Committee of the Whole
Agenda published May 29, 2026
Addendums published June 1 and June 5, 2026

Date: June 8, 2026
Time: 9:30 am
Location: Council Chambers, City Hall, second floor

Pages

6. Delegations

6.1 *Louis Frapporti, Alinea Land Corporation, regarding community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Rd. (CAO-01-26)*

6.2 *Andrea Dodd, Executive Director, Aldershot Village BIA, regarding community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Rd. (CAO-01-26)* 1 - 3

6.3 *Jim Young, Partnering Aldershot, regarding community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Rd. (CAO-01-26)* 4 - 7

6.4 *Cody Bradt, Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club regarding community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Rd. (CAO-01-26)* 8 - 530

6.5 *Manny Figueiredo, YMCA, regarding community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Rd. (CAO-01-26)* 531 - 534

6.6 *Zohair Khan, Burlington Aquatic Devilrays regarding community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Rd. (CAO-01-26)* 535 - 798

6.7 *Lawson Hunter regarding Climate Resilient Burlington Plan – Year 4 Progress update (PWS-07-26)* 799 - 806

6.8 *Denise Gray regarding Climate Resilient Burlington Plan - Year 4 Progress update (PWS-07-26)* 807 - 808

6.9 *Amy Schnurr, BurlingtonGreen Environmental Association, regarding Climate Resilient Burlington Plan - Year 4 Progress update. (PWS-07-26)*

6.10 Amy Schnurr, BurlingtonGreen Environmental Association, regarding Analysis of Bill 98 - Building Homes and Improving Transportation Infrastructure Act (CAF-06-26)

6.11 Cynthia Shanahan regarding motion memo regarding a review of options to restrict construction hours (COW-16-26) *809 - 810*

7. Consent Items

7.11 Information on the new Development Charge Reduction Program (FIN-06-26) (CCS) *811 - 824*

Receive for information finance report FIN-06-26 regarding information on the Development Charge Reduction Program.

8. Community and Corporate Services

8.2 Community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Rd. (CAO-01-26)

a. Staff presentation regarding Community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Rd. (CAO-01-26) *825 - 833*

b. Correspondence from Terry Caddo, Burlington Chamber of Commerce, regarding Community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Rd. (CAO-01-26) *834 - 835*

c. Correspondence from Anita Cassidy, BEDT, regarding Community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Rd. (CAO-01-26) *836 - 837*

d. Correspondence from Aquatic Sport Council, regarding Community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Rd. (CAO-01-26) *838 - 838*

8.3 Motion memo regarding response to inquiries related to cricket in Central Park (COW-15-26)

a. Correspondence from Dave Tourchin, Bird Friendly Hamilton Burlington, regarding Motion memo regarding response to inquiries related to cricket in Central Park (COW-15-26) *839 - 839*

9. Confidential Items and Closed Meeting

9.7 Confidential update on a labour relations matter (HRS-04-26)

Pursuant to Section 239(2)(d) labour relations or employee negotiations

9.8 Confidential verbal update regarding a human resources matter (HRS-05-26)

Pursuant to Section 239(2)(b) personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees

11. Public Works

11.1 Climate Resilient Burlington Plan – Year 4 Progress update (PWS-07-26)

a. Correspondence from the Bay Area Climate Change Council regarding Climate Resilient Burlington Plan – Year 4 Progress update (PWS-07-26) *840 - 841*

11.2 Downtown parking market feasibility analysis (PWS-28-26)

a. Correspondence from Brian Dean, Burlington Downtown regarding Downtown parking market feasibility analysis (PWS-28-26) *842 - 843*

13. Statutory Public Meetings

13.1 Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments and Draft Plan of Subdivision for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway (Bronte Creek Meadows) (DGM-38-26) *844 - 957*

Note: Staff memo with revised recommendation, Appendices H, K, L and M were published on Friday, June 5, 2026

Revised recommendation:

Approve the applications, as modified by planning staff, for Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Plan of Subdivision, submitted by Bousfields Inc. on behalf of Alinea as “Phase 1” at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway; and

Approve Official Plan Amendment No. 11 to the City of Burlington Official Plan 2020, as modified by planning staff and provided in Appendix K of the Memo to Development and Growth Management report DGM-38-26, to amend the designation for the lands located at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway; and

Deem that the Official Plan Amendment No.11 as revised in Appendix K is consistent with The Planning Act; and

Instruct the City Clerk to prepare the necessary by-law adopting Official

Plan Amendment No. 11 as contained in Appendix K of the Memo to Development and Growth Management report DGM-38-26 to be presented for approval at the same time as the associated by-law in Appendix L to amend Zoning By-law 2020, as amended, for the development proposal; and

Approve Zoning By-law 2020.520, attached as Appendix L of the Memo to Development and Growth Management report DGM-38-26, and

Deem that Zoning By-law 2020.520 will conform to all applicable Official Plans of the City of Burlington once Official Plan Amendment No. 11 is adopted; and

State that the amending zoning by-law will not come into effect until Official Plan Amendment No. 11 is adopted; and

Approve the Draft Plan of Subdivision for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway consisting of 181 Low Density Residential lots, 16 On-Street Townhouse blocks, 13 Double Frontage Townhouse blocks, one Medium Density Mixed Use Block, one Employment Block, one Park block, two Stormwater Management Pond blocks, three Open Space blocks, two Easement blocks, two Natural Heritage blocks, four Potential Enhancement blocks, five Development blocks, one Potential Creek Crossing block, one Road Widening block, and Roads identified as 26.0m Public R.O.W., 18m Public R.O.W., and 7.5m Public Lane, as revised and attached as Appendix E, with Appendix F showing the changes to the draft plan of subdivision submitted with the application in red mark-up, subject to the conditions contained in Appendix M of the Memo to Development and Growth Management report DGM-38-26, after the associated amending zoning by-law comes into effect.

a.	*Staff presentation regarding Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments and Draft Plan of Subdivision for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 2501 Mainway (Bronte Creek Meadows) (DGM-38-26)*	*958 - 964*
b.	*Staff memo with revised recommendation and appendices regarding Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments and Draft Plan of Subdivision for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway (Bronte Creek Meadows) (DGM-38-26)*	*965 - 1097*
c.	*David Falletta, Bousfields Inc., regarding Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments and Draft Plan of Subdivision for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway (Bronte Creek Meadows) (DGM-38-26)*	*1098 - 1116*

d. Correspondence from Nick Morrison regarding Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments and Draft Plan of Subdivision for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway (Bronte Creek Meadows) (DGM-38-26) *1117 - 1118*

Monday, June 1st, 2026
City Clerk/Director
Legislative Services

Aldershot Village BIA Support for 1200 King Road.

City Clerk/Director
Legislative Services

Re: Aldershot Village BIA Support for 1200 King Road

The Aldershot Village BIA is pleased to provide this written submission in support of the proposed zoning amendment for 1200 King Road.

Aldershot is a community that continues to evolve and grow. Our business community sees tremendous value in projects that not only bring investment and new residents to the area, but also create opportunities for culture, recreation, community gathering, and long-term economic vitality. This proposal represents exactly that kind of opportunity.

The vision presented for 1200 King Road is ambitious, forward thinking, and community focused. As outlined by the project team, it is intended to be a sustainable, vibrant, and diverse mixed-use complete community that brings together housing, retail, recreation, entertainment, educational opportunities, parks, and open space in one master planned destination. It has the potential to become a transformational development not only for Aldershot, but for Burlington as a whole.

This is an incredible opportunity for Aldershot and Burlington, an opportunity to help shape the future of our community for generations to come. The vision for this site represents the future of Aldershot: a complete community that provides spaces, services, and opportunities for residents of all ages, from birth to later in life.

Throughout this process, the level of engagement undertaken by the development team has been particularly noteworthy. The project website emphasizes that the current concept has been shaped through years of visioning, consultation, and engagement with community leaders, residents, stakeholders, and the City of Burlington. That willingness to listen, adapt, and continue engaging as the project evolves over multiple phases builds trust and strengthens confidence that this development can move forward in a way that reflects both current needs and future aspirations.

We also recognize the significance of the proposed community amenities and public spaces being discussed as part of this development. The concept includes a variety of engaging park spaces, including a central park, pedestrian promenade, urban squares, and campus green, alongside trails, public realm gathering spaces, and areas for active and passive recreation. Just as importantly, the proposal places emphasis on the preservation and enhancement of significant natural heritage features, including mature woodlands and creek corridors, helping to balance growth with environmental stewardship.

At a time when many communities are competing for investment and economic growth, Burlington has an opportunity to support a project that responds to several important city-building objectives at once. The proposal is intended to help address housing needs through a range of housing typologies and tenure options, while also leveraging its location adjacent to the Aldershot GO Station and provincial highway network to support multimodal connectivity, transit access, and long-term intensification in an appropriate location. Developments that combine housing, mobility, community infrastructure, economic activity, and public amenities are essential to building complete communities.

The Aldershot Village BIA supports the advancement of this zoning amendment application and encourages Council and staff to continue working collaboratively to ensure the surrounding infrastructure, including roads, transit, public services, and community facilities, evolves alongside the growth this project will bring.

We see particular value in the project's potential to create new opportunities for the neighbourhood by serving retail, food and commercial activity, arts and culture, recreation, education, and community gathering, all of which can contribute meaningfully to the long-term vitality of Aldershot.

While the scale and cost of a project of this magnitude are significant, the long-term value it can deliver to residents, businesses, families, and future generations is truly priceless. Investments in complete communities that prioritize connection, quality of life, accessibility, sustainability, and economic vitality are the kinds of city-building opportunities that define communities for decades to come.

We believe this project deserves continued collaboration, momentum, and leadership to move forward successfully. The Aldershot Village BIA strongly encourages Council, staff, stakeholders, and the development team to continue advancing the necessary next steps to bring this vision to reality.

Let’s do it. Let’s move forward. Let’s get shovels in the ground on a historic and valuable project that can shape the future of Aldershot and Burlington for generations.

Andrea Dodd
Executive Director
Aldershot Village BIA

Partnering Aldershot Delegation to Committee of The Whole: June 8th. 2026

Item 8.2 … 259 - 267 Community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Rd. (CAO-01-26)

Supporting the endorsement of the updated scope of community facilities under consideration on the 1200 King Road development.

As a group of local residents, businesses, civic, charitable, faith and educational communities Partnering Aldershot has appeared before council on a variety of local initiatives.

We provided community input to Burlington Transit opposing changes to Bus Route # 4, an essential Aldershot link to Our Hospital, Art Gallery, Performing Arts Centre, City Hall and Downtown core. We have delegated on developments in Aldershot, where appropriate in support and some we perceived at odds with the interests of Aldershot, in opposition. Most recently we delegated in support of The Indwell supportive housing project on Waterdown Rd.

In every case our support or opposition has aligned with the eventual council decision.

Except one!

Partnering Aldershot were unable to dissuade council from adopting the 2024 Live and Play Plan which you will recall provided multi-year multi-million-dollar investments in community facilities in every City Ward, except Ward 1 and Aldershot.

At that time much of the city justification and reasoning behind Aldershot's exclusion from facility investments centred on the prospect of great things to come at1200 King Road.

This set Partnering Aldershot on a two-pronged approach to bringing more community programming and better facilities to Aldershot.

PA Seniors Group set out to provide our own Aldershot programs.

And they have done so, so successfully in fact that City Culture & Recreation Department, awakened to the local demand, now work with Partnering Aldershot Seniors to develop and implement more Aldershot programming. A successful joint undertaking, particularly given the lack of amenity spaces in Aldershot.

The second prong of our approach has been to align Partnering Aldershot with The Alinea Group and their transformational ideas for 1200 King Rd.

A project which provides a once-in-a-generation opportunity to redress imbalances in the availability of recreation and community facilities other parts of the city enjoy over Aldershot and West Burlington.

The City's own report points out There is Currently No City Gymnasium west of Brant Street.

The ongoing downturn in the housing market that has put many development projects on the back burner has, until now dashed Partnering Aldershot's high hopes for recreational facilities at 1200 King Road anytime soon.

Today, however, we find the Alinea Group interested in and preparing to move forward on many of the community facilities proposed at 1200 King Road:

Potentially an Event Centre, Major Sports Arena, Community Centre, Recreational Ice Facility, possible Aquatics / Basketball Facilities, Conference and Multi-Purpose Spaces.

Precisely the kind of investment in community facilities PA has been advocating but perhaps equally importantly, the kind of anchor investments which will accelerate the broader development of 1200 King Road, supporting the delivery of much needed new housing, the associated construction jobs in an area of the economy that continues to struggle, as well as the permanent jobs that new business and commercial activity will bring to Aldershot and Burlington.

Beyond the impact on Aldershot however, 1200 King opens up the potential for a major destination-scale facility in West Burlington. A sports and Entertainment hub bringing people, visitors and tourists into the area for sport, recreation, events, tournaments, conferences and community programming. An influx that must surely benefit local restaurants, retailers, service providers and hospitality businesses.

Hopefully, as the "Destination Features" propel the broader 1200 King development forward -- the city stands to benefit from substantial business and residential assessment growth, property tax revenue, retail spending, hospitality spending, and business activity, helping support Burlington's long-term fiscal health, eventually, perhaps, reducing upward pressure on existing taxpayers.

We believe the city should look more ambitiously at involvement in this project, as an investment and not simply a cost.

And the investment will be substantial.
Staff estimate capital costs for a destination arena at ----- $150M to $200M.
Multiple community facilities --- within the larger project --- could stretch that to $300M.

Substantial indeed but not unheard of for an undertaking of this magnitude, importance and potential positive impact..

We should recall that the eventual cost of The Bateman refurbishment was upwards of $100m, and that city projections of recreation spending through 2050 are into $billions,.

Offsetting this, a project of such regional, provincial, even national importance, will doubtless attract funding from every level of government and from the private development, sports, entertainment and hospitality industries.

Partnering Aldershot's understanding is that it is precisely this kind of private investor interest in the Sports and Venue aspects of 1200 King that has rekindled forward movement on this project.

At a time when our Federal Government is committed to its Building Canada Strong agenda catalyzing investment in nation building projects; to build more housing, improve infrastructure, create employment, both in the trades that will build it and the economic revival the completed projects will bring.

When our Provincial Government campaign to Protect Ontario provides incentives to build more, build faster, create new housing, protect and create employment in the construction sector, surely the time has never been better to seek financing partners in the upper tiers of government.

A decision from council to move forward with the next phase of due diligence: Examination of capital costs, operating models, the potential for senior government funding and private sector partnerships is essential to create the atmosphere of certainty and confidence that will backstop the public-private partnership investment, a project of this magnitude will almost certainly need if it is to proceed and succeed.

The sheer scale and ambition of this 1200 King Rd. proposal will change Aldershot and Burlington for generations to come and that can be scary for residents. So I would like to acknowledge the degree of local community engagement undertaken by Alinea Group. It has been remarkable. From presentations with Partnering Aldershot, with Aldershot Business Improvement Area, Burlington Economic Development Council, at Ward 1 Townhalls and even to a community walking tour of the site with environmental and historical commentary along the route.

Every City developer should be so engaged.

In closing: In our many PA internal discussions and engagements with The Alinea Group, there was the reasonable assumption that ABIA and the business community would find a natural alignment with an economic opportunity of this scale.

What we have found surprising is the depth of interest and support among our seniors, our faith communities, our resident and civic groups for this project.

Disappointed by past underinvestment in west-end facilities the Aldershot community is generally enthused at the prospect of the Events, Sports, Entertainment and Community Facility aspects of 1200 King Rd, moving forward.

Acknowledging 1200 King as a generational opportunity, I would also caution that it may also be our last best chance. If 1200 king does not move forward, where else is there land? Where else is the proposal? Where else can Aldershot look for the community facilities we have been denied for so long.

We urge Council to move forward decisively and diligently. Press reports suggest other municipalities are showing interest in facilities like this. Partnering Aldershot would much rather see this opportunity coming to Aldershot and Burlington.

Jim Young
Partnering Aldershot
June 5th. 2026

Monday, May 25, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
16 Hugh Lane
Milton, ON L9T 2C6
adam.vankoeverden@parl.gc.ca

RE: Proposed Regional Multi-Use Aquatic Sportsplex in Burlington

Dear Mr. van Koeverden,

On behalf of Swimming Canada, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the proposed regional, multi-use aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, Ontario.

Swimming Canada recognizes the significant need for modern aquatic infrastructure across the country. Access to appropriate pool space is essential to support participation, learn-to-swim programming, athlete development, para swimming, coach and official development, and the hosting of quality competitions.

The proposed facility, including a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool, would be an important addition to the aquatic facility network in Ontario and Canada. The Burlington and broader Golden Horseshoe corridor is a growing region with strong demand for aquatic programming, community access, and sport development opportunities.

Swimming Canada is particularly supportive of facility concepts that consider the full range of requirements needed to deliver safe, inclusive, and high-quality aquatic programming and competitions. In addition to pool specifications, sufficient deck space, warm-up and cool-down capacity, spectator seating, accessibility, and appropriate areas for officials, volunteers, coaches, and event operations are critical to hosting successful competitions and supporting athlete development.

A modern regional aquatic facility in Burlington would help address an important infrastructure gap and could support community programming, club training, para swimming, and regional, provincial, and potentially national-level competition hosting. Facilities with adequate deck space and spectator seating also help create positive experiences for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, families, and spectators, while bringing aquatic events and associated benefits to the region.

Swimming Canada supports initiatives that expand access to quality aquatic environments and strengthen the sport system across Canada. We are pleased to support the continued exploration and advancement of this important project.

Sincerely,

Michelle Killins

Michelle Killins
Director, Sport Development
mkillins@swimming.ca

May 20, 2026

Dear Cody Bradt,

On behalf of Canada Artistic Swimming, I am pleased to express our support for the development of a new aquatic facility in Burlington.

This project represents an important investment in community sport, recreation, and athlete development. Expanded aquatic infrastructure would help meet the growing demand for both recreational and competitive artistic swimming programming in Burlington and the surrounding region, while creating new opportunities for participation for athletes of all ages and abilities.

Strong local facilities are essential to supporting the athlete pathway from “pool to podium.” They provide safe and accessible spaces for introductory programs, recreational participation, competitive training, and the long-term development of athletes, coaches, and officials.

Canada Artistic Swimming proudly hosts major national and international events each year, including World Aquatics World Cup competitions, National Qualifiers, and Canadian Championships. Investments in aquatic infrastructure help strengthen Canada’s ability to develop athletes and host major events to build healthier communities and drive millions in sport tourism economic activity. We would welcome the opportunity to host artistic swimming events in Burlington.

We believe there is significant untapped potential for continued growth of artistic swimming in Burlington, and this facility would play an important role in supporting that future.

Sincerely,

Steve Wallace
Chief Executive Officer
Canada Artistic Swimming

May 10th, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: **Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club Letter of Support for Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington**

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden, MPP Neil Lumsden, Mayor Meed Ward, Members of Burlington City Council, and City of Burlington Staff,

On behalf of the Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the inclusion of meaningful aquatic infrastructure as part of the proposed development at 1200 King Road in Burlington.

We strongly support the development of a regional, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25-metre pool, in conjunction with the proposed recreation space, event centre, and hotel.

This is not simply a swimming project. It is a community and regional infrastructure opportunity that would serve Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, and the broader Golden Horseshoe for generations.

Burlington and Halton currently lack access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. Existing city facilities are aging, heavily used, and limited in capacity. They provide minimal opportunity to host even small-scale aquatic events and do not offer the deck space, spectator seating, warm-up/cool-down capacity, or competition infrastructure required to support larger events.

A sport-friendly 50-metre competition pool would address a major regional gap by supporting swimming, para swimming, artistic swimming, water polo, lifesaving sport, school programming, training camps, and regional, provincial, university, and national-level event hosting.

Equally important, a warmer 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim, community recreation, adaptive aquatics, younger swimmers, therapeutic-style programming, and warm-up/cool-down space

during competitions. Together, these pools would allow the facility to serve both community needs and sport needs at the same time.

The proposed 1200 King Road location offers a rare opportunity to create a highly accessible regional aquatic hub, positioned near major highways, transit, airports, and surrounding communities.

This project would benefit far beyond one club, one sport, or one municipality. It would support water safety, public health, youth development, accessibility, recreation, tourism, economic growth, and community connection.

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club strongly supports this opportunity and respectfully encourages Burlington City Council, City staff, and provincial and federal partners to work together to advance a regional aquatic facility quickly that meets the needs of today while building for the next generation.

Sincerely,

Grey Fairley

Grey Fairley

Head Coach & CEO

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Letter of Support for a Regional Multi-Use Aquatic Facility in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden, MPP Neil Lumsden, Mayor Meed Ward, Members of Burlington City Council, and City of Burlington Staff,

My name is Cody Bradt, and I am writing to express my strong support for the development of a regional multi-use recreation, event, and aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, including a 10-lane 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25-metre pool.

This is a rare and important opportunity to create a facility that would serve Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, and the broader Golden Horseshoe region for generations. When considered in conjunction with the proposed recreation space, event centre, and hotel, this project has the potential to become a true regional destination for sport, recreation, tourism, events, and community gathering.

A sport-friendly 50-metre competition pool would immediately address a significant infrastructure gap in our region. Burlington and Halton currently do not have access to an indoor long course pool, which limits training opportunities, athlete development, and the ability to host meaningful aquatic competitions. A properly designed 50-metre pool with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up and cool-down capacity, accessibility, and support areas would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, national, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events.

The economic impact of this type of facility could be substantial. Aquatic competitions and sport events bring athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, families, and spectators into the host community. With the addition of an event centre and hotel, Burlington would be well positioned to capture millions of dollars in potential economic activity through hotel stays, restaurants, retail, transportation, facility rentals, and repeat event hosting. These events would not be limited to one weekend or one sport; a properly designed aquatic and recreation complex could generate year-round activity and regional tourism.

The location makes this opportunity even stronger. A facility positioned near the GO line, Highway 403, the QEW, and Highway 407 would be highly accessible for families and teams across the region. With approximately 25-minute access to Hamilton International Airport and approximately 35-minute access to Toronto Pearson International Airport, Burlington could become a highly attractive destination for provincial, national, and potentially international-level events. Few communities are as well positioned geographically to serve such a densely populated and sport-focused region.

This project is also about far more than competitive swimming. Aquatics is one of the only recreation services that truly serves all ages and stages of life. From parent-and-tot programs, learn-to-swim, school programming, and lifesaving education, to fitness, rehabilitation, accessibility programming, para sport, seniors' activity, and competitive pathways, aquatic infrastructure supports the entire community. A secondary warmer 10-lane 25-metre pool is essential to that vision. It would allow the facility to support younger swimmers, community users, therapeutic-style programming, adaptive aquatics, lessons, and warm-water needs while preserving the 50-metre pool for training, competition, and larger-scale events.

This combined model is what makes the project so compelling. A 50-metre competition pool alone would be valuable, but pairing it with a warmer 25-metre pool ensures the facility can serve both sport and community needs at the same time. It would reduce pressure on existing municipal pools, expand access to aquatic programming, create better training and competition opportunities, and support residents who may never participate in competitive sport but still rely on aquatic recreation for health, safety, fitness, and quality of life.

Burlington and the surrounding region are densely populated, growing, and passionate about aquatics. The demand is already here. Families are travelling for training and competitions, clubs are competing for limited water space, existing facilities are aging, and community aquatic programs continue to face capacity challenges. This project represents an opportunity to meet that demand with thoughtful, future-focused infrastructure.

A regional multi-use aquatic sportsplex would have community impact far beyond one club, one sport, or one municipality. It would support public health, water safety, youth development, accessibility, tourism, economic growth, sport excellence, and community connection. It would position Burlington as a leader in regional recreation infrastructure and create a legacy facility that serves residents and visitors for decades.

I strongly encourage all levels of government and community partners to support this opportunity and work together to advance a regional multi-use facility that includes both a 10-lane 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25-metre pool.

Sincerely,

Cody Bradt

Cody Bradt

Chief Operating Officer & Associate Head Coach

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

amenities, enhanced accessibility, and high-quality air handling systems designed to support athlete health and performance.

Importantly, this facility would help address a significant gap in aquatic infrastructure within Halton and the western Greater Toronto Area. While several municipalities in Ontario have developed competition-ready aquatic centres, there remains a shortage of venues capable of hosting major meets in this growing region. A Burlington facility would create a more balanced distribution of aquatic infrastructure across Southern Ontario, reducing pressure on existing venues and providing athletes from multiple communities with greater access to high-quality competition opportunities closer to home.

Beyond its benefits to the aquatic community, a regional competition facility would bring visiting teams and families into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, and local businesses through sport tourism while enhancing Burlington's reputation as a destination for major sporting events.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important regional infrastructure project. A competition-ready aquatic facility would be a valuable investment in the health, development, and success of athletes across Burlington, Halton, and the surrounding region for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Maria Macpherson

Coach

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

Hamilton

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility in Burlington/Halton

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden, MPP Neil Lumsden, Mayor Meed Ward, and Members of Burlington City Council,

My name is Maria Macpherson, and I am writing as a coach in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Competition is an essential part of athlete development. Athletes need regular, high-quality racing opportunities to learn, improve, build confidence, and progress through the sport. As a coach, I see firsthand the impact that accessible, high-quality competition opportunities have on athlete development, retention, and long-term success in sport. Unfortunately, there are limited facilities in the region that can properly host large aquatic competitions.

Many existing facilities lack adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up and cool-down capacity, accessibility, and the operational space needed for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families. Small pool decks can become overcrowded during competitions, making it difficult for athletes to move safely and comfortably throughout the facility. In addition, many older facilities struggle with air quality and ventilation issues, creating less-than-ideal conditions for athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators who spend long hours in these environments.

While several 50-metre pools exist across Southern Ontario, there remains a shortage of modern, competition-ready aquatic facilities in Halton and the western GTA that can host large regional and provincial championships. Athletes and clubs in Burlington and surrounding communities frequently travel to Toronto, Markham, Scarborough, and beyond to access facilities that meet competition hosting requirements.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, featuring a 10-lane 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25-metre pool, would provide much-needed competition capacity in the region. It would allow more regional and provincial-level events to be hosted locally, improve the experience for athletes and families, and support the development of officials and volunteers. A modern facility would also provide adequate deck space, improved spectator

03 Jun 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sports complex in Burlington.

In Halton region there is the lack of swimming facilities, including those suited for competitive swimming which requires access to a long course (50 meter) pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, and the surrounding area, this means that we are spending much more time commuting to aquatic facilities outside of Burlington.

It is important for our youth athletes to be able to train year-round in a 50 meter pool. While a 25-metre pool is important for community programming, these pools cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sports complex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly and families could access training facilities that are closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Karen Kimura

Burlington resident and parent of two competitive swimmers

[redacted]

Tuesday June 2nd 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Mostafa Ibrahim, and I am writing to express my support for new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing community and region. Many existing pools were not designed for modern aquatic programming, large-scale competitions, accessible use, or the volume of demand now being placed on them.

Families are experiencing limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive aquatic groups are also limited by facilities that lack adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help solve these challenges. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would provide the space needed for training and hosting, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim, community programming, para programming, therapy-style use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington needs for the future. It would serve families, athletes, seniors, schools, clubs, officials, volunteers, and the broader community.

I respectfully ask that you support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal investment needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Mostafa Ibrahim

Burlington

Member of GHAC CLUB

[redacted]

[redacted]

June 3rd 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure ASAP

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Andrew Raven, and I am writing to express my support for new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I've lived in Burlington my entire life and grew up with the same pools my daughter is swimming in now which honestly look very similar to what I swam in. I also went to high school at Lord Elgin which is centennial pool. While I enjoyed and competed at these pools I would have expected Burlington to include new infrastructure to meet the needs of Burlington competitive nature.

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing community and region. Many existing pools were not designed for modern aquatic programming, large-scale competitions, accessible use, or the volume of demand now being placed on them.

Families are experiencing limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive aquatic groups are also limited by facilities that lack adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help solve these challenges. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would provide the space needed for training and hosting, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim, community programming, para programming, therapy-style use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington needs for the future. It would serve families, athletes, seniors, schools, clubs, officials, volunteers, and the broader community.

I respectfully ask that you support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal investment needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Andrew Raven

Burlington Ward 4

Parent of Swimmer with GHAC

[redacted]

Grey Fairley
[redacted]
grey@ghacswimming.ca

30th May 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

RE: Letter of Support for the Proposed 50-Metre & 25-Metre Aquatic Facility in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden, MPP Neil Lumsden, Mayor Meed Ward, Members of Burlington City Council, and City of Burlington Staff,

I am pleased to offer my strongest support for the proposed 50-metre & 25-Metre aquatic facility as part of the recreation and sport infrastructure planned for Burlington.

My name is Grey Fairley, and I have dedicated my life to the sport of swimming. I began swimming at the age of five and progressed through the Canadian sport system to represent Canada at the Commonwealth Games, World Championships, and on the World Cup circuit. The opportunities afforded to me through access to quality aquatic facilities, exceptional coaches, and strong community programs helped shape not only my athletic career but also my professional and personal life.

Today, I serve as the Head Coach of the McMaster University Swim Team, Pool Manager at McMaster University, and Chief Executive Officer of the Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club. For more than three decades, I have worked with athletes ranging from learn-to-swim participants to Olympians, and I have witnessed firsthand the transformative impact that aquatic facilities have on individuals, families, and communities.

The need for a modern 50-metre aquatic facility in Burlington has never been greater. Across Southern Ontario, access to competitive and recreational pool space is increasingly limited. Existing facilities are operating at or beyond capacity, forcing clubs, schools, community organizations, and recreational users to compete for scarce water time. This shortage impacts everyone—from children learning life-saving water skills to seniors participating in wellness and rehabilitation programs.

The proposed facility would address these challenges while creating opportunities that extend far beyond the sport of swimming.

From a community perspective, the facility would provide year-round access to swimming lessons, aquatic fitness programs, therapeutic recreation, and inclusive programming for individuals of all ages and abilities. It would support public health initiatives, encourage active lifestyles, and create opportunities for social connection and community engagement.

From a sport development perspective, the facility would allow Burlington and the surrounding region to host provincial, national, and potentially international competitions.

As someone who has spent a lifetime in competitive swimming, I know that high-quality facilities are essential for developing future generations of athletes. The proposed venue would provide local athletes with opportunities that currently require significant travel and expense.

From an economic perspective, aquatic competitions generate substantial tourism benefits. Major swim meets bring thousands of athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators to a community, supporting local hotels, restaurants, retailers, and service providers. The proposed facility would establish Burlington as a destination for sport tourism while generating economic activity throughout the year.

Equally important is the facility's role in advancing inclusion and accessibility. Aquatic facilities are among the few community spaces that can serve virtually every demographic, from infants and young families to seniors and individuals with disabilities. A modern, accessible facility ensures that all residents have opportunities to participate in recreation, rehabilitation, and sport.

Throughout my career as an athlete, coach, administrator, and community leader, I have seen how aquatic facilities become community anchors. They create healthier citizens, stronger communities, and opportunities for excellence that extend well beyond the pool deck.

The proposed Burlington aquatic facility represents a generational investment in the health, wellbeing, and future of our region. It will serve recreational users, competitive athletes, educational institutions, community organizations, and visitors alike for decades to come.

I wholeheartedly support this project and encourage all levels of government, community stakeholders, and funding partners to work together to bring this vision to reality.

Sincerely,

Grey Fairley

Head Coach, McMaster University Swim Team

Pool Manager, McMaster University

Chief Executive Officer, Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

Former Canadian National Team Member

Commonwealth Games Competitor

World Championship Competitor

June 3rd 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure ASAP

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Andrew Raven, and I am writing to express my support for new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I've lived in Burlington my entire life and grew up with the same pools my daughter is swimming in now which honestly look very similar to what I swam in. I also went to high school at Lord Elgin which is centennial pool. While I enjoyed and competed at these pools I would have expected Burlington to include new infrastructure to meet the needs of Burlington competitive nature.

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing community and region. Many existing pools were not designed for modern aquatic programming, large-scale competitions, accessible use, or the volume of demand now being placed on them.

Families are experiencing limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive aquatic groups are also limited by facilities that lack adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help solve these challenges. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would provide the space needed for training and hosting, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim, community programming, para programming, therapy-style use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington needs for the future. It would serve families, athletes, seniors, schools, clubs, officials, volunteers, and the broader community.

I respectfully ask that you support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal investment needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Andrew Raven

Burlington Ward 4

Parent of Swimmer with GHAC

[redacted]

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden, MPP Neil Lumsden, Mayor Meed Ward, and Members of Burlington City Council,

I am writing as a local parent in support of a new competition-ready aquatic facility in our community.

My family raised our children in Burlington, and they have trained and competed with the Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club for many years. Through that experience, I have seen firsthand the commitment required from swimmers and families to pursue excellence in the sport.

My son competes at Canadian Trials and international meets, and long-course training is an essential part of his development. Unfortunately, there are limited opportunities to train and compete in high-quality 50-metre facilities close to home. Like many families, we regularly travel significant distances to access the facilities and competitions needed to support athlete development.

A modern aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, featuring a 50-metre competition pool and a dedicated warm-up pool, would be a tremendous asset for athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region. It would provide local swimmers with better access to training and competition opportunities while reducing the travel burden on athletes and families.

Equally important, a facility capable of hosting regional, provincial, and national-level competitions would bring visiting athletes, coaches, and families to Burlington, generating significant sport tourism revenue for local hotels, restaurants, and businesses.

Burlington is a growing community with a strong aquatic tradition. Investing in a competition-ready aquatic facility would support athlete development, strengthen our community, and position Burlington as a destination for major sporting events for years to come.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Homer Lewison,

Hamilton

June 2, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is [Full Name], and I am writing in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As[parent a member / resident / supporter], I have seen firsthand how important well-designed aquatic facilities are. Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide appropriate warm-up and cool-down space, which is essential for safe and effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs. It would also bring visitors into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

Istgynroncorgeyou to support this project a nd advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to ove it forward.
Sincerely,
Maricel Munoz ul ame

2026-06-04

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Chris McLean, and I am writing in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a [parent / family member / resident / supporter], I have seen firsthand how important well-designed aquatic facilities are. Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide appropriate warm-up and cool-down space, which is essential for safe and effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs. It would also bring visitors into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Chris Mclean

Burlington

Parent of swimmer at GHAC

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Karen Hannah, and I am writing in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a parent I have seen firsthand how important well-designed aquatic facilities are. Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide appropriate warm-up and cool-down space, which is essential for safe and effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sports and community needs. It would also bring visitors into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Karen Hannah

City of Hamilton

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

[Date]

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Alena Skrinskas, and I am writing as a parent to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy. A modern aquatic sportsplex would help Burlington become a true regional hub for aquatic programming and sport hosting.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Alena Skrinskas

Hamilton, Ontario

GHAC parent

[redacted]

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Supporting the Next Generation of Swimmers

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden, MPP Neil Lumsden, Mayor Meed Ward, and Members of Burlington City Council,

My name is Brady Lewison, and I grew up in Burlington and have been a member of the Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club.

Swimming has been a major part of my life from a young age. I was fortunate to develop in a strong club environment and, as I began to progress, I quickly realized what it takes to compete at higher levels. I needed to access proper long-course training, so I often had to commute to Hamilton, as well as travel to other communities outside Halton for suitable facilities and competitions.

Through those experiences, I also had the opportunity to swim in many different pools across the region. It made me appreciate what a difference a modern facility can make—good air quality, enough deck space to move safely and efficiently, and a proper competition setup that supports both athletes and coaches.

While I am grateful for the opportunities I have had, I often wished we had access to that kind of facility closer to home in Burlington. I know my competitive journey is well underway, but I truly hope the next generation of swimmers in Halton will not face the same barriers or need to travel as far to train and compete at a high level.

A modern, competition-ready aquatic facility in Burlington would give young swimmers the chance to develop locally while also allowing the region to host higher-level meets. It would strengthen athlete development and create better opportunities for swimmers at every stage of the sport.

Thank you for considering this important investment in the future of swimming in our community.

Sincerely,
Brady Lewison
McMaster University
Hamilton, Ontario

2 June 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Robbie Bovino and I am writing as a parent and resident of Burlington to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy. A modern aquatic sportsplex would help Burlington become a true regional hub for aquatic programming and sport hosting.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Robbie Bovino

Burlington

GHAC Parent

[redacted]

June 2, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Azadeh Koushan and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes who are trying to develop in sports that require proper long course training environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Azadeh Koushan

Oakville

GHAC

June 2, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Louis Saunders, and I am writing to express my support for new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing community and region. Many existing pools were not designed for modern aquatic programming, large-scale competitions, accessible use, or the volume of demand now being placed on them.

Families are experiencing limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive aquatic groups are also limited by facilities that lack adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help solve these challenges. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would provide the space needed for training and hosting, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim, community programming, para programming, therapy-style use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington needs for the future. It would serve families, athletes, seniors, schools, clubs, officials, volunteers, and the broader community.

I respectfully ask that you support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal investment needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Louis Saunders

Hamilton

GHAC

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs More Aquatic Space for Families and Community Programming

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Frank Mirecki, and I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Access to swimming is about much more than sport. It is about water safety, health, confidence, recreation, accessibility, and community well-being. Families need reliable access to learn-to-swim programs, public swim, lane swim, aquatic fitness, therapy-style programming, and safe spaces for children to develop life-saving skills.

Unfortunately, existing aquatic facilities in Burlington and the surrounding region are under significant pressure. Demand is high, schedules are crowded, and there is not enough water space to meet all community needs.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with both a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help solve this problem. The 50-metre pool would support training, competitions, and large-scale events, while the warmer 25-metre pool would protect and expand access for lessons, younger swimmers, community programming, para sport, and recreational users.

This two-pool model is important because it allows different users to be served properly instead of competing for the same limited space.

I urge you to support this important investment in Burlington's future.

Sincerely,

Frank Mirecki

Burlington Resident

[redacted]

[redacted]

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Fran Fairley writing as a [parent / grandparent / guardian / resident / community member] to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy. A modern aquatic sportsplex would help Burlington become a true regional hub for aquatic programming and sport hosting.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Fran Fairley

Dundas

Grandparent

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support a Regional Aquatic Sportsplex in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Michelle Armstrong and I am writing to ask for your support for a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

A 50-metre aquatic facility is not simply a local recreation project. It is regional infrastructure. It would serve Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, Peel, Niagara, and the broader Golden Horseshoe. It would support athletes, families, schools, clubs, community users, para sport, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, officials, volunteers, and spectators.

The challenge is that facilities of this size and importance are difficult for municipalities to fund alone. They require partnership between municipal, provincial, and federal governments, along with community and sport-sector support.

Burlington has a clear opportunity to help address a major aquatic infrastructure gap. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool, paired with a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool, would provide both regional hosting capacity and meaningful community access.

This facility would improve access to aquatic programming, reduce pressure on existing pools, support athlete development, create sport tourism opportunities, and contribute to the local economy.

I urge you to support this project and advocate for senior government investment in regionally significant aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Sincerely,

M. Armstrong

Michelle Armstrong

GHAC

[redacted]

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Qin Qin, and I am a Hamilton resident, a parent of a competitive swimmer, and a professional who works within the Halton Region. I am writing to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As a parent involved in competitive swimming, I have seen firsthand the growing demand for aquatic facilities in our region. Access to pool time is limited, and families often travel considerable distances for training and competitions. A modern aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary 10-lane, 25-metre warm-water pool would help address these challenges and provide much-needed aquatic space for the broader community.

Because I work in the Halton Region, a Burlington facility would also be especially practical for our family. It would often allow me to coordinate transportation more efficiently between work and my child's training activities, reducing travel time and making participation in competitive swimming more manageable for working families.

This project would support not only competitive athletes but also learn-to-swim programs, water safety education, para sports, rehabilitation programs, community recreation, and regional event hosting. It would be a valuable investment in the health, safety, and well-being of residents across Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, and surrounding communities.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important project and advocating for the provincial and federal funding partnerships needed to make it a reality.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Qin Qin

Hamilton, Ontario

Parent of a Competitive Swimmer

Employee within Halton Region

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Amanda Andrews, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Amanda Andrews

Dundas, Ontario

[redacted]arent of 2 swim club athletes

[redacted]

[2026/6/2]

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is [Full Name], and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

[Scully Zeng]

[Burlington]

[Ignite Artistic Swimming Club]

June 2, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

I'm Andy Burnside and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Andy Burnside

Burlington property owner and resident of Halton Region

GHAC parent and volunteer

[redacted]

June 2nd, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Kumiko, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Kumiko and Leonardo Stefani

Burlington, Halton region

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

[redacted]

June 3rd, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Charles Giammichele, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington. I am an international level para swimmer as well as a member of the McMaster University Varsity swim team.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Charles Giammichele

City of Hamilton

Member of the Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

Wednesday, June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Mary Giammichele, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington. My son Charlie is an international level para swimmer, and these competitions are always held in 50 metre pools.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Mary Giammichele

City of Hamilton

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club/McMaster University Parent

Wednesday June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington/Halton Region Needs Long Course Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Nicholas Cicero, and I am a coach with the Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club (GHAC). I am writing in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

For athletes to reach their potential, they need consistent access to appropriate training environments. In aquatic sport, access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of athlete development, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have this type of facility.

