



# STAFF REPORT

<b>REPORT #:</b>	EMC 2012-0?
<b>DATE:</b>	October 9, 2012
<b>SUBMITTED TO:</b>	Mayor & Members of Council
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Executive Management Committee
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Therapeutic Pool Option - Centennial Pool

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## 1. RECOMMENDATION:

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*THAT* Council receive for information staff report EMC 2012-0? outlining an option to have a therapeutic pool within the new Centennial Pool development.

*AND FURTHER THAT* Council direct staff to proceed with confirming the detailed specifications and firm costs to be presented to Council for approval by ?????

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## 2. SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND:

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On August 27, 2012 Council directed staff to proceed with the purchase and construction of an Insulated Architectural Membrane structure over the existing Outdoor Pool to provide a year-round pool to meet the community's aquatic and competitive swimming needs. Recent discussions with various community stakeholders on the approved Centennial Pool project emphasised the need and value of a warm water therapeutic pool component. Support for this feature was also presented in several previous Parks, Recreation and Culture reports to include the Central Park Redevelopment Final Report, the Heritage Park Retrofit Plan and the 2008 Leisure Services Master Plan. On October 1, 2012 Council requested that staff prepare a report on having a therapeutic pool included within the new Centennial Pool development.

Based on Council's direction, follow up discussions with Sprung/BLT have confirmed that adding a warm water therapeutic pool tank to the Centennial Pool project is a viable option. To accommodate the therapeutic pool component the site design and dimensions would need to be adjusted however no impact to existing park uses is anticipated. The proposed therapeutic pool tank would be approx 25ft by 30ft with a constant depth of approximately 4 ft.

Sprung/BLT have expressed great interest in building this facility as a showcase for the Ontario/Eastern provincial marketplace. As a result, they have confirmed that they would include the therapeutic pool component and associated site design accommodations at their construction cost. Preliminary discussions have identified this cost in the range of \$500,000 to \$550,000.

In order to accommodate the therapeutic pool component in the construction schedule of this project, Council would need to provide staff with direction by.....

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### **3. DISCUSSION:**

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Warm water therapeutic pools are increasing in number in municipal designs of public aquatic centres. Although this trend is heavily influenced by the need to provide services for an ageing population, warm water therapeutic pools can also be used by all age segments of the community for therapeutic exercise, flexibility training and relaxation purposes. As such, Collingwood's demographics and population are well aligned with this type of amenity. Warm water therapeutic pools also offer a preferred and more conducive environment for operating swim lessons for younger children. As a result, the design features of a warm water therapeutic pool should incorporate as much flexibility as possible to ensure that programming can meet the broadest needs of the community.

The design considerations for this type of pool tank may include; a ramp, lift, soft walk padded floor, rails, bench seating with jets and spray toy features. The programming options for this additional tank could include; rehabilitative walking programs, fitness classes, parent and tot, pre-school and beginner children's swim lessons as well as scheduled open public recreational times. The pool can also be rented to various external permit users to include specific rehabilitation or athlete training programs or private party rentals.

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### **4. DEPARTMENT HEAD REVIEW:**

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This report was reviewed by the Executive Management Committee, Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture and the Manager of Fleet, Facilities and Purchasing and was circulated to Department Heads. Comments received were reviewed and incorporated prior to having the report proceed to Council.

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### **5. EFFECT ON TOWN FINANCES:**

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**6. DISPOSITION:**

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Staff will follow through to ensure that the direction of Council is carried out.

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**7. APPENDICES:**

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Respectfully submitted,

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Executive Management Committee:

Ed Houghton, Acting CAO; Larry Irwin, Director of IT Services; Sara Almas, Clerk; and, Marjory Leonard, Treasurer.

With input from:

Marta Proctor, Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture,  
Dave McNalty, Manager Fleet, Facilities and Purchasing,