in swim lessons in sher. Pk b/c it is too far away for us at N. cooking lake. It is always filled up anyways, so we have to go somewhere else. We use Leduc in the summer, kids go to the grandparents.
- Many hockey parents would bring their children during practices or games.

Older Adult benefits

- Seniors benefits. Senior centre across the street. Great for arthritis & rehab. A lot of seniors don't like to drive far distances (a lot of retired people on surrounding acreages).
- There has been talk for years about the possibility of a senior centre being built out here. It would be great if there were aquatics including whirlpool for their use. Every pool I've been to has had the whirlpool being used by seniors. Obviously they like them.
- It would be a good place to put a pool because the seniors would make good use of it and not have to drive into Sherwood Park. The seniors could use it during the day & the kids would make good use of it in evening and after school. Give kids someplace to play with friends instead of gathering on the roadside.

School Use and for Kids

- Better access for public & catholic schools
- Ardrossan schools could really take advantage of a close pool. Going into Sherwood Park leaves us with 20-25 min in the pool/class. Also, pool access would increase with any new water space, as we are having difficulty booking lanes for our fitness swim. Only 2 lanes at 9am once in a while. Hard to book.

- The largest school population is closest to Ardrossan; a whole new generation of swimmers can get access.
- My school is close to here and it would be fun to have a field trip here instead of driving a loud bus downtown!
- It would be nice to have a fully equipped site – pool/ice/working out site. Less travel time for schools to be able to join aquatic programs – more time for swimming, less time for traveling. Why is there not a 50m pool vs. a 25 meter?
- We need it! We pay taxes as well. Kids from schools could be enrolled in classes (2000+ kids) Rural kids deserve some benefits as well.
- Kids need positive activities after school and an area to meet. All other proposes areas have access to nearby pools, we deserve it as well.
- It would be awesome if there was a swimming pool in Ardrossan because me and my friends could go to the pool (Coby, age 8)
- There would be minimal travel time as well as a more convenient system for both school systems as they would be able to provide an aquatics program or swim lessons for the children. Would be a great benefit.
- We have the space to build the pool. There are a lot of kids that could use it. It would be good for the schools that are so close to the facilities. They could do swimming lessons for phys Ed during the day.

Sherwood Park is too far of a drive

- There are lots of rural residents that would use this facility. Currently we drive to St. Albert or Leduc as facilities in Sherwood Park do not meet our needs. We would love this opportunity to have this in our community!
- It would be nice not having to drive for a half hour to go swimming. Super hungry after swimming, having to wait a long time is a terror.
- People drive from west Edmonton to take their toddlers to Kinsmen...crazy but true. They like the facility for babies. Is 10 min to Ardrossan really too much?
- Being able to just drive 5 minutes to have fun with friends and then go home for a quick snack is better than driving 1 hour in total to another swimming pool and back.

Providing Rural Options

- Having a new swimming pool all crammed in the same place is not a good idea. Put the swimming pool here! Pretty please.
- We may make up a small amt of registrations to aquatics programs simply because they are so hard to get in to. I know several people including myself who have had to go to fort sask or Edmonton in order to get into swimming lessons as often within ½ hour of registration opening all programs are full!!
- Ardrossan proper may be small, but if you consider all the existing subdivisions surrounding this community and if you considered the # of families it includes, the number would be much larger than 5%
- Its time Ardrossan got something. Sherwood park has enough pools, we would love to have one here!!
- Having a place to swim and not hear any cars or traffic would be nice...Go Ardrossan!!
- People have to go to Edmonton or ft sask to get into swimming lessons. It would be a GREAT addition to the community. It would definitely get used.