This lack of access creates a real limitation for athletes and coaches. It impacts preparation for long course competitions, limits training options, increases travel demands, and makes it more difficult to deliver a complete development pathway from grassroots programming to higher levels of performance. With the city of Burlington only having short course (25m) pools, this limits development of athletes due to half of the season being long course (50m). Also, all meets at the provincial level and above whether those be In Canada or international, such as World Championships and the Olympics are all long course events. With only having access to long course training in Burlington from June- August, we are limiting the long term Olympic stream development of athletes. Currently the closest indoor 50m pools in the province are either Brantford (which is an aging facility) or Etobicoke. So due to the lack of facilities we are pushing high performance athletes out of Burlington to go else ware. Our lack of facilities is limiting athletes to development at the regional level and not preparing them for provincial, national and international competition

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington would help address this gap. Paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, the facility would also support younger athletes, learn-to-swim, para programming, adaptive opportunities, community use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions. Facilities in Toronto such as Toronto Pan Am Sports Center (TPASC) are world class facilities that include 2 50 m pools, basketball courts and other top of the line facilities bringing lots of traffic into the area which has a positive effect on the community around it such as retail stores, restaurants and hotels.

Another perspective of having this sportsplex is it can be of more cost benefit for the city having most recreational facilities under one roof. With a 50m pool and a 25m pool, with the long course pool split with a bulkhead, this essentially creates “3” pools that can be used for a variety of different programming all under one roof without the additional associated costs of having 3 separate pools.

This project would create more equitable access to high-quality training and help athletes in Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, and the broader region develop closer to home.

I strongly support this project and encourage all levels of government to work together to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Cicero, CSEP- CEP

Coach, Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

June 2, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Would Benefit Burlington's Economy

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Grey Fairley, and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

A modern aquatic facility would provide significant benefits to families, athletes, and community users, but it would also be an important economic development opportunity for Burlington.

Competition-ready 50-metre pools attract events. These events bring families, teams, coaches, officials, and spectators into the community. Visitors stay in hotels, eat at local restaurants, shop locally, and contribute to the surrounding economy. Burlington is well-positioned geographically to serve as a regional aquatic hub for Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, Toronto, and the broader Golden Horseshoe.

At the same time, a secondary warmer 25-metre pool would ensure the facility is not only for competitions. It would support lessons, recreation, community use, accessibility, para programming, and other aquatic activities year-round.

This project is an opportunity to invest in health, sport, tourism, economic development, and community infrastructure all at once.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this project and helping secure provincial and federal funding partnerships for a regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Sincerely,

Grey Fairley

Dundas

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

[redacted]

2026-06-04

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Andrea McLean, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Andrea McLean

Burlington

Parent of a Swimmer at GHAC

June 4th, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Joseph Giammichele, and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes who are trying to develop in sports that require proper long course training environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Joseph Giammichele

City of hamilton

GHAC Alumni, Brock University Varsity Swimmer

June 3rd 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for a Regional Aquatic Sportsplex in Burlington and Improved Access to Indoor Long Course Training

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Abhay Bhatia, and I am writing to express my support for the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington and to highlight the urgent need for improved access to appropriate aquatic training and competition facilities in Halton and the surrounding region.

Currently, one of the most significant gaps in our community is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. Families and athletes across Burlington, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, Hamilton, and nearby areas are required to travel outside the region to access suitable facilities. This creates a considerable burden, including increased expenses, long travel times, and reduced family time.

For many families—particularly those with multiple children, working parents, or limited transportation options—these challenges can directly impact a child's ability to participate fully in aquatic sport. The absence of local, competition-ready infrastructure creates barriers not only to athletic development but also to equitable access.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help address these challenges. A facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre pool would provide the necessary long course training and competition capacity, while a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support lessons, community programming, para sport, and warm-up/cool-down space. Together, these features would support both high-performance athletes and the broader community.

This project goes beyond sport. It represents an investment in youth development, water safety, accessibility, community health, and long-term regional infrastructure. Importantly, it would ensure that families and athletes in our region have access to the same opportunities as those in communities with more developed aquatic facilities.

I respectfully urge you to support this initiative and advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring this important project to life in Burlington.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Abhay Bhatia
City OF Burlington

GHAC Aquatic Club

[redacted]

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is James Martin, and I am writing in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a parent, I have seen firsthand how important well-designed aquatic facilities are. Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

My daughter and her friends have travelled to London and Windsor this year for swim meets and love the opportunity to spend a weekend with their teammates. There is opportunity for Burlington to offer the same and attract families from all over Ontario to spend a weekend enjoying our city.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide appropriate warm-up and cool-down space, which is essential for safe and effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs. It would also bring visitors into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

James Martin

Burlington, ON

GHAC member parent

[redacted]

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP van Koeverden, MPP Lumsden, Mayor Meed Ward, and Members of Council,

My name is Adam Groff, and I am writing to express my strong support for the development of new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are no longer sufficient to meet the needs of our growing community. Many of the existing pools were built decades ago and were not designed to accommodate modern aquatic programming, accessible recreation, competitive sport, or the increasing demand now being placed upon them.

Families throughout Burlington face limited program availability, long waitlists, and challenges accessing pool time for swimming lessons, recreation, fitness, and community programming. At the same time, competitive swimmers, aquatic clubs, and other user groups are constrained by facilities that lack adequate lane space, deck space, spectator seating, warm-up areas, and competition-ready design.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex would address these challenges while creating opportunities for future growth. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would provide the capacity required for training and hosting major events, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim programs, community recreation, para-swimming, therapeutic programming, and warm-up and cool-down activities during competitions.

Beyond its recreational and athletic benefits, a modern aquatic facility would serve residents of all ages and abilities while attracting regional events that generate economic activity for local businesses, hotels, and restaurants. It would be a long-term investment in the health, wellness, and vitality of our community.

I respectfully ask for your support and leadership in advancing this important project and in securing the provincial and federal funding necessary to make it a reality.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Adam Groff
GHAC Masters Swimmer
[redacted]

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Supporting the Next Generation of Swimmers

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Amelia Bagnall, and I swim with Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in this sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To achieve those goals, swimmers need access to quality training and competition facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre long course pool. As a result, many swimmers have to travel outside the region for training and competitions. As a high school student, these long commutes take a significant amount of time and make it more challenging to balance swimming with schoolwork, extracurricular activities, and family life.

Having access to a local 50-metre facility would allow athletes to spend more time training and recovering, rather than travelling. It would also help swimmers prepare for long course competitions and pursue higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would support swimmers at every stage of their development, from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international competition. It would also provide important space for swim lessons, water safety programs, para sport, and community recreation.

This project would benefit both current and future generations of aquatic athletes while strengthening the entire community. I hope you will support it.

Sincerely,

Amelia Bagnall

Age 16 Grade 11

GHAC

Ancaster

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Supporting the Next Generation of Swimmers

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Adam Bourenane, and I am a student-athlete with GHAC.

Swimming requires a lot of commitment. Many swimmers train early in the morning, after school, in the evening, and on weekends. Because pool space is limited, training times are not always ideal, and sometimes practices are very early, very late, or at pools that require extra travel.

This can make it harder to balance swimming with school, homework, sleep, family time, and other responsibilities. Better aquatic infrastructure in Burlington would help support swimmers in the region and create more reasonable training opportunities.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25-metre pool would provide more space for training, competitions, lessons, and community use. It would also help reduce pressure on existing pools and be helpful so we have more opportunities.

As a young athlete, I believe this facility would help swimmers develop while also supporting healthier schedules and better access for families.

Thank you for considering support for this project.

Sincerely,

Adam Bourenane

Age 14, Grade 8
GHAC
Ancaster

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Swimmers Need Better Access to Training and Racing Close to Home

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Annika Fairley, and I swim with GHAC. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a swimmer, I spend a lot of time training, competing, and travelling to pools. Because Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool, swimmers often have to travel outside the region for long course training and competitions.

For me and my family, this can mean early mornings, late nights, long drives, and extra time away from school, homework, rest, and other activities. Sometimes the travel is harder than the swimming itself.

Having a 50m pool in Burlington would help swimmers train closer to home and have more chances to race in a high-quality facility. A secondary warmer 25m pool would also help support younger swimmers, lessons, warm-up and cool-down, and community programs.

This facility would help swimmers, families, clubs, and the whole community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Annika Fairley

Age 18 Grade 12

GHAC

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Swimmers Need Better Access to Training and Racing Close to Home

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Antonio Fricano, and I am an international para swimmer with Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a swimmer, I spend a lot of time training, competing, and travelling to pools. Because Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre long course pool, swimmers often have to travel outside the region for long course training and competitions.

For me and my family, this means early mornings, late nights, long drives, and less time for school, work, rest, and other activities. Sometimes the travel is harder than the swimming itself.

Our region also does not have a fast, modern long course pool that can host large swim meets in Hamilton or nearby areas. This limits big competitions from being held closer to home.

A 50-metre pool in Burlington would help swimmers train closer to home and race in a better facility. A warmer 25-metre pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, warm-up and cool-down, para sport programs, and community use.

This facility would help swimmers, families, clubs, and the whole community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Antonio Fricano

International Para Swimmer
Ancaster

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Better Pool Access Would Help Student-Athletes

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Afton McNally and I swim with GHAC. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a swimmer, I train, compete, and travel to pools often. Because Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre long course pool, we often have to travel outside the region for long course training and competitions.

It is important to be prepared for long course season, but right now we cannot always train in a 50-metre pool. This makes it harder to race well at competitions.

It would also help reduce pressure on the Hamilton pool, giving more space for swimmers to train, while providing Burlington swimmers with a closer place to train.

For me and my family, this means early mornings, late nights, long drives, and less time for school, rest, and other activities.

A 50-metre pool in Burlington would help swimmers train closer to home and be better prepared for racing. A warmer 25-metre pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, warm-up and cool-down, and community programs.

This facility would help swimmers, families, clubs, and the whole community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Afton McNally

Age 13, Grade 8
Beamsville

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Swimmers Need Better Access to Training and Racing Close to Home

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Brielle Bowen, and I swim with GHAC. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre pool, so swimmers often have to travel far for long course training and competitions. All of the other 50-metre pools are a long way away, which takes a lot of time and makes training and racing more difficult.

For me and my family, this often means early mornings, late nights, long drives, and less time for school, rest, and other activities. It is also hard for my family and friends to come watch me race when competitions are so far away.

A new 50-metre pool in Burlington would give swimmers more chances to train and race closer to home. It would also help more people join and stay in the sport.

This facility would help swimmers, families, clubs, and the whole community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Brielle Bowen

Age 14, Grade 8
GHAC
Hamilton

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden, MPP Lumsden, Mayor Meed Ward, and Members of Council,

My name is Brent McLeod, and I am writing to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As a Burlington resident, parent of competitive swimmers, and Commander with a local paramedic service, I have spent many years serving communities across the Greater Toronto Area. Throughout my career, including time spent working on Toronto's marine response unit and as a frontline paramedic, I have witnessed firsthand the devastating consequences of water-related emergencies and drownings. These incidents leave lasting impacts on families, first responders, and entire communities.

While no single initiative can eliminate all water-related tragedies, access to quality swimming instruction and water safety education remains one of the most effective tools available to help prevent them. Every child and adult who develops confidence and competence in the water gains skills that can help protect themselves and others throughout their lives.

For this reason, I believe Burlington's investment in expanded aquatic infrastructure is an investment in public safety. Increasing access to swimming lessons, recreational aquatic programming, and community water safety opportunities will help ensure that more residents can acquire and maintain these essential life skills.

In addition to its safety benefits, a new aquatic facility would provide tremendous value to the broader community. Burlington families currently face limited pool availability, long waitlists for lessons, and increasing competition for access to aquatic programs. As our population continues to grow, demand will only increase.

Expanded aquatic facilities would create opportunities for residents of all ages to participate in healthy, active lifestyles through recreation, fitness, rehabilitation, and community programming. They would also support athlete development by providing local swimmers with the training environment needed to pursue excellence close to home.

As the parent of children involved in local competitive swimming, I have seen firsthand the positive impact that aquatic sport can have on young people. Swimming teaches discipline, perseverance, teamwork, goal-setting, and confidence: qualities that benefit participants far beyond the pool deck.

Finally, enhanced aquatic infrastructure would allow Burlington to host major competitions and events, attracting visitors to our community and generating economic benefits for local businesses through sport tourism.

I strongly encourage all levels of government to support this important project. A modern regional aquatic facility would be a lasting investment in public safety, health, recreation, youth development, and community well-being for generations of Burlington residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brent McLeod

[redacted]

Burlington resident, Commander with the Hamilton Paramedic Service, and parent of children involved in local competitive swimming

June 3rd, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Toby Gort, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Toby Gort

Hamilton

McMaster Swim Team

[redacted]

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Stephen Sell, and I am writing in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As the only senior official (level 4) resident volunteer in the City of Burlington, I have seen firsthand how important it is to have world class aquatic facilities to host major competitions. Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

The lack of a facility of this type has caused major competitions such as the Ontario University Championships (OUA which has their head office in Burlington) and the USports National University Championships to be hosted in Markham at the Pan Am Aquatic Centre. These types of meets generate significant income for the local economy estimated at between $1.0m and $1.5M per meet. The swim meets attract athletes from across the country. The other large meet, which is currently only hosted in Windsor or Toronto Pan Am (Scarborough) is the OFSSA swim championships. This meet attracts over 2,000 swimmers from Ontario for a 2-day meet.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host these types of meets.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs. It would also bring visitors into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Stephen Sell

City of Burlington resident

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

CC.

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Natalie Pierre – MPP Burlington

4 June 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Needed to Support Athlete and Economic Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Helen Bartens, and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington. As a competitive Masters Artistic Swimmer with Ignite Artistic Swimming Club, I experience firsthand how important well-designed aquatic facilities are for training and competing. Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate depth, deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families. Access to proper aquatic training space is one of the greatest challenges facing clubs across our region. Athletes require consistent, appropriate facilities to develop safely and effectively, yet many communities do not have access to indoor 50m long course training or fully deep pools. This creates barriers for athlete development and often forces clubs and families to travel outside their communities to access suitable training environments.

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing community and region. Many existing pools were not designed for modern aquatic programming, large-scale competitions, accessible use, or the volume of demand now being placed on them. Families are experiencing limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive aquatic groups are also limited by facilities that lack adequate depth (particularly for artistic swimming where touching the bottom is against the rules and acrobatics require consistent depth for safety), deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

When facilities do not have enough deck space, pool depth, or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington. When Ignite Artistic Swimming Club hosts events for the Competitive and Regional League streams, we have to use Brantford or Guelph pools as there is no pool with the required depth or warm-up facilities in Burlington. A modern aquatic facility would provide significant benefits to families, athletes, and community users, but it would also be an important economic development opportunity for Burlington. Competition-ready 50-metre pools attract events. These events bring families, teams, coaches, officials, and spectators into the community. Visitors stay in hotels, eat at local restaurants, shop locally, and contribute to the surrounding economy. Burlington is well-positioned geographically to serve as a regional aquatic hub for Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, Toronto, and the broader Golden Horseshoe. At the same time, a secondary warmer 25-metre pool would ensure the facility is not only for competitions. It would support lessons, recreation, community use, accessibility, para programming, and other aquatic activities year-round.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs. It would also bring visitors into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy. This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington needs for the future.

I respectfully ask that you support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal investment needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Helen Bartens
Masters Artistic Swimmer
Ignite Artistic Swimming Club
Burlington

June 4th, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Would Benefit Burlington's Economy

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Leslie Cicero and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

A modern aquatic facility would provide significant benefits to families, athletes, and community users, but it would also be an important economic development opportunity for Burlington.

Competition-ready 50-metre pools attract events. These events bring families, teams, coaches, officials, and spectators into the community. Visitors stay in hotels, eat at local restaurants, shop locally, and contribute to the surrounding economy. Burlington is well-positioned geographically to serve as a regional aquatic hub for Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, Toronto, and the broader Golden Horseshoe. Having spent years travelling to facilities elsewhere around the province, I was forced to spend money in their economies. Instead, I would much prefer to contribute to our local economy’s growth, and support my neighbours in a time of widespread economic precarity.

At the same time, a secondary warmer 25-metre pool would ensure the facility is not only for competitions. It would support lessons, recreation, community use, accessibility, para programming, and other aquatic activities year-round.

This project is an opportunity to invest in health, sport, tourism, economic development, and community infrastructure all at once. As major aquatic events are never of insignificant duration or attendance, apt facilities would provide extended windows of opportunity for Burlington’s economy to benefit from heightened consumer traffic. As well, a well equipped sportsplex would encourage the local population to pursue healthy lifestyle choices, and strengthen a sense of community.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this project and helping secure provincial and federal funding partnerships for a regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Sincerely,

Leslie Cicero

Burlington, ON

June 4th, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Matthew Cicero, and I am writing in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a close friend of high-level athletes and coaches, I have seen firsthand how important well-designed aquatic facilities are. Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families. For years, the City of Burlington has presented itself as a place to live and play, meanwhile its leadership has failed to produce appropriate facilities that would deliver this promise.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington. Clubs and athletes from our city valiantly represent Burlington against competitors from neighbouring communities, and beyond. Thus, the current state of Burlington's aquatic facilities is a let down to the reputation athletes have built among their rivals.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide appropriate warm-up and cool-down space, which is essential for safe and effective competition hosting.

Moving forward with this project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs. It would also see an influx of visitors to Burlington that would support the local economy, with hotels, restaurants and small businesses as leading candidates for increased success.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to realize this facility.

Very best,

Matthew Cicero

Burlington, ON

03 June 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Andrew Norris and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes who are trying to develop in sports that require proper long course training environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Andrew Norris

Burlington

GHAC Swimming and McMaster University Swimming

[redacted]

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Would Benefit Burlington's Economy

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Allison Stoneburgh and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

A modern aquatic facility would provide significant benefits to families, athletes, and community users, but it would also be an important economic development opportunity for Burlington.

Competition-ready 50-metre pools attract events. These events bring families, teams, coaches, officials, and spectators into the community. Visitors stay in hotels, eat at local restaurants, shop locally, and contribute to the surrounding economy. Burlington is well-positioned geographically to serve as a regional aquatic hub for Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, Toronto, and the broader Golden Horseshoe.

At the same time, a secondary warmer 25-metre pool would ensure the facility is not only for competitions. It would support lessons, recreation, community use, accessibility, para programming, and other aquatic activities year-round.

This project is an opportunity to invest in health, sport, tourism, economic development, and community infrastructure all at once.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this project and helping secure provincial and federal funding partnerships for a regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Sincerely,

Allison Stoneburgh

Allison Stoneburgh

Municipaity of Burlington

Parent/Volunteer Level 3 Deck Official /GHAC/Burlington

[redacted]

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Better Pool Access Would Help Student-Athletes

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Enye Elbard-Berkovski, and I am a student-athlete with GHAC.

Swimming requires a great deal of commitment. Many swimmers train early in the morning, after school, in the evening, and on weekends. Because pool space is limited, training times are not always ideal. Practices are often scheduled very early, very late, or at facilities that require significant travel.

Many of the pools available to swimmers in our region are aging facilities that were built decades ago and were not designed to meet today's growing demand. At the same time, aquatic sports often receive less public attention and investment than many other sports, making it difficult to expand opportunities for athletes and families.

This can make it challenging to balance swimming with school, homework, sleep, family time, and other responsibilities. Better aquatic infrastructure in Burlington would help create more reasonable training schedules and provide improved opportunities for swimmers and other aquatic athletes.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25-metre pool would provide much-needed space for training, competitions, lessons, rehabilitation, and community programming. It would also help reduce pressure on existing facilities while supporting the continued growth of aquatic sports in our region.

As a young athlete, I believe this facility would be an important investment in both sport and community health. It would help swimmers develop their potential while providing better access, more modern facilities, and stronger support for future generations of athletes.

Thank you for considering support for this project.

Sincerely,

Enye Elbard-Berkovski

Age 18, Grade 12
GHAC Swimmer
Hamilton

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Swimmers Need Better Access to Training and Racing Close to Home

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Eloise Lummack, and I swim with GHAC. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre pool, so swimmers often have to travel far for long course training and competitions. This takes a lot of time and makes it harder to stay in the sport.

A new 50-metre pool would create more opportunities to swim, train, and race closer to home. It would also make swimming easier for more people to join and stay involved.

This facility would help swimmers, families, and the whole community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Eloise Lummack

Age 14, Grade 9
Hamilton

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Better Pool Access Would Help Student-Athletes

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Emerson Rutherford-Parish, and I am a student-athlete with GHAC, and Oberlin Ohio College swimmer.

Swimming requires a lot of commitment. Many swimmers train early in the morning, after school, in the evening, and on weekends. Because pool space is limited, training times are not always ideal. Sometimes practices are very early, very late, or at pools that require extra travel.

This can make it harder to balance swimming with school, homework, sleep, family time, and other responsibilities. Better aquatic infrastructure in Burlington would help create more reasonable training opportunities for swimmers and other aquatic athletes.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would provide more space for training, competitions, lessons, and community use. It would also help reduce pressure on existing pools.

As a young athlete, I believe this facility would help swimmers develop while also supporting healthier schedules and better access for families.

Thank you for considering support for this project.

Sincerely,

Emerson Rutherford - Parish

3 year college swimmer

GHAC

Dundas

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Is Needed to Support Program Growth

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Erin VanEgmond, and I am writing as a coach with GHAC in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

One of the biggest challenges facing aquatic programs is access to enough appropriate pool space. Demand for swimming lessons, competitive training, para programming, community use, and aquatic sport continues to grow, but available facilities have not kept pace.

From a coaching perspective, this limits what programs can offer. It restricts the number of athletes who can participate, limits practice options, creates scheduling challenges, and places unnecessary pressure on existing community pools. It also makes it difficult to support athletes at different stages of development in the same system.

A facility with both a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would help solve these issues. It would allow multiple programs to run at the same time, support different water temperature needs, and create space for both high-performance training and community-based programming.

This is the kind of forward-thinking infrastructure Burlington and the region need. It would support athletes, coaches, families, schools, officials, volunteers, and the broader community for decades to come.

I strongly encourage your support for this project.

Sincerely,

Erin Van Egmond

Age Group Coach

GHAC

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Better Pool Access Would Help Student-Athletes

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Ella Xing and I swim with GHAC. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a swimmer, I train, compete, and travel to pools often. Because Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre long course pool, we often have to travel outside the region for long course training and competitions.

It is important to be prepared for long course season, but right now we cannot always get enough long course training. This makes it harder to race well at competitions. A new facility would also provide better long course training opportunities and improved dryland space for swimmers.

It would also help reduce pressure on the Hamilton pool, giving more space for swimmers to train, while providing Burlington swimmers with a closer place to train.

For me and my family, this means early mornings, late nights, long drives, and less time for school, rest, and other activities.

A 50-metre pool in Burlington would help swimmers train closer to home and be better prepared for racing. A warmer 25-metre pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, warm-up and cool-down, and community programs.

This facility would help swimmers, families, clubs, and the whole community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Ella Xing

Age 16, Grade 10
Hamilton

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Swimmers Need Better Access to Training and Racing Close to Home

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Gavin O'Rourke, and I swim with GHAC. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Swimming is a big part of my life. I spend many hours each week training, competing, and working toward my goals in the sport. One of the challenges swimmers in our area face is that Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre long course pool.

Because of this, swimmers often have to travel outside the region for long course training and competitions. It can be difficult to race in a 50-metre pool when you do not get enough opportunities to train in one. Long course swimming feels different from short course swimming, and having more regular access to a long course pool would help swimmers like me develop our skills and be better prepared for competitions.

The travel required for training and racing also means early mornings, late nights, and time away from school, homework, family, and other activities. Having a 50-metre pool closer to home would make a big difference for swimmers and their families.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with a 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 25-metre pool would provide more opportunities for training, racing, lessons, and community programs. It would help swimmers of all ages improve and reach their goals.

This facility would be a great investment in young athletes and the entire community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Gavin O'Rourke

Age 13, Grade 7
GHAC
Waterdown

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Stephanie Peart, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Peart

City of Burlington

Parent of GHAC swimmer/GHAC Masters swimmer/former McMaster University swimmer

[redacted]

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Better Pool Access Would Help Student-Athletes

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Isla Haupt and I swim with GHAC. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a swimmer, I train, compete, and travel to pools often. Because Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre long course pool, we often have to travel outside the region for long course training and competitions.

It is important to be prepared for long course season, but right now we cannot always train in a 50-metre pool. This makes it harder to race well at competitions.

For me and my family, this means early mornings, late nights, long drives, and less time for school, rest, and other activities.

A 50-metre pool in Burlington would help swimmers train closer to home and be better prepared for racing. A warmer 25-metre pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, warm-up and cool-down, and community programs.

This facility would help swimmers, families, clubs, and the whole community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Isla Haupt

Age 14, Grade 8
Dundas

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden, MPP Lumsden, Mayor Meed Ward, and Members of Council,

My name is Jocelin McLeod, and I am writing to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As a Burlington resident, physician, and Coroner, I have seen firsthand the importance of water safety education and access to aquatic programming. Swimming is far more than a recreational activity or competitive sport—it is a fundamental life skill that promotes safety, health, confidence, inclusion, and community well-being.

In my role as a Coroner, I have personally investigated several tragic drowning deaths, including incidents involving young children in backyard pools and fatalities along our waterfront. These devastating losses reinforce the importance of ensuring that children and families have access to high-quality learn-to-swim programs, water safety education, and opportunities to develop confidence and competence in and around water.

Unfortunately, Burlington's existing aquatic facilities are struggling to meet community demand. Families face long waitlists for swimming lessons, limited access to public and recreational swims, and increasing competition for available pool space. As our city continues to grow, so too must the infrastructure that supports healthy and active communities.

A new regional aquatic facility would provide much-needed space for swimming lessons, recreational programming, aquatic fitness, rehabilitation and therapeutic programs, seniors' programming, para sport, school use, and competitive training. It would also support athlete development by providing local swimmers with access to the facilities they need to pursue excellence without leaving the community.

Beyond its benefits for residents, enhanced aquatic infrastructure would position Burlington to host regional, provincial, and national competitions and events. These opportunities would bring visitors to our city, support local businesses, and strengthen Burlington's reputation as a leader in sport, recreation, and healthy living.

Investing in aquatic infrastructure is an investment in public safety, public health, youth development, accessibility, and community well-being. I strongly encourage all levels of government to support this important project and help ensure that Burlington has the aquatic facilities needed to serve residents for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jocelin McLeod

Burlington resident, physician, Coroner, and parent of children involved in local swim clubs

[redacted]

[redacted]

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Kristy Marinic, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that support high-performance training and long course development. At the higher levels of sport, consistent access to a 50-metre pool is essential for race preparation, pacing, endurance, and technical development. Without it, athletes are at a disadvantage when competing against swimmers who train regularly in long course environments.

Many of the current facilities are aging and not designed to support modern high-performance training needs. This also limits access to adequate dryland training space, which is a key part of athlete development and injury prevention.

Because there is no local long course facility, athletes must travel to other communities to train and compete. This reduces training efficiency, increases fatigue, and takes away valuable time that could be used for recovery, school, and structured training.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would directly support high-performance swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, and water polo at the provincial and national levels. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support technical development, recovery sessions, learn-to-swim programming, and community use.

This facility would strengthen the full high-performance pathway from early development through to provincial, national, university, and international competition. It would also better support coaches, officials, and athletes who are striving to compete at higher levels.

Burlington has an opportunity to invest in infrastructure that meaningfully improves high-performance outcomes and supports the next generation of elite athletes. I strongly encourage support for this project.

Sincerely,

Kristy Marinic

Hamilton
Parent and GHAC official

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Swimmers Need Better Access to Training and Racing Close to Home

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Keira McLean, and I swim with GHAC. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a competitive swimmer, I spend many hours each week training, competing, and travelling to pools. Because Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre long course pool, swimmers often have to travel outside the region for training and competitions.

I train nine times a week, which means a lot of time spent in the car getting to and from practices. For me and my family, these long drives add up quickly and often mean early mornings, late evenings, and less time for schoolwork, rest, family activities, and other commitments. The dedication required to compete in swimming is significant, and the extra travel makes it even more challenging.

Having a 50-metre pool in Burlington would allow swimmers to train closer to home while providing more opportunities to race and compete in a high-quality facility. A secondary warmer 25-metre pool would also support younger swimmers, swim lessons, warm-up and cool-down activities, rehabilitation programs, and broader community use.

This facility would benefit swimmers, families, clubs, and the entire community by providing opportunities for athletic development, recreation, and water safety. It would help current and future generations of athletes pursue their goals without the burden of constant travel.

I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Keira McLean

Age 16 Grade 11

GHAC

June 1, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Eric Carrier, and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes who are trying to develop in sports that require proper long course training environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Eric Carrier

Halton - Burlington

Golden Horsehoe Aquatic Club

06/02/2026

The Honourable Adam van Koeverden, MP
Member of Parliament

The Honourable Neil Lumsden, MPP
Member of Provincial Parliament

Re: Support for a Regional Multi-Use Aquatic Sportsplex in Halton Region

Dear Mr. van Koeverden and Mr. Lumsden,

I am writing as a resident of Halton Region and owner-operator of two learn-to-swim facilities in Oakville & Burlington. I am also an avid supporter of competitive aquatic sports, recreation, health, and community development to and lend my support for the development of a regional multi-use aquatic sportsplex that includes:

• A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool capable of hosting provincial, national, and international-level events; and

• A secondary 10-lane, 25-metre warm-water training and community pool designed to support learn-to-swim programming, rehabilitation, fitness, para sport, and athlete development.

Our region has experienced significant population growth over the past decade, yet aquatic sports infrastructure has not kept pace with community demand. Families, athletes, coaches, schools, seniors, and individuals with disabilities continue to face limited access to suitable pool space, particularly for competitive swimming, artistic swimming, water polo, lifesaving sport, triathlon training, and high-performance athlete development.

Despite being one of the fastest-growing regions in Ontario, Halton currently lacks an indoor long-course (50-metre) competition pool. As a result, young athletes and families are often required to travel significant distances to train and compete. My situation, with two young athletes often involves travel as far as Windsor Ontario and out of country to Rochester New York, thus creating unnecessary financial, logistical, and time burdens. Many talented young athletes are forced to leave local programs or reduce their participation simply because appropriate facilities are unavailable within their own community.

Existing municipal aquatic facilities have served residents well for many years, but many were not designed to meet modern competitive, accessibility, or event-hosting requirements. Pool space is increasingly oversubscribed, spectator seating is limited, deck space is constrained, and opportunities to host major events are restricted. Neighbouring municipalities with existing competitive swim pool infrastructure are bursting at the seams from demand.

A Halton regional aquatic sportsplex would provide substantial benefits extending far beyond competitive sport. Such a facility would:

• Expand access to learn-to-swim and water safety programming;
• Support the development of future Olympians, Paralympians, and national-level athletes;
• Provide accessible programming for individuals with disabilities and para sport participants;
• Offer therapeutic and wellness opportunities for seniors and rehabilitation users;
• Create additional capacity for schools, community groups, and recreational swimmers;
• Enable the hosting of provincial, national, and international competitions;
• Generate economic activity through sport tourism, hotel stays, restaurant visits, and local spending;
• Strengthen community health and wellness outcomes across the region.

As a business owner and community supporter, I have personally experienced the challenges created by the lack of adequate competitive aquatic infrastructure.

My own children who are competitive swim athletes experience:

- Regular travel to other municipalities (when available) for training or competition. Sometimes out of country.
- Difficulty obtaining 50m pool time and LC training opportunities.

The development of a regional aquatic sportsplex represents an investment not only in sport, but in public health, accessibility, youth development, community engagement, and economic growth. It is the type of regional infrastructure project that will serve residents for generations while positioning Halton as a leader in aquatic excellence throughout Ontario and Canada. For far too long Halton has missed opportunities to host national and international events, in-turn losing potential revenue generated within the local economy through, accommodation, hospitality and local tourism.

I respectfully ask that you support and advocate for federal, provincial, municipal, and private-sector partnerships to advance the planning, funding, and construction of this important regional facility.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to supporting the health, recreation, and athletic aspirations of residents throughout Halton Region.

Sincerely,

Derek O'Rourke

Derek O'Rourke

[redacted]

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Karen Press and I am writing as a grandparent and community member to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy. A modern aquatic sportsplex would help Burlington become a true regional hub for aquatic programming and sport hosting.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Karen Press

Halton Region

GHAC Grandparent

[redacted]

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sabrina Press and I am writing as a parent and community member to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

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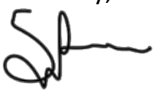
I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,



Sabrina Press

Halton Region

GHAC Parent

[redacted]

June 05.2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington & Halton

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Anaisha Kashyap, and I am a competitive swimmer with Club Ignite . I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington & Halton.

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. However, one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions. It also means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing opportunities. These drives can be tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Anaisha Kashyap

[Age 10]

CLUB IGNITE

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sabrina Press and I am writing as a parent and community member to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

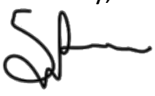
Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy. A modern aquatic sportsplex would help Burlington become a true regional hub for aquatic programming and sport hosting.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,



Sabrina Press

Halton Region

GHAC Parent

[redacted]

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

I am writing to advocate for the development of an indoor 50-meter swimming pool in Burlington, a facility that would have a profound and lasting impact on the growth of competitive swimming in our community.

As a coach, I work closely with a group of dedicated and passionate young athletes who consistently demonstrate remarkable commitment to their sport. Many of these swimmers travel significant distances in the early morning hours to train at facilities such as McMaster University. While their determination is inspiring, these long commutes are not always feasible for families, and as a result, some swimmers are unable to access the consistent long-course training they need.

Training in a 50-meter pool is not simply a convenience—it is essential for athlete development. Championship meets are frequently held in long-course formats, and without regular access to this type of training environment, our athletes are at a disadvantage when it comes to competition and progression in the sport.

The demand for swimming programs in Burlington is growing rapidly, and our club continues to expand as more young athletes discover their passion for competitive swimming. An indoor 50-meter facility would allow us to better accommodate these dedicated individuals, support their development, and provide equitable access to high-quality training opportunities closer to home.

Beyond competitive swimming, such a facility would serve the broader community, promoting fitness, wellness, and aquatic safety for residents of all ages. It would be a hub for recreation, health, and athletic excellence.

Our athletes are motivated, hardworking, and deeply committed to achieving their goals. They deserve access to the resources that will allow them to thrive. An indoor 50-meter pool in Burlington would be an invaluable investment in our youth, our community, and the future of the sport.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Kevin Bagnell

03 Jun 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Pankaj Ghai, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington. My son trains with the Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club.

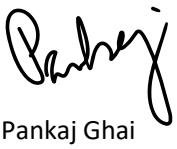
Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels. We end up having to go all the way to the McMaster pool in Hamilton for access to such facilities which is about 30 min of drive each way, and imposes additional costs on us. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming and other aquatic disciplines.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, which my son aspires for. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,



Pankaj Ghai

Oakville

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

[redacted]

June 2, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Vaneeta Chauhan, and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington. My daughter started competitive swimming when she was 8 years old in Burlington city. We have travelled to various cities to accompany her to swim meets and witnessed some great sports complexes.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes who are trying to develop in sports that require proper long course training environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Vaneeta Chauhan

[redacted]

[redacted]

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Supporting the Next Generation of Swimmers

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Leah Ouwehand, and I swim with GHAC.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in this sport. I want to continue improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To achieve those goals, swimmers need access to the right training facilities and opportunities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre long course pool. This means swimmers have limited opportunities to train in the same environment where many major competitions take place. Long course racing is already challenging, but it becomes even more difficult when athletes do not have enough access to long course training throughout the year.

As swimmers, we are expected to compete against athletes from regions that have regular access to 50-metre facilities. Having more long course training opportunities would help us better prepare for competition, develop our skills, and perform at our best when it matters most.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would provide those opportunities while supporting swimmers at every stage of their development, from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international competition. It would also support swim lessons, water safety programs, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes and provide local swimmers with the facilities they need to reach their full potential. I hope you will support it.

Sincerely,

Leah Ouwehand

Age 18, Grade 12
GHAC
Caledonia

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Would Benefit Burlington's Economy

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is [Full Name], and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

A modern aquatic facility would provide significant benefits to families, athletes, and community users, but it would also be an important economic development opportunity for Burlington.

Competition-ready 50-metre pools attract events. These events bring families, teams, coaches, officials, and spectators into the community. Visitors stay in hotels, eat at local restaurants, shop locally, and contribute to the surrounding economy. Burlington is well-positioned geographically to serve as a regional aquatic hub for Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, Toronto, and the broader Golden Horseshoe.

At the same time, a secondary warmer 25-metre pool would ensure the facility is not only for competitions. It would support lessons, recreation, community use, accessibility, para programming, and other aquatic activities year-round.

This project is an opportunity to invest in health, sport, tourism, economic development, and community infrastructure all at once.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this project and helping secure provincial and federal funding partnerships for a regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Sincerely,

Lynn Kozak

Town of Oakville

Parent of Oakville Aquatic Club Swimmer

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Supporting the Next Generation of Swimmers

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Lillian Woodham, and I swim with GHAC. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a swimmer, I train, compete, and travel to pools often. Because Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre long course pool, I have to travel outside the region for training and races.

For me and my family, this means early mornings, long drives, and less time for school, rest, and other activities.

A new facility would provide better training and racing options for swimmers in our region. It would help athletes train closer to home and compete in a high-quality pool.

I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,
Lillian Woodham
Age 12, Grade 7
GHAC
Hamilton

Although Burlington has beautiful outdoor facilities with 50m pools, we would greatly benefit from an indoor 50m pool. My children swim competitively (first with BAD now with GHAC) and the 50m LC practice would greatly benefit them and their swimming development. Both of my kids are going to WOSA for LC and would have better times to match their SC time if they had gad more opportunity to practice LC. We had to drive to other cities for swim meet practice to acquire these qualifying times. They are currently training for Ontario Age Groups. A 50 m indoor pool would greatly impact and benefit our Burlington community.

Sara Rice

[redacted]

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Lynn Marshall, and I am writing as a coach and manager with the Carleton University Ravens Varsity Team, a coach with the Carleton University Masters Team, and an elite level Masters swimmer with the Carleton University Masters Team to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As coaches, we see firsthand how facility access directly impacts athlete development, program growth, and long-term participation in sport. Across Burlington, Halton, and the surrounding region, aquatic programs are limited by aging facilities, restricted pool availability, and a lack of access to an indoor 50m long course training environment.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, including a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would be a significant asset for athletes, coaches, families, officials, and the broader community. It would provide more appropriate training space, better racing opportunities, improved warm-up and cool-down capacity, and a facility capable of supporting regional and provincial-level events.

This project would benefit far beyond one club or one municipality. It would help strengthen aquatic sport across the Golden Horseshoe/Halton Region and provide the type of infrastructure needed to support the next generation of athletes.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important project.

Sincerely,

Lynn Marshall, Ph.D., P.Eng.

Associate Professor, Teaching Stream, Department of Systems and Computer Engineering, Carleton University

Manager and Assistant Coach, Carleton University Ravens Swim Team

Head Coach, Carleton University Masters Swim Team

Member of the Masters International Swimming Hall of Fame

June 05 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Better Pool Access Would Help Student-Athletes

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Xuan Qiu, and I am a student-athlete with Ignite artistic swimming club,

Swimming requires a lot of commitment. Many swimmers train early in the morning, after school, in the evening, and on weekends. Because pool space is limited, training times are not always ideal. Sometimes practices are very early, very late, or at pools that require extra travel.

This can make it harder to balance swimming with school, homework, sleep, family time, and other responsibilities. Better aquatic infrastructure in Burlington would help create more reasonable training opportunities for swimmers and other aquatic athletes.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would provide more space for training, competitions, lessons, and community use. It would also help reduce pressure on existing pools.

As a young athlete, I believe this facility would help swimmers develop while also supporting healthier schedules and better access for families.

Thank you for considering support for this project.

Sincerely,

Emily Zhang

[Age 10 / Grade 4]

Ignite artistic swimming club

Burlington

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is [Full Name], and I am writing as a [parent / grandparent / guardian / resident / community member] to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy. A modern aquatic sportsplex would help Burlington become a true regional hub for aquatic programming and sport hosting.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Melanie Parish

Dundas

Former GHAC Parent Current Master’s Swimmer

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Better Pool Access Would Help Student-Athletes

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Mathew Marinic and I am a student-athlete with GHAC.

Swimming requires a lot of commitment. Many swimmers train early in the morning, after school, in the evening, and on weekends. Because pool space is limited, training times are not always ideal. Sometimes practices are very early, very late, or at pools that require extra travel.

This can make it harder to balance swimming with school, homework, sleep, family time, and other responsibilities. Better aquatic infrastructure in Burlington would help create more reasonable training opportunities for swimmers and other aquatic athletes.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would provide more space for training, competitions, lessons, and community use. It would also help reduce pressure on existing pools.

As a young athlete, I believe this facility would help swimmers develop while also supporting healthier schedules and better access for families.

Thank you for considering support for this project.

Sincerely,

Mathew Marinic

Age 14 Grade 9

GHAC

Hamilton

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Supporting the Next Generation of Swimmers

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Matthew Sirko, and I swim with Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in this sport. I want to continue improving, race at a higher level, represent my club with pride, and see how far swimming can take me. Achieving those goals requires access to high-quality training and racing facilities.

