



Regional District of
Kitimat-Stikine

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Terrace and District Aquatic Centre Renewal Community Update

February 14, 2018

TERRACE –

The Terrace and District Aquatic Centre (TDAC) closed on March 19, 2017 to undergo a significant facility renewal that was initiated by the \$4.3 million dollar infrastructure grant from the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Gas Tax Strategic Priorities Fund.

With construction starting in April, 2017 the TDAC Renewal Project is now in its advanced stage of construction. This project has been large and complex in nature—virtually every wall, public space and mechanical system is getting renovated or replaced. Upon completion this 45 year old building will feel like a new facility with more open space, new pools, and modern equipment. The City is aiming for re-opening in May, 2018 but cannot confirm a firm opening date due to the complexity of renovations and final works. We will update the community as details can be confirmed with the contractors. This is the home stretch of the renovation and the public's patience and understanding is much appreciated.

Why was the project needed and why didn't the City choose to do a full rebuild?

A facility assessment in 2012 by Carscadden Architects determined that the TDAC facility structure was sound but most of its mechanical operating systems needed immediate or subsequent major repairs within five years. These repairs were immediately prioritized and budgeted with the first major repair being the rebuilding of the facility's west wall.

Knowing the extensiveness of the repairs, the City of Terrace made an application to the UBCM Gas Tax Strategic Priorities Fund. It was the success of this grant that has allowed us to do the full facility renewal, requiring only one closure of the facility. The grant has also allowed us to add upgrades to the project.

The TDAC Renewal project is expected to cost approximately \$8 million dollars once complete with more than 50% coming from grant funding. A new facility would not have been eligible for grant funding and would have cost an estimated \$15+ million.

How were the upgrades selected?

The Project design was informed by a community consultation process. Feedback from this process was provided to Terrace City Council and Directors of the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine (RDKS) and collectively they agreed to incorporate many of the community selected upgrades into the renewal. Many elements of the facility have increased in size including the fitness room (nearly doubling in size) and the leisure pool (increasing from 850 sq.ft. to 1200 sq. ft.). Additional amenities include a family change room, lazy river in the leisure pool, accessibility features and a spacious pool viewing area. Some upgrades are things users will not see but that will enhance the user experience and reduce facility costs over the long term, including a new UV disinfection system and two new boilers.

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