- If Ardrossan isn't chosen for this pool, it will be decades/centuries before a pool is built east of Sherwood park
- Ardrossan can handle a 50m pool, and the area is now ready for growth with the new sewer/water system and development coming. BUILD IT FOR THE FUTURE!
- Look at a map! If Strathcona county is building another facility for all its residents then Ardrossan is the only solution that physically reaches the population.
- Currently getting into any swimming programs is extremely difficult. Hoping that a pool in a new location could open new classes for rural residents!
- Ardrossan doesn't have that many activities. A swimming pool would be nice.
- This pool doesn't just serve Ardrossan, but the whole population that's closer to this facility than existing, which is more than 5%.
- All these plans are outside any current construction going on. This site will pull not just from Ardrossan, but from other areas such as Josephburg, Tofield and other surrounding areas. Living within the town site the noise level has not been too bad with current construction as they have kept noise levels within levels.
- Overall, the concept of another pool in the county is needed. As we require more options for swimming lessons and need a spray park and waterslides. I think putting this in the rural location is preferable as it would help service the needs of many residents living to the east. This will help reduce the stress on current facilities in Sherwood Park.
- From my understanding, the sewer and water issues have already been dealt with and are in the works.
- If Ardrossan had its own facility it would free up space in the centers and decrease the congestion around those sites.
- Where does the 5% come from? I think this is drastically understated!! Our swim club alone – the majority of families are east of Sherwood park
- Reduce the “stress” on Sherwood park facilities (parking, staff etc) and move it to a new growth area where population is moving to...Ardrossan.
- "Ardrossan" includes a lot more people than just those that have “Ardrossan addresses. We're on a swim club, and the majority of our swimmers are from rural areas east of the park – including Tofield, Vegreville, Millet, and surrounding areas. The schools could then offer 3:30 swim times, which we all know is not “A” time water.
- The county has a chance to change my life. Please allow me to take swimming lessons in Ardrossan.
- I would like to know what criteria were used to create the 5% base. I would like to think that it could be more from students coming to lessons etc after school. There are many postal codes that are Sherwood park, but come to Ardrossan. Please clarify how 5% has been identified.
- There is way more room in Ardrossan to expand our recreation buildings. The space is here, the people are here, the schools are here, the families are here. I'm not sure the cons that are listed are supported with actual facts.
- Ardrossan has the area to expand easily. Good access for highways 10m from S. Park.
- None of the “cons” listed on the board appear to be real cons...
- Having a swimming pool here would make it seem bigger and better, and then we could raise money to make a better place that is more eco-friendly.

- We are OK with continued construction noise – we would look forward to the expanded community opportunity!
- Lots to look at... nice staff. I do believe Ardrossan could accommodate the new facilities. We're not as far out as people think. Sherwood park residents along with other rural areas would use it. I'm shocked at all the cons! I really would like to see the proof in this. 5% Ummm! I live off Wye Rd RR 213 and my address is "Sherwood park"!!! Our community and areas would benefit greatly.
- I think that the cons of Ardrossan are plentiful, but perhaps not of as much importance. They are arguments, but not strong.
- I think the 5% registration is not accurate, if you take into consideration that other areas out here travel to Sherwood park to use the facility in turn they would be using our site.
- hold back on \$7M loan for housing project to help pay for this project, don't need water park, need a steam room, a facility of this type is definitely overdue for the Ardrossan area
- Is a 50m pool an option in Ardrossan? Could that bring in swim meets? New sewer line being put in now, make it big!! We deserve a pool in Ardrossan.

Other

- Basing need for a pool on 5% of a population is ridiculous. If you only think about the town itself, then there shouldn't even be schools here. Why have 3 schools for 50 kids? Obviously families are living in homes outside of town.
- Several people I've spoken to believe that the location of the pool is a done deal, so why waste their time coming to this meeting. Sad but true.
- Build it here & it will be used to the MAX! We want it – we need it!! We deserve it too!
- Build it. We wouldn't have to drive in to Sherwood Park 5 days of the week to swim
- Please build it in Ardrossan. We deserve a pool.
- I will use the pool. So will I. Me too! Me three!
- build it and we will use it
- start building
- Until it is definite, it's no comment. Ardrossan needs it more.
- Ardrossan would use this facility. People from other communities would come to use the pool, making Sherwood Park facilities less crowded.
- There is a large population east of S.P and also Ardrossan schools that could make use of a pool in Ardrossan
- Build and we will use it.
- Build and we will come.
- Build and we too will come!
- Build now in Ardrossan. The new growth is E of Sherwood Park & will grow and grow.
- Build it – we'll all come! Please research the 5%.
- We would like a pool in Ardrossan. It would be a great addition to Ardrossan. (Kyle, age 10)
- Putting the pool here would allow schools to access it for their programs.
- We have a lot of room here, if we work together, we can do it!!
- Please! It may take a long time before a new swimming pool opens.