Currently, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre long course pool. This means local swimmers often have limited opportunities to train and compete in the same type of environment used for major competitions. Better racing facilities would allow athletes to prepare more effectively, gain valuable race experience, and reach their full potential without having to travel outside the region.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would provide swimmers with a modern venue for training and competition. It would support athletes at every stage of their development, from learn-to-swim programs and local meets to provincial, national, university, and international competition. It would also benefit water safety programs, para sport, and the broader community.

This investment would help create more opportunities for current and future aquatic athletes while strengthening Burlington and Halton as a hub for competitive swimming and aquatic sport. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Matthew Sirko

Age 16 Grade 10

GHAC

Hamilton

June 05 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Swimmers Need Better Access to Training and Racing Close to Home

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is [Swimmer Name], and I swim with [Club Name]. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a swimmer, I spend a lot of time training, competing, and travelling to pools. Because Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool, swimmers often have to travel outside the region for long course training and competitions.

For me and my family, this can mean early mornings, late nights, long drives, and extra time away from school, homework, rest, and other activities. Sometimes the travel is harder than the swimming itself.

Having a 50m pool in Burlington would help swimmers train closer to home and have more chances to race in a high-quality facility. A secondary warmer 25m pool would also help support younger swimmers, lessons, warm-up and cool-down, and community programs.

This facility would help swimmers, families, clubs, and the whole community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Caroline Wang

[Age 11 / Grade 6]

Ignite Artistic swimming

1 June 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Shirley Yang, and I am writing to express my strong support for new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As both a Burlington senior and the grandmother of two young competitive swimmers, I have seen firsthand how important access to quality aquatic facilities is for people of all ages.

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are no longer sufficient to meet the needs of our growing community. Existing pools are aging, overcrowded, and limited in their ability to support modern aquatic programming, competitive events, accessible use, and increasing public demand.

Families face limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive athletes are also challenged by facilities that lack adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

At the same time, aquatic facilities are critically important for seniors. Swimming and water-based exercise provide low-impact physical activity that supports mobility, rehabilitation, healthy aging, and overall well-being.

A new regional aquatic centre with a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 25-metre pool would be a valuable long-term investment for Burlington and the surrounding region. It would benefit children, families, athletes, seniors, schools, clubs, and the broader community for decades to come.

I respectfully ask for your support and advocacy for the provincial and federal investment needed to make this important project a reality.

Sincerely,

Shirley Yang

Burlington

[redacted]

June 05 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington & Halton

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is [Swimmer Name], and I am a competitive swimmer with [Club Name]. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington & Halton.

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. However, one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions. It also means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing opportunities. These drives can be tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Amy xiong

Age 11 / Grade5

Ignite Artistci swmiing club

Dear Mayor Meed Ward and Councillor Bentivegna,

I am writing to strongly advocate for the development of a new 50-metre indoor pool in Burlington. This investment is not only timely but essential to meet the growing needs of our community.

Burlington is currently lacking an indoor long-course (50 m) pool, which limits opportunities for our competitive swimmers to train effectively at the level required for regional, provincial, and national competition. Access to appropriate training facilities is a key factor in athlete development, and many of our swimmers must travel outside the city to find suitable space. A new facility would allow local athletes to train and compete within their own community, supporting both performance and retention in the sport.

In addition, a 50-metre pool would significantly increase opportunities to host swim meets and competitions. Our current facilities are not well-suited for large events due to limited deck space and restricted spectator viewing areas. A modern pool designed with competition standards in mind would attract regional events, fostering community pride while also providing economic benefits through tourism and local spending.

Beyond competitive swimming, a new pool would expand access to aquatic programming for all residents. Swim lessons are a vital life skill, and increased capacity would help ensure that more children, youth, and adults can learn to swim in a timely and accessible way. The facility could also support a wide range of inclusive programming, including fitness classes, therapeutic use, seniors' programming, and recreational swimming opportunities.

With Burlington and the broader Halton region experiencing continued population growth, our current aquatic infrastructure is no longer sufficient to meet demand. Investing in a new 50-metre pool is a forward-thinking decision that will support community health, safety, and well-being for years to come.

Importantly, this new facility has the potential to serve as an inclusive and welcoming space for all members of our community, promoting connection, accessibility, and active living.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important initiative. I strongly encourage you to prioritize the development of a new 50-metre indoor pool as part of Burlington's future infrastructure planning.

Sincerely,
Shannon & Don Perkins

Dear Mayor Meed Ward and Councillor Bentivegna,

I am writing to strongly advocate for the development of a new 50-metre indoor pool in Burlington. This investment is not only timely but essential to meet the growing needs of our community.

Burlington is currently lacking an indoor long-course (50 m) pool, which limits opportunities for our competitive swimmers to train effectively at the level required for regional, provincial, and national competition. Access to appropriate training facilities is a key factor in athlete development, and many of our swimmers must travel outside the city to find suitable space. A new facility would allow local athletes to train and compete within their own community, supporting both performance and retention in the sport.

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With Burlington and the broader Halton region experiencing continued population growth, our current aquatic infrastructure is no longer sufficient to meet demand. Investing in a new 50-metre pool is a forward-thinking decision that will support community health, safety, and well-being for years to come.

Importantly, this new facility has the potential to serve as an inclusive and welcoming space for all members of our community, promoting connection, accessibility, and active living.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important initiative. I strongly encourage you to prioritize the development of a new 50-metre indoor pool as part of Burlington's future infrastructure planning.

Sincerely,
Shannon & Don Perkins

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Swimmers Need Better Access to Training and Racing Close to Home

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Nicolas Fricano, and I am a provincial para swimmer with GHAC. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre pool, so swimmers often have to travel far for long course training and competitions. This takes a lot of time and makes training more difficult.

For me and my family, this often means early mornings, late nights, long drives, and less time for school, rest, and other activities. It also means we sometimes have to travel as far as Windsor for meets, which can require staying in hotels instead of being able to stay at home.

A new 50-metre pool in Burlington would give swimmers more chances to train and race closer to home. It would also help more people join and stay in the sport.

This facility would help swimmers, families, clubs, and the whole community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Nicolas Fricano

Provincial Para Swimmer
Ancaster

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Better Pool Access Would Help Student-Athletes

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Owen Stoneburgh, and I am a student-athlete with GHAC and Niagara University.

Swimming requires a lot of commitment. Many swimmers train early in the morning, after school, in the evening, and on weekends. Because pool space is limited, training times are not always ideal. Sometimes practices are very early, very late, or at pools that require extra travel.

This can make it harder to balance swimming with school, homework, sleep, family time, and other responsibilities. Better aquatic infrastructure in Burlington would help create more reasonable training opportunities for swimmers and other aquatic athletes.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would provide more space for training, competitions, lessons, and community use. It would also help reduce pressure on existing pools.

As a young athlete, I believe this facility would help swimmers develop while also supporting healthier schedules and better access for families.

Thank you for considering support for this project.

Sincerely,

Owen Stoneburgh

4th Year Niagara University

GHAC

Burlington

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Swimmers Need Better Access to Training and Racing Close to Home

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Paul Hodgson, and I swim with Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a swimmer, I spend a lot of time training, competing, and travelling to pools. Because Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre long course pool, swimmers often have to travel outside the region for long course training and competitions.

For me and my family, this can mean early mornings, late nights, long drives, and extra time away from school, homework, rest, and other activities. Sometimes the travel is harder than the swimming itself.

Having a 50-metre pool in Burlington would help swimmers train closer to home and have more chances to race in a high-quality facility. A secondary warmer 25-metre pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, warm-up and cool-down, and community programs.

A newer facility would also likely have better air quality and improved ventilation, which would make a real difference during long training sessions and competitions.

This facility would help swimmers, families, clubs, and the whole community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Paul Hodgson

Age 17, Grade 12
GHAC
Burlington

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Julie Crowe, and I am writing as a coach with the McMaster Varsity Team and the Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club (GHAC) to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As coaches, we see firsthand how facility access directly impacts athlete development, program growth, and long-term participation in sport. Across Burlington, Halton, and the surrounding region, aquatic programs are limited by aging facilities, restricted pool availability, and a lack of access to an indoor 50m long course training environment.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, including a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would be a significant asset for athletes, coaches, families, officials, and the broader community. It would provide more appropriate training space, better racing opportunities, improved warm-up and cool-down capacity, and a facility capable of supporting regional and provincial-level events.

This project would benefit far beyond one club or one municipality. It would help strengthen aquatic sport across the Golden Horseshoe/Halton Region and provide the type of infrastructure needed to support the next generation of athletes.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important project.

Sincerely,

Julie Crowe

McMaster Varsity Swim Team Assistant Coach

GHAC Age Group Coach

June 2 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support Inclusive Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Kayla Bent, and I am writing in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Swimming has been an important part of my life, and through my experiences in the sport, I have seen how aquatic facilities can bring people together, promote healthy lifestyles, and create opportunities for people of all ages and abilities. I have also seen the limitations of our current facilities and the challenges they create for athletes, families, and community members.

A modern aquatic sportsplex has the potential to serve far more than competitive swimmers. Burlington needs a facility that is designed from the beginning with accessibility, inclusion, and community needs at its core. Aquatic spaces play a critical role in water safety, learn-to-swim programs, adaptive and para-sport programming, rehabilitation and wellness activities, senior fitness, and recreation for families throughout the region.

Many existing facilities are limited by their age, design, available space, water temperature, and accessibility features. As our community continues to grow, these limitations become more apparent and make it increasingly difficult to meet the diverse needs of residents.

The proposed model of a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool alongside a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool is an ideal solution because it allows multiple user groups to benefit at the same time. The warmer pool would provide valuable space for young swimmers, swimming lessons, adaptive and therapeutic programming, seniors, and community recreation. The 50-metre pool would finally provide the regional training and competition capacity that Burlington and the surrounding area have lacked for many years.

This project represents an investment in inclusion, community health, water safety, and equitable access to aquatic programming. It would create opportunities not only for today's residents but for future generations who deserve access to modern, welcoming, and accessible aquatic facilities close to home.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important project and helping secure the partnerships and funding necessary to make it a reality.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

K Bent

Kayla Bent

Burlington

Former competitive swimmer

June 2 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support Inclusive Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Nolan Bent, and I am writing in support of new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As a young swimmer, I experienced the challenge of limited pool time and the lack of adequate facilities for training. Even then, access was difficult. Today, the demand is even greater, making it harder for swimmers and families to participate and succeed in the sport.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex would provide much-needed training and competition space while creating opportunities for future generations of swimmers. It would benefit athletes, families, and the broader community for years to come.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping make this important project a reality.

Sincerely,

N Bent

Nolan Bent

Burlington

Former competitive swimmer

June 2 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support Inclusive Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Tyler Bent, and I am writing to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As someone who grew up around the sport of swimming, I have seen firsthand the challenges created by the lack of adequate aquatic facilities in our region. Families often have to travel outside Burlington and Halton for training and competitions, which adds significant time, cost, and inconvenience.

A modern aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would be a tremendous asset for our community. It would support competitive swimming, swimming lessons, water safety programs, para sport, community recreation, and many other aquatic activities.

This project would benefit far more than athletes. It would improve access to aquatic programming, support healthy and active lifestyles, enhance community wellness, and create opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities. It would also help Burlington become a regional destination for aquatic events and competitions.

Our community has needed this type of facility for many years, and the demand continues to grow. I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important project and advocating for the provincial and federal funding partnerships needed to make it a reality.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

T Bent

Tyler Bent

Burlington

Former competitive swimmer

June 2 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Barbara Shillingford, and I am writing as a parent and longtime advocate for aquatic sport in support of new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Families throughout our region regularly travel outside Burlington and Halton to access aquatic training and competitions. This creates additional costs, long hours on the road, lost family time, and unnecessary barriers for children who want to participate and develop in aquatic sport.

I know these challenges well. When my children were competitive swimmers, I was part of a community committee that worked to advance the vision of improved aquatic facilities in Burlington nearly 35 years ago. Even then, we recognized the growing need for modern aquatic infrastructure to support athletes, families, and the broader community. Decades later, that need has only become more urgent. This project is long overdue and greatly needed in our community.

For families with multiple children, working parents, or limited transportation options, the lack of local access to appropriate aquatic facilities can be especially difficult. In many cases, it determines whether a child is able to participate fully in the sport or misses opportunities altogether.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help change that. A 10-lane, 50-metre pool would provide the long-course training and competition capacity that athletes currently must travel elsewhere to access. A warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support swimming lessons, community recreation, para-sport programming, therapeutic activities, and warm-up and cool-down space during competitions.

This project would reduce the burden on families, improve access to aquatic programs, and help ensure that children in Burlington and the surrounding region have the same opportunities as athletes in communities with modern aquatic infrastructure. It would also create a lasting legacy for future generations.

I respectfully ask you to support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal funding partnerships needed to make it a reality.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

B Shillingford

Barbara Shillingford

Burlington

Parent & Grandparent

[redacted]

May 30, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sue Bradt, and I am writing this letter as both a swim parent and a long-time swimming official in support of the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton Region.

For many years, my family experienced firsthand the challenges created by the lack of access to a proper long course training and competition facility in Burlington. In order for my sons to access the level of training and racing opportunities they needed, we regularly travelled from Burlington to Hamilton. Over the years, this meant countless trips, long evenings, early mornings, and hundreds of hours spent on the road simply so they could pursue their goals in the sport of swimming.

While we were fortunate to have those opportunities available in Hamilton, families in Burlington and Halton should not have to leave their community to access long course training, competitive swimming opportunities, or high-quality aquatic programming. The lack of a 50-metre indoor pool in Burlington and the surrounding region creates a significant barrier for swimmers, families, coaches, officials, and community members.

As an official, I have also seen how important proper facilities are to hosting swim meets, developing young athletes, training volunteers, and bringing families together. A regional aquatic facility with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 25m pool would not only support competitive swimmers, but also provide much-needed space for learn-to-swim programs, fitness, rehabilitation, lifesaving, para swimming, school use, and community recreation.

This type of facility is not just about today's swimmers. It is about the next generation of athletes and families. It is about making sure young swimmers in Burlington and Halton have access to the same opportunities that others in larger communities already have. It is about reducing the burden on families, keeping athletes connected to their home community, and building a stronger aquatic pathway for years to come.

I strongly support the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and believe it is both necessary and long overdue. Our community has outgrown its current facilities, and the need for expanded, modern aquatic space is clear.

Thank you for your consideration and for supporting the future of aquatics in Burlington, Halton, and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Sue Bradt

Sue Bradt

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Swimmers Need Better Access to Training and Racing Close to Home

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Tavian Augustus, and I swim with GHAC. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a swimmer, I spend a significant amount of time training, competing, and travelling to pools. Because Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50-metre long course pool, swimmers often have to leave the region for long course training and competitions.

In addition to the travel challenges, many athletes in our area rely on aging aquatic facilities that have not seen major upgrades in many years. The limited availability and condition of existing pools can affect training quality and make it more difficult for athletes to reach their full potential. As competitive swimming continues to grow, our facilities have not kept pace with the needs of athletes and the community.

For me and my family, training often means early mornings, late evenings, long drives, and time away from school, studying, work, and other responsibilities. As a second-year engineering student, balancing academics and high-performance sport is already demanding, and the lack of adequate local facilities adds another challenge.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with a 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 25-metre pool would provide modern, reliable space for training, racing, lessons, rehabilitation, and community programming. It would also help reduce pressure on existing facilities while creating opportunities for swimmers to train and compete closer to home.

This facility would be an investment in athletes, families, and the broader community. It would help support the development of future generations of swimmers while ensuring our region has aquatic infrastructure that meets current and future needs.

I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Tavian Augustus

2nd Year Engineering Student
GHAC
Dundas

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Tony Marinic, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Strong high-performance sport systems depend on strong facilities. In Burlington and the surrounding region, athletes do not currently have access to a modern high-performance aquatic centre that fully supports long course training, development, and competition.

At the elite and developing high-performance levels, access to a 50-metre pool is not optional—it is fundamental. It supports race preparation, pacing, endurance, and technical consistency. Without regular access, athletes are forced to train in environments that do not fully match competition conditions, putting them at a disadvantage when racing at provincial, national, and international levels.

The current infrastructure in the region is aging and limited. It does not provide enough space for modern training demands, and it also restricts access to proper dryland training areas, which are essential for strength development, injury prevention, and overall performance.

As there is no dedicated local high-performance long course facility, athletes must travel to other communities to access appropriate training environments. This creates inefficiencies in training schedules, adds fatigue from travel, and reduces time available for recovery, school, and structured athletic development. It also makes it harder to build a stable, consistent high-performance system within the region.

A new 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would directly strengthen high-performance swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, and water polo at the provincial and national level. A secondary 10-lane, warmer 25-metre pool would support technical development, recovery training, learn-to-swim programs, and community access, helping create a full athlete development pipeline.

This type of facility would establish Burlington as a true high-performance aquatic hub and would significantly improve athlete outcomes across the region. It would also support coaches, officials, and performance staff who are essential to building successful programs.

Burlington has a clear opportunity to invest in infrastructure that raises the standard of sport in the region and supports athletes at every stage of development. I strongly encourage support for this project.

Sincerely,

Tony Marinic

Hamilton

Parent and GHAC official

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Supporting the Next Generation of Swimmers

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Will Anderson and I swim with GHAC swim club

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.

Sincerely,

Will Anderson

Age 18 Grade 12

GHAC

Hamilton

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Janet Fairley, and I am writing in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a parent/family member/supporter, I have seen firsthand how important well-designed aquatic facilities are. Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with proper deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide appropriate warm-up and cool-down space, which is essential for safe and effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs. It would also bring visitors into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Janet Fairley

Dundas resident

GHAC

[redacted]

June 3 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Supporting the Next Generation of Swimmers

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Zoey O'Rourke, and I swim with GHAC. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a swimmer, I train and compete a lot, but because there is no indoor 50-metre long course pool in Burlington and Halton, I often have to travel far for training and races. Our pool is also old, and it can be hard to get the best training conditions.

For me and my family, this means long drives, early mornings, and less time for school, rest, and other activities. We also have to go too far from home to race in good facilities.

A new 50-metre pool in Burlington would help swimmers train closer to home and compete in a better facility. It would make swimming easier for athletes, families, and the whole community.

I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Zoey O'Rourke

Age 11, Grade 6
GHAC
Waterdown

June 4, 2025

Burlington City Council
City of Burlington
426 Brant Street
Burlington, ON L7R 3Z6

Re: Letter of Support — Proposed 50m + 25m Aquatic Facility in Burlington

Dear Members of Burlington City Council, City Staff, and Facility Planning Committee:

I am writing in strong support of the proposed development of a new aquatic facility in Burlington that would include both a 50-metre competition pool and a 25-metre pool. As a certified Canadian national swimming official and a World Para Swimming technical official with experience at the highest levels of competitive and para swimming, I believe this project would represent a transformative investment for our community, our athletes, and the broader aquatic sport ecosystem in Ontario.

My Background and Perspective

As a national-level swimming official certified by Swimming Canada and a technical official certified by World Para Swimming — the international governing body for para swimming under World Aquatics — I have officiated at competitions ranging from regional age-group championships through to national and international events. This experience has given me a clear understanding of what is required in aquatic infrastructure to support competitive swimming at all levels, including the rigorous standards required for sanctioned championship events.

The Critical Need for a 50-Metre Pool in Burlington

Burlington and the broader Halton Region are home to thousands of competitive swimmers, yet our community currently lacks a long-course (50-metre) pool. Competitive swimmers who aspire to provincial, national, and international competition must regularly travel to facilities in Hamilton, Etobicoke, or Markham to complete required long-course training and racing. This creates a significant burden on athletes and their families, and places Burlington clubs at a developmental disadvantage relative to clubs in other Ontario cities.

A 50-metre pool that meets the standards of Swimming Canada and World Aquatics would allow Burlington to host Ontario Swimming championships, Canadian Swimming Trials, and other sanctioned national competitions, bringing significant economic activity, tourism, and sport visibility to the city. It would also anchor long-term athlete development for the dozens of swim clubs, masters programs, and school teams that call Burlington home.

Importance for Para Swimming and Inclusive Sport

In my role as a World Para Swimming technical official, I am acutely aware of the additional infrastructure considerations that make a facility welcoming and competition-ready for para athletes. A thoughtfully designed new facility — incorporating accessible change rooms and washrooms, pool lifts, smooth deck surfaces, accessible seating areas, and appropriate warm-up pool access — would send a powerful message that Burlington is committed to inclusive sport at the highest level.

Para swimming competitions follow the same World Aquatics pool and timing standards as able-bodied events, meaning a properly certified 50-metre facility in Burlington could host Para Swimming Canada competitions and potentially international para swimming events. Given the growth of para sport following successive Paralympic Games, the demand for high-quality, accessible competition venues continues to increase.

The Value of a Complementary 25-Metre Pool

The inclusion of a 25-metre pool alongside the 50-metre tank is equally important. A dual-pool facility allows learn-to-swim programs, recreational swimmers, fitness users, and youth competitive programs to operate concurrently with elite training and competition, maximizing the facility's community utility and revenue potential. During major competitions hosted in the 50-metre pool, the 25-metre pool provides essential warm-up and warm-down space, which is a mandatory requirement under Swimming Canada and World Aquatics sanctioning rules.

Community and Economic Impact

A first-class aquatic facility generates lasting community benefit well beyond competitive sport. Swimming is the most participated-in recreational activity in Canada, and quality aquatic infrastructure supports early childhood learn-to-swim programs that save lives, rehabilitation and therapeutic programming for those recovering from injury or managing chronic conditions, fitness and wellness programming for adults and seniors, and school curriculum-based aquatic education.

From an economic standpoint, a 50-metre competition facility capable of hosting provincial and national events would attract out-of-town visitors, fill local hotels and restaurants, and generate meaningful economic activity throughout Burlington. Similar facilities in Markham, Toronto, and Calgary have demonstrated the viability of this model.

Burlington is a city with the population, the sporting culture, and the ambition to be a destination for aquatic excellence. The construction of a 50-metre and 25-metre aquatic facility would be a landmark investment that will serve our community for generations. I urge Council and City staff to advance this proposal with the seriousness it deserves, and I am happy to provide any technical perspective from an officiating and competition-management standpoint to support the planning process.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Sachs
Certified Swimming Official, Swimming Canada
Technical Official, World Para Swimming

02-June-2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Camilo Ribeiro de Siqueira, and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes who are trying to develop in sports that require proper long course training environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Camilo Ribeiro de Siqueira

Burlington - ON

Proud father of two boys training with the GHAC team.

[redacted]

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Andrea Barnes, and I am writing as a parent in support of new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Families in our region regularly travel outside Burlington and Halton for aquatic training and competitions. This creates added costs, long drives, lost family time, and barriers for children who want to participate and develop in aquatic sport.

For families with multiple children, working parents, or limited transportation options, the lack of local access to appropriate aquatic infrastructure can be especially difficult. It can determine whether a child is able to participate fully or not.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help change that. A 10-lane, 50-metre pool would provide proper long course training and competition capacity, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support lessons, community use, para programming, and warm-up/cool-down space.

This project would reduce the burden on families, improve access, and help ensure that children in our region have the same opportunities as athletes in communities with better aquatic infrastructure.

I respectfully ask you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to build it.

Sincerely,

Andrea Barnes

Burlington ON

Greater Horseshoe Aquatic Club - GHAC

June 2, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Anne Norris and I am writing as a coach with the Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As coaches, we see firsthand how facility access directly impacts athlete development, program growth, and long-term participation in sport. Across Burlington, Halton, and the surrounding region, aquatic programs are limited by aging facilities, restricted pool availability, and a lack of access to an indoor 50m long course training environment.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, including a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would be a significant asset for athletes, coaches, families, officials, and the broader community. It would provide more appropriate training space, better racing opportunities, improved warm-up and cool-down capacity, and a facility capable of supporting regional and provincial-level events.

This project would benefit far beyond one club or one municipality. It would help strengthen aquatic sport across the Golden Horseshoe/Halton Region and provide the type of infrastructure needed to support the next generation of athletes.

I would also like to add that Swimming is not only a sport, but also an important LIFE SKILL.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important project.

Sincerely,

Anne Norris

Swim Coach

Burlington

Jun 4 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Supporting the Next Generation of Swimmers

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Aria Fairley, and I swim with GHAC.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.

Sincerely,

Aria Fairley

13 years old | Grade 7

GHAC

Hamilton

June 2, 2026
MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Bonnie MacDonald and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities. **We personally, have had to travel to McMaster University (in heavy traffic) for 4 years, which can be a burden in terms of time and money.** This is especially difficult for youth athletes who are trying to develop in sports that require proper long course training environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home. **There are also significant waitlists for aquatic leadership opportunities** (Bronze Star, NLS, First Aid, etc)

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning. I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,
Bonnie MacDonald bonnie.macdonald@hotmail.com
Burlington (Headon Forest)
My swimmer attends GHAC, Junior Performance Program

Jun 4 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jen Fairley, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Jen Fairley

Hamilton

Parent of Swimmer / GHAC

[redacted]

Jun 2nd 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Joyce Li Shen, and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes who are trying to develop in sports that require proper long course training environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

6/2/2026

X

Joyce Shen

Signed by: Li.Shen

Burlington

Connection to Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

[redacted]

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Swimmers Need Better Access to Training and Racing Close to Home

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Kaleb Hughes, and I swim with Golden Horeshoe Aquatic Club. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a swimmer, I spend a lot of time training, competing, and travelling to pools. Because Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool, swimmers often have to travel outside the region for long course training and competitions.

For me and my family, this can mean early mornings, late nights, long drives, and extra time away from school, homework, rest, and other activities. Sometimes the travel is harder than the swimming itself.

Having a 50m pool in Burlington would help swimmers train closer to home and have more chances to race in a high-quality facility. A secondary warmer 25m pool would also help support younger swimmers, lessons, warm-up and cool-down, and community programs.

This facility would help swimmers, families, clubs, and the whole community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Kaleb Hughes

Age 17 / Grade 11

Golden Horeshoe Aquatic Club

Jun 4 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Supporting the Next Generation of Swimmers

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Kessia Fairley, and I swim with Ignite Artistic Swim Club.

Like many young artistic swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, master new skills, perform with precision and artistry, represent my club, and see how far artistic swimming can take me. To do that, athletes need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor deep-water pool that meets the needs of artistic swimming. This makes it harder for swimmers to train routines, practice lifts, and prepare for competitions at higher levels. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as those in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support artistic swimmers from their first routines to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and a wide range of community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.

Sincerely,

Kessia Fairley

11 years old | Grade 5

Ignite Artistic Swim Club

Hamilton

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverdem
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility in Burlington/Halton

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Kris Leyland and I am writing as a volunteer in support of a new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Competition is an essential part of athlete development. Athletes need regular, high-quality racing opportunities to learn, improve, build confidence, and progress through the sport. Unfortunately, there are limited facilities in the region that can properly host large aquatic competitions.

Many existing facilities lack adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up and cool-down capacity, accessibility, and the operational space needed for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families. As a result, clubs often have to travel significant distances for competitions, increasing costs and reducing access for families.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, featuring a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warm-up 10 lane 25m pool, would provide much-needed competition capacity in the region. It would allow more events to be hosted locally, improve the experience for athletes and families, and support the development of officials and volunteers. It would also bring visiting teams and families into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, and local businesses through sport tourism.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important regional infrastructure project.

Sincerely,

Kris Leyland
Officials Volunteer

City of Burlington

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Lisa Redfearn, and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes who are trying to develop in sports that require proper long course training environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Lisa Redfearn

Halton Resident and Mum of a very keen teenage swimmer

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

Our names Mark & Lucie Guichelaar, and we are writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. For example, our family must constantly travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities. Not only is this a burden on our time, but other regions benefit economically from having these facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes who are trying to develop in sports that require proper long course training environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

We urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Mark & Lucie Guichelaar

Burlington, ON

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club (GHAC)

[redacted]

Friday, June 5 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Rory Walker, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Rory Walker

Halton

Masters Swimmer, parent, community member.

[redacted]

[redacted]

June 4, 2026,

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Melanie Havers, and I am writing in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a parent I have seen firsthand how important well-designed aquatic facilities are. Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide appropriate warm-up and cool-down space, which is essential for safe and effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs. It would also bring visitors into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Melanie Havers

Hamilton, ON

GHAC Parent

2026-06-04

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Long Bian, and I am writing as a parent in support of new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Families in our region regularly travel outside Burlington and Halton for aquatic training and competitions. This creates added costs, long drives, lost family time, and barriers for children who want to participate and develop in aquatic sport.

For families with multiple children, working parents, or limited transportation options, the lack of local access to appropriate aquatic infrastructure can be especially difficult. It can determine whether a child is able to participate fully or not.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help change that. A 10-lane, 50-metre pool would provide proper long course training and competition capacity, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support lessons, community use, para programming, and warm-up/cool-down space.

This project would reduce the burden on families, improve access, and help ensure that children in our region have the same opportunities as athletes in communities with better aquatic infrastructure.

I respectfully ask you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to build it.

Sincerely,

Long Bian

Burlington

Parent of a competitive swimmer at GHAC

[redacted]

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support Inclusive Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Mikhail Zaitsev, and I am writing in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

A modern aquatic sportsplex has the potential to serve people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. Burlington needs a facility that is designed with accessibility and inclusion in mind from the beginning.

Aquatic spaces are vital for para sport, adaptive programming, rehabilitation-style activity, senior fitness, learn-to-swim, and community recreation. However, many existing facilities are limited by age, design, space constraints, water temperature, and accessibility challenges.

Artistic swimming, I am involved in, is a sport with the predominant participation of girls whose participation in sport and physical activity is vitally important for girl and boys but who are dropping out from sports in large numbers at early teen age partially due to the access to pool issue.

While GTA clubs inherited 2 world-class pools from 2015 PanAm games, west of GTA regions do not have same access to aquatic sports creating inequity for all aquatic teams in Halton region

The proposed model of a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool is important because it can serve multiple needs at once. The warmer pool would be especially valuable for younger swimmers, adaptive programming, community use, and those who benefit from warmer water. The 50-metre pool would provide the regional competition and training capacity that Burlington and region currently lacks.

This project would support inclusion, community health, water safety, and equitable access to aquatic programming across the region.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important project and helping secure the partnerships necessary to build it.

Sincerely,

Mikhail Zaitsev

Oakville

Parent of a child with a disability swimming with Oakville Marlins club of Special Olympics and a child participating in Artistic swimming programming with Ignite Artistic swimming

[redacted]

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Mike McCloskey, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Mike McCloskey

Halton

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club Member

[redacted]

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Pui Yuk (Peggy) Law, and I am writing as a parent in support of new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Families in our region regularly travel outside Burlington and Halton for aquatic training and competitions. This creates added costs, long drives, lost family time, and barriers for children who want to participate and develop in aquatic sport.

For families with multiple children, working parents, or limited transportation options, the lack of local access to appropriate aquatic infrastructure can be especially difficult. It can determine whether a child is able to participate fully or not.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help change that. A 10-lane, 50-metre pool would provide proper long course training and competition capacity, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support lessons, community use, para programming, and warm-up/cool-down space.

This project would reduce the burden on families, improve access, and help ensure that children in our region have the same opportunities as athletes in communities with better aquatic infrastructure.

I respectfully ask you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to build it.

Sincerely,

Pui Yuk (Peggy) Law

Burlington, Halton Region

Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club

[redacted]

Jun 4 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Is Needed to Support Program Growth

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Coach Quinn Fairley, and I am writing as a coach with GHAC in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

One of the biggest challenges facing aquatic programs is access to enough appropriate pool space. Demand for swimming lessons, competitive training, para programming, community use, and aquatic sport continues to grow, but available facilities have not kept pace.

From a coaching perspective, this limits what programs can offer. It restricts the number of athletes who can participate, limits practice options, creates scheduling challenges, and places unnecessary pressure on existing community pools. It also makes it difficult to support athletes at different stages of development in the same system.

A facility with both a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would help solve these issues. It would allow multiple programs to run at the same time, support different water temperature needs, and create space for both high-performance training and community-based programming.

This is the kind of forward-thinking infrastructure Burlington and the region need. It would support athletes, coaches, families, schools, officials, volunteers, and the broader community for decades to come.

I strongly encourage your support for this project.

Sincerely,

Quinn Fairley

Coach for GHAC

Hamilton

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Ryan Hughes, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Ryan Hughes

Burlington, Halton Region

Golden Horseshoe Aquatics Club

[redacted]

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverdem
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility in Burlington/Halton

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Leanne McConnell and I am writing as a coach in support of a new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Competition is an essential part of athlete development. Athletes need regular, high-quality racing opportunities to learn, improve, build confidence, and progress through the sport. Unfortunately, there are limited facilities in the region that can properly host large aquatic competitions.

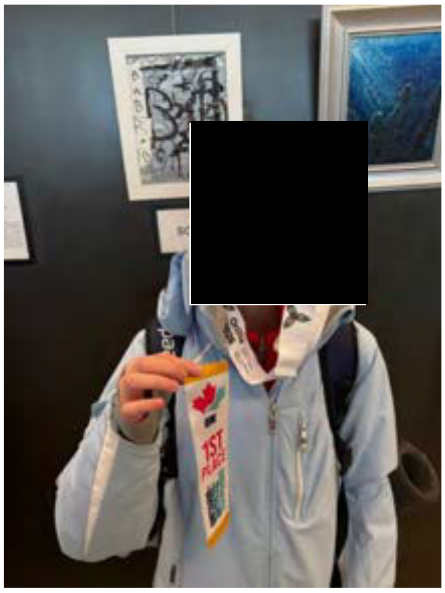
Many existing facilities lack adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up and cool-down capacity, accessibility, and the operational space needed for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families. As a result, clubs often have to travel significant distances for competitions, increasing costs and reducing access for families.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, featuring a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warm-up 10 lane 25m pool, would provide much-needed competition capacity in the region. It would allow more events to be hosted locally, improve the experience for athletes and families, and support the development of officials and volunteers. It would also bring visiting teams and families into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, and local businesses through sport tourism.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important regional infrastructure project.

Sincerely,

Leanne McConnell
Coach of GHAC/McMaster University



My daughter is an 11-year-old artistic swimmer with Ignite Artistic Swimming Club. While the club has incredible athletes and strong potential, the lack of adequate training space has created significant challenges that limit their ability to compete at the highest level.

In 2026, my daughter placed 3rd at the Ontario Winter Games — an achievement that reflects both her hard work and the dedication of her coaches and teammates. However, with access to a more suitable training facility, the team could achieve even greater success.

More importantly, the current training conditions raise safety concerns for all athletes. Due to insufficient pool depth and training space limitations, swimmers risk injuring themselves by hitting the pool floor during training sessions. Providing access to proper facilities is not only important for athlete development, but also essential for their safety and well-being.

The athletes at Ignite work incredibly hard and deserve a training environment that allows them to reach their full potential safely and competitively. Thank you for your support and consideration!

Angela Wu

I’m an eleven year old artistic swimmer form Ignite artistic swimming club formerly know as Burlington synchronized swimming club. It’s very hard for my club to train with a 25 meter pool since half of it is shallow. We need a 50 meter pool to train properly without a danger of hitting our heads or another body part on the pool bottom and then we can represent Burlington in our competitions.

Caitlyn Brennan

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Would Benefit Burlington's Economy

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is [Full Name], and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

A modern aquatic facility would provide significant benefits to families, athletes, and community users, but it would also be an important economic development opportunity for Burlington.

Competition-ready 50-metre pools attract events. These events bring families, teams, coaches, officials, and spectators into the community. Visitors stay in hotels, eat at local restaurants, shop locally, and contribute to the surrounding economy. Burlington is well-positioned geographically to serve as a regional aquatic hub for Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, Toronto, and the broader Golden Horseshoe.

At the same time, a secondary warmer 25-metre pool would ensure the facility is not only for competitions. It would support lessons, recreation, community use, accessibility, para programming, and other aquatic activities year-round.

This project is an opportunity to invest in health, sport, tourism, economic development, and community infrastructure all at once.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this project and helping secure provincial and federal funding partnerships for a regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Sincerely,

Lynn Kozak

Town of Oakville

Parent of Oakville Aquatic Club Swimmer

June 4 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Wendy Pluim, and I am writing in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a parent, I have seen firsthand how important well-designed aquatic facilities are. Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide appropriate warm-up and cool-down space, which is essential for safe and effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs. It would also bring visitors into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Wendy Pluim

Hamilton

GHAC

June 3, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for a New Regional Aquatic Sportsplex in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden, MPP Lumsden, Mayor Meed Ward, and Members of Council,

My name is Jeff Bent, and I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Swimming has been an important part of my family's life for many years. Through our involvement in the sport, I have seen firsthand the positive impact swimming has on young people, families, and the community. It teaches discipline, perseverance, goal setting, and healthy living while creating lifelong friendships and opportunities.

Swimming is also a lifelong skill that promotes health, fitness, and safety throughout a person's life. Unlike many sports, swimming offers opportunities for participation at every age, including a vibrant Masters swimming community that allows adults to remain active, competitive, and connected long after their youth sport years have ended.

Unfortunately, the limited aquatic facilities available in Burlington and the surrounding region have made it increasingly difficult for athletes and families to fully participate in the sport. Pool space is limited, training opportunities are constrained, and swimmers often have to travel significant distances to access long course training and competitions.

As our community continues to grow, the need for modern aquatic infrastructure has become even more apparent. A new sportsplex featuring a 50-metre competition pool and a secondary 25-metre pool would provide opportunities for swimmers of all ages and abilities, from learn-to-swim programs and recreational users to Masters athletes and high-performance competitors.

This project is about more than competitive swimming. It is an investment in community health, water safety, youth development, accessibility, active aging, and regional sport tourism. It would serve families across Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, and surrounding communities for decades to come.

I believe Burlington has an opportunity to create a facility that will benefit current and future generations, and I strongly encourage your support for this important project.

Sincerely,

Jeff Bent

GHAC

Burlington

June 4 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Supporting the Next Generation of Swimmers

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

My name is Izzy Henderson-Pluim, and I swim with GHAC.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.

Sincerely,

Izzy Henderson-Pluim

Age 15 Grade 10

Hamilton

June 4 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Brad Henderson, and I am writing as a parent in support of new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Families in our region regularly travel outside Burlington and Halton for aquatic training and competitions. This creates added costs, long drives, lost family time, and barriers for children who want to participate and develop in aquatic sport.

For families with multiple children, working parents, or limited transportation options, the lack of local access to appropriate aquatic infrastructure can be especially difficult. It can determine whether a child is able to participate fully or not.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help change that. A 10-lane, 50-metre pool would provide proper long course training and competition capacity, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support lessons, community use, para programming, and warm-up/cool-down space.

This project would reduce the burden on families, improve access, and help ensure that children in our region have the same opportunities as athletes in communities with better aquatic infrastructure.

I respectfully ask you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to build it.

Sincerely,

Brad Henderson

Hamilton

GHAC

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Olivia Wells and, I am writing to advocate for the development of a 50-metre swimming pool in Burlington. As our city continues to grow, the need for expanded aquatic facilities has become increasingly evident. A modern 50-metre pool would provide significant recreational, health, and economic benefits to residents of all ages.

For the past 20 years, I have coached with Golden Horseshoe Aquatic Club and have witnessed firsthand the positive impact that swimming has on young people. Beyond teaching physical fitness and water safety, swimming helps youth develop discipline, confidence, resilience, goal-setting skills, and lifelong healthy habits. The pool environment creates a sense of community and belonging that benefits participants both in and out of the water. Through my years of coaching, I have seen countless young athletes grow into successful, engaged members of our community, and I know how important access to quality aquatic facilities is to that development.

Currently, Burlington lacks a full-sized 50-metre public pool capable of meeting the needs of competitive swimmers, aquatic clubs, triathletes, masters swimmers, and residents seeking year-round fitness opportunities. Many athletes and families must travel to neighbouring municipalities to access suitable training facilities, creating unnecessary barriers and costs.

A 50-metre pool would:

• Support competitive swimming, diving, lifesaving, and water polo programs. • Provide additional space for swim lessons and public recreational swimming. • Improve community health by encouraging lifelong physical activity. • Help accommodate Burlington's growing population and increasing demand for aquatic programming. • Enable the city to host regional, provincial, and national competitions, bringing visitors and economic activity to local businesses. • Enhance accessibility and inclusiveness by offering more opportunities for therapeutic and adaptive aquatic programs.

Investing in aquatic infrastructure is an investment in public health, youth development, and community well-being. As neighbouring communities continue to expand their recreational facilities, Burlington should position itself as a leader in providing high-quality amenities that serve current residents and future generations.

I encourage Council to prioritize the planning, funding, and construction of a 50-metre aquatic facility as part of the city's long-term recreation strategy. I also urge the City to engage residents, sports organizations, schools, and community groups to assess demand and identify opportunities for partnerships that could help make this project a reality.

Sincerely,

Olivia Wells

Building More Aquatic Centres in Ontario

Aquatic Sport Council of Ontario

Executive Summary

There is an urgent need for Ontario to invest in more and larger recreational aquatic facilities to enhance health outcomes, stimulate the local economy, and provide complete communities that support new housing starts. Ontario must empower local stakeholders to develop these facilities and position itself as a leader in drowning prevention, building healthy communities, and athletic excellence.

Currently, the development of aquatic centres in Ontario is hindered by outdated assumptions of operational costs, a governance structure that makes it challenging to build larger aquatic centres, and an overall infrastructure deficit that forces municipalities to make difficult decisions on capital projects. Most indoor 50-metre (50m) pools in Ontario were constructed between 1970 and 2010, with only four built after 2000 according to a 2023 study by Aquatic Associates. This slow down in pool development is due to short-term funding plans that have put pressure on the municipalities and non-profits managing pool facilities. Historical trends indicate that larger pools have primarily been built in response to specific needs from universities or major sporting events, such as the Pan Am Games, which has left many Ontario communities without sufficient access to facilities.

Public opinion polling completed by Pluriel Research in the summer of 2024 indicates strong support for expanding pool programming and infrastructure, especially among parents with young children. However, barriers such as long travel time to facilities and limited access to swim programs hinder participation.

This lack of infrastructure negatively affects community vibrancy by limiting options for learn-to-swim lessons, recreational aquatic activities, water-based rehabilitation programs, water-based sports, and opportunities for local sport tourism.

To address these issues, Ontario needs to take a proactive approach to pool construction, anticipating future needs rather than reacting to them. By investing in recreational infrastructure, Ontario can attract residents, boost the local economy through sport tourism, and improve public health through increased access to exercise and

enhanced drowning prevention programs. The ability of municipalities to deliver their core services, and the expansion of learn-to-swim initiatives is particularly critical to this approach.

Pool operators suggest that increasing pool sizes significantly enhances usage rates if supported by optimized designs and energy-efficient systems. Industry professionals have shared that pool operators could triple their use if they could double the pool size and enable municipalities to generate more revenue to support pool programming.

To support the development of larger, 50m pool facilities, the province should assist in the construction of regional recreation facilities that serve multiple aquatic and recreational purposes.

These hubs would centralize resources, allowing municipalities to deliver essential services more efficiently while providing opportunities for aquatic sport clubs to rent space. A well-designed facility anchored by a 50m pool could attract large-scale competitions and events that smaller venues cannot accommodate.
To facilitate this vision, the Aquatic Sport Council of Ontario is urging the government to establish a dedicated funding application process for constructing regional recreation facilities with larger pools. This process should facilitate financial and development support from conception through to construction and address the financial barriers many municipalities face in constructing multi-use, 50m pools. The applications should be reviewed and approved for funding by the Minister of Sport and the Minister of Infrastructure to ensure that the regional facilities are being placed strategically, in locations that can support the aquatic programming, and built to maximize programming and operating efficiency.

The Aquatic Sport Council, is comprised of representatives from:

- Dive Ontario
- Lifesaving Society
- Ontario Artistic Swimming
- Ontario Water Polo
- Parks and Recreation Ontario
- Swim Ontario

Ontario is Falling Behind on Pool Construction

In Ontario, planning for aquatic infrastructure happens at the municipal level of government. There are currently no provincial standards for pool infrastructure requirements, nor is there a process for ensuring adequate aquatic infrastructure is distributed fairly across the province. The province needs to begin anticipating future gaps in pool infrastructure and should establish the cross-jurisdictional dialogue required to implement cost-effective and efficient construction.

In the past two decades, Ontario has suffered from a lack of pool development and insufficient funding. The majority of indoor 50m pools in Ontario were built in the 1970s, 1980s, and 2010s. Only four 50m pools have been built after the year 2000. As a result, Ontario is falling behind its counterparts across Canada.

Ontario has a population of 14 million, approximately 40 per cent of Canada's population, but only 30 per cent of the 50m indoor pools. Further, six of the seven largest cities in Canada without 50m indoor pools are in Ontario. The data is clear: there aren't enough 50m pools in Ontario to serve the needs of its growing population. The gap in Ontario's pool infrastructure becomes even greater when compared to other provinces across Canada; Ontario's 50m pool to population ratio is 1:748,629. This is the second highest ratio in the country.

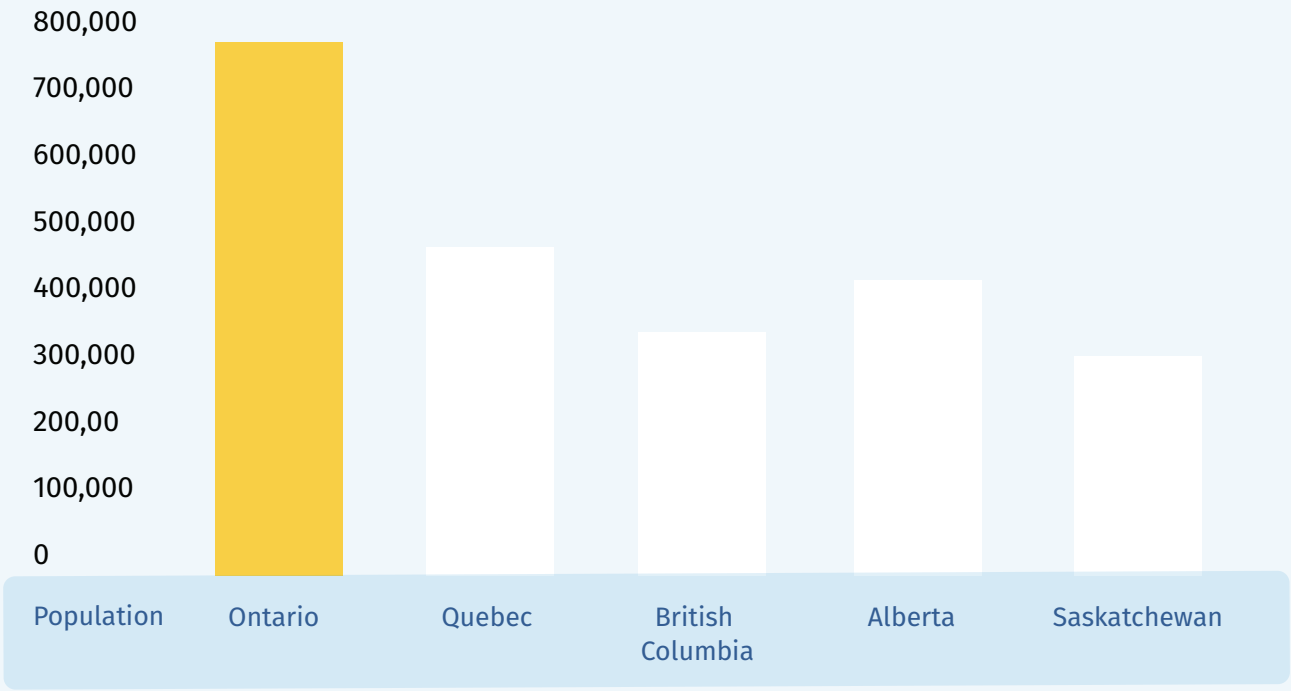
There is a correlation between stagnated 50m pool development and the withdrawal of government involvement. The lack of aquatic facility development is partly due to municipalities withdrawing their support from the development and operation of large pools. Ontario is the only province where 50m pools developed by institutions and for major games outnumber those built by municipalities, or other levels of government.

A **50-metre pool** can bring three times the programming for twice the pool size. A strategically placed 50m pool allows for greater access to swim lessons, swim team training, fitness training, and can attract out-of-town swimmer for tournament and other significant aquatic competition activities.

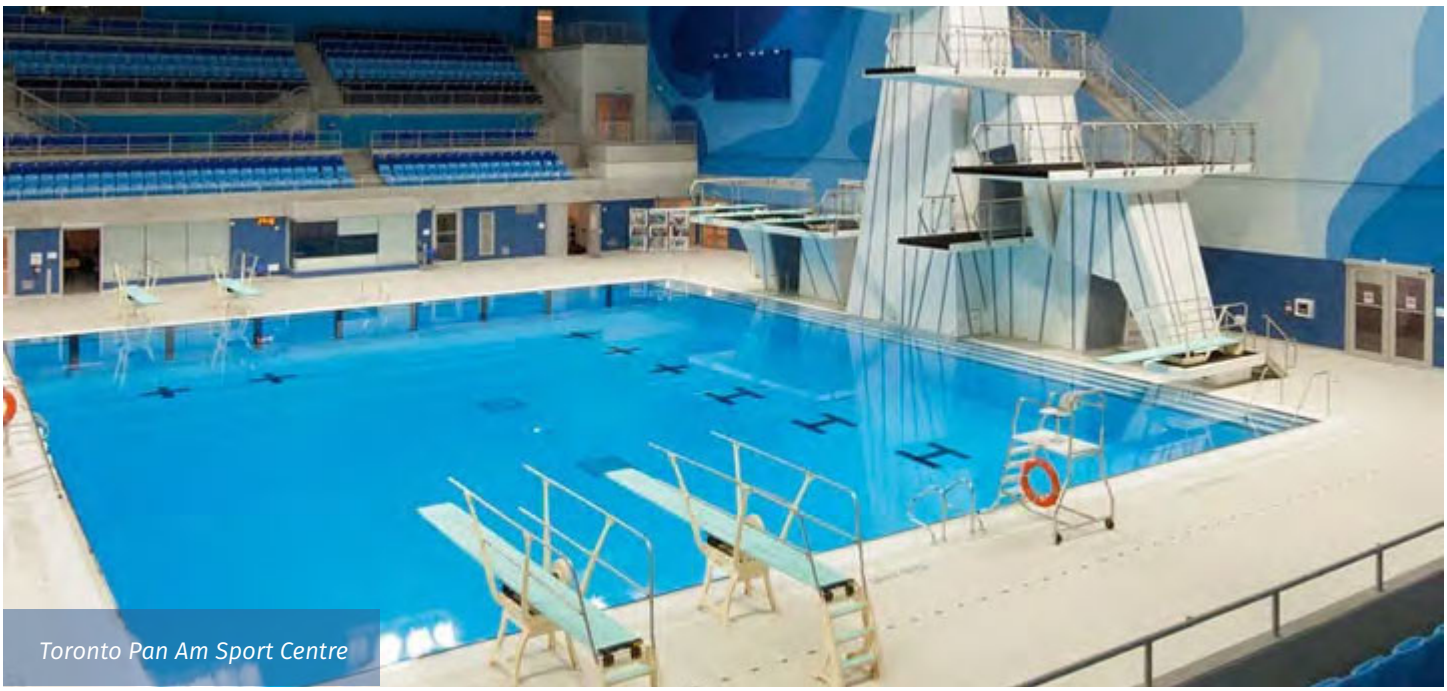
In underserved communities, a 50m pool can help provide enough pool time for growing populations while also benefitting surrounding service and hotel businesses.

50m pools should have 10 lanes, a warm-up tank, and be 2.5m deep to accommodate a full range of activities.

Population Ratio per 50m Pool



Ontarians experience double the competition to accessing 50M pools compared to the rest of Canada



Toronto Pan Am Sport Centre

Ontarians Want to Swim

Access to Pools is Integral to Developing Better Health Outcomes

Aquatic infrastructure provides community members with several benefits, including the opportunity to participate in sport and fitness, access rehabilitation/therapy programs, build social connection, and attend and participate in special events and sport tourism. Most importantly, and most desired by community members, is the increased availability of learn-to-swim programs that improve water safety and aid in drowning prevention. Learn-to-swim also indirectly provides users with access to the full capacity of pool programming; by learning and knowing how to swim, users can expand their participation in alternative aquatic programming, thus developing healthier lifestyles and good exercise habits. Access to pool-based fitness and recreation programs like diving, water polo, or artistic swimming require the ability to swim, reiterating that learn-to-swim programs are the foundation of aquatic participation.

Beyond the benefits felt by the general population, pools serve an even higher function for older adults, pregnant women, and those with different physical abilities who prefer or require an aquatic setting to perform exercise, as hydrotherapy is shown to cut down on recovery time. Access to exercise, specifically low-impact forms such as swimming, have been linked to a range of health benefits, from reducing rates of chronic diseases and rehabilitation from injury, to improving mental health. Pools, therefore, play a role in reducing the financial strain on the provinces' healthcare system.

Perhaps the most significant health benefit that can be gained from access to pools, however, is the prevention of drowning instances. Based on numbers provided by the Lifesaving Society: in 2020, 211 people in Ontario died from drowning, the highest number in a decade. In 2018 alone, deaths due to drowning resulted in an economic loss of $175 million, and hospitalizations place an additional $8 million dollar strain on the healthcare system, annually. Thirty-eight per cent of water-related fatalities occur while swimming in open bodies of water. By providing more opportunities to access and participate in aquatic programming, there is significant potential to decrease the amount of death and injury, and reduce some of the public healthcare system's financial strain.

Ontarians Like Swimming, Know It's an Important Skill and Want More Access

For the purposes of this submission, Pluriel was contracted to perform public opinion polling to determine Ontarians' feelings about pool infrastructure across the province.

This polling identified some significant trends:

56 per cent of Ontarians would like the government to make building new swim infrastructure a higher priority, with 77 per cent of identified PC voters considering an investment in new swim infrastructure to be a very or somewhat good investment.

Across all party supporters, the majority of Ontarians would like to see the provincial government invest more money into public swim infrastructure.

Parents of children under 18 are the most frequent users of public pools.

Parents and young adults indicated a high demand for pools: 41 per cent of parents would be more likely to use a public pool, and 37 per cent of Ontarians aged 18-34 say they would be much more likely if access was more available.

52 per cent of Ontarians would like the government to provide more facilities where future Olympic athletes can train and compete.

- *This includes the majority (51 per cent) of likely voters in the next provincial election.*

These results emphasize the need for pool infrastructure across the province and suggest that Ontarians are in strong support of investing in aquatic infrastructure.

Families Want to Live in Communities with Recreational Activities, Pools

As the province continues to expand its availability of housing options, it is critical that a corresponding plan to develop and increase access to recreational programming -- especially pools -- is also developed. Regions that offer a wide array of recreational programming appeal to families looking to create roots, raise children, and grow older.

Given the constraints on pool availability, many families gravitate to urban areas where recreational infrastructure already exists. This puts greater stress on housing affordability in those high-density areas and leaves many areas of the province struggling to attract new families to support their growth, property tax base, and local economy.

If the government is looking to make housing more readily available and affordable in various areas of the province, they should consider areas that lack regional recreation facilities with aquatic centres and focus efforts on supporting municipalities to build recreation as a cornerstone of their community.

Ignoring the need for recreational programming, or expecting smaller municipalities to bear the costs of designing and constructing an aquatic/recreation centre, only prolongs the existing issues related to access and availability.

Aquatic Centre

Aquatic Centre

Municipalities Are Key to Pool Delivery and Need Support

From construction to operation, municipalities are responsible for public recreation facilities; they are the primary drivers of pool construction. Local governments respond to their communities' desires for athletic and recreation facilities and know where additional services are needed. Municipalities are also responsible for operating and maintaining pools and pool programming, ensuring longevity of the asset to maximize public benefit.

Municipalities are increasingly under financial strain due to competing financial priorities and raising the capital required for a new aquatic facility is a long and complex process. To build pools and their associated infrastructure, municipalities are sourcing large portions of capital through debt financing and development charges, and creating financial liabilities that must eventually be resolved. The prohibitive cost and limited revenue tools available to municipalities can make the idea of building new aquatic facilities too daunting for some municipal governments.

Support from higher levels of government can ensure municipalities have adequate capital to build a quality asset, help minimize operating and maintenance costs, and provide the long-term public benefits offered by pool infrastructure. A provincial funding program dedicated to helping municipalities move aquatic facilities from conception to construction by supplying a portion of the necessary capital, would relieve the pressure on municipalities and create public benefit.

Such a fund would support municipalities building new, large pool areas or expanding existing facilities.

Ontario's *Municipal Act* designates 'culture, parks, recreation and heritage' as one of 11 spheres of jurisdiction for municipal governments.

Unfortunately, many municipalities face significant capital funding challenges, leading to pool size and programming being one of the first items cut during the design process.

To maximize the impact of public capital and complement a provincial funding program, municipal governments should shift the way they design public recreation infrastructure by combining other recreation services and facilities with aquatic centres. By developing multi-use public spaces, complete with gyms, arenas, libraries, and/or service centres, municipalities can spread capital and operating costs over a wider set of revenue sources -- such as user fees for programming and rentals -- therefore increasing the efficiency of public spending.

Whitby hired a sport consultant to make sure their pool was set up for small athletic meets so they could get a diverse range of activities. The original scope doubled in size to have capacity for the projected population growth.

Funds for the complex came from Ottawa's Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) program. The facility includes a 25-metre, 10-lane pool, seperate leisure pool and second floor spectator viewing area - which will make the Whitby Sports Complex home to the largest pool in Durham region.

**This state-of-the-art-facility will meet the immediate and future recreation needs of our rapidly growing community as well as the Town's environmental and climate commitments. It will be one of the first multipurpose recreation facilities in Canda to be certified as a LEED Gold and Zero Carbon Buillding through the Canada Green Building Council." - Elizabeth Roy, Mayor, Town of Whitby.*

Rendering of Whitby Sports Complex Pool

A Regional Funding Strategy Will Address Need

Public capital would have the greatest impact if invested at strategically located regional recreation facilities across the province. These facilities would bring together spaces and resources for numerous activities -- such as multi-purpose gymnasiums, weightlifting facilities, arenas, and indoor tracks -- anchored by a 50m pool. This follows the Canadian Sport Institute (CSI) model, which operates multi-purpose athletic facilities across Canada, providing training opportunities for high-performance athletes and recreation programming opportunities for surrounding communities.

Centralizing spaces for numerous forms of activity and use allows for an efficient and effective use of public dollars, as overhead and staffing costs can be spread across numerous revenue sources. For instance, the staffing complement required to service a standalone pool can provide the necessary maintenance and administration for a range of spaces. A regional facility with pool, gym and arena capabilities can provide revenue-generating programming across all three, offsetting the overhead costs required to operate a larger facility.

For pools specifically, larger pools mean more programming and access to larger revenue streams. Athletic clubs (i.e., competitive swim and dive clubs), commercial use (i.e., rescue and scuba training), and large events like major competitions all generate considerable revenue but cannot be accommodated by smaller pools.

Targeted investment in specific regional facilities also allows for investment in technology to make operation more cost-efficient. Modern water temperature, and chemical balance monitoring and regulation systems support the most efficient use of operating funds, but are not accessible to smaller facilities due to their high upfront cost.

The **Markham Pan-Am Centre** has a 50-metre swimming pool with 10 lanes for competitive swimming. At 2.5 metres deep, the pool is also suitable for artistic swimming and water polo events.

The pool includes a moveable floor and configurable bulkheads. It can be set up to meet various sport requirements and allows for a multi-use confirguration.

In 2022, the centre hosted 71 events and 375,000 visitors.

The Pan Am Centres (PACs) in Markham and Scarborough, and the Canada Games Complex (CGC) in Thunder Bay present excellent examples of strategically designed recreation infrastructure. These facilities provide a range of services, including 50m pools, athletics and training, recreation, and commercial space, all under one roof. The increased revenue generated through programming fees, rentals, and leases offsets the overhead costs required to operate larger facilities. Each facility is large enough to provide services to a large user base, servicing the broader GTA and northern Ontario regions.

Ultimately, the greater scale of large regional facilities also creates a broader economic and service impact. More jobs are created in the facility's construction and operation, a broader programming range provides more recreation opportunities for community members, and it brings potential for new businesses and services. The regional aspect means fewer public dollars are required to impact a greater number of Ontarians.

Markham Pan Am Centre

Triple the Use for Double the Pool

Local and regional governments aim to generate revenue to assist with the operation of pools; a task which is made easier by building indoor, all-season 50m pools.

These 50m pools allow municipalities to offer low-cost drop-in and recreational access, while enabling them to generate greater revenues for permitted and sport training uses.

Pool operators are keen to modernize their programming and combine the innovations being made in pool construction and operations. By integrating the approach to construction, operations, and programming in the planning phases of a new or retrofitted pool, municipalities can reduce the gap between operating costs and programming revenue, and the larger pools will create opportunities for sport tourism to thrive.

Procurement and Design

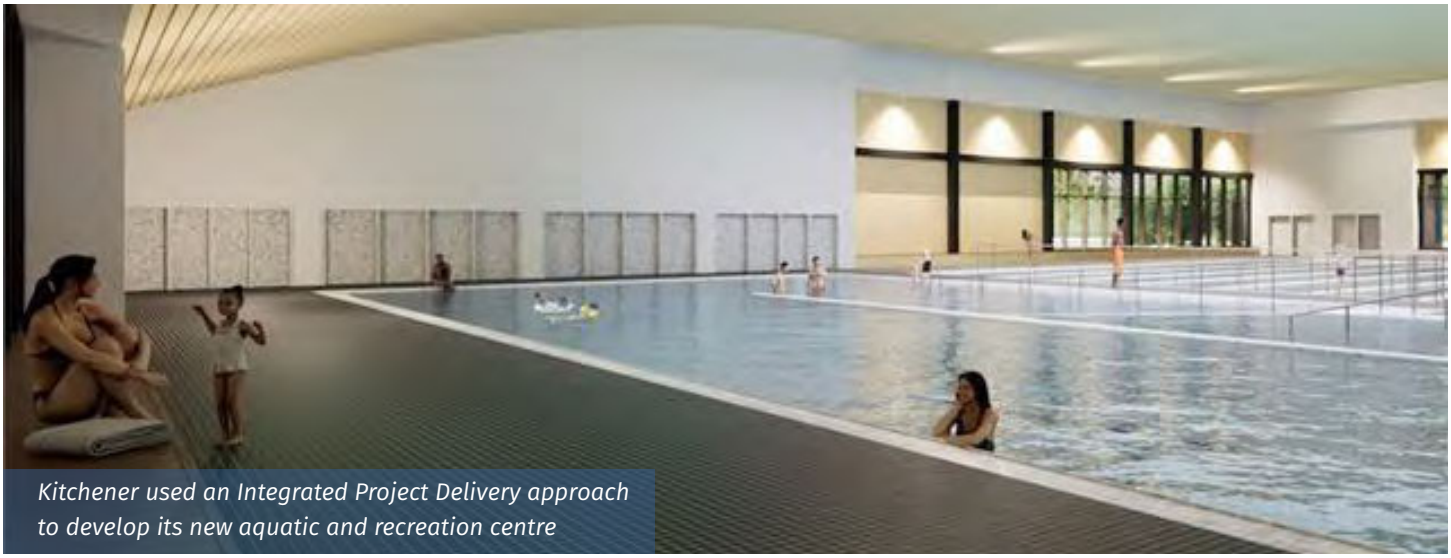
Knowing how a recreational centre will run, and who will use it, helps focus the design of the physical structure. There are a range of development strategies that can be used to ensure an anchor facility, like a 50m pool, is built in a cost-effective way, will be able to operate efficiently, and will support a range of uses.

Integrated Project Delivery is a procurement model that allows a funder and a contractor to work together to finalize design elements and a construction plan in a collaborative way that can enhance building performance.

Using new, cost-efficient building materials can help control construction costs, which helps make these large infrastructure projects more incentivizing for municipalities to build. For example, some municipalities are using tension fabric membranes to cover new aquatic recreation facilities. These can be built on their own or adjacent to a larger recreation facility and can accommodate 25m or 50m pools.

Collingwood - Centennial Aquatic Centre Built in 1967, Collingwood decided to enclose their facility in 2013. Collingwood chose a tension fabric structure, a fast, reliable and innovative solution. Construction took just 6 months. The new cover was accompanied by upgrades to the pool.

To build the number of pools needed to meaningfully improve access in Ontario, partnerships will be necessary. Not just partnerships between municipalities and federal and provincial funders, but also partnerships between neighbouring municipalities and not-for-profits. For smaller municipal communities that don't have the capacity to build new facilities on their own, partnering with surrounding municipalities can help create the capital needed to build a new pool, while also contributing to a facility that their constituents will likely use.



Kitchener used an Integrated Project Delivery approach to develop its new aquatic and recreation centre

In Ontario's fast-growing 905 suburbs (Mississauga, Brampton, Burlington, Markham, Oshawa), sport and recreation services are delivered solely by local municipalities, not regions or counties. Filling the gaps in access for 50m, regionally significant recreation centres anchored by a pool will likely require municipal partnerships and potentially regional or county leadership. Ontario's flagship aquatic centre, the Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre is an example of a successful partnership.

In Europe, it is commonplace to develop an aquatic facility with additional empty space on the land with the intention of expanding the facilities in the future. This ensures that the aquatic facilities have supplementary space for expansion, allowing the space to adapt to the changing needs and financial obstacles that may arise in the future.

West Parry Sound Recreation and Cultural Centre Board

Parry Sound partnered with six municipalities and two First Nations groups to develop this project. The approved project was submitted in 2019 with a budget of $32 million. Since then, the project budget has increased to $36.4M due to construction price increases and changes such as the addition of two lanes to the lap pool. The Board has also worked with the community to increase spectator seating in the pool and gymnasium.

The capital project is funded at 73 per cent through an Investing in Canada Infrastructure grant.

Recreation Centre will include a 25-metre lane pool. The site work is complete, and the foundations are underway.

Operational Best Practices

As part of the design process, the pool should be developed with its future operation in mind. The building's footprint should be designed in a manner that supports airflow and provides enough space for effective filtration, water management, and waste disposal. This can help ensure future operational costs and performance are managed effectively. Energy is required to heat the water and the building via heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system. To ensure these systems operate in harmony, and with maximum efficiency, it is important for the structural engineers and water engineers to work together throughout the development process.

The heart of every pool is its mechanical room. This is where the critical working components such as waste, water heating, and filtration operate. Over the pool's lifespan, most of the waste is created by turning over the water more frequently than is required by regulation. Many pools run five to 20 times more water than necessary. Often, it's because the water systems aren't being operated correctly.

Filtration systems are often under designed. Ontario pools don't have chemically assisted filtration, which results in low clarity of water. Current regulations require that all the water in a pool should be filtered every six hours. The Ontario Building Code states that every four hours water should be turned over. This often results in water being pushed through the filter at a rate too fast to perform adequately. When water begins to be pushed through the filter at a rate that creates channels, the water will rush through, rather than slowly percolate through the filter. The maximum speed for a sand filter should be 20 metres per hour (and for a multimedia filter, 30 metres per hour). Filters should be sized to get enough water at the correct speed to ensure proper filtration and timely turnover. Under designed filtration systems are common and can be avoided by incorporating four best-practice pillars: chemically assisted, biological, physical, and absorption (absorbing unclean substances from water).

The upfront design of the operations is critical, and there are many best practices in other jurisdictions we can learn from. For example, features like the circulation pump -- which injects water from the side of the pool -- could shift to bottom injection, which is used in Europe. The materials used for pools should also be carefully considered. These aspects affect the operational cost of an aquatic facility and can lower cost in the long run.

Operational efficiencies can also be executed administratively. A multi-use facility should optimize space by asking staff to perform multiple tasks.

Programming Best Practices

Learn-to-swim and wellness amenities are integral to maintaining a pool because they bring in consistent revenue through user and programming fees. It is considered best practice for competition facilities to have multipurpose functionality, and community amenities are considered the minimum for overall successful operation. Pools can and must generate revenue during the off-competition season and non-competition weekends, as well as any times pools sit empty. This can be done through careful program timing as well as through the establishment of cross-municipal networks. Both solutions can reduce dips in pool utilization and off-peak usage.

Prime recreation time can be competitive and municipal and not-for-profit pools must manage the various programming they offer. Low-cost recreation and lane swimming is a public service that many expect to be available at a public pool, but it does not generate significant revenue. Swimming lessons and swim club rentals can bring in additional revenues for pool operators; however, at the expense of limiting public access.

By integrating learn-to-swim classes, lane swim, lifeguard training, aquafit and other community programming, pools can generate a better return for each operating dollar. This integration of programming requires a larger facility however, which is why 50m pools introduce the possibility of doubling revenue. Activating the space with this level of service efficiency helps protect the longevity of the facility.

Understanding local needs, such as the physical and water quality requirements for each user group, is essential to maximizing programming revenue. Depth, deck width, lane widths, accessibility resources, and spectator space can all determine if certain activities can utilize a pool.

Providing regional access to larger pools and identifying the programming methods to help sustain a 50m pool can help ensure the facility is more financially sustainable and has the capacity to grow along with the community. In some rare cases, there could also be a business case for an even larger, regional recreation centre that can cater to the provincial and national competition circuits, provide access to sport and daily swim training, and support the local service industry by hosting competitions.

Sport Tourism is an Economic Driver, Cannot Be Ignored

The **Toronto Pan-Am Sports Centre** is a world-class facility comprised of 312,000 square-foot of programmed space including internationally sanctioned 10-lane 50-metre pools, a world-class dive pool and dryland dive training facilities. This recreation centre offers programs for children, youth adults and older adults.

In 2023, the Centre hosted over 1.5 million visitors, and played host to a significant number of high-performance camps, swimming lessons, and local, national and international events.

Sport tourism is a growing contributor to both the Canadian and Ontario economies, demonstrating substantial potential for growth and economic impact at the municipal and provincial levels. According to the Government of Canada, sport tourism generated $7.4 billion in value for the Canadian economy in 2019, an increase from the $6.8 billion reported in 2018. Ontario continues to be the leading beneficiary of sport tourism spending in Canada. In 2019, Ontario saw $2.45 billion from visitor spending related to sport tourism, accounting for the largest share among all provinces. This dominance is further emphasized by Ontario's 41 per cent share of the total volume of sport tourism visits in 2018.

This impact comes in the form of visitor spending and job creation, with spectators spending on accommodations, food, transportation, and retail, directly benefitting local businesses.

However, the proper facilities and infrastructure that are required to host, let alone compete for such opportunities, are lacking. Cities looking to host large events, ranging from regional competitions to international championships, must have appropriate facilities that can accommodate large-scale event needs. For competitive swimming and diving events, aquatic facilities must have the necessary lanes, depth and water temperature regulation, among other requirements, to comply with competition regulations.

Having the ability to host large events and attract visitors is essential to leveraging these major revenue generating opportunities. Sport tourism presents a significant opportunity for economic growth at both the municipal and provincial levels, with Ontario leading the way. To maintain this edge and leverage the growth in sport tourism, it's key that the province support pool construction.

Conclusion

Only four of Ontario's 50m pools have been built after the year 2000. Meanwhile, from 2000 to 2024, Ontario's population has grown by three million people.

Many of Ontario's 50m pools were built by, or in partnership with, growing post-secondary institutions. Others, like London's Canada Games Aquatic Center, and Toronto's Pan Am Sports Centre were built in conjunction with major athletic competitions.

Regionally significant aquatic infrastructure projects are needed in several areas in Ontario. The cost and regional benefit of these facilities goes beyond any one municipality; in Ontario's fastest growing suburbs, sport and recreation infrastructure is typically delivered by lower-tier governments, not regions. This makes it difficult for an individual municipality to build a new, 50m pool.

As Ontario's population continues to grow, and more families look to settle in areas that provide recreational programming, the need for larger pools to support a wide variety of uses is more apparent than ever.

Enhancing Ontario's pool system also means community members will have continued access to multi-generational, low-impact exercise. Water exercise is proven to reduce chronic diseases, provide rehabilitation from injury, and contribute to improved mental health. This contributes to better health outcomes, lessening the financial strain on the province's health care system.

Industry experts have laid out the path to creating larger pools, how the province can support the efforts of municipalities, and measures that can be taken to design and build more efficient, and more economical pools and recreation facilities.

The provincial Ministry of Sport plays an important role in promoting excellence and well-being across several sports in Ontario, and the government supports many amateur and professional sporting events through various funding programs. New 50m pools will create more opportunities for athletic competitions for all of Ontario and bring economic impact benefits to surrounding businesses through hotel and restaurant use.

Ontario should develop an intake process to support the development of concept planning, designing, and funding of new regionally significant aquatic centres to increase the capacity of municipalities to deliver core services, and consider the following recommendations to achieve this.

Recommendations

The Government of Ontario Should:

- Establish a fund for Ontario municipalities to apply for grants to support the construction of 50m pools.
- Create an intake and application process for regionally significant recreation centres with a 50m pool as an anchor, and work with municipalities to develop and fund projects on a rolling basis.
- Work with the Aquatic Sports Council and other partners to design a best-practice guide for pool design, rehabilitation, and construction.
- Ensure municipalities and not-for-profits receiving public funding for pools include an operating efficiency plan in their funding application.
- Update Ontario's public pools water quality regulations to align with the Centre for Disease Control's model aquatic health code.
- Review Ontario's Building Code to ensure public pool construction aligns with operating best practices.
- Support the creation of a best practices guide to support pool operators and programmers to maximize revenue generation at aquatic facilities.

About the Aquatic Sport Council of Ontario

Aquatic sports, similar to many sport disciplines, face serious infrastructure issues across Canada and especially in Ontario. The Aquatic Sport Council of Ontario believes that good aquatic facilities are fundamental to developing sporting opportunities for everyone, from the youngest beginner to the international class athlete. These aquatic buildings encourage civic pride and assist the process of revitalizing deprived neighbourhoods.

Facilities that are well designed, built to last, and well maintained provide the best return on investment and are more enjoyable to use. The best designed facilities are rooted in a sound understanding of the current trends, practices, and developments across various aquatic sports, and rely on good design principles at every stage of the process.

The Aquatic Sport Council of Ontario aims to promote a greater general understanding of overall design concepts, an appreciation of technical issues, and the critical factors that need to be considered in reaching the appropriate solution for a particular project. The Aquatic Sport Council of Ontario can also advise where further information, advice and expertise may be found and point to benchmark examples. This is fundamental to ensuring:

- Increased awareness of good design in sports facilities.
- Accurate information about the facility specifications required for competition in each aquatic sport.
- Tools to assist pool operators and sport groups understand the opportunities to work collaboratively for the best uses of space and resources.

Appendix C: New Pool Construction

All clubs, communities and outside partners looking to build a new aquatic facility should contact their Provincial Swimming office for further assistance in identifying the needs of the competitive swimming community in the development of their pool construction project. Any group looking to build a new aquatic facility to host national or international competitions should contact Swimming Canada directly.

Preamble

This section will provide guidelines for those clubs, communities and outside partners who are undertaking new pool construction.

The intent of this document is to ensure all new aquatic centers maximize learning to swim in safe learning environments and sport training environments. Swimming Cananda, working with Aquatics Canada, believes that creating progressive daily training environments with multiplies tanks at varying water temperatures and ample lane space meeting World Aquatics standards will maximize acquisition of skills creating safe communities across Cananda.

These standards have been established in alignment with the criteria outlined in Appendices A and B of the Swimming Canada Facility Guidelines to ensure that new pool construction not only meets but surpasses World Aquatics requirements. This document will outline the needs for Swimming clubs, Municipalities, Regional government, provincial governments, Architects, Water Consultants and privately run sport facilities and learn to swim schools. These guidelines cover organizations looking to host competitions and will also consider the daily training environment.

Functional/Conventional versus Leisure Facilities

Conventional facilities are rectangular or square in shape with lane ropes, flags, starting blocks and lane markings. Conventional facilities are designed to accommodate a wide range of activities including swimming lessons, recreational classes, training and competitive sport. A conventional facility build would meet the demands of a broad range of participants including:

- Infants and learn to swim participants
- Recreational swimmers
- Leisure and family activity participants
- Masters' swimmers
- Aquafit participants
- Lifesaving and lifesaving sport
- Competitive swimmers, divers, artistic swimmers, water-polo players, swimmers with a disability.

Leisure facilities, such as water features, wave pools or lazy rivers, are designed to accommodate leisure or recreational activities. Leisure facilities are in effect specialized

facilities that only meet the needs of leisure swimmers and do not meet the needs of the wider, more diverse aquatic community.

When a facility is built with the intention of creating a daily training environment including hosting swimming competitions, it can generally accommodate other user groups, sports and all aquatic participants given the parameters of the facility.

Swimming Canada strongly advises all facilities to implement revenue-focused business plans that prioritize the development of functional water space, maximizing opportunities for Learn-to-Swim programs and skill acquisition.

COMPETITION POOL REQUIREMENTS

The chart below details the minimum competition pool requirements for clubs and communities looking to host the following level of competitions. Each province has different minimum requirements for hosting provincial competitions, contact the Provincial Swimming Office directly.

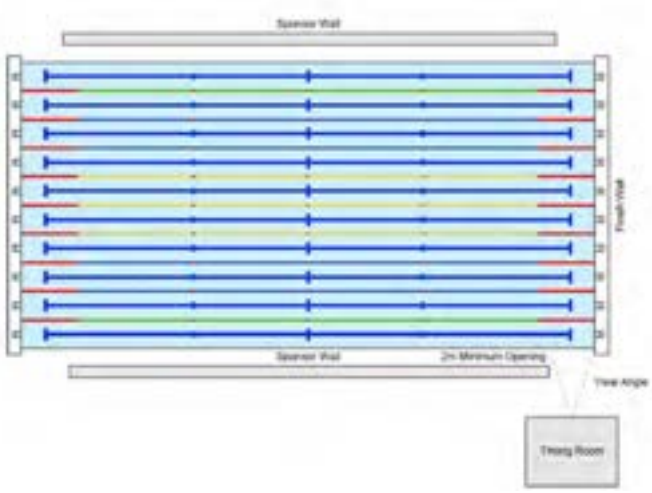
<table>
<tr><th></th><th>Local/Regional Competitions</th><th>Provincial</th><th>National</th></tr>
<tr><td>Water Depth for start (diving) from starting platform (max height 0.75m from water surface)</td><td colspan="3">2.0m (extending from 1.0 metre to at least 6.0 metres from the end wall)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Water Depth elsewhere</td><td>1.25m</td><td colspan="2">2.0m</td></tr>
<tr><td>Colour of walls/Bottom</td><td colspan="3">White in colour or light with black solid painted turning markers</td></tr>
<tr><td>Rest Ledges</td><td colspan="3">Not less than1.2m below the water surface and may be 0.1m to 0.15m wide. Internal and external ledges are acceptable, however internal ledges are preferred.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Starting Platforms</td><td colspan="3">Per II.16.1.8 with relay-break detection preferred.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Backstroke Ledges</td><td>Per II.16.1.11</td><td colspan="2">Per II.16.1.11</td></tr>
<tr><td>Length of Course</td><td colspan="3">Per II.16.1.1</td></tr>
<tr><td>Number of Lanes</td><td>8</td><td>8</td><td>10</td></tr>
<tr><td>Warm-up/Warm down pool available</td><td>n/a</td><td colspan="2">Additional 25m pool required; 50m pool preferred</td></tr>
</table>

	Local/Regional Competitions	Provincial	National
Number of lanes in Warm-up pool	n/a	6	8
Lane Width	2.5m	2.5m	2.5m
Lane Rope Colour	Colour of lane ropes does not matter		
Deck Space	200	Minimum 700 people	
Deck Seating	100	Minimum 500 people	
Spectator Seating	200	Minimum 750 people	
Meeting Space	2-4 rooms varying size	4 rooms varying size	5 rooms varying size
Electronics/Timing Equipment	Electronic timing system preferred with audible feedback & headset/speaker connectivity	Electronic timing system required with Audible feedback & headset/speaker connectivity. Video back-up system with electronics preferred	
Scoreboard	Electronic Scoreboard preferred	Electronic Scoreboard required	Electronic Scoreboard required; Video board preferred
Change rooms	Male, Female, Family/Universal	Male, Female, Family, Officials, Universal	
On-deck equipment room	Preferred Environmental control required	Required Environmental control required	
Minimum lighting	Minimum 600 lux	Minimum1000 lux	Minimum 1500 lux

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Timing room

Timekeepers shall have a clear view on the finish pool side from the Timing room. Sponsor panels or LED wall shall be installed at a minimum of 2m distance from the finish wall Timing room side. The panels or LED wall shall not exceed the length of 46m.



Rim Flow Gutter system

For optimal water and air circulation, rim flow gutters are recommended over skimmer pools. Rim flow gutters enhance the overall swimming environment by providing superior water flow and air circulation, ensuring better conditions for all swimmers.

1. Water Quality and Filtration Efficiency: Rim flow gutters allow for more effective removal of surface contaminants, which improves water quality. They help maintain a consistent water level, ensuring better filtration and reducing the buildup of oils, dirt, and debris on the surface.
2. Hydrodynamics and Swimmer Performance: By reducing turbulence, rim flow gutters create a calmer water surface, which can improve swimmer performance. This is especially beneficial in competitive environments where minimizing water resistance can be crucial.
3. Air Quality and Ventilation: The improved water circulation that rim flow gutters provide also enhances air quality around the pool. By allowing more rapid surface water turnover, they help in maintaining a fresher and healthier pool environment, which is particularly important in enclosed or indoor facilities.
4. Aesthetic and Functional Design: Rim flow gutters give a sleek, modern look, contributing to the aesthetic appeal of the pool. In addition, the design allows for easier access and egress, as water level remains close to the deck, enhancing both safety and comfort.
5. Noise Reduction: Rim flow gutters help reduce noise generated by water splashing and circulation, providing a quieter environment, which can be more enjoyable for both swimmers and spectators.

Head Walls

Modular bulkheads and headwalls are preferred for optimal performance and functionality in pool construction. However, during the budgeting process, concrete bulkheads and headwalls are often substituted due to their lower cost. While more affordable, concrete options do not allow for the same flow-through movement of water and can hinder the integration of essential systems, such as timing systems. Recent examples can be provided, which opted to cut costs by using concrete headwalls, impacting the overall efficiency and functionality of their pools.