KLC Option

Location

- already overcrowded classes & too far to drive. Please give access to Ardrossan
- This area of the county is already serviced; moving out of Sherwood park makes more sense.
- Enough facilities in vicinity, requires branching out and building outside of Sherwood park

Doesn't solve short term needs/ Too many unknowns

- Would not provide adequate space for short term needs.
- Too many unknowns, cost could be affected dramatically

Millennium Place Option:

Too Busy/Too Congested:

- too much going on here already. The mega complex loses the community feel. Just congested and stressful.
- Time to expand elsewhere. Too busy of a place already.
- Millennium does not need increased usage.
- Millennium place already too congested/too busy inside/no parking on most days. We actually will/do travel to either the fort or spruce grove to use the swimming facilities there, less congestion, pools not as packed full, a lot of parking.
- Millennium Place is big enough already, not enough room to expand, no room for parking already.

Parking

- Not ideal due to loss of parking. This facility is also currently very busy. Think it would be better to build a new facility in a different location to spread the amount of people out.
- Not a lot of parking available with no new areas planned. Very busy already, very limited spacing.

Operations

- Currently we don't use this facility as we don't like the waves that affect the whole pool. The addition of a waterslide would be welcome, but I think that the amount of people in the area would require more than 1 waterslide.
- We go to fort sask for swimming. Not so busy, able to get into lessons. No waves! Not everybody likes waves.
- Lengthy shutdown would be devastating to existing clubs. Addition would not meet short term needs for pool space.

GARC 50m Pool Concept

Too Expensive

- costly alternative site

Lack of Space and Proximity to Schools

- Concerned about Glen Allan parking and streets as they are right now. If MP was at Glen Allan, new wider streets would be necessary. 4 elem. schools close, not a good idea.
- Invest where more space available. Too costly for facility.

Building 50 M pool

- Like the idea of a 50m pool. How many 50m pools exist in Edmonton? Alberta? County has always been a leader in forward thinking

Misc

- fantastic facility, would meet the long term needs of the community. Cheapest option in terms of cost per lane provided.

GARC 25m Pool Concept

Parking

- Not enough parking. Too close to other facilities.
- Parking is very limited now & if a pool was constructed, where would people park?

Local Congestion

- Increased congestion for local residents
- Already too congested of an area, this would make it worse

Not a Good Solution

- Sherwood park already has 2 pools and this is supposed to benefit the rural areas not just the urban parts of Strathcona. These pools do pull a lot from the rural areas.
- This is the 2nd best option. Would not meet the long term needs.

Emerald Hills Concept

Too Close to Millennium and/or Need Something for Rural Residents

- This plan seems limited, and its close to larger facilities. Would people really choose to come to this location, or go to Millennium which has more choices? This may become more exclusive to the school.
- Already have close access at Millennium which is a fantastic facility. Please give others the same option (Ardrossan)
- Too exclusive. Need facility outside of Sherwood park to provide for Strathcona residents.
- Too far from rural east county

- This is still too far away for us at N. cooking lake. Too close to Millennium anyways. Sherwood park has enough pools. Ardrossan needs this for our kids & adults.
- It seems for a similar cost, the Ardrossan plan provides a much more impactful facility, and hence is a better and more constructive way to spend the money.
- I heard that in 10 years they will be building another “millennium” in this area already.

Proximity to School

- Would be very exclusive for school use; how convenient would it be for public use, additional traffic to the school. Millennium place is only 5 min drive away. Would be the 3rd pool in Sherwood park.
- Would prefer to have a pool that does not have a direct connection to a school. Centering it in a populated area makes more sense.

Area Congestion

- Emerald hills is going to be far too congested
- Sherwood park already has pools
- The places in Sherwood park are already busy enough. Not enough parking.