Starting Platforms (World Aquatics Competition Regulations, Part II, 16.2.8)

Starting block and lane rope technology has come a long way. Starting blocks, traditionally a simple platform for swimmers to launch from, have undergone significant innovation. One notable development is the incorporation of adjustable footrests and back plates, allowing swimmers to customize their starting position for optimal power.

These adjustable features accommodate a wide range of body sizes and preferences, providing athletes with greater control and comfort at the start of races. Some modern starting blocks feature sensors and pressure-sensitive pads that provide real-time feedback on a swimmer's reaction time and force exertion. This data not only helps athletes fine-tune their starts but also enables coaches to analyze and optimize performance.

Starting Platforms shall be firm and give no springing effect. The height of the platform above the water surface shall be from 0.5 metre to 0.75 metre. The surface area shall be at least 0.5 metre x 0.6 metre and covered with a slip- resistant material.

The maximum slope shall not be more than 10 degrees. The starting platform may have an adjustable setting back plate. The platform shall be constructed so as to permit the gripping of the platform by the swimmer in the forward start at the front and the sides; it is recommended that, if the thickness of the starting platform exceeds 0.04 metre, grips of at least 0.1 metre width on each side and 0.4 metre width in the front be cut out to 0.03 metre from the surface of the platform.

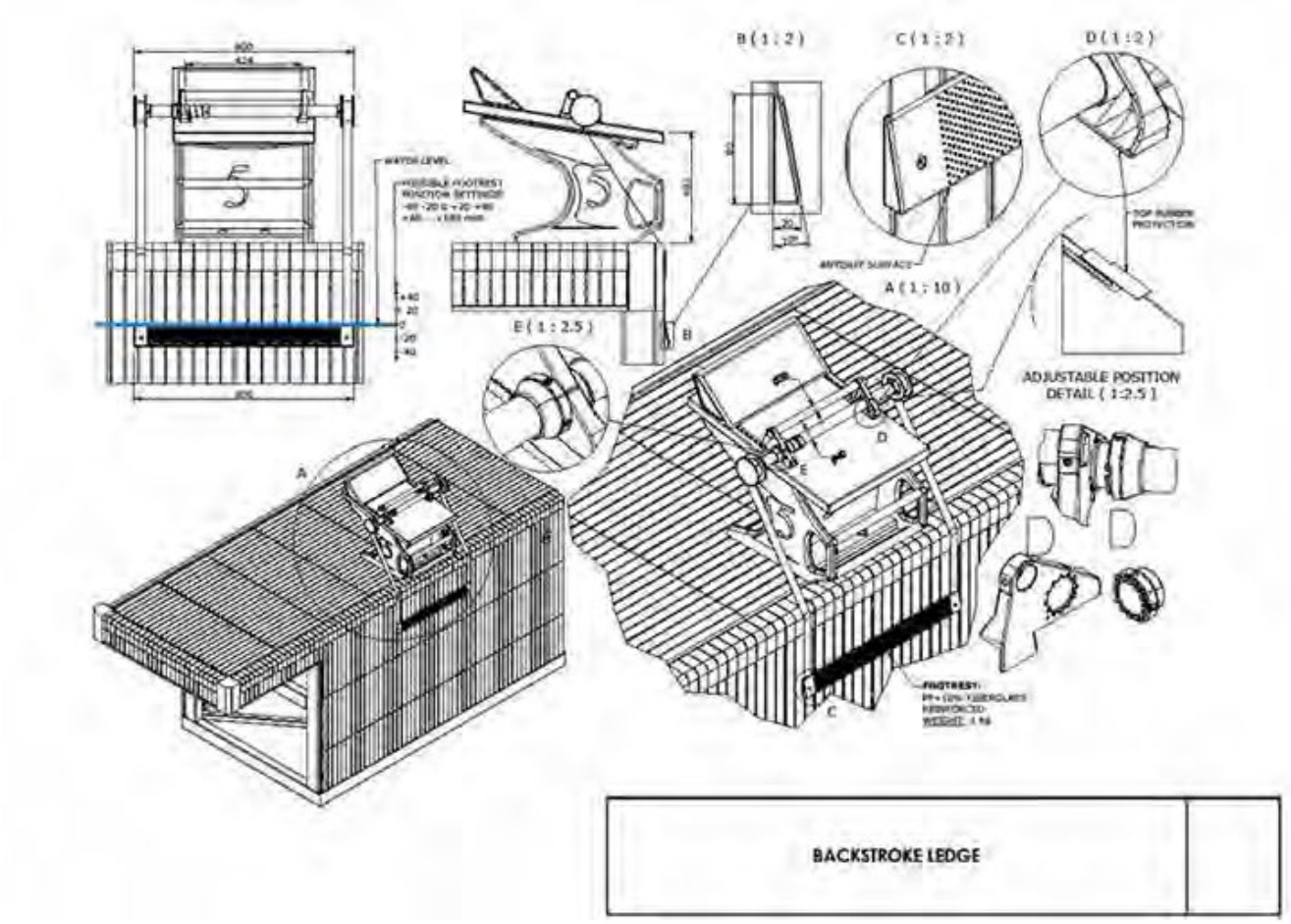
Handgrips for the forward start may be installed on the sides of the starting platforms. Handgrips for backstroke starts shall be placed within 0.3 metre to 0.6 metre above the water surface both horizontally and vertically. They shall be parallel to the surface of the end wall and must not protrude beyond the end wall.

A minimum depth of 1.35 metres, extending from 1.0 metre to at least 6.0 metres from the end wall is required for pools with starting blocks. Electronic read-out boards may be installed under the blocks. Flashing is not allowed. Figures must not move during a backstroke start.

Backstroke Ledges (World Aquatics Competition Regulations, Part II, 16.2.11)

Backstroke ledges conforming to the specification set out below shall be used. The ledge: (see diagram below)

- shall be adjustable to 4 cm above or 4 cm below the water level and may not be used outside of this range;
- is a minimum of 60 cm in length;
- must be 8 cm in height, 2 cm at the width with 10 degrees of slope.



Deck Space

Usable deck space is a critical factor to consider when constructing a new facility. Adequate space is essential not only for swimmers during competitions but also for officials and coaches. The area behind the starting platforms must be sufficient to accommodate up to 3 officials and 12 swimmers per lane. In addition, provisions for deck seating for athletes and coaches are necessary to ensure smooth operations and easy access to the competition area.

If the swimming pool and the diving well are in the same area the minimum distance separating the pools shall be 5.0 metres. For pools constructed from 1st January 2014 the minimum distance separating the pool shall be a minimum of 8 metres however 10 metres is preferred**.** (II.16.2.17)

Furthermore, spectator seating must be strategically designed to provide an unobstructed view while maintaining a comfortable and safe distance from the deck. Meeting spaces for officials' briefings, hospitality, coaches' meetings and evaluations should be included to facilitate efficient communication during events. Storage solutions, such as an on-deck equipment room, are also crucial for maximizing usable deck space by providing a designated area for lane line reels and non-essential facility equipment, keeping the deck clear and organized during competitions.

Facilities need to be careful not to create obstructions in the design phase such as climbing walls, slides and ramps. Often these accessories limit the ability to provide effective instruction and coaching.

DAILY TRAINING ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS

The following minimum requirements are necessary to allow for a facility to provide a daily training environment for club programs. The following requirements would not necessarily allow for the facility to also hold competitions. Considerations for the Daily Training Environment should consider the number of swimmers using the facility at one time. The preferred lane width for swimmers above the provincial level is 2.5m to ensure safe and quality training space is available, contact the Provincial Swimming Office to confirm the potential level of the swimmers training at the facility.

	Daily Training Environment
Water Depth for start (diving) from starting platform (max height 0.75m from water surface)	2.0m (extending from 1.0 metre to at least 6.0 metres from the end wall)
Water Depth elsewhere	1.25m minimum
Starting Platforms	Per II.16.1.8
Length of Course	Per II.16.1.1
Number of Lanes	8
Lane Width	2.5m minimum
Lane Rope Colour	Colour of lane ropes does not matter
Change rooms	Male, Female, Family/Universal

FACILITY TOOLKIT

Swimming Canada
March 2025

Table of Contents

Foreword: Suzanne Paulins, CEO Swimming Canada 3
Purpose 5
Statistics 6
Pools 6
Swimming 6
Why Invest in Pools? 8
Community Impact and Social Benefits of Pools 8
Health Benefits of Swimming 8
Swimming as a Life Skill for Drowning Prevention 9
Sport Specific Benefits 10
Tourism: Hosting Events and Competitions 10
Promoting Participation: Making Sport More Geographically Accessible 11
Athlete Development 11
Assessing Demand 12
Feasibility Studies 12
Market Research 12
Factors Impacting Demand and Consumption 13
Sustainability Initiatives 15
Environmental 15
Facility Longevity 16
Facility Rules and Guidelines 17
Potential Funding Sources 18
National Level 18
Provincial/Territorial Specific 18
Municipal 20
Additional Resources 21

Foreword: Suzanne Paulins, CEO Swimming Canada

Welcome to the Pool Facilities Toolkit, your strategic resource for understanding, managing, and maximizing the impact of pool facilities in communities across the country. Pools are more than just a place for recreational enjoyment; they are vital community assets that offer a myriad of social, economic and public health benefits extending beyond the water's surface.

Supporting Communities through Water Safety and Recreation

Pools serve as essential hubs for water safety education, offering a controlled environment for swimming lessons and life-saving skills. By promoting water safety, communities can significantly reduce the incidence of drowning and water-related accidents, making pools a crucial element of public health and safety strategies.

Economic Impact and Community Well-Being

Beyond their immediate recreational value, pools contribute to the local economy. They attract residents and visitors, stimulate local businesses, and provide employment opportunities. In addition to these economic benefits, pools foster social interaction and inclusivity, creating spaces where people of all ages and backgrounds can come together. In fostering these connections, pools enhance the overall well-being and cohesiveness of our communities.

Fostering Competitive Aquatic Sports

Pools also play a pivotal role in the realm of competitive aquatic sports. From swimming and diving to artistic swimming and water polo, these sports offer substantial value to communities:

- **Swimming**: As one of the most accessible and widely practiced sports, competitive swimming promotes physical fitness, discipline, and perseverance. Local and regional swim meets can boost community engagement and pride.
- **Diving**: Competitive diving challenges athletes to combine athleticism with artistry. Pools provide a safe environment for divers to practice and compete, contributing to the development of precision and creativity.
- **Artistic Swimming**: Formerly known as synchronized swimming, this sport blends athletic prowess with artistic expression. Artistic swimming competitions and practices encourage creativity, teamwork, and dedication.
- **Water Polo**: This high-energy team sport enhances cardiovascular health, strategy, and teamwork. Hosting water polo games and tournaments can draw spectators and foster a sense of community spirit.
- **Lifesaving Sport**: A unique blend of athletic competition and life-saving skills, this sport cultivates strength, agility, and rapid decision-making. It reinforces water safety awareness, fosters leadership, and builds a pathway for future lifeguards and first

responders. Lifesaving sport not only enhances individual resilience but also strengthens community safety initiatives.

- **Masters Sport**: Designed for adults (18+) who wish to stay "active for life" in sports. Masters' programs foster lifelong participation, fitness, and community. With structured age categories and opportunities for both competition and recreation, Masters athletes range from former elites to newcomers seeking personal growth and engagement.

Long-Term Health Benefits for an Aging Population

As our population ages, the health benefits of pools become even more pronounced. Aquatic exercise is known for its low-impact nature, making it ideal for older adults seeking to maintain mobility, strength, and overall well-being. Pools offer a safe environment for physical activity that can help manage chronic conditions, improve cardiovascular health, and enhance quality of life for our aging population.

Maximizing Value through Strategic Management

Investing in pool facilities is not only a matter of immediate benefit but also long-term savings. Well-maintained pools can lead to significant cost savings in healthcare by promoting preventive health measures and reducing the strain on public health resources. Moreover, strategic management and efficient operation of pool facilities can enhance their longevity, ensuring that these community assets remain functional and beneficial for years to come.

This toolkit is designed to provide you with the knowledge and resources needed to harness the full potential of pool facilities in your community. From water safety protocols and economic considerations to health benefits and competitive aquatic sports, we aim to support you in creating and maintaining pool facilities that serve as invaluable resources for current and future generations.

Dive in and explore how you can make the most of your pool facilities, ensuring they continue to deliver exceptional value and support for your community

Purpose

Swimming Canada knows the positive impact swimming has on individuals and communities and would like to ensure that these benefits are felt by the greatest number of Canadians as possible.

With a growing membership of over 50,000 competitive swimmers, and with swimming being Canada's most practiced sporting activity, Swimming Canada believes that it is imperative to invest in swimming pool facilities.

The purpose of this toolkit is to empower communities and organizations across Canada to invest in the development of swimming pool facilities. Swimming pool facilities create many social and health benefits for communities. Additionally, investment in swimming pool facilities would also increase the capacity of communities to host competitions and promote aquatic sports, and more specifically competitive swimming across Canada. This toolkit aims to inform organizations on why they should invest in these facilities, and how to prepare for building swimming pool facilities.

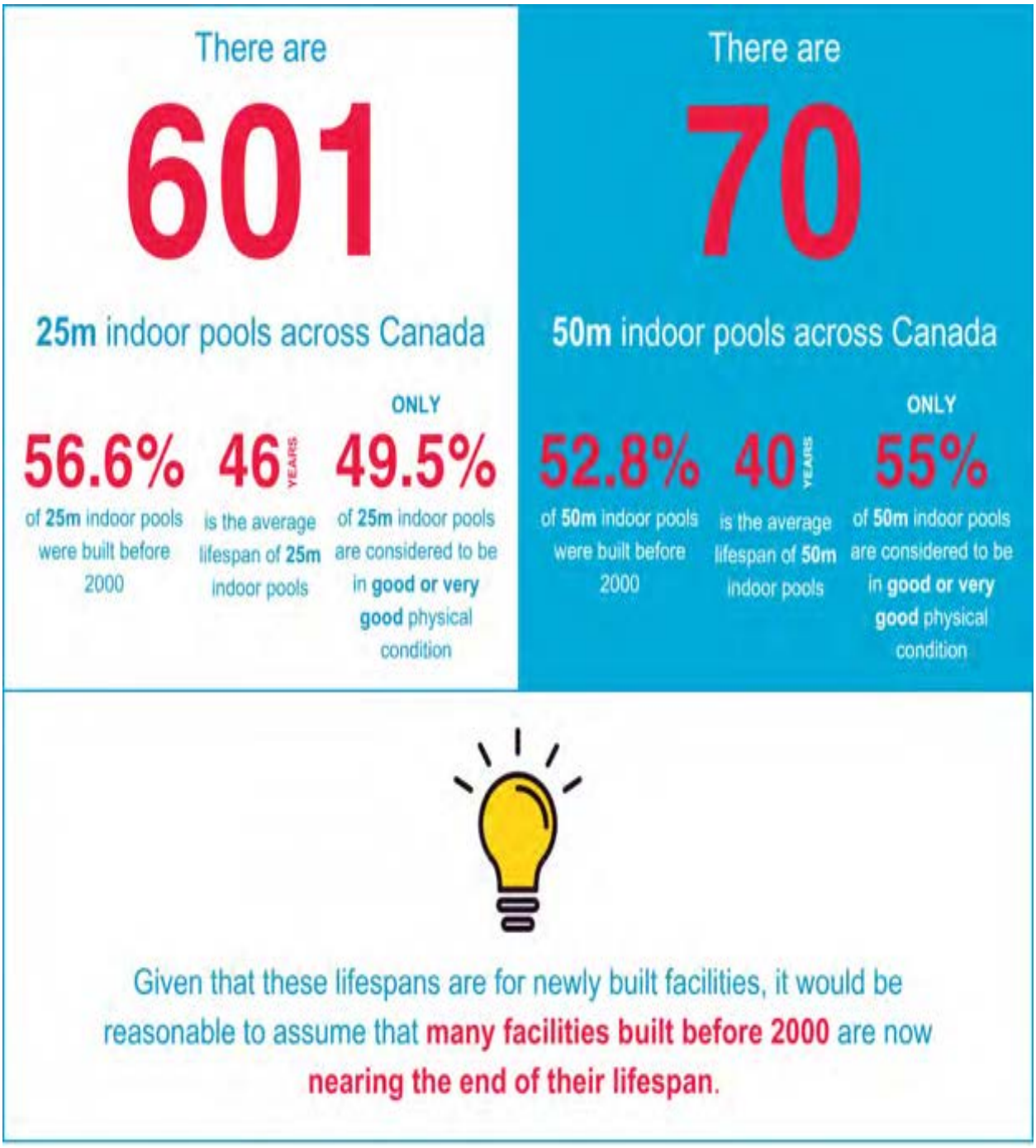
Statistics

Pools

- As of 2020, there were 5060 publicly owned aquatic facilities across Canada- both indoors and outdoors, 25m, 50m or leisure pools. Many of these facilities are in Quebec (34.8%) or Ontario (32.2%). 74% of all aquatic facilities are accessible
    - 601 of these are indoor 25m pools, 70 are indoor 50m pools
        - 340 or 56.6% of 25m pools were built before 2000
        - 37 or 52.8% of 50m pools were built before 2000
- The average useful life for NEW publicly owned:
    - 25m indoor pools, is 46 years
    - 50m + indoor pools, is 40 years
    - Given that these lifespans are for newly built facilities (with updated tech, infrastructure, etc.) as of 2020, it would be reasonable to assume that many facilities built before 2000 are now nearing the end of their lifespan.
- Only 49.5% of 25m pools across Canada are rated in good or very good physical condition
- 55% of 50m pools across Canada are rated in good or very good physical condition

Swimming

- Swimming Canada represents over 50,000 competitive swimmers registered in more than 350 clubs across the country
- Swimming is Canada's most popular sporting activity by participation numbers and the benefits of swimming are felt by people of all ages and abilities.
- Masters Swimmers, whether training for fun, fitness, or to compete, make up a large portion of Swimming Canada's membership. In the 2022-2023 season, Swimming Canada had over 9000 Masters Swimmers registered in clubs across the country.
- Amongst youth with disabilities, swimming is the sport most often participated in and has a higher participation rate compared to youth without disabilities.
- 17% of students surveyed through Jumpstart listed they want to try swimming, and swimming was one of the most desirable sports according to youth of colour.



Data from Statistics and Infrastructure Canada, 2022 and Statistics Canada, 2023

Why Invest in Pools?

Access to pools and participating in swimming can be beneficial to Canadians. The positive impact of swimming pools can be divided into three broad categories- community and social impact, health benefits and sport-specific benefits.

Community Impact and Social Benefits of Pools

Swimming pools positively impact communities and provide social benefits for community members in several ways, including:

- Promoting social cohesion and connections by bringing together like-minded people from diverse backgrounds
- Creating an environment for fun and fitness
- Creating a space to promote water safety and education
- Provides employment and volunteer opportunities
- Provides a space for swimmers to develop life skills

Health Benefits of Swimming

Mental Health and Wellbeing

As swimmers progress throughout the athlete development stages, they not only improve their physical capacity, but also gain mental and life skills.

Swimming can improve mental health and promote wellbeing as it can:

- Reduce loneliness
- Release endorphins, boost dopamine and serotonin levels
- Relieve tension and stress
- Promote higher self-esteem

Swimming Canada recognizes that athlete development and human development are intertwined, and the Appropriate Athlete Development document and Athlete Development Matrix can help understand this relationship and progression. Examples of how athletes gain mental skills from swimming include: motivation, goal setting and emotion identification and regulation.

"Swimming is not only about elite performance, but also about the role pools play in the overall mental and physical health of individuals. The opportunity to be in the water provides a unique space for stress relief and emotional balance, especially during challenging times."

Physical Health

Swimming is considered a low-impact exercise that can help build endurance, muscle strength and cardiovascular fitness and can promote better quality sleep

Swimming as a Life Skill for Drowning Prevention

Although not every Canadian may become a competitive swimmer, Swimming Canada recognizes the importance of swimming as a life skill for drowning prevention.

- More than 400 Canadians lose their lives in water-related incidents each year.
- 19% of fatal drowning victims did not intend to end up in the water.
- Less than 1% of fatal drownings occur in a lifeguard supervised setting.
- Newcomers to Canada are a higher risk of drowning in comparison to Canadian born citizens.

Swimming Canada encourages all Canadians to learn to swim or at least learn to swim to survive to lower the rate of drowning across the country. In fact, Swimming Canada has partnered with the Lifesaving Society to provide water safety training to those who may not otherwise have access.

Canadians can also work together to lower the national drowning rate by following regional swimming guidelines and by swimming in lifeguard supervised areas. Even the national
swim team trains and competes under lifeguard supervision!

Sport Specific Benefits

Aside from social, physical and mental health benefits, investing in swimming pool facilities can benefit the sport of competitive swimming, as well as other aquatic sports and athletes.

Tourism: Hosting Events and Competitions

- Did you know that sport tourism is one of the fastest growing types of tourism?
- Hosting sporting events, such as swim meets, requires a high level of collaboration and many resources that brings economic activity to communities.
- Economic activity is generated by both the event organizers and event participants, such as athletes and spectators. Examples of revenue sources could include facility rental, hotels and operating expenses.
- Communities that may be interested in hosting such events should ensure their facilities support event hosting. Features that support aquatic sport events could include spectator seating, movable pool floors, adequate changerooms, large pool decks or equipment such as starting blocks.
- By investing in proper swimming pool facilities, communities can bid to host top swimming events in Canada. Swimming Canada hosts 6-7 high profile competitions annually in which qualified cities are invited to bid for.
- In addition to these national swim meets, clubs across the nation require swimming pool facilities to host competitions and events of various levels. Competitive swimming, diving, water polo and artistic swimming all require facilities and communities with the capacity to host competitions. While each sport has different facility requirements, adaptable or adjustable features can help accommodate different needs. For example, a moveable pool floor can accommodate the need for different pool depths required for the different aquatic sports.

Promoting Participation: Making Sport More Geographically Accessible

- Studies have found positive trends between the proximity of sport facilities within communities (nearby households and workplaces) and physical activity participation numbers for adults and youth alike.
- Swimming pool facilities are no different. Research demonstrates that access to swimming pools increases participation not only for water-based activities but may also increase participation in other sports as well.
- Swimming is the top sport among youth with disabilities and is a sport many youth of colour want to try. Additionally, newcomers to Canada would like more access to swimming lessons. By constructing swimming pool facilities, communities are making sport accessible to marginalized populations.

Athlete Development

- Appropriate swimming pool facilities can help athletes achieve their full potential, and develop their physical capacities, technical skills, mental skills and life skills.
- Swimming Canada currently offers programming out of three High Performance Centres (HPC) in Vancouver, Toronto and Montreal. Each HPC offers an environment for top swimmers to develop their skills in and out of the water through training, competition, support services and education.
- These facilities not only serve as an ideal environment to further develop top swimming talent and also allow local athletes to advance their performance at the regional level.
- By investing in swimming pool facilities, communities can help expand these programs and opportunities beyond our existing high performance centres.

Investing in swimming pool facilities aligns with our Strategic Plan 2021-2028 and beyond. By investing in pools, organizations and communities can help Swimming Canada achieve these goals.

Assessing Demand

Prior to committing to renovating or constructing a pool facility, it is recommended that organizations assess demand to understand the need for a pool facility. This section will aim to provide a broad overview of what assessing demand for swimming pool facilities may look like and the benefits of doing so. Swimming Canada encourages anyone using this toolkit to consult professionals in assessing or measuring demand.

Feasibility Studies

In addition to assessing demand, organizations may be interested in conducting a feasibility study to evaluate whether a project plan could be successful. Many communities across Canada have recently completed feasibility studies, including Regina, Saskatchewan which officially opened the new. Recent feasibility studies from various regions have been linked below:

- Alberni-Clayoquot, British Columbia- 2024
- Comox Valley, British Columbia- 2023
- Moncton, New Brunswick- 2023
- Winnipeg, Manitoba- 2023
- Regina, Saskatchewan- 2022
- Town of Aurora, Ontario - 2020
- Vernon, British Columbia- 2020
- Fredericton, New Brunswick- 2020
- Sainte-Adèle, Québec- 2018
- Yartmouth, Nova Scotia- 2017
- Saugeen Shores, Ontario- 2017
- Town of Golden, Columbia Shuswap, British Columbia- 2020
- Yellowknife Aquatic Centre, Northwest Territories - 2020

Market Research

Conducting market research has several purposes and benefits. It can help inform timely and educated decisions as well as help understand key demographics of the target market. Market research also provides insight into the need for a swimming pool facility and helps us understand competition. It can also assist in understanding internal and external factors that could impact demand and usage.

There are several types of research techniques that can be utilized- exploratory, descriptive and explanatory. There are also two data sources that can be used to collect information-primary, in which the researcher collects data themselves, or secondary, in which the researchers use data that was collected for another purpose.

In general, the market research process has six steps as follows:

1. Define the market issue
2. Set research objectives and budget

3. Select research techniques and data source
4. Collect data
5. Organize and analyze the data
6. Prepare and present findings

Factors Impacting Demand and Consumption

In addition to conducting market research, it is also important to understand factors that may influence demand and consumption habits of users. Factors such as socioeconomics, psychological and psychographic influences, geography and demographics can impact consumption patterns. Other aspects such as internal beliefs, external influences and situational factors can impact one's personal consumption habits.

Questions to Consider

Are there other swimming pool facilities in the surrounding area? How far is the nearest swimming pool facility?

- What year was the facility constructed? When was it last renovated?
- Is this facility able to meet the demands of the community? Or is it frequently meeting bather capacity limits?
- Who is the primary user group of the facility
- What are the predominant activities taking place in the pool facility?
- What are the limitations of this facility?

Why is this swimming pool facility being built?

- Is it to meet the needs of the local community?
- Is it for a college, university or sport event?
    - If so- can it benefit communities beyond the school or event?

Are there other organizations in the surrounding area that may be interested in a swimming pool facility?

- Do they have the capacity to assist in funding, investments, expenses and costs?
- What are their needs?

Who would the primary user groups be for this facility?

- Do they have the capacity to assist in funding, investments, expenses and costs?
- What features do they require within the swimming pool, deck or changing rooms?
- What are their needs outside of the swimming pool and throughout the rest of the facility?

Are there any swimming pool facilities nearby with the capacity to host aquatic competitions and events?

- Would a new facility help create economic activity in the area?
    - Are there local businesses nearby that could provide goods and services to sports competitions or events hosted at this new facility?
- Would a new facility help increase sport tourism in the area?

Will this facility create employment opportunities?

- Are there enough people available to work at this facility?

How will people travel to this swimming pool facility?

Sustainability Initiatives

In making swimming pool facilities sustainable, there are many ways to reduce the environmental impact and increase the longevity of facilities. An example of these elements coming together to promote sustainability is the Paris 2024 Aquatics Centre.

Environmental

Swimming pool facilities can introduce initiatives to promote environmental sustainability. Upgrading and maintaining equipment can help reduce energy consumption and improve energy efficiency. Strategically selecting specific building designs or construction materials can also reduce the carbon footprint of swimming pool facilities.

Lighting

LED light bulbs use less energy and have a longer lifespan than traditional incandescent or fluorescent lighting. In addition to being more energy efficient, LED bulbs generate less heat. This can help reduce facility temperatures and reduce cooling costs.

When possible and safe to do so, utilize natural light and ventilation by following solar and wind orientation and installing windows or skylights. Please note that sunlight could cause a glare on water surfaces and distort lifeguard vision creating a dangerous situation for swimmers.

Water Pumps, Heaters and Filtration Systems

Investing in quality energy efficient equipment can help reduce the carbon footprint of swimming pool facilities. Energy Star offers a variety of certified products that can reduce energy usage in comparison to standard equipment. For example, an Energy Star certified in-ground pool pump can use up to 65% less energy than alternative models.

Renewable Energy

In addition to utilizing natural light and ventilation, organizations should take advantage of the space around swimming pool facilities. An example of this can be turning the roof of swimming pool facilities into solar farms, and using the energy generated to power the facility or surrounding areas. Similarly, pool water can be preheated using solar water heating. To reduce heat loss as well as water loss from evaporation, pool covers can be installed in both indoor and outdoor swimming pool facilities. Greywater from the facility can be used in other areas of the facility, such as toilets. An example of using renewable energy to promote sustainability is the University of British Columbia's Aquatic Centre, which is an LEED certified building.

Facility Materials

When selecting materials to build a swimming pool facility, opt for durable and quality materials. When possible, choose locally sourced material to reduce emissions. Utilize recycled materials, such as tiles, where possible.

Transportation

Ensuring that swimming pool facilities are accessible by public or active transportation methods can reduce the carbon footprint of users, broaden the user base, and limit the need for parking infrastructure. Access to nearby public transportation, such as bus or train, can encourage users to visit the swimming pool facility. Likewise, installing active transportation infrastructure, such as sidewalks, protected bike lanes, bike racks and stroller storage promotes an active lifestyle to users. By offering a variety of transportation methods, this encourages the participation of users who may not have access to a personal vehicle. As a result, there is less demand for parking infrastructure and this space can be used for other purposes.

Facility Longevity

In addition to environmental sustainability initiatives, organizations can help extend the lifespan of facilities by taking into account the demand for and purpose of swimming pool facilities.

Creating Multi-Purpose Spaces

By addressing the needs of multiple user groups, this will allow the swimming pool facility to be used by the greatest number of people possible. Implementing features such as accessible stalls, universal change rooms, ramps, staircases and mobility hoists will allow people of all ages and abilities to use the facility and may even be required in your region. Other features, such as movable pool floors or leisure pools, can help accommodate a variety of activities that require different pool depths and temperatures, such as swimming lessons or aquatic sports. To understand the needs of all user groups, consult and involve them during the planning phase.

In addition to making the swimming pool accessible to multiple user groups, ensure the surrounding facility can accommodate their needs as well. For example, swim teams and meets not only require a swimming pool, but may also require the following: rooms for meetings and doping control, space for hospitality, storage and registration, spectator seating, and a separate swimming pool for athletes to warm-up and cool down during events.

If constructing a swimming pool facility for games infrastructure, such as the Pan American Games, designing the facility for future users ensures that the facility will continue to be used following the conclusion of the games. In this case, the facility should cater to not only elite sport, but also grassroots sport and community groups.

Assessing Demand

Prior to constructing or renovating a swimming pool facility, it is important to take into consideration the demand for existing facility upgrades, or the construction of a new facility. This ensures the swimming pool facility will be used, appreciated and valued by community members for years to come.

Facility Rules and Guidelines

To ensure the benefits of swimming are felt by the greatest number of Canadians as possible, there are facility rules and guidelines in place. In addition to the rules and guidelines in place by Swimming Canada and World Aquatics for training and competition environments, organizations renovating or constructing swimming pool facilities should educate themselves on all regional regulations.

The Facility Rules and Guidelines of Swimming Canada document should be referred to when investing in swimming pool facilities. This document is updated as required and provides information pertaining to water depth and temperature; pool length and availability, starting blocks, backstroke ledges, lane width and lane ropes, and more.

Potential Funding Sources

Renovating or constructing swimming pool facilities comes at a high cost to communities and organizations. Swimming Canada has compiled a list of potential funding sources below that may assist in offsetting the costs and expenses associated with building swimming pool facilities. It is important to note that while there may not be obvious funding opportunities for a specific project, collaboration and partnership with other organizations could lead to financial support. For example, a swim team interested in using a newly built facility may be able to fund starting blocks or lane ropes. Inclusive recreation organizations may be interested in funding specialty equipment.

Please note that the requirements needed to be considered for funding from the below sources are not at the discretion of Swimming Canada. Organizations investing in swimming pool facilities are encouraged to apply for funding from sources listed below if eligible, in addition to other sources that may be available to them. Applying to receive funding does not guarantee that an organization will receive funding. Some of the potential funding sources listed below may have set timelines that are no longer relevant at the time of referring to this toolkit- there may be similar opportunities available.

National Level

- Government of Canada- Legacy Fund
- Government of Canada- Infrastructure in your community
- Jumpstart- Community Development Grants

Provincial/Territorial Specific

British Columbia

- Recreation Foundation BC- Grant Program
- Government of British Columbia- Funding for Capital Projects
- Northern Development- Recreation Infrastructure

Yukon

- Government of Yukon- Community Recreation Assistance Grant
- Government of Yukon- Funding to Improve Community Recreation Facilities
- Yukon Foundation- Ryan Downing Grant

Alberta

- Government of Alberta- Active Communities Initiative
- Government of Alberta- Major Sport Event Grant Program
- Government of Alberta- Community Facility Enhancement Program (Small)
- Government of Alberta- Community Facility Enhancement Program (Large)

Saskatchewan

- Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association- Our Grants
- Sask Lotteries- Trust Funds and Grants

Northwest Territories

- Government of Northwest Territories- Youth Centres Initiative
- Government of Northwest Territories- Community Tourism Infrastructure Contribution Program

Manitoba

- Government of Manitoba- Arts, Culture and Sport in Community Fund
- Government of Manitoba- From the Ground Up- Safe Healthy Communities for ALL Program
- FCC- AgriSpirit Fund
- Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries- Small Capital Sponsorship Program

Nunavut

- Government of Nunavut- Sport and Recreation Grants and Contribution Program
- Government of Canada- Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program

Ontario

- Government of Ontario- Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund
- Government of Ontario- Community Infrastructure Fund
- Infrastructure Ontario- Infrastructure Lending
- Ontario Trillium Foundation- Capital Grant
- Communities in Bloom- Capital Grants

Québec

- Gouvernement du Québec- Programme d'aide financière aux infrastructures récréatives, sportives et de plein air

New Brunswick

- Government of New Brunswick- Regional Grant Program- Inclusive Community Recreation Infrastructure Fund

Nova Scotia

- Government of Nova Scotia- Recreation Facility Development Grant
- Government of Nova Scotia- Recreation Community Development Grant
- Government of Nova Scotia- Planning Assistance Program
- Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities- Funding Database:

Prince Edward Island

- United Way PEI- Community Grant
- Government of PEI- Sport Hosting Program
- Government of PEI- Amateur Sport Funding Program
- Government of PEI- Rural Growth Initiative
- Government of PEI- Community Building Fund

Newfoundland and Labrador

- Government of Newfoundland and Labrador- Active NL
- Recreation NL- Funding Opportunities
- Government of Newfoundland and Labrador- Capital Works (Municipal and Multi-Year)

Municipal

Investment in swimming pool facilities may be of interest to municipal governments as their residents may benefit. Some municipalities offer funding for sport programming or infrastructure in which organizations renovating or constructing swimming pool facilities may be eligible to apply for. Municipalities can also be great partners in owning or operating swimming pool facilities. Swimming Canada encourages organizations preparing to invest in swimming pool facilities to reach out to their local government.

Are you looking to build a new facility?
Anyone looking to build a new aquatic facility should reach out to the relevant provincial swimming office here –> Swimming Canada – Provincial Partners. It is vital that the relevant provincial office is contacted early in the process so they can collaborate with the municipality and architects to ensure the facility meets community needs and supports aquatic sport development.

Additional Resources

The below resources may provide additional support and information regarding the construction of and need for swimming pool facilities.

- Building More Aquatic Centres in Ontario
    - Ontario Aquatic Sports Council developed a white paper designed to support government and industry stakeholders in planning for Ontario's future sport and community infrastructure
- Aquatic Sport Facility Infrastructure Report 2023, Ontario
- Swimming Canada Facility Series
    - Swimming Canada released a series of webinars surrounding swimming pool facilities in 2020, presented by Myrtha pools. The five webinars discuss how to build sport ready community swimming pools.
- Swimming Canada Athlete Development and #SwimExpert Athlete Development Pillars Video Series
    - The Appropriate Athlete Development document and the Athlete Development Matrix outlines four pillars of skills and that progress throughout a swimmer's development.

Facility Rules and Guidelines of Swimming Canada

Jumpstart State of Play Youth Report 2024

Statistics Canada- Diving into the data: Sports participation in Canada

Statistics Canada- Canada's Core Public Infrastructure Survey: Culture, recreations and sports facilities, and public social and affordable housing, 2020

Lifesaving Society- National Drowning Report 2024

Aquatics Coalition

Royal Lifesaving Australia- Value of the Aquatic Industry

Canadian Parks and Recreation Association

Measuring the Impact of Sport, Physical Activity and Recreation in Canada

Regina Aquatics Economic Impact Analysis

Jumpstart State of Play Youth Report

2024

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PROJECT PLAY aspen institute

resonant education

Message from the President

At Jumpstart, our mission has always been to ensure that ALL kids have an opportunity to experience the transformational benefits of sport and play. That's why we are proud to work with incredible partners to champion inclusive research that helps us better understand the landscape of sport and play in Canada.

Most recently, we partnered with the Aspen Institute to spearhead a new survey and report on the State of Play for Youth in Canada. The research summarized in the 56-page report that follows marks the first time the 'youth voice' has been captured in a study of this scope and magnitude. We would like to express our sincere gratitude and extend a special acknowledgement to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for their investment and collaboration in the development of the State of Play youth survey project. Their partnership has played a crucial role in making this initiative possible.

Over several months, Jumpstart, in partnership with Aspen Institute and with the input of our academic advisors across Canada, gathered extensive feedback about the state of sport and play for youth by not only leveraging input from sport organizations throughout Canada, but input from nearly 3,000 Canadian students between 3rd and 12th grade as well. The youth respondents represented a multitude of diverse backgrounds, as 42% identified as females and 48% identified as visible minorities[1] or Indigenous peoples. Additionally, 9% of youth taking the survey identified as someone with a disability. And to take the study a step further, Jumpstart and Aspen Institute unpacked the Youth Survey findings with over a dozen grassroots community sports leaders through a series of tailored workshops with a focus on underserved populations, including girls, girls of colour, youth with disabilities, and Indigenous youth.

Overall, the study's findings help paint a clearer picture of youth's sport preferences and participation levels, motivations to play (or not play) sport, access to sport, and relational experiences built through sport—specifically, the student-coach relationship.

We believe that centering the voices of young people in the creation and improvement of sport experiences is critical. We encourage you to read through the State of Play Youth Report to gain a better understanding of the many challenges today's youth tell us they face when it comes to accessing safe and inclusive sport and play in this country. Our hope is that the results from this report and the 'youth voice' that emerges from the findings will help uncover insights that can drive meaningful and actionable change in how community sports leaders run their programming and help families and youth gain better access to positive and affirming sport and play experiences.

Marco Di Buono

President, Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities

Jumpstart
Bon départ

[1] "Persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-White in color"—as defined by the Employment Equity Act.

Table of Contents

Introduction 4
Survey Methodology 4
State of Play Youth Sample Overview 4
Disability Trends Across Demographics 7
Trends Across Race & Gender 7
Trends Across Race & Grade Level 8
Trends Across Race & Geographic Location 8
Results
Section 1: Participation in Sports & Sport Preferences 10
Participation in Sports 10
Sports Preferences 19
Section 2: Motivation for Current Levels of Sport Participation 24
What Youth Like Most about Playing Sports 24
Primary Reasons Youth Choose Not to Play Sports 30
Why Youth Choose Not to Play Sports at Different Organizations 35
Why Youth With Disabilities Choose Not to Play Sports 37
Section 3: Access to Sports 38
Where Youth Have Played Sports 38
How Youth Travel to Sport-Related Activities 40
Section 4: Student-Coach Experiences 43
Coaching Values 43
Coach Representation 43
Section 5: Trends in Organizations Type 46
Section 6: Trends in Organizations Participating in Youth Survey 47
Sport Registration and Participation Costs 47
Section 7: Intersection Between Race & Gender—Responses from Girls of Color 49
Overview 49
Participation in Sports by Intersecting Racial and Gender Identities 49
Sports Preferences by Intersecting Racial and Gender Identities 51
Motivation for Current Levels of Sports Participation by Intersecting Racial & Gender Identities 52
Access to Sports Across Intersecting Racial & Gender Identities 54
Student-Coach Experiences Across Intersecting Racial & Gender Identities 55

Introduction

This report outlines the results of the Jumpstart Canadian Tire State of Play Youth Survey and the corresponding enrollment data, provided through the survey registration process, that highlights characteristics of the sports organizations that took part in the survey administration.

The purpose of this report is threefold. First, this report will use the data collected from the youth survey to document Canadian youth's sports preferences and participation levels, motivations to play (or not play) sports, access to sports, and relational experiences built through sports. Second, this report will note basic information about Canadian sports organizations based upon the results of the enrollment data. Third, this report will identify trends found using both data sources to help inform key decisions made about Canadian sports so that all youth can have positive and affirming sporting experiences.

Survey Methodology

The Jumpstart Canadian Tire State of Play Youth Survey was administered online through the Resonant Education platform. Sport organizations throughout Canada were encouraged to participate in the survey so that their youth voices could be heard. Interested organizations visited the website https://stateofplay.resonanteducation.com and registered their organization in the online portal using an access code provided to them by Jumpstart Canadian Tire. The registration process asked organizations to document an estimated number of participants they serve, the sport programs they offer, and the estimated registration and participation costs for each of the age groups and competition levels they serve. Once an organization registered, they were provided with a unique web link to share with their youth population for them to use to take the survey. This survey link was also included in a downloadable file format, image format, and QR format to facilitate distributing and posting the survey link to all youth served by an organization in the way that worked best for their population.

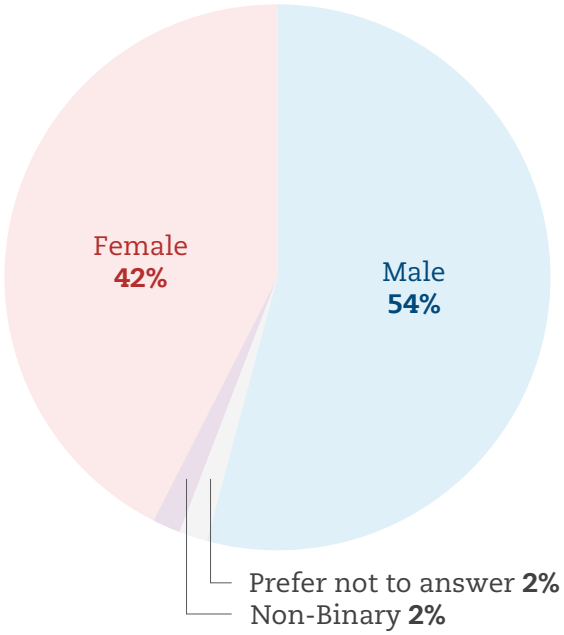
Participation in the survey by organizations and youth was completely voluntary, and all responses collected were completely anonymous. The survey was open between May 9, 2022 and December 6, 2022. Upon completion of the survey, the results from each organization's survey data were available for review in the online portal. Organizations were able to log in to the portal to review all item results and the distribution of each response option per item, noting that results were suppressed when sample sizes were not large enough to protect the identity of respondents.

State of Play Youth Sample Overview

A total of 2,753 3rd- through 12th-grade students participated in the 2022 Jumpstart Canadian Tire State of Play Youth Survey. The sample of youth participating in the survey represent a multitude of diverse backgrounds, as 42% respondents identified as females (see Figure 1 for sample overview by gender) and 48% identified as visible minorities[1] or Indigenous peoples (see Figure 2 for sample overview by race/ethnicity). Additionally, 9% of youth taking the survey identified as someone with a disability.

The sample also provides adequate[2] representation across grade/grade-band and region, as each grade level contains more than 100 respondents (see Figure 3 for sample overview by grade/grade-band) and four out of the five Canadian regions are represented by youth in the sample (see Figure 4 for sample overview by region).

Figure 1. Respondent Breakdown by Gender



Note: 6 respondents did not indicate their gender, so the percentages shown are inflated by about 1/10th of a percent.

Figure 2. Respondent Breakdown by Race/ Ethnicity

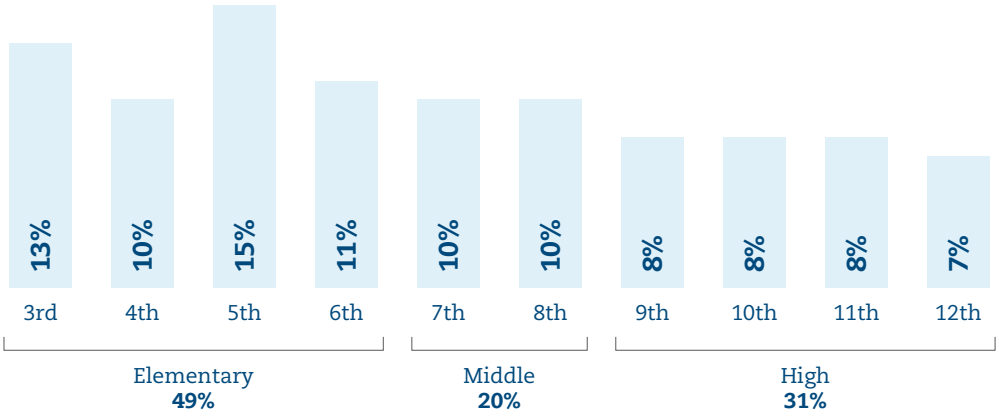
44%	White
12%	Black
9%	Mixed Race*
9%	South Asian
7%	East Asian
4%	Arab
3%	Indigenous
3%	Do not wish to provide this information
3%	I don't identify with any of the above
2%	Latin American and/or Hispanic
2%	West/Central Asian and/or Middle Eastern
2%	Not comfortable providing this information

* Two or more options listed.

Note: 12 respondents did not indicate their gender, so the percentages shown are inflated by about 3/100th of a percent.

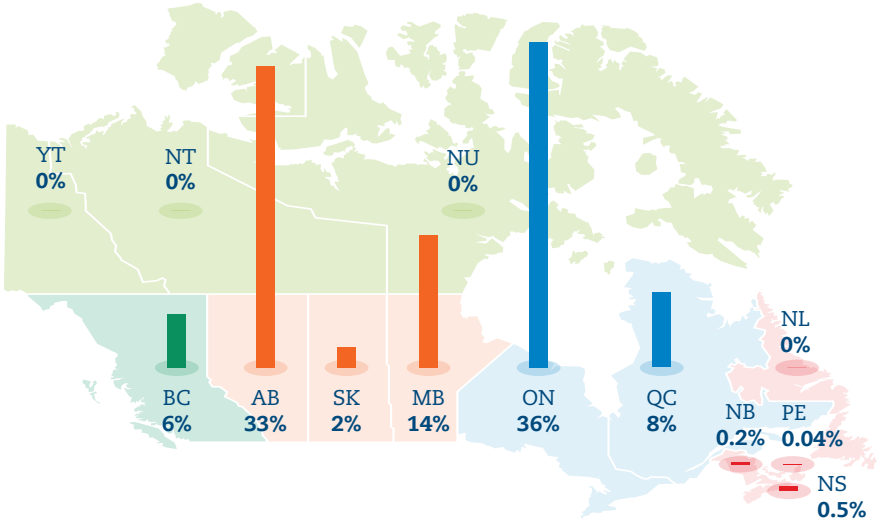
1. "Persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-White in color"—as defined by the Employment Equity Act.
2. Adequate=Samples containing at least 100 respondents representing a demographic category of interest, (i.e., subgroup), are said to be representative, meaning results of survey related to that subgroup can be generalized to the larger population.

Figure 3. Respondent Breakdown by Grade Level and Grade-Band



Note: Every province considers different grade levels to be part of elementary, middle, and high school. Therefore, grade levels are disaggregated according to the most common grade bands across provinces.

Figure 4. Respondent Breakdown by Province and Region



Region

- Atlantic 1%
- Central 44%
- Prairie 50%
- West Coast 6%
- Northern Territories . . 0%

To guarantee the integrity of this report, no generalizations will be made about youth from the Atlantic region, youth from the Northern Territories, non-binary youth, youth who "preferred not to answer" about their gender, Latin American and/or Hispanic students, West/Central Asian and/or Middle Eastern youth, or youth who did not provide their racial identity. Based on the sample statistics in Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4, the sample size of these subpopulations is too small[1] to make inferences that apply to the total population.

Therefore, the remainder of this section of the report will note all relevant demographic trends, but will exclude the aforementioned categories from any analysis.

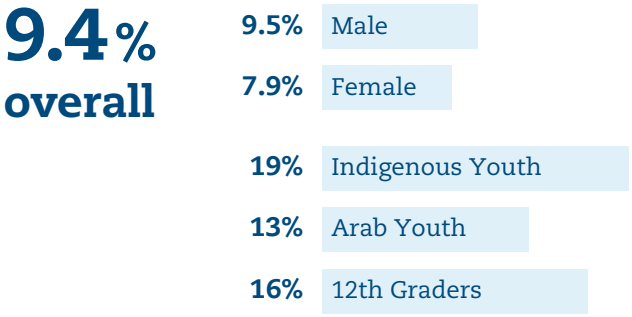
1. Too small refers to subgroup sample sizes much less than 100.

Disability Trends Across Demographics

Although only 9.4% of the sample overall identified as having a disability, a higher proportion of males identified as persons with disabilities than females. Of the youth participating in the survey, 9.5% of male respondents reported having a disability, while only 7.9% of female respondents reported having a disability.

Furthermore, certain subgroup populations had higher proportions of youth with disabilities than the general population. This is most pronounced among Indigenous youth, Arab youth, and 12th-grade students, as 19% of Indigenous youth, 13% of Arab youth, and 16% of 12th graders identify as someone with a disability (see Figure 5).

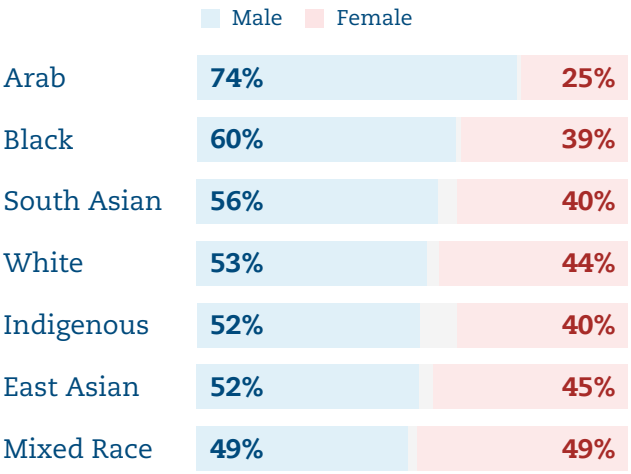
Figure 5. Disability Trends



Trends Across Race & Gender

Across all racial/ethnic groups, excluding those identifying with two or more races, (i.e., Mixed Race students), a higher proportion of youth identifying as males took the survey compared to females. This trend is particularly salient among Arab and Black youth (see Figure 6).

Figure 6. Proportion of Male and Female Visible Minorities and Indigenous Peoples



The rest of the responses includes Non-binary/Prefer not to answer

Trends Across Race & Grade Level

When analyzing the distribution of visible minority and Indigenous youth across grade levels, the highest percentage of youth of color taking the survey are in the 5th grade. In fact, compared to all other grade levels, there are a higher proportion of Arab, Black, East Asian, Indigenous, and South Asian respondents in the 5th grade than in any other grade.

On the other hand, respondents from Grade 12 have the lowest percentage of students of color taking the survey. Compared to all other grade levels, 12th grade had a lower proportion of East Asian, Mixed Race, Indigenous, and South Asian respondents.

Trends Across Race & Geographic Location

According to the survey sample, the Central and Prairie regions are the most diverse Canadian regions. This is evidenced by Ontario, a Central province, and Alberta, a Prairie province, containing the largest proportion of all racial/ethnic minority groups (see Figure 7).

Figure 7. Regions with Highest Proportion of Visible Minority and Indigenous Students

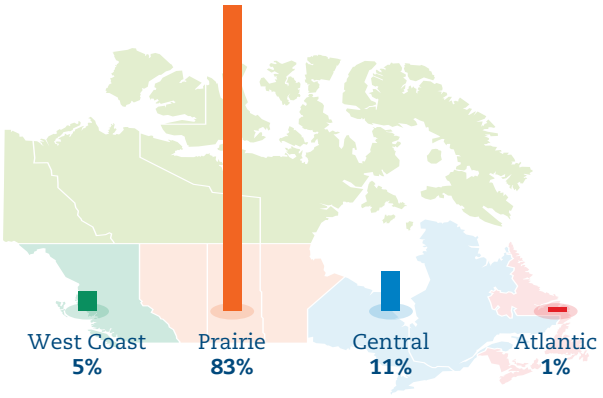
Alberta	
Arab	47%
Indigenous	44%

Ontario	
South Asian	53%
East Asian	42%
Black	35%
Mixed Race	34%

In relation to this, the Prairie region has a significantly higher proportion of Indigenous students compared to other regions (see Figure 8).

Nevertheless, the diversity of the two regions may be exaggerated considering 94% of the youth surveyed live in the Central and Prairie regions.

Figure 8. Distribution of Indigenous Youth Across Regions



Results

Section 1: Participation in Sports & Sport Preferences

This section of the report presents the results from the following three survey questions, describing the rate at which students are playing sports in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the sports youth have played and/or are currently playing, and the sports youth are interested in playing that they have not yet tried.

1. How often are you playing sports?
2. Please click on the sports you have PLAYED more than one time in the last three years. (Click on all that apply). (42 sport options)
3. What sports would you like to TRY? (Click on all that apply). (42 sport options)

Participation in Sports

Engagement in Sports since the Pandemic

Overall, the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic has not deterred youth from playing sports. In fact, 65% of the respondents reported that their participation in sports is either the same or more than it was before the pandemic (see Figure 9).

Notably, youth involved with organizations classified as sports clubs reported playing sports MORE than they did before the COVID-19 pandemic at a higher proportion (30%) than students involved with organizations categorized as afterschool programs, schools, recreation centres, and other types of organizations (see Figure 10).

Figure 9. Frequency of Sport Participation in the Aftermath of COVID-19

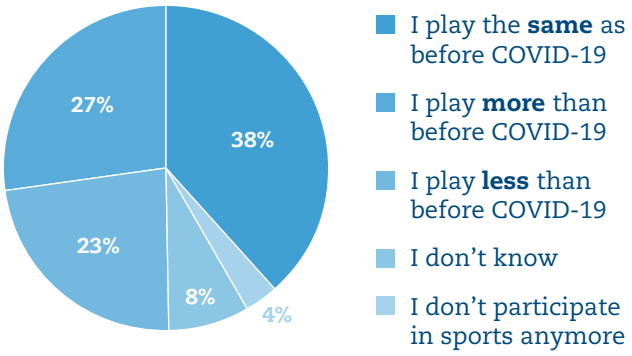
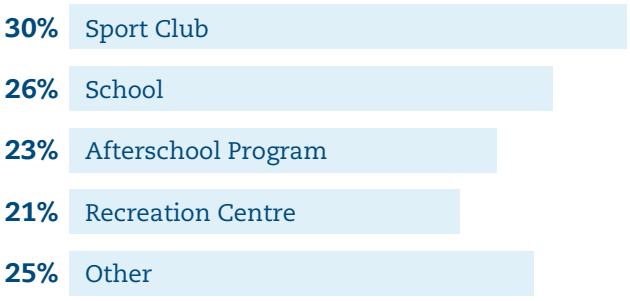
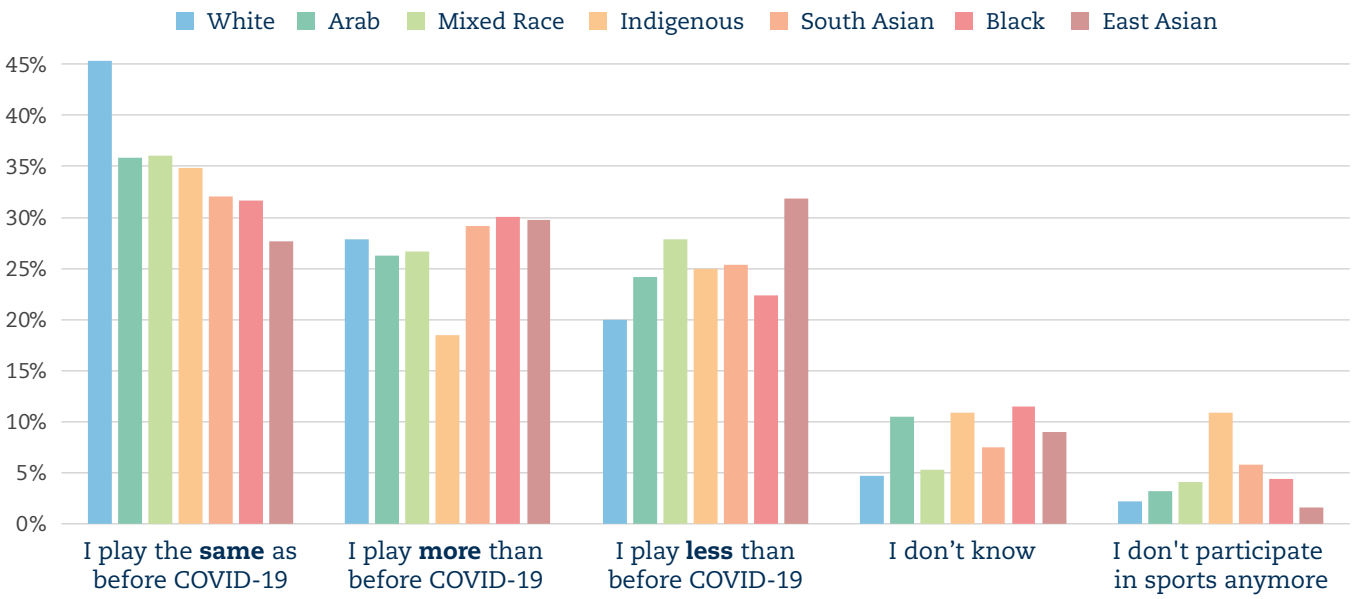


Figure 10. Percentage of Youth Who Play Sports MORE than before the Pandemic by Organization Type



However, 32% of East Asian students report playing sports LESS than they did before COVID-19. This is more than any other racial demographic (see Figure 11).

Figure 11. Rate with which Youth Play Sports Following the Pandemic by Race



Sports Played in the Last Three Years

For all sports on the survey, at least five students (0.2% of the sample) indicated that they have played a listed sport more than once in the last three years (see Figure 12).

Figure 12. Overall Percentage of Youth Playing Sports More than Once in the Last Three Years

Soccer	62%	Downhill Skiing	15%	Figure Skating	2%
Swimming	44%	Floor/Ball Hockey	14%	Cheerleading	2%
Basketball	43%	Golf	13%	Ringette	2%
Biking	37%	Dance	13%	Wheelchair Basketball	2%
Hockey	30%	Canoe/Kayak	12%	Para Alpine Skiing	1%
Volleyball	26%	Martial Arts	12%	Para Canoe/Kayak	0.9%
Badminton	24%	Gymnastics	9%	Sitting Volleyball	0.8%
Skating	24%	Cross Country Skiing	6%	Para Ice Hockey	0.6%
Football	22%	Snowboarding	6%	Para Snowboard	0.5%
Bowling	17%	Lacrosse	5%	Wheelchair Tennis	0.4%
Athletics	17%	Softball	5%	Para Athletics	0.4%
Tennis	16%	Equestrian	5%	Para Golf	0.4%
Baseball	16%	Boxing	3%	Para Rowing	0.3%
Climbing	15%	Curling	3%	Wheelchair Curling	0.2%

In addition to the sports listed in the survey, youth also identified field hockey, rugby, cricket, artistic/synchronized swimming, and pickleball as sports they played more than once (see Figure 13).

Figure 13. Unlisted Sports Played More than Once

Field Hockey	18%
Rugby	8%
Cricket	7%
Artistic/Synchronized Swimming	4%
Pickleball	3%

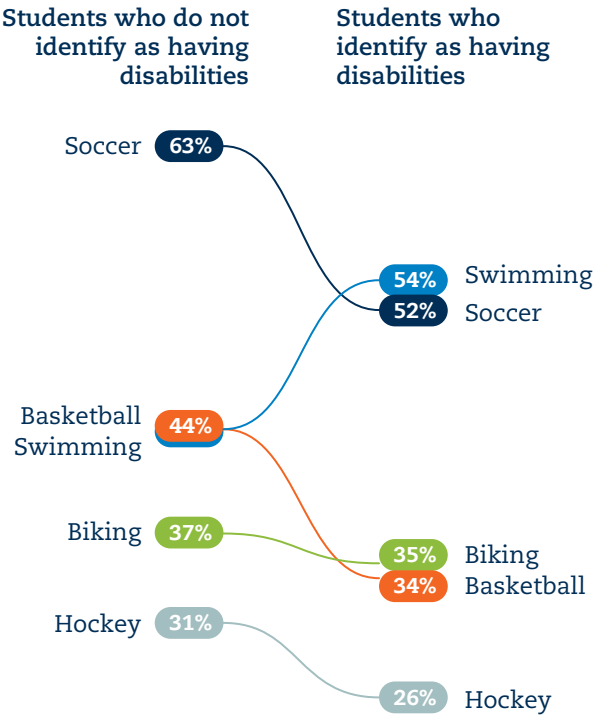
According to all responses, the top five most popular sports played more than once in the last three years are soccer (62%), swimming (44%), basketball (43%), biking (37%), and hockey (30%) (see Figure 14).

Figure 14. Overall Top 5 Sports Played More than Once

Soccer	62%
Swimming	44%
Basketball	43%
Biking	37%
Hockey	30%

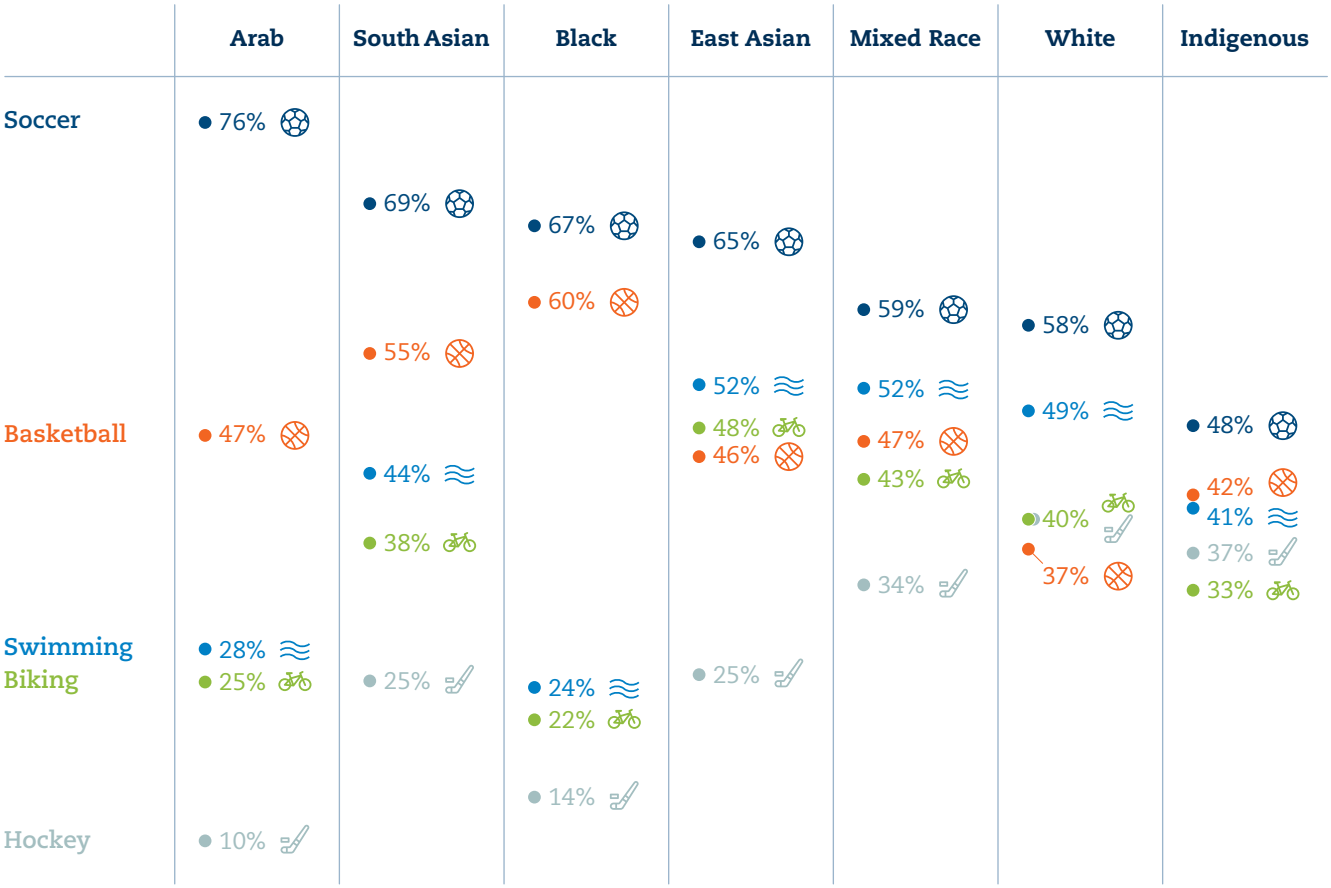
Youth who identify as having disabilities have the same list of top five sports played more than once in the last three years as youth who do not identify as having disabilities (see Figure 15). However, the ranking of sports played most often differs. For example, among youth with disabilities, swimming is the sport played most often and even has a proportionally higher participation rate compared to youth who swim without disabilities (see Figure 15). This suggests that swimming is more accessible to youth with disabilities than the other top 5 sports.

Figure 15. Top 5 Sports Among Youth with Disabilities



Across all demographics, excluding youth with disabilities, soccer is consistently the most popular sport played. However, the rate at which youth report playing the remainder of the top five sports varies across races, age groups, regions, and gender (see Figures 16–20), as different demographics have different sports constituting as their top five.

Figure 16. Proportion of Youth Playing Top 5 Overall Sports by Race



Youth level of participation in the top five most played sports varies by racial/ethnic group (see Figures 16 and 17).

Soccer: A higher proportion of Arab youth have played soccer more than once over the last three years (76%) compared to every other racial/ethnic group. Comparatively, Indigenous youth have the lowest proportion of respondents who have played soccer (48%) more than once .

Swimming and biking: A higher proportion of East Asian youth have swum (52%) or biked (48%) more than once in the last three years compared to other racial/ethnic groups. Comparatively, Black youth have the lowest proportion of respondents who have swam (24%) or biked (22%) more than once.

Basketball: A higher proportion of Black youth have played basketball more than once over the last three years (60%) compared to all other races/ethnic groups. While White youth have the lowest proportion of respondents who have played basketball more than once (37%)

Hockey: A higher proportion of White youth have played hockey more than once in the last three years (40%) compared to all other races. While Arab youth have the lowest proportion of respondents who have played hockey more than once (10%)

Figure 17. Top 5 Sports for Each Race/Ethnicity

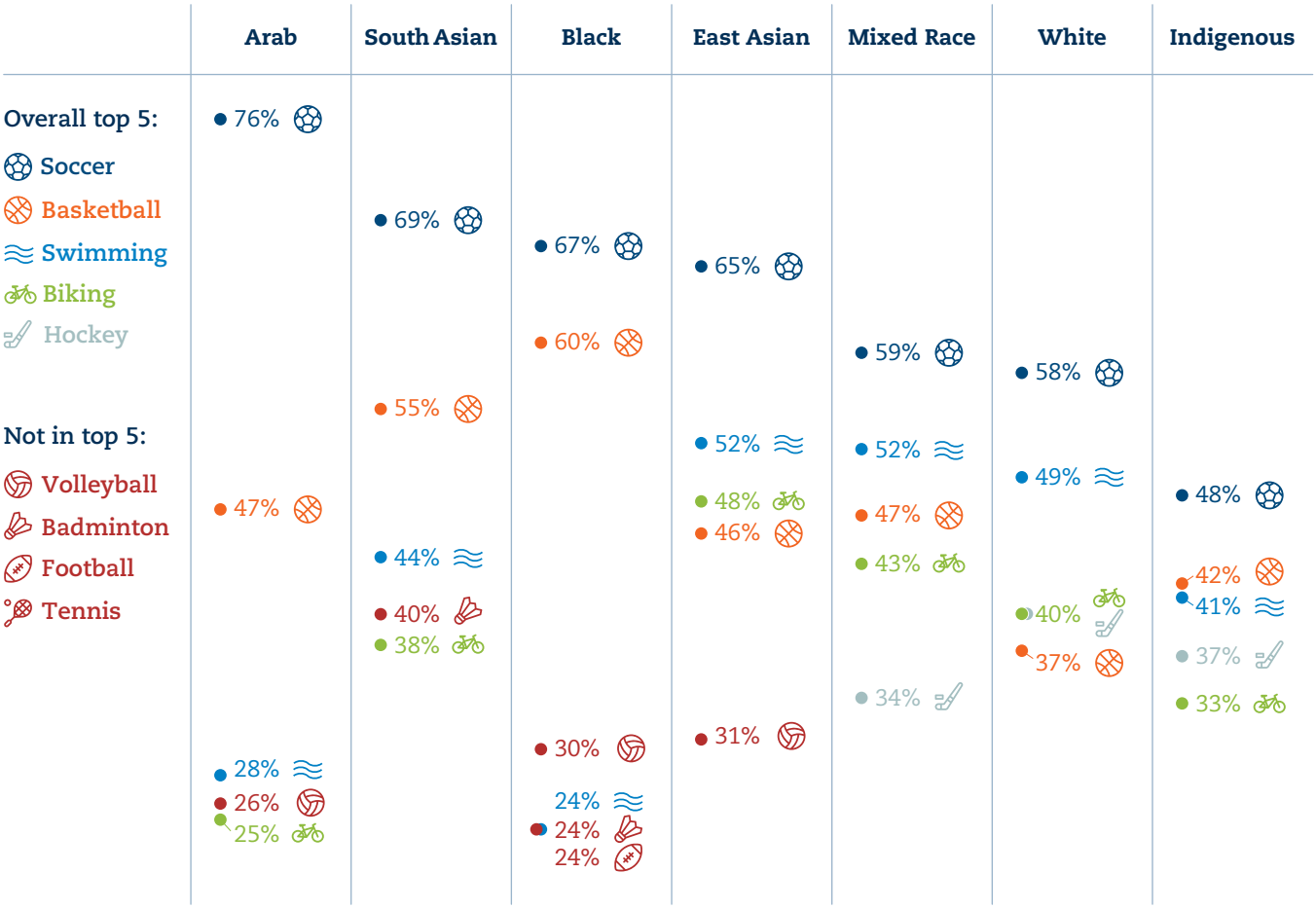
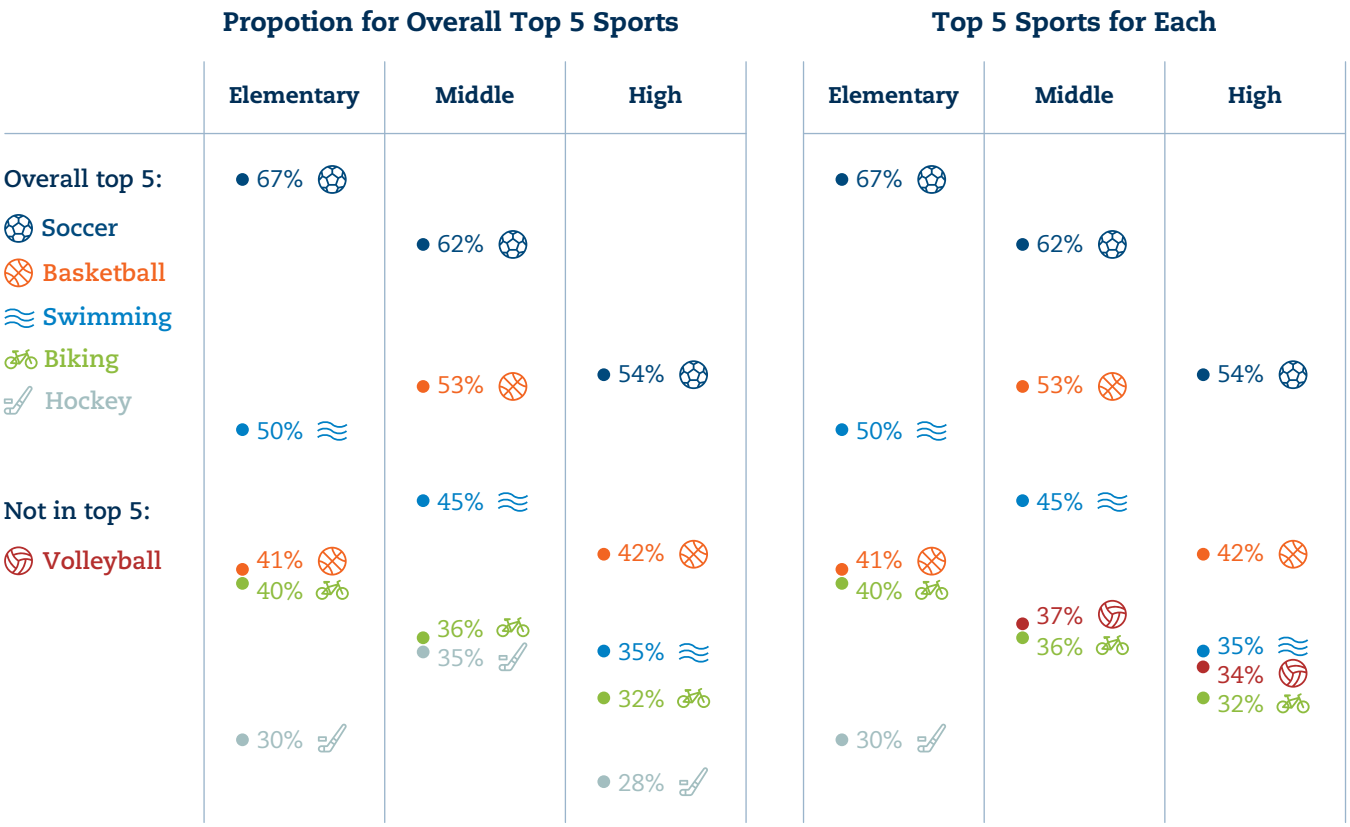


Figure 18. Proportion of Youth Playing Top 5 Overall Sports by Grade-Band and Top 5 Sports for Each Grade-Band



Additionally, respondents' level of participation in the top five sports varies by grade-band (see Figure 18). For example, elementary school students have the highest proportion of respondents who have played soccer, swum, and biked more than once in the last three years. Meanwhile,middle school students have the highest proportion of students who have played basketball or hockey more than once in the last three years. Given that none of the top five sports are played at the highest rate among high school students, these sports may be played less frequently as students age.

Furthermore, youth in different regions indicated different levels of participation in the top five sports (see Figure 19). For instance, a much higher proportion of youth in the West Coast region (55%) have biked more than once in the last three years compared to students in the Central or Prairie regions.

Another statistic of note is the lower proportion of youth in the Prairie region who reported playing soccer more than once in the last three years (58%). This data point aligns with trends aforementioned as Indigenous respondents also have the lowest proportion of youth playing soccer more than once in the last three years and the Prairie region contains the overwhelming majority of Indigenous youth in the sample.

Figure 19. Proportion of Youth Playing Top 5 Overall Sports by Region

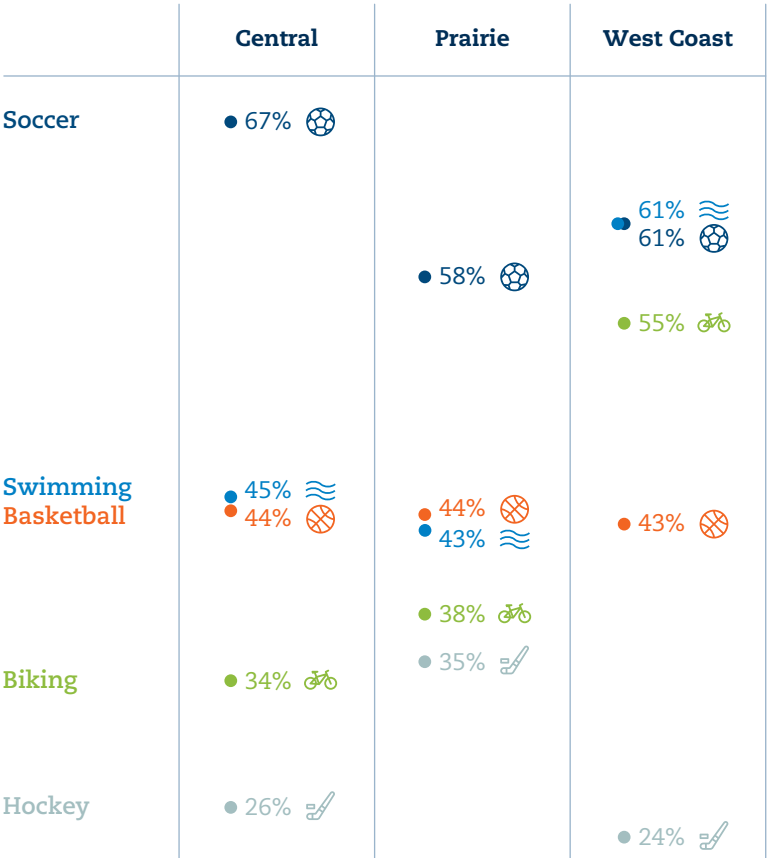
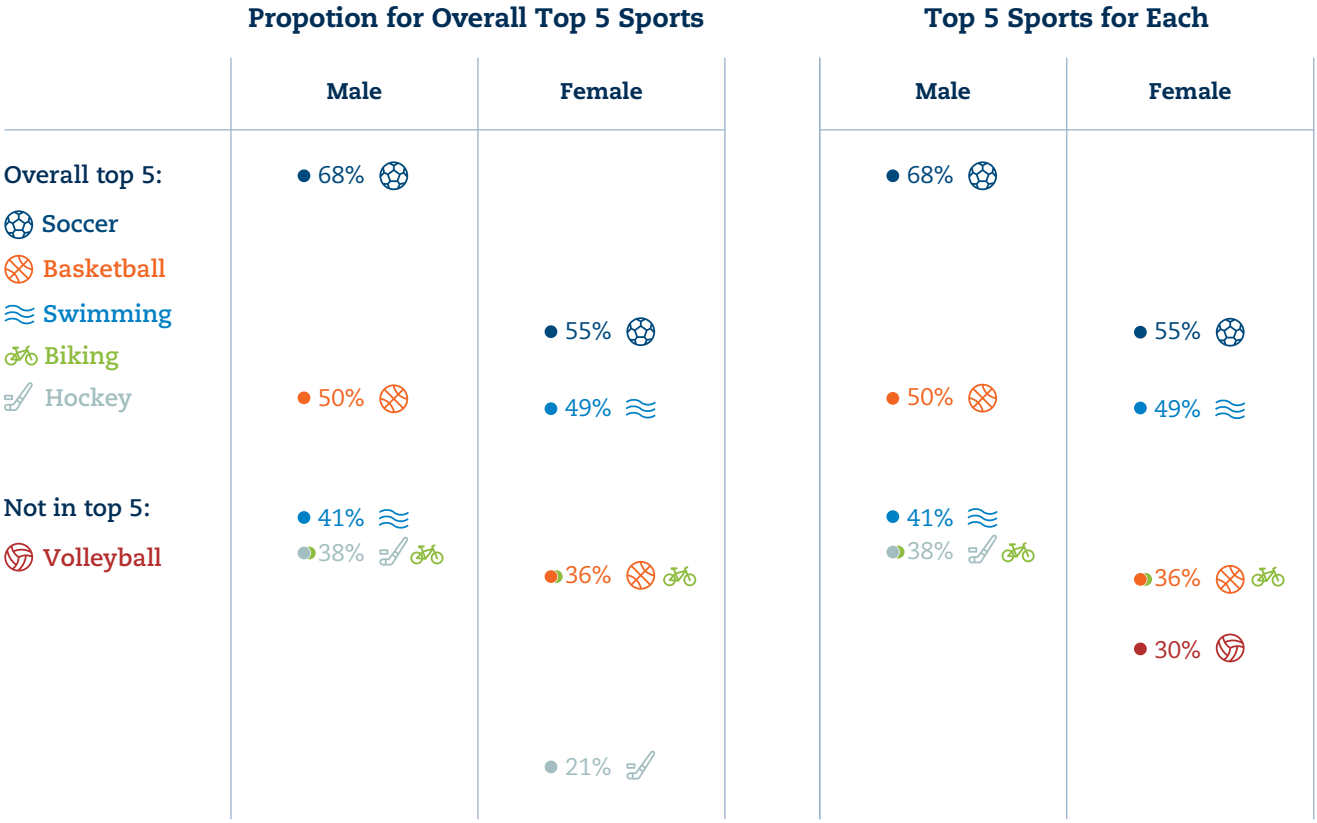


Figure 20. Proportion of Youth Playing Top 5 Overall Sports by Gender and Top 5 Sports for Each Gender



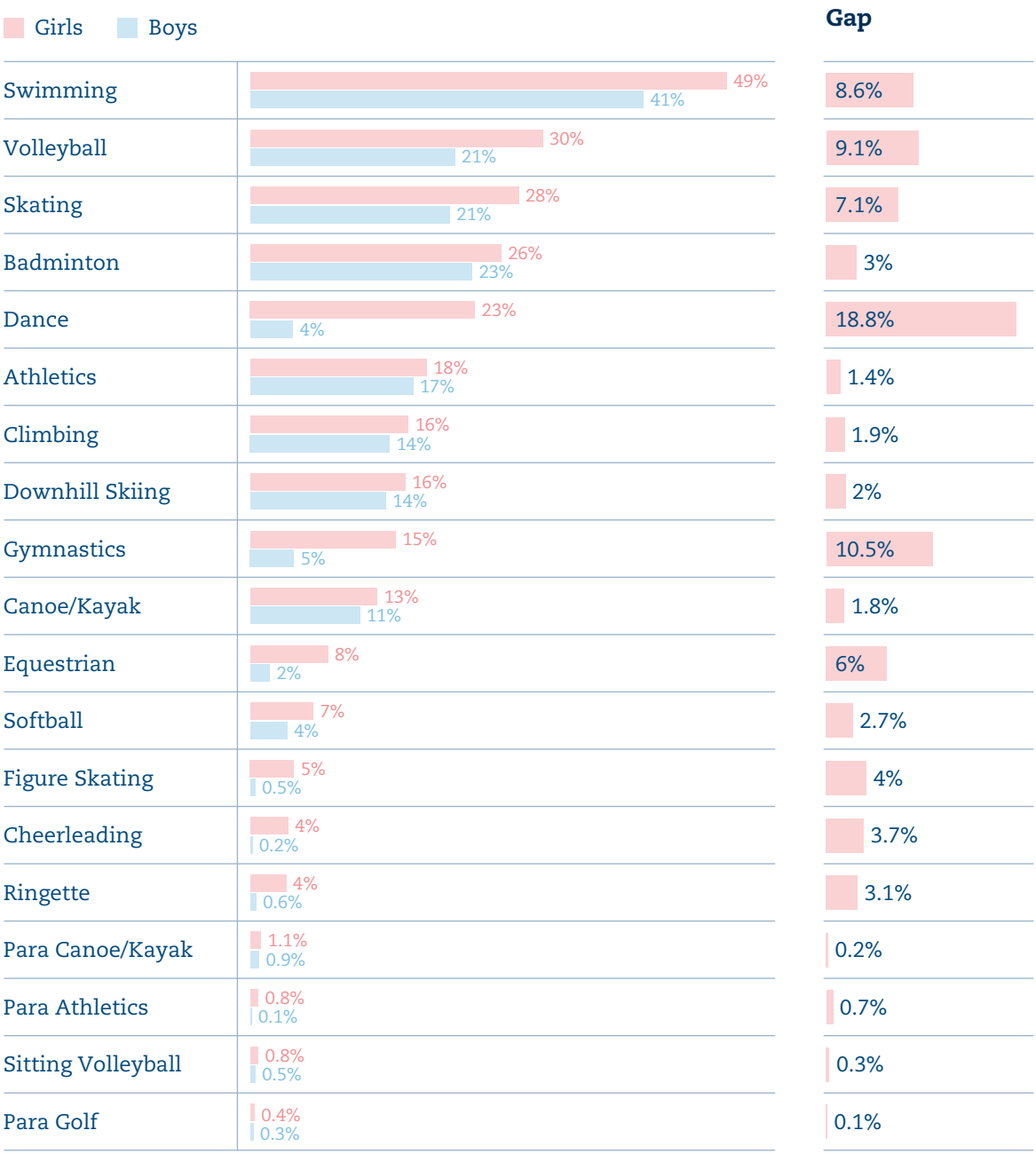
Finally, the frequency with which youth play the top five sports varies according to gender (see Figure 20). All top five sports, except swimming, are more frequently played among students who identify as males. For example, the proportion of males who have played soccer more than once in the last three years is 68%, whereas only 55% of females said they have played soccer more than once in the same time period.

Trends in Sports Played Across Genders

Among respondents who identify as female, hockey is not included as one of the top five most played sports. It is replaced by volleyball; 30% of female students reported playing volleyball more than once in the last three years, while only 21% reported playing hockey.

Relatedly, volleyball is one of the many sports in which higher proportions of females reported playing more than once compared to males. In fact, of the 42 sports listed on the survey, 19 are more frequently played among girls than boys (see Figure 21).

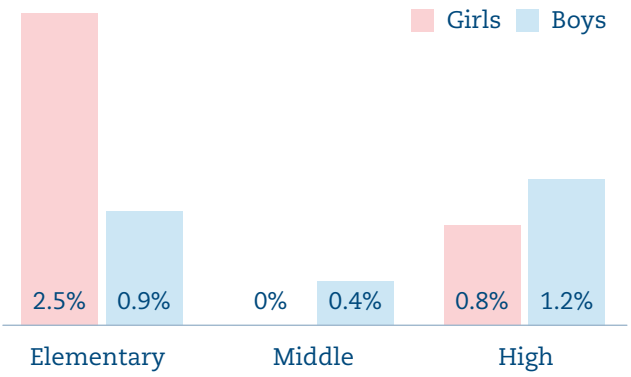
Figure 21. Sports Played More by Girls than Boys



Several of the sports more frequently played among female respondents, like cheerleading, dance, and softball, align with society's gendered expectations of sports. However, the survey results challenge some of these stereotypes, as the data shows traditionally male-dominated sports like climbing, being more frequently played by girls than boys.

Another social norm challenged by the survey data is the assumption that girls cease playing sports or become disinterested in sports with age. According to the students surveyed, the percentage of girls who "have never played sports" decreases with age, while the percentage of boys who have never played sports increases with age (see Figure 22). This combats the idea that older girls are dissuaded from playing sports.

Figure 22. Students Who Report Never Playing Sports Over Time



Sports Preferences

After identifying the sports they play, youth taking the survey then selected the sports they would like to try. All youth taking the survey reported that they would like to try a sport, (i.e., no student responded to the question, "What sports would you like to try?" with the answer choice, "I don't want to play sports"). Additionally, youth reported wanting to try all of the 42 listed sports (see Figure 23) and several students documented unlisted sports that they would like to try as well (see Figure 24).

Figure 23. Overall Percentage of Sports Students Want to Try

Martial Arts	23%	Canoe/Kayak	14%	Cheerleading	7%
Hockey	20%	Bowling	14%	Softball	6%
Climbing	20%	Badminton	13%	Ringette	3%
Soccer	20%	Gymnastics	13%	Sitting Volleyball	3%
Basketball	20%	Lacrosse	12%	Para Alpine Skiing	3%
Skating	19%	Golf	12%	Para Snowboard	2%
Volleyball	19%	Downhill Skiing	11%	Para Rowing	2%
Equestrian	18%	Biking	10%	Para Ice Hockey	1.5%
Snowboarding	18%	Athletics	10%	Para Canoe/Kayak	1.4%
Tennis	17%	Dance	10%	Wheelchair Basketball	1%
Swimming	17%	Cross Country Skiing	9%	Para Athletics	1%
Baseball	15%	Figure Skating	8%	Para Golf	0.7%
Boxing	15%	Floor/Ball Hockey	8%	Wheelchair Tennis	0.6%
Football	14%	Curling	8%	Wheelchair Curling	0.5%

Figure 24. Unlisted Sports Students Want to Try

Rugby	9%
Archery	9%
Cricket	7%
Field Hockey	5%
Wrestling	5%

Overall, the top five most popular sports that youth want to try are martial arts (23%), climbing (20%), hockey (20%), soccer (20%), and basketball (20%). However, the degree with which youth desire to play these top five sports fluctuates according to racial/ethnic background, grade-band, gender, region, and ability. At times, youth of different backgrounds have a top five preferred sports list that completely varies from the top five sports of interest overall (see Figures 25–29).

Top Five Most Desirable Sports According to Ability and Race/Ethnicity

Although similar to the top five preferred sports to try overall, youth who identify as having a disability are much more interested in trying equestrian than students who do not identify as having a disability (only 18% of students without a disability want to try equestrian) (see Figure 25).

Each racial/ethnic group identified at least two sports they want to play that are not included in the top five most desired sports overall (see Figure 26). Among these are skating (included in five out of seven racial/ethnic group's top five), swimming (included in three out of seven racial/ethnic group's top five), equestrian (included in three out of seven racial/ethnic group's top five), snowboarding (included in three out of seven racial/ethnic group's top five), football, tennis, volleyball, and baseball (all included in one out of seven racial/ethnic group's top five).

Figure 25. Top 5 Sports Youth with Disabilities Want to Play

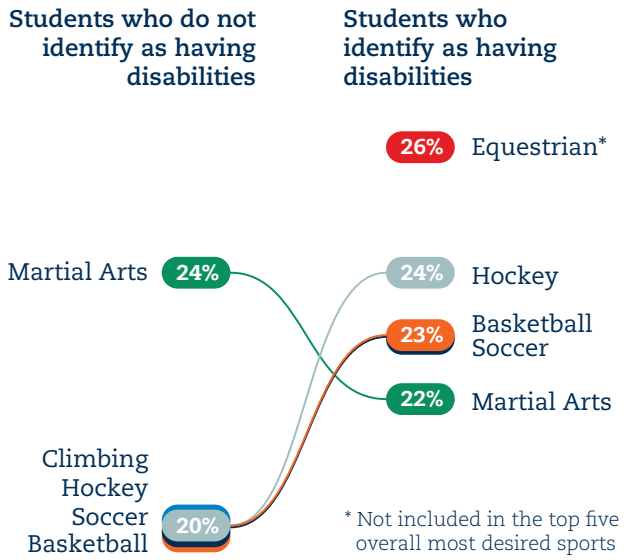


Figure 26. Top 5 Sports Youth Want to Play by Race/Ethnicity

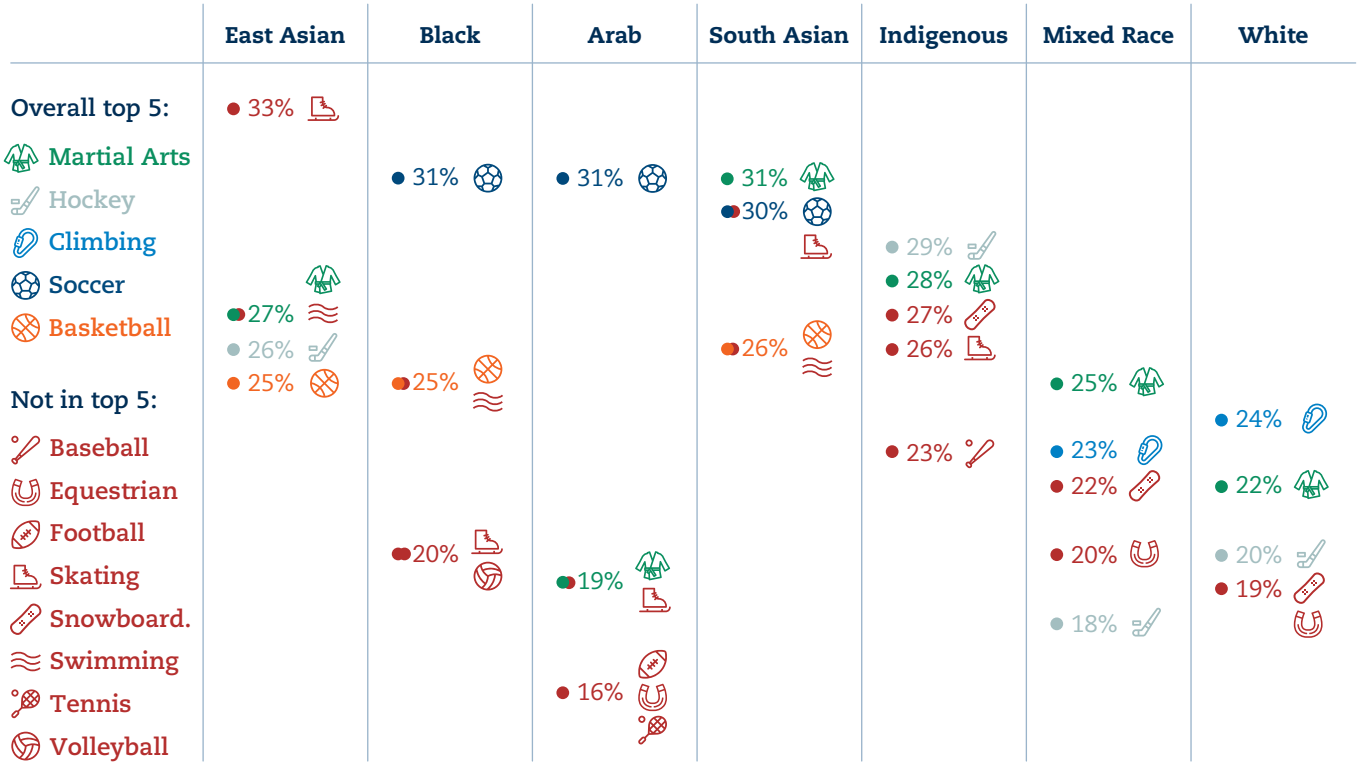
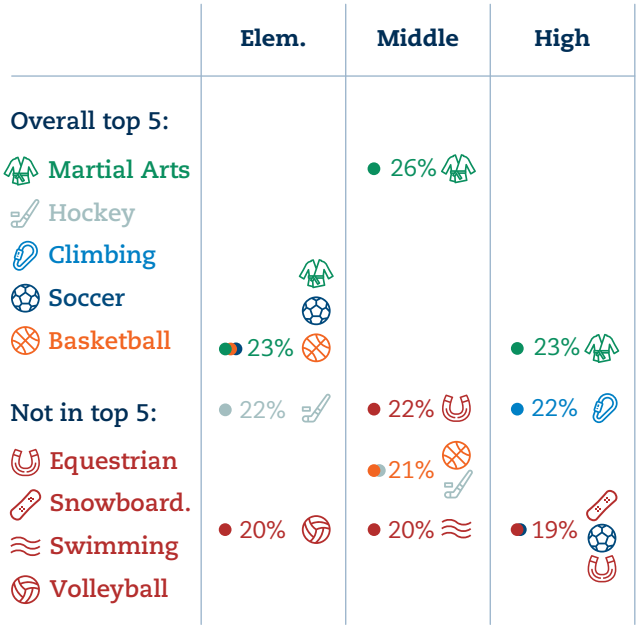


Figure 27. Top 5 Sports Students Want to Play by Grade-Band



Top Five Most Desirable Sports According to Grade-Band, Gender, and Region

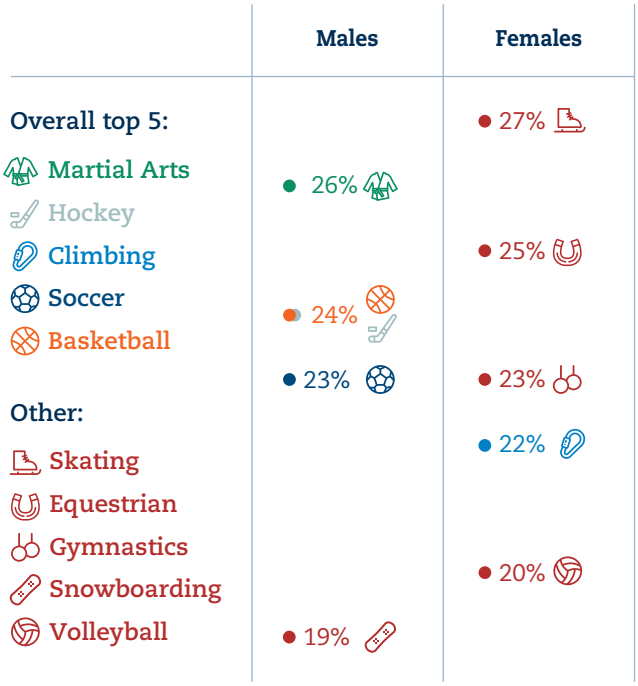
Elementary school students report the top five preferred sports list that most aligns with the top five preferred sports to try overall (see Figure 27). This result is rational since elementary school students make up half of the sample and therefore have the most influence on total sample outcomes.

According to the survey results, respondents identifying as male and female are interested in trying totally different sports. There is no overlap between the top five sports that males want to try and the top five sports that females want to try (see Figure 28).

In addition to differences in sport preferences between genders, there are differences in sports preferences within genders based on grade-band. Elementary school girls want to try skating more than any other sport (29% selected this sport to try). Meanwhile, middle and high school girls are the most interested in trying equestrian (32% of middle school girls selected this sport and 25% of high school girls selected this sport).

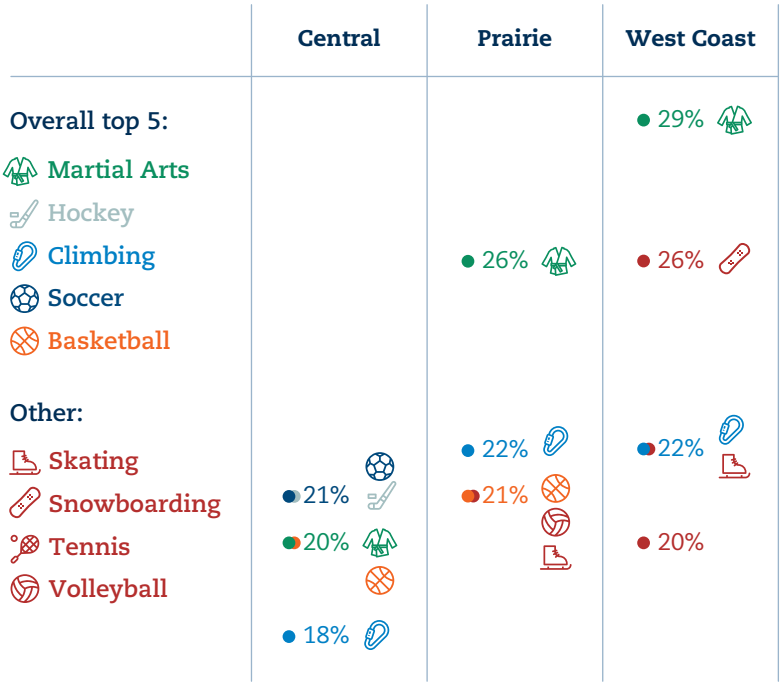
Within-gender differences are also seen amongst boys as elementary school boys are most interested in trying basketball (28% selected this answer). Middle school boys want to try martial arts (28%), and high school boys want to try soccer (23%).

Figure 28. Top 5 Sports Youth Want to Play by Gender



Finally, youth in different geographic areas have varying interests in the sports they would like to try. Both the Prairie and West Coast regions include a top five preferred list of sports that deviates from the sports most desired overall (see Figure 29).

Figure 29. Top 5 Sports Youth Want to Play by Region



Section 2: Motivation for Current Levels of Sport Participation

This section will highlight why youth in Canada choose to play sports as well as why they might refrain from playing sports by analyzing the response data from the following two survey questions:

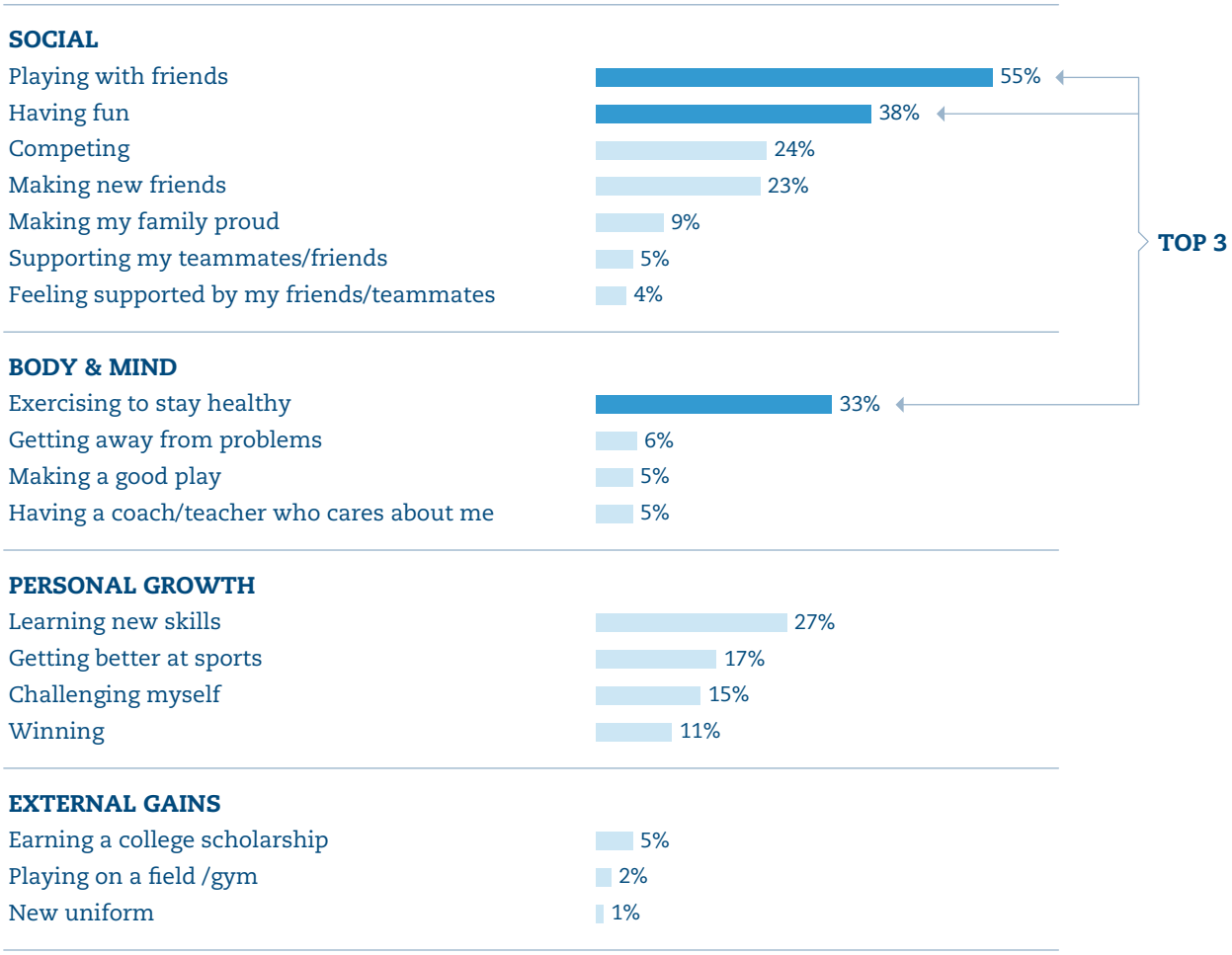
1. What do you like most about playing sports?
2. If you don't play sports very often, what are the reasons why?

What Youth Like Most about Playing Sports

Top Three Reasons Youth are Motivated to Play Sports

According to sample data, the top three reasons why youth in Canada enjoy playing sports are to play with friends (55%), have fun (38%), and exercise to stay healthy (33%) (see Figure 30). Across all demographic subgroups, playing with friends is the number one reason that students like playing sports. This is unsurprising as the majority of the sample selected this response option.

Figure 30. Overall Percentages of What Youth Like the Most about Playing Sports



However, playing sports to have fun and/or exercise to stay healthy are less consistently in subgroups' top three reasons to play sports. For example, having fun is not a top three reason for why Black students or high school boys like playing sports. Instead Black youth reported that they like playing sports to learn new skills (33% compared to the 28% who like playing sports to have fun) and high school boys like playing sports to compete (31% compared to the 30% who like playing sports to have fun) (see Table 1 and Figure 33).

Exercising to stay healthy is even less commonly listed in subgroups' top three reasons to play sports, as it is not included in Arab youth, Indigenous youth, Mixed Race youth, elementary school students, or middle school boys top three reasons (see Table 1 and Figure 33).

Differences in Why Youth Like Playing Sports Across Demographic Groups

Furthermore, there are pronounced differences between demographic groups concerning the reasons why students like playing sports beyond those included in the overall top three reasons.

A much greater proportion of youth who identify as having a disability report that they like playing sports to make new friends (33%) compared to the overall average (23%) (see Figure 31).

Figure 31. Top 3 Reasons Students with Disabilities Like to Play Sports

		Overall rank
#1 Playing with Friends	53%	#1
#2 Having Fun	40%	#2
#3 Making New Friends	33%	#6

A greater proportion of males (19%) than females (14%) selected that they like playing sports to get better at their respective sport. By contrast, a larger proportion of females (18%) compared to males (12%) selected that they like playing sports because they like challenging themselves (see Figure 32).

Figure 32. Why Youth Like to Play Sports According to Gender

1.3% of boys and 1.2% of girls said they don't like playing sports.

At times, students in particular racial/ethnic groups selected response options at rates both higher or lower than the average. Indigenous students reported that they like playing sports because they can make new friends (34%) much more frequently than the average and in comparison to all other racial/ethnic groups. Similarly, 12% of Black youth said they like playing sports because they could earn a college scholarship (see Table 1). Again this is a notably higher proportion of youth compared to the average and all other racial/ethnic groups.

On the other hand, only 3% of Arab youth said they like playing sports to make their families proud, which is a markedly lower response rate than other racial/ethnic demographics and the average (see Table 1).

Table 1. Why Youth Like to Play Sports According to Race/Ethnicity

Bold = top three for each race/ethnicity

	Arab	Black	East Asian	Indige-nous	Mixed Race	South Asian	White
Playing with friends	**61%**	**51%**	**53%**	**54%**	**53%**	**56%**	**57%**
Having fun	**34%**	28%	**40%**	**41%**	**43%**	**30%**	**42%**
Exercising to stay healthy	32%	**31%**	**38%**	26%	28%	**42%**	**34%**
Learning new skills	**35%**	**33%**	34%	22%	**31%**	29%	22%
Competing	17%	20%	23%	21%	25%	15%	29%
Making new friends	21%	24%	21%	**34%**	23%	18%	23%
Getting better at sports	17%	15%	18%	10%	17%	18%	17%
Challenging myself	10%	15%	14%	14%	16%	11%	17%
Winning	14%	11%	9%	11%	9%	14%	10%
Making my family proud	3%	13%	11%	10%	10%	12%	8%
Getting away from problems	4%	6%	4%	10%	5%	5%	6%
Supporting my teammates/friends	1%	4%	5%	6%	5%	4%	7%
Making a good play	6%	4%	5%	4%	5%	6%	5%
Earning a college scholarship	3%	12%	3%	3%	4%	6%	4%
Having a coach/teacher who cares about me	10%	6%	2%	4%	8%	3%	4%
Feeling supported by my friends/ teammates	3%	2%	3%	8%	8%	3%	4%
Playing on a field /gym	1%	2%	3%	6%	2%	5%	1%
I don't like playing sports.	0%	1%	3%	0%	1%	2%	2%
New uniform	0%	1%	0%	2%	1%	1%	1%

In terms of age group, differences for why students like to play sports are most drastic between elementary and high schoolers. High schoolers more frequently reported that they like playing sports to challenge themselves and earn a college scholarship in comparison to elementary and middle schoolers.

Whereas elementary school students more frequently reported that they like playing sports to make new friends and learn new skills compared to middle and high schoolers (see Figure 33).

Figure 33. Why Youth Like to Play Sports According to Grade-Band

Why Youth Like Playing Sports at Different Organizations

In addition to differences amongst why youth in various demographic groups enjoy playing sports, there are also differences based on the organization where students are registered to play sports, (e.g., afterschool programs, sports clubs, schools, recreation centres, and other organizations).

Afterschool Programs: A higher proportion of youth registered to play sports at afterschool programs like playing sports to play with friends (58%), learn new skills (38%), and earn a college scholarship (7%) than youth playing sports at all other types of organizations (see Table 2).

It is fitting that youth at afterschool programs are more frequently motivated to play sports to earn a college scholarship compared to youth registered to play sports at the other four organization types. A higher proportion of Black youth are registered to play sports at afterschool programs (19%) than at any other type of organization, and a higher proportion of Black youth report that they like playing sports to earn a college scholarship at a higher rate compared to any other race (see Table 1).

Sports Clubs: A higher proportion of youth registered to play sports at sports clubs like playing sports to compete (32%) compared to youth playing sports at the other four types of organizations (see Table 2).

Recreation Centres: A higher proportion of youth participating in sports at recreation centres like playing sports to make new friends (28%), get better at sports (22%), and have fun (52%) compared to students playing sports at the other four types of organizations (see Table 2).

Schools: A higher proportion of youth registered to play sports at school like playing sports to exercise to stay healthy (37%) and challenge themselves (17%) compared to youth playing sports at all the other four types of organizations (see Table 2).

Table 2. Reasons Youth Like to Play Sports at Different Organizations

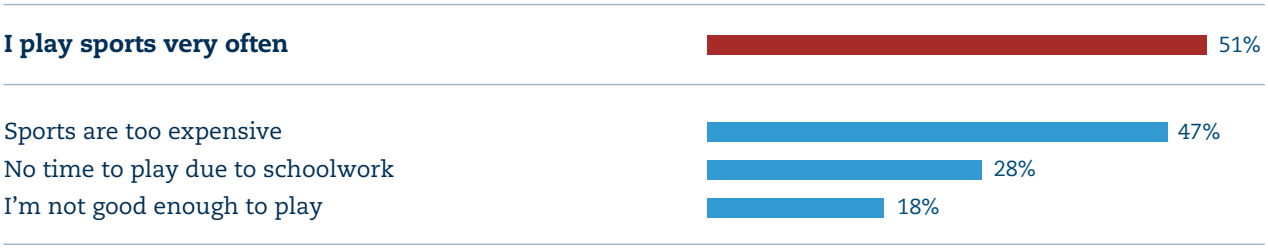
Bold = top three for each race/ethnicity

	Afterschool Program	Other	Recreation Centre	School	Sports Club
Playing with friends	**58%**	**57%**	**55%**	**49%**	**55%**
Having fun	**36%**	**38%**	**52%**	**35%**	**39%**
Exercising to stay healthy	32%	**29%**	**31%**	**37%**	**35%**
Learning new skills	**38%**	28%	**31%**	22%	24%
Competing	14%	15%	17%	25%	32%
Making new friends	26%	27%	28%	16%	21%
Getting better at sports	17%	16%	22%	14%	18%
Challenging myself	12%	12%	16%	17%	17%
Winning	9%	12%	9%	14%	10%
Making my family proud	10%	11%	7%	14%	7%
Getting away from problems	6%	6%	5%	7%	5%
Supporting my teammates/friends	4%	4%	1%	8%	6%
Making a good play	6%	5%	4%	6%	5%
Earning a college scholarship	7%	3%	2%	6%	6%
Having a coach/teacher who cares about me	6%	3%	6%	3%	6%
Feeling supported by my friends/teammates	4%	4%	2%	5%	4%
Playing on a field /gym	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%
I don't like playing sports.	0%	2%	2%	5%	1%
New uniform	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%

Primary Reasons Youth Choose Not to Play Sports

The majority of youth taking the survey responded to the question, "If you don't play sports very often, what are the reasons why?" that they play sports very often (51%). This could explain why a greater number of respondents opted not to answer this question more than any other question on the survey (missing 305 responses); they may not have found this question applicable to their experiences with sports.

Figure 34. Overall Percentages of Why Youth Do Not Play Sports



Reflects the top three choices selected by youth that said they did not play sports very often

However, for those that did answer this question, the top three reasons why youth do not play sports are because sports are too expensive (47%), they have no time to play sports due to school work (28%), and they do not believe they are good enough to play (18%) (see Figure 34).

Nevertheless, the frequency with which youth of different demographic groups selected the aforementioned top three response options vary (see Table 3 and Figures 35–37).

Table 3. Why Youth Choose Not to Play Sports According to Race/Ethnicity

Blue Bold = top three for each race/ethnicity (not including the response "I play sports very often")

	Arab	Black	East Asian	Indige-nous	Mixed Race	South Asian	White
I play sports very often	**35%**	**38%**	**46%**	**40%**	**47%**	**46%**	**61%**
Sports are too expensive	**37%**	**32%**	**24%**	**29%**	**28%**	**27%**	**21%**
No time to play due to schoolwork	**32%**	**28%**	**22%**	11%	**14%**	**22%**	**10%**
I'm not good enough to play	7%	5%	**19%**	**15%**	**12%**	**14%**	**10%**
I don't have a way to get to practic-es/games	6%	12%	9%	**15%**	9%	10%	4%
Not enough information available about sports programs	**11%**	**12%**	10%	4%	6%	**14%**	4%
I don't want to get hurt	7%	8%	10%	14%	6%	10%	5%
I have other activities that leave me no time to play sports	5%	11%	9%	6%	7%	6%	5%
My friends don't play sports	8%	6%	7%	6%	5%	8%	5%
I am not interested in sports	2%	4%	9%	11%	8%	7%	5%
No time to play due to family re-sponsibilities including a job	4%	8%	5%	6%	4%	7%	4%
Sports are too serious	4%	3%	4%	8%	7%	2%	5%
I don't feel welcome in athletic activities	4%	0%	5%	6%	5%	5%	4%
Too many bad coaches	**11%**	3%	3%	4%	2%	3%	3%
I don't feel safe at the fields, gyms, or courts	4%	1%	2%	6%	2%	1%	1%
The fields, gyms, and/or courts are bad quality	4%	1%	2%	0%	0%	1%	1%

Figure 35. Why Youth Choose Not to Play Sports Across Grade-Bands

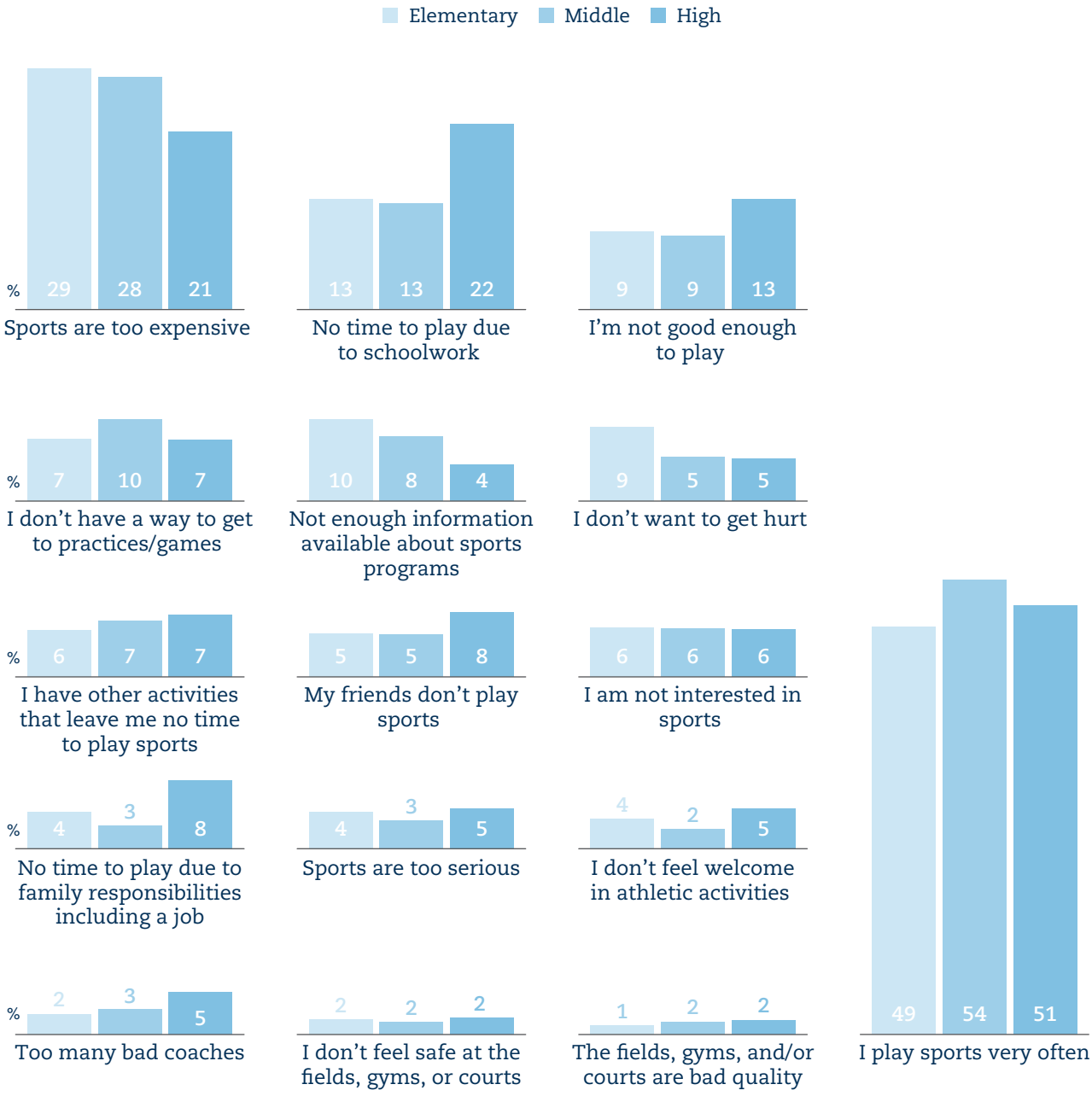


Figure 36. Why Youth Choose Not to Play Sports by Region

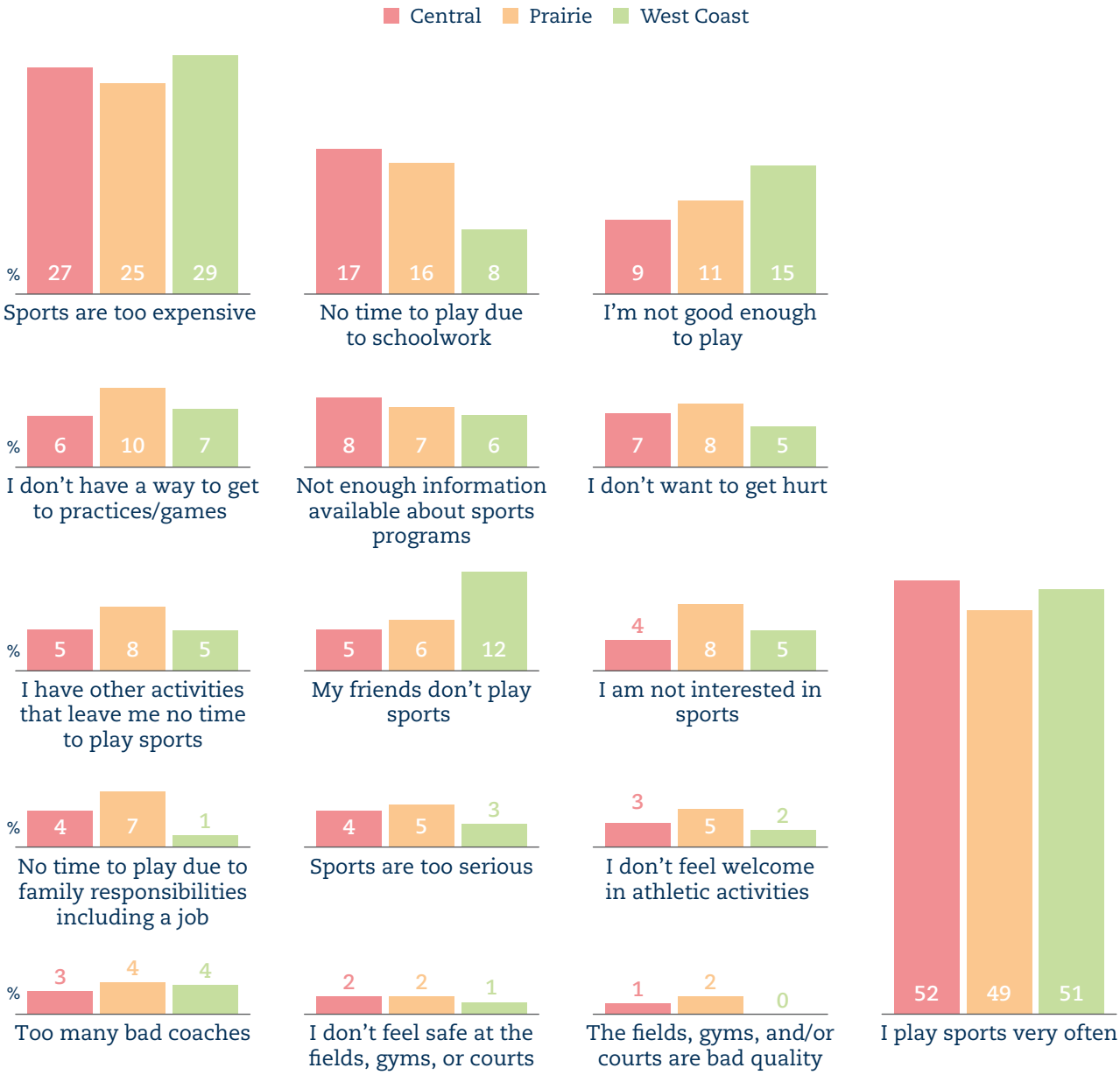


Figure 37. Why Youth Choose Not to Play Sports According to Gender

52% of boys and 49% of girls said they play sports very often.

Sports are Too Expensive

Although the rationale "sports are too expensive" is not the number one reason students opt not to participate in sports across all demographics, it is among each demographic groups' top three answer choices (see Table 3 and Figures 35–37).

No time to Play Sports Due to Schoolwork

Across racial and ethnic groups, Arab youth have the highest proportion of respondents who selected that they do not play sports because there is no time due to schoolwork (32%). White (10%) and Indigenous (11%) youth selected this option the least (see Table 3).

In relation to this, high school students (22%) have the highest proportion of respondents who do not play sports due to schoolwork in comparison to middle (13%) and elementary (13%) school students (see Figure 35).

Finally, compared to Central (17%) and Prairie (16%) regions, the West Coast region (8%) has the lowest proportion of youth selecting that they do not have time to play sports due to schoolwork (see Figure 36).

Not Good Enough to Play

A higher proportion of females (12%) than males (9%) selected that they do not play sports because they are not good enough (see Figure 37).

Similarly, a higher proportion of East Asian (19%) youth reported not playing sports because they are not good enough to play compared to the rate at which other racial and ethnic groups selected this response option. Only 5% of Black youth selected this as a reason not to play sports (see Table 3).

Lastly, a higher proportion of youth in the West Coast region (15%) selected that they do not play sports because they are not good enough in comparison to youth in the Central (9%) and Prairie (11%) regions (see Figure 36).

Why Youth Choose Not to Play Sports at Different Organizations

Additionally, the reasons youth opt not to participate in sports differ based on the type of organization with which they are affiliated (see Table 4).

Table 4. Why Youth at Different Organizations Choose Not to Participate in Sports

Blue Bold = top three for each race/ethnicity (not including the response "I play sports very often")

	Afterschool Program	Recreation Centre	School	Sports Club	Other
I play sports very often	**34%**	**49%**	**41%**	**64%**	**40%**
Sports are too expensive	**46%**	**22%**	**17%**	**25%**	**24%**
No time to play due to schoolwork	17%	13%	**23%**	**12%**	**18%**
I'm not good enough to play	16%	**17%**	**16%**	**5%**	**13%**
I don't have a way to get to practices/games	**19%**	6%	8%	4%	10%
Not enough information available about sports programs	**18%**	**14%**	4%	5%	8%
I don't want to get hurt	6%	7%	10%	2%	13%
I have other activities that leave me no time to play sports	9%	6%	12%	3%	8%
My friends don't play sports	9%	6%	8%	4%	8%
I am not interested in sports	4%	7%	12%	3%	9%
No time to play due to family responsibilities including a job	7%	3%	13%	4%	5%
Sports are too serious	5%	8%	4%	3%	5%
I don't feel welcome in athletic activities	2%	13%	9%	2%	4%
Too many bad coaches	**3%**	1%	3%	3%	4%
I don't feel safe at the fields, gyms, or courts	1%	3%	3%	0%	4%
The fields, gyms, and/or courts are bad quality	0%	1%	1%	2%	2%

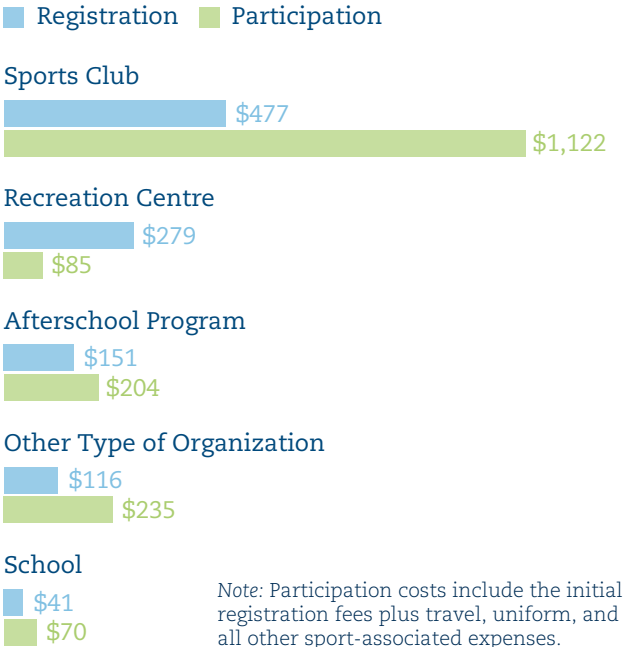
Afterschool Programs

A notably higher proportion of youth who are registered to play sports at afterschool programs reported not playing sports because they are too expensive (46%) compared to students who play sports at the other four types of organizations (see Table 4).

The proportion of youth reporting that they do not play sports because they are too expensive at other organization types is as follows: Sports Clubs=25%; Recreation Centres=22%; Schools=17%; Other=24%.

This is interesting because according to data collected during the survey enrollment process, afterschool programs are not the most expensive or the least expensive organizations. These programs charge median registration and participation costs compared to the other types of organizations (see Figure 38).

Figure 38. Average Registration and Participation Costs by Organization Type



Note: Participation costs include the initial registration fees plus travel, uniform, and all other sport-associated expenses.

Likewise, a much larger proportion of youth registered to play sports at afterschool programs selected that they do not participate in sports because they don't have a way to get to practices or games (19%) compared to youth playing sports at the other four types of organizations (see Table 4).

The proportion of youth reporting that they do not play sports because they do not have a way to get to practices or games at other organization types is as follows: Sports Clubs=4%; Recreation Centres=6%; Schools=8%; Other=10%.

Sports Clubs

Sports clubs have the highest proportion of youth who selected that [they] play sports very often (64.4%). This trend makes students at sports clubs frequently have the lowest proportion of respondents who report not playing sports for almost any given reason (see Table 4).

- No time to play because of schoolwork=12%
- I'm not good enough to play=5%
- I don't want to get hurt=2%
- I'm not interested in sports=3%
- I don't have a way to get to practices/games=4%
- Sports are too serious=3%
- I have other activities that leave me no time to play sports=3%
- I don't feel welcome in athletic activities=2%
- I don't feel safe at the fields, gyms, or courts=0.4%

Recreation Centres

A higher proportion of youth registered to play sports at recreation centres reported not playing sports because they are not good enough to play (17%) compared to students playing sports at the other four types of organizations (see Table 4).

The proportion of students reporting that they do not play sports because they are not good enough to play at other organization types is as follows: Afterschool Programs=16%; Sports Clubs=5%; Schools=16%; Other=13%.

Schools

A greater proportion of students registered to play sports at schools reported not playing sports due to too much schoolwork (23%) compared to respondents playing sports at the other four types of organizations (see Table 4).

The proportion of youth reporting that they do not play sports because they have too much schoolwork at other organization types is as follows: Afterschool Programs=17%; Sports Clubs=12%; Recreation Centres=13%; Other=19%.

Why Youth With Disabilities Choose Not to Play Sports

When responding to the question, "If you don't play sports very often, what are the reasons why?", both youth with and without disabilities most frequently reported that they "play sports very often" (see Figure 39). However, youth with disabilities selected this response option in a much lower proportion than youth without disabilities (34% compared to 52%).

In addition to this, youth with disabilities choose not to play sports for reasons similar to youth without disabilities, e.g., because sports are too expensive (29%) and because they do not believe they are good enough to play (20%). Nevertheless, youth with disabilities report feeling as if they are not good enough to play in a notably higher proportion compared to youth without disabilities (20% compared to 9%) (see Figure 39).

Lastly, youth with disabilities differ from those without in that a greater proportion of youth with disabilities report that they do not play sports because they do not feel welcome in athletic activities (16% compared to 2%) (see Figure 39). This replaces "no time to play due to schoolwork" as the top three reason youth with disabilities do not participate in sports.

Figure 39. Why Youth Choose Not to Play Sports According to Ability

34% of youth with disabilities and 52% of youth without disabilities said they play sports very often.

Section 3: Access to Sports

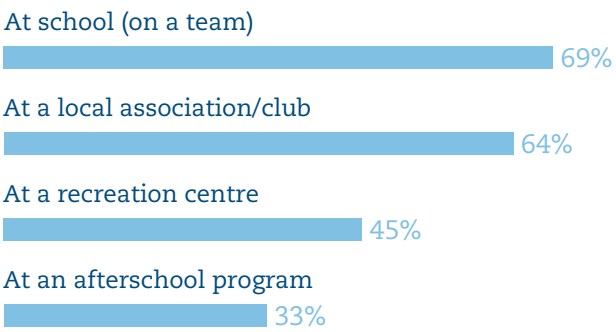
Access to sports is defined as the level of ease with which youth can participate in sports. This section of the report will document student access to sports using where youth play and their mode of transportation to sports-related activities as proxies. Results from the following two survey questions will be outlined:

1. Where have you played sports?
2. How do you usually travel to play spaces, practices and/or games?

Where Youth Have Played Sports

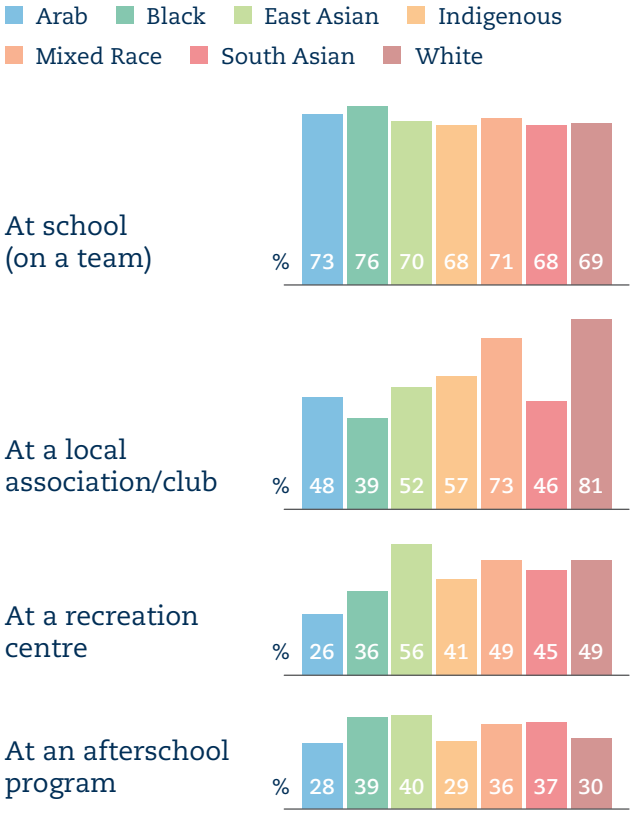
Regardless of the type of organization (e.g., afterschool programs, sports clubs, schools, recreation centres, and other) with which respondents taking the survey are affiliated, the majority of youth (69%) reported having played sports at school on a team (see Figure 40). Only 33% of the youth overall report having played sports at an afterschool program (see Figure 40).

Figure 40. Where Youth Play Sports



Across different racial/ethnic, age, and regional groups, there are differences in where youth have played sports (see Figures 41, 43, and 44).

Figure 41. Where Youth Have Played Sports by Race



Trends across Racial/Ethnic Groups:

Arab, Black, East Asian, Indigenous, and South Asian youth report having played sports at school on a sports team more than at any other location. Black youth have the highest proportion of respondents who report playing sports at school on a sports team (76%) compared to all other racial and ethnic groups (see Figure 41).

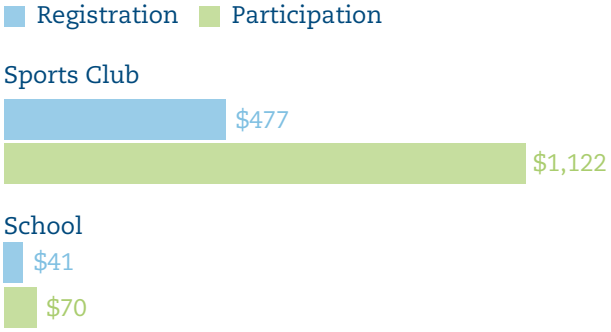
East Asian youth have the highest proportion of respondents who report having played sports at a recreation centre (56%) and at an afterschool program (40%). This indicates that a higher proportion of East Asian youth, compared to other racial/ethnic groups, play sports at places without organized tryouts or competitive teams. This trend

could be related to the fact that East Asian youth are the racial group who more frequently reported not playing sports due to beliefs that they are not good enough to play.

White and Mixed Race youth report having played sports at a local club or association more than at any other location. In total, 81% of White youth report playing sports at a local club and 73% of Mixed Race youth report playing at a local club (see Figure 41).

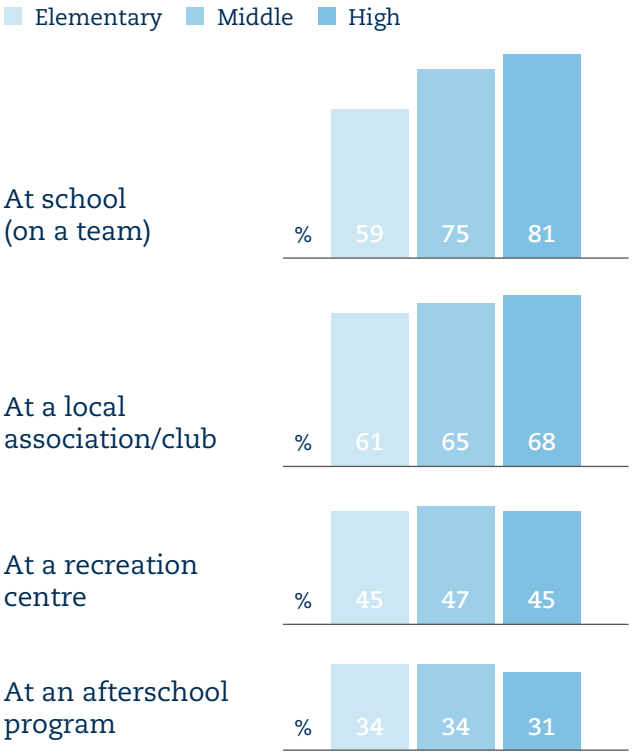
This insinuates differences in access to disposable income and could insinuate differences in access to transportation among White and Mixed Race youth compared to other races, as club sports are much more expensive than school-sponsored sports (see Figure 42), and typically require personal methods of transportation.

Figure 42. Average Registration & Participati Costs for Schools and Sports Clubs



Note: Participation costs include the initial registration fees plus travel, uniform, and all other sport-associated expenses.

Figure 43. Where Youth Have Played Sports by Grade-Band



Trends across Grade-Bands:

A higher proportion of middle and high schoolers report having played sports at school on a sports team compared to all other locations. About 75% of middle school students report playing sports at school on a sports team and about 81% of high school students report playing at school on a sports team (see Figure 43).

Among elementary school students, the highest proportion of respondents report playing sports at a local association or club (61%), likely because most elementary schools do not have organized sports teams (see Figure 43).

Figure 44. Where Students Have Played Sports by Region

Trends across Regions:

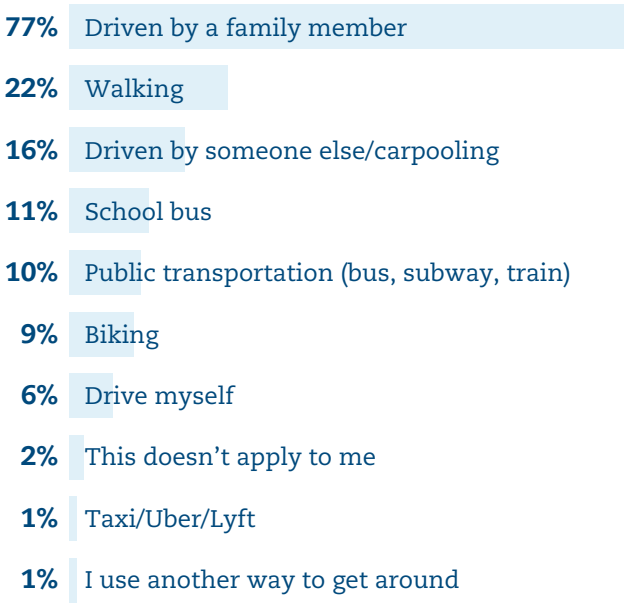
Compared to the Prairie and West Coast regions, the Central region has the highest proportion of youth playing sports at a local association or club (69%) and the highest proportion of youth playing sports at school on a team (71%) (see Figure 44).

Contrary to this, the Prairie region has the highest proportion of youth having played sports at a recreation centre (50%) and the West Coast region has the highest proportion of youth having played sports at an after school program (see Figure 44).

How Youth Travel to Sport-Related Activities

Overall, the top five most commonly used methods of transportation for youth to access sport play spaces, practices, and games are being driven by a family member (77%), walking (22%), being driven by someone else or carpooling (16%), using the school bus (11%), and using public transportation (10%) (see Figure 45).

Figure 45. How Youth Travel to Sporting Activities Overall



Note: Percentages add to greater than 100% because respondents could select more than one option

Figure 46. How Youth Travel to Sporting Activities by Race

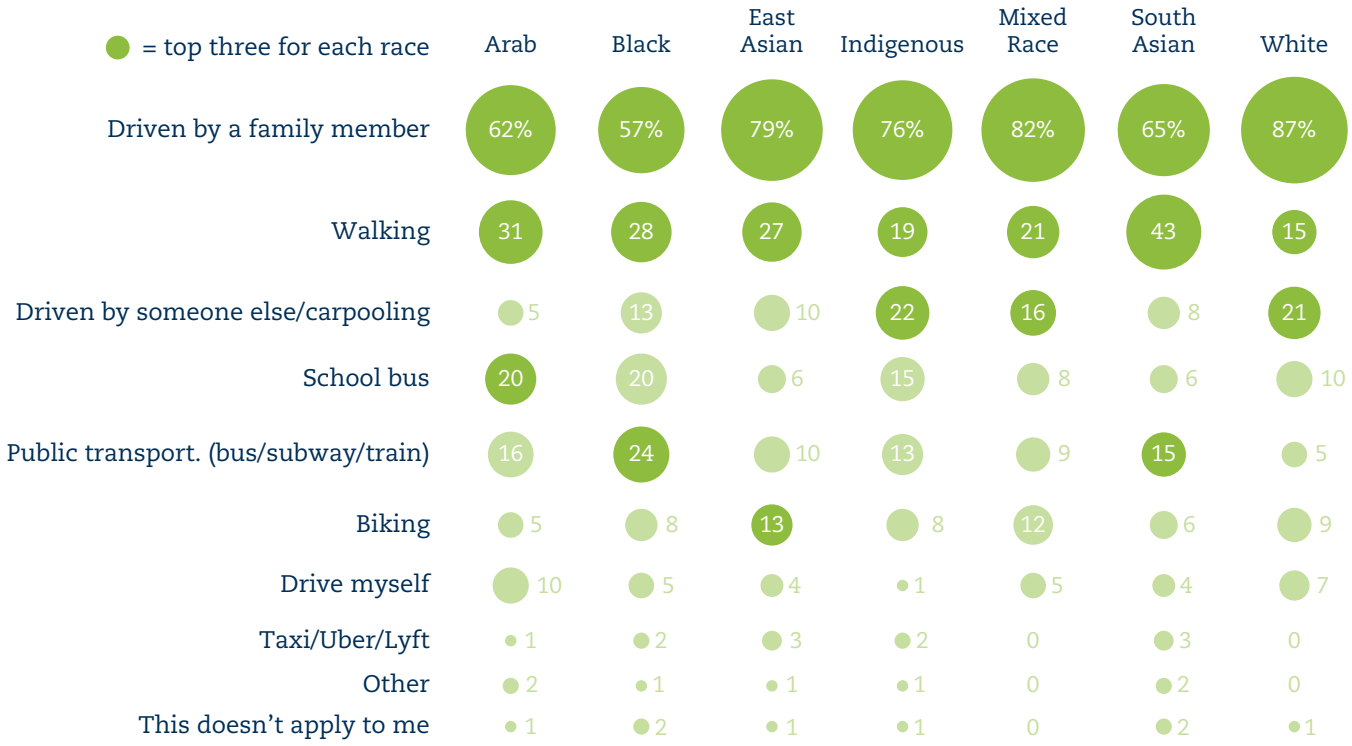


Figure 47. How Youth Travel to Sporting Activities by Organization Type

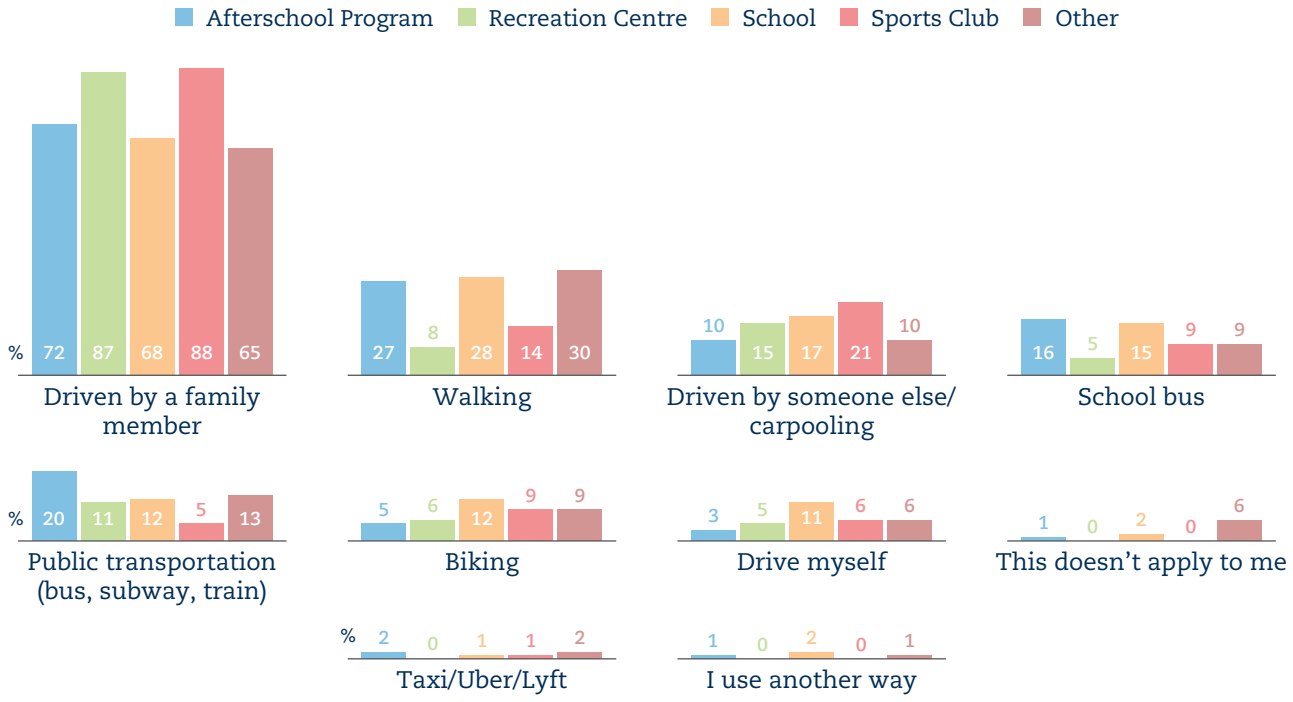
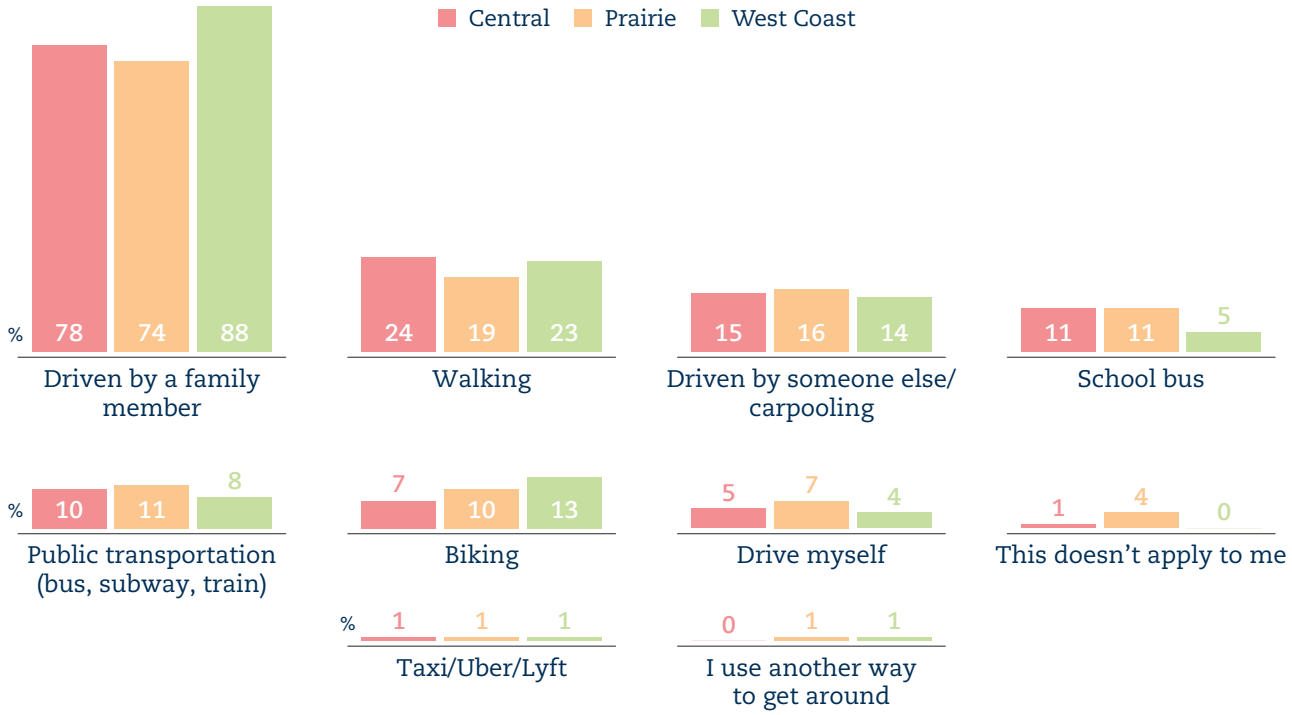


Figure 48. How Youth Travel to Sporting Activities by Region



Being Driven by a Family Member: Across all regions, racial/ethnic groups, and organization types, youth most frequently report getting to sporting activities by being driven by a family member.

Furthermore, White respondents and youth registered to play sports at sports clubs have the highest number of respondents who are driven to sporting activities by family members. About 87% of White youth and 88% of youth at sports clubs report being driven to play spaces, practices, and games by family members (see Figures 46 and 47). This is a much higher proportion of youth compared to the overall average and other demographic groups–especially Black youth as only 57% reported being driven to sporting activities by family members.

Walking: Compared to other racial/ethnic groups, South Asian youth have the highest proportion of youth who report walking to get to sport play spaces, practices, and games (43%) (see Figure 46).

Being Driven by Someone Else/Carpooling: Youth registered to play sports at sports clubs have a higher proportion of respondents who travel to sport-related activities via carpool (21%) compared to the proportion of youth selecting this option who play sports at the four other types of organizations (see Figure 47).

School Bus & Public Transportation: A lower proportion of youth in the West Coast region report taking the school bus (5%) or using public transportation (8%) to get to sports games or practices compared to students in the Central and Prairie regions (see Figure 48).

Black (20%) and Arab (20%) youth have the highest proportion of respondents who reported taking the bus to get to their sporting activities. About one-fifth of Black youth and one-fifth of Arab youth chose this option compared to 11% overall (see Figure 45 and 46).

In addition to this, Black youth have the highest proportion of respondents who report taking public transportation to get to practices, games, and play spaces (24%), while White youth have the lowest proportion of respondents selecting this option (5%) (see Figure 46).

Similarly, compared to other organizational types, a higher proportion of youth registered to play sports at afterschool programs report getting to sporting activities using the school bus (16%) or public transportation (20%) (see Figure 47).

Section 4: Student-Coach Experiences

This section of the report highlights youths' perceptions of the adults who coach their sports teams. The youth survey included seven items about athletes' experiences with their coaches. The first six items relate to the values coaches communicate to youth; the last item concerns whether youth feel represented by their coaches (see below):

1. The coach/teacher made me feel good when I improved a skill.
2. The coach/teacher encouraged me to learn new skills.
3. The coach/teacher told us to help each other get better.
4. The coach/teacher told us that trying our best was the most important thing.
5. The coach/teacher said that we should help each other improve our skills.
6. The coach/teacher said that all of us were important to the group's success.
7. The coach/teacher is someone that looks like me.

Youth could respond to these seven items by selecting one of the following answer choice options: Almost Always, Frequently, Sometimes, Rarely, Almost Never, or Not Applicable.

Coaching Values

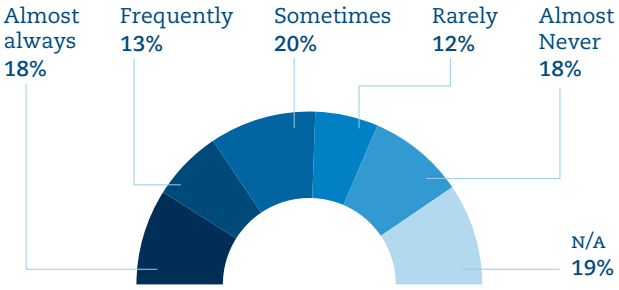
According to the sample results, the most frequently chosen response option for the first six coaching items is almost always. In fact, the majority of youth responded almost always or frequently to coaching items one through six (see Figure 49). This indicates that Canadian youth feel as if their coaches communicate values that are supportive, affirming, and conducive to creating a safe sporting environment.

Coach Representation

Despite the overwhelmingly positive responses to items related to coaching values, 30% of youth reported almost never or rarely having coaches that "looked like them." In fact, the most frequently selected answer choice to the item, "The coach/teacher is someone that looks like me," is sometimes (see Figure 50).

Figure 49. Overall Responses for Coaching Items 1-6

Figure 50. Overall Responses for Coaching Item 7

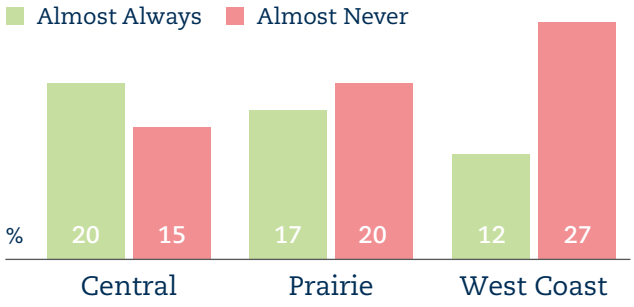


Differences in Coach Representation Across Grade-Band, Region, and Organization Type

There are no pronounced differences across elementary, middle, and high school in the percentage of students who said their coach almost always or almost never looks like them. However, there are differences according to region and organization type.

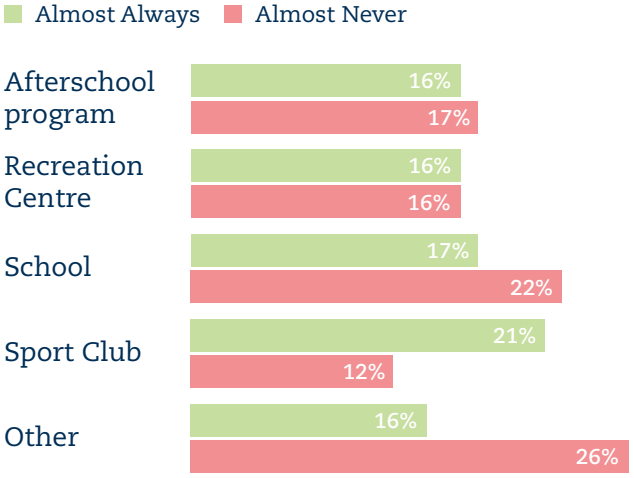
Compared to the Prairie and West Coast regions, the Central region has the largest proportion of youth who report that their coach almost always looks like them (20%) and the lowest proportion of youth reporting their coach almost never looks like them (15%) (see Figure 51). This is fitting because the Central region is arguably the most diverse region due to its inclusion of Ontario.

Figure 51. Coach Representation by Region



Youth at sport clubs have the highest proportion of youth reporting that they have a coach who almost always "looks like [them]" (21%) and the lowest proportion of youth reporting that they have a coach who almost never "looks like [them]" (12%) (see Figure 52). It is important to note that sports clubs have the highest proportion of White youth compared to the other four types of organizations (60%) (see Figure 56).

Figure 52. Coach Representation by Organization Type

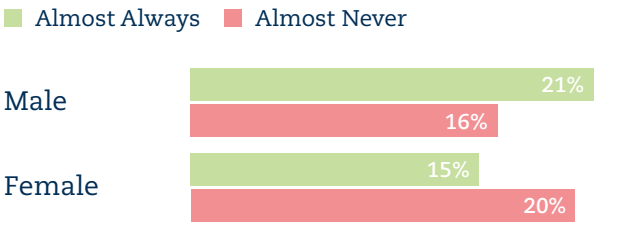


Differences in Coach Representation Across Gender and Race/Ethnicity

Furthermore, the rate at which youth of various backgrounds reported that their coaches look like or do not look like them varies.

A greater proportion of males (21%) than females (15%) reported that their coach almost always looks like them (see Figure 53).

Figure 53. Coach Representation According to Gender

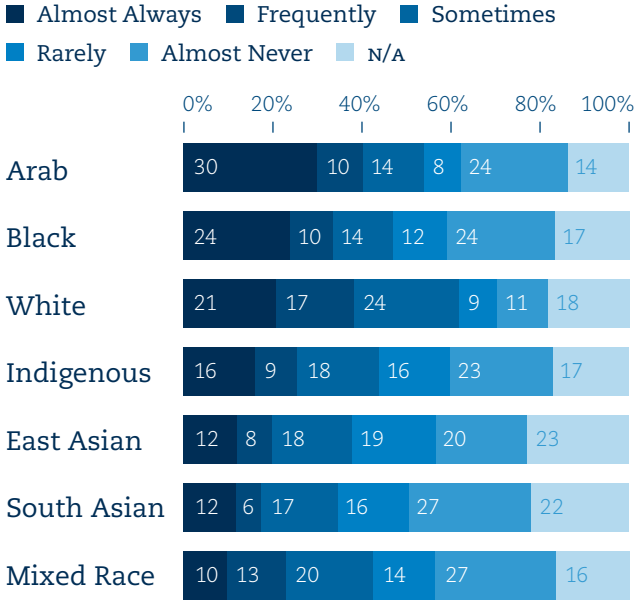


White youth have the lowest percentage of students reporting that their coach almost never looks like them (11%). In fact, for every racial group other than White youth, at least 20% of youth selected that their coach almost never looks like them, with South Asian respondents having the highest proportion of students selecting this option at 27%.

Nevertheless, the survey data shows that Arab youth more frequently report having a coach that looks like them (30%) compared to White youth and all other youth (see Figure 54). This is likely because Arab youth most often selected the response options reflecting binary choices, (i.e., almost always or almost never), while White students more often selected middling response options, (i.e., frequently or sometimes) (see Figure 54).

Whereas, Mixed Race youth have the lowest proportion of respondents who report that their coach almost always looks like them (10%).

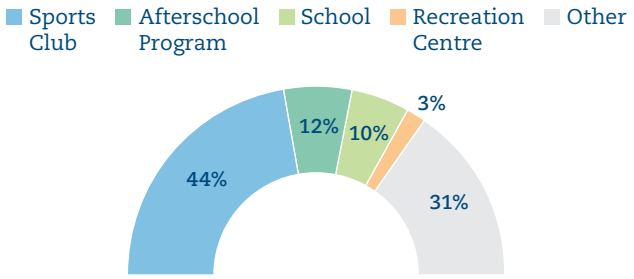
Figure 54. Coach Representation by Race



Section 5: Trends in Organization Type

All youth taking the survey registered as participating in one of five types of organizations: Afterschool Programs, Sports Clubs, Recreation Centres, Schools, or Other. The highest percentage of students registered as being part of sports clubs, while the lowest percentage of students registered as being part of recreation centres (see Figure 55).

Figure 55. Youth Registered to Each Organization Type



Across organization types, the demographics of youth registered varies according to race/ethnicity and gender (see Figures 56 and 57).

Because almost half of the youth sample surveyed identify as White, White youth typically have the highest percentage of students registered at each organization. For this reason, it is more informative to compare organization type percentages within, rather than across, racial groups.

For example, it is worth noting that a higher proportion of Black youth, Indigenous youth, and South Asian youth are registered with afterschool programs than they are with any other organization type. While a higher proportion of White youth are registered with sports clubs.

When analyzing the youth registered to each type of organization by gender, there are consistently a greater proportion of males at each organization type than females. However, this is most noticeable among the youth registered at recreation centres (see Figure 57).

Figure 57. Youth Registered to Each Organization by Gender

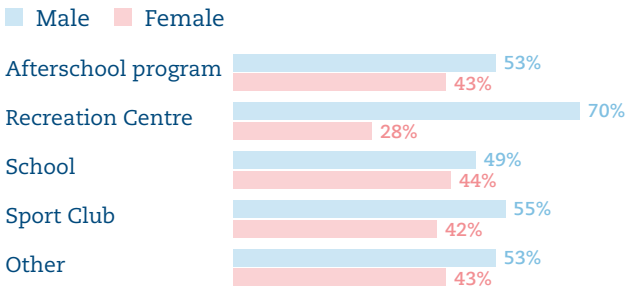
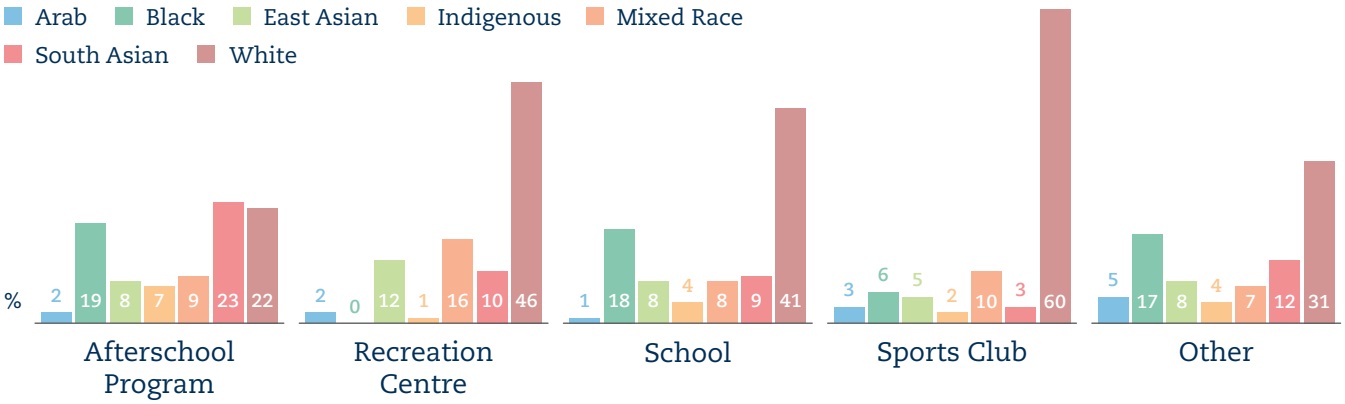


Figure 56. Youth Registered to Each Organization by Race/Ethnicity

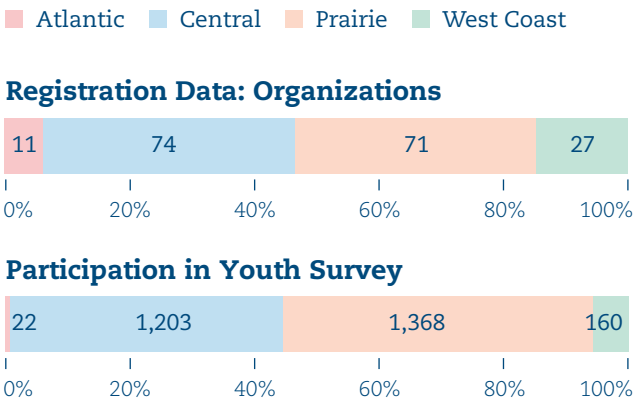


Section 6: Trends in Organizations Participating in Youth Survey

On several occasions, the results from the youth survey are supported by the registration data provided by the organizations that participated in the youth survey.

The number of organizations in each region, according to the registration data, are almost perfectly in proportional alignment with the number of respondents from each region taking the youth survey (see Figure 58). There are no organizations in the Northern Territories and only 11 organizations in the Atlantic region. While the Central and Prairie regions have the greatest number of organizations (see Figure 58).

Figure 58. Number/Percentage of Organizations from Registration Data and Students in Youth Survey by Region



Additionally, soccer is the most popular sport played overall according to youth in the survey and is also represented most often by registered organizations—33 organizations list soccer as a sport they offer.

Lastly, four out of five of the sports most frequently offered by registered organizations are also the sports youth most frequently reported playing more than once in the last three years.

Sports most frequently offered by registered organizations:

- **Soccer:** 33 organizations
- **Basketball:** 29 organizations
- **Hockey:** 16 organizations
- **Swimming:** 14 organizations
- **Athletics:** 10 organizations

Athletics is the only sport that several organizations offer that is not represented in the youth survey as one of the most popular sports played.

Sport Registration and Participation Costs

The following figures list the most expensive sports to play based on the average registration and participation costs of the organizations registered to administer the youth survey (see Figures 59 and 60).

Note: Some of the costs listed are inflated due to outliers in the data (extreme registration or participation fees that are significantly greater than the fees of most organizations).

Figure 59. Top 5 Most Expensive Sports According to Average Registration Costs

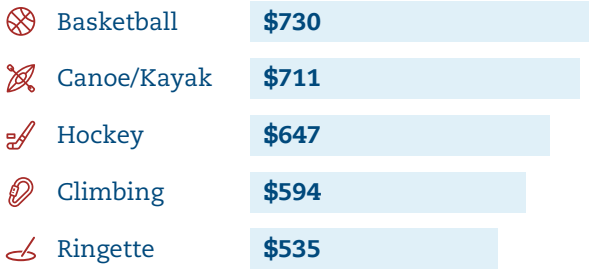
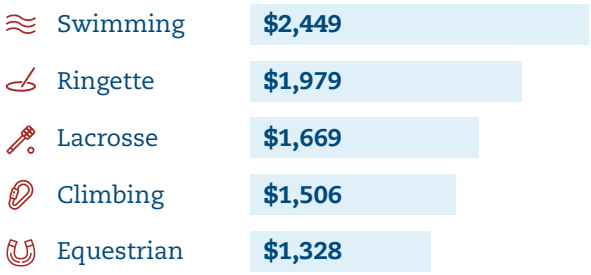


Figure 60. Top 5 Most Expensive Sports According to Average Participation Costs



Note: Participation costs include the initial registration fees plus travel, uniform, and all other sport associated expenses.

Section 7: Intersection Between Race & Gender–Responses from Girls of Color

Up to this point the report addresses overall youth responses to survey questions and youth responses according to singular demographic identities, (e.g., race, gender, disability, etc.). However, this section of the report will analyze how youth with intersecting identities responded to survey questions. Particularly, it will outline how girls of color and boys of color answered survey questions compared to White girls and White boys.

Overview

In the survey sample, there are 544 youth identifying as girls of color, 529 youth identifying as White girls, 744 youth identifying as boys of color, and 645 youth identifying as White boys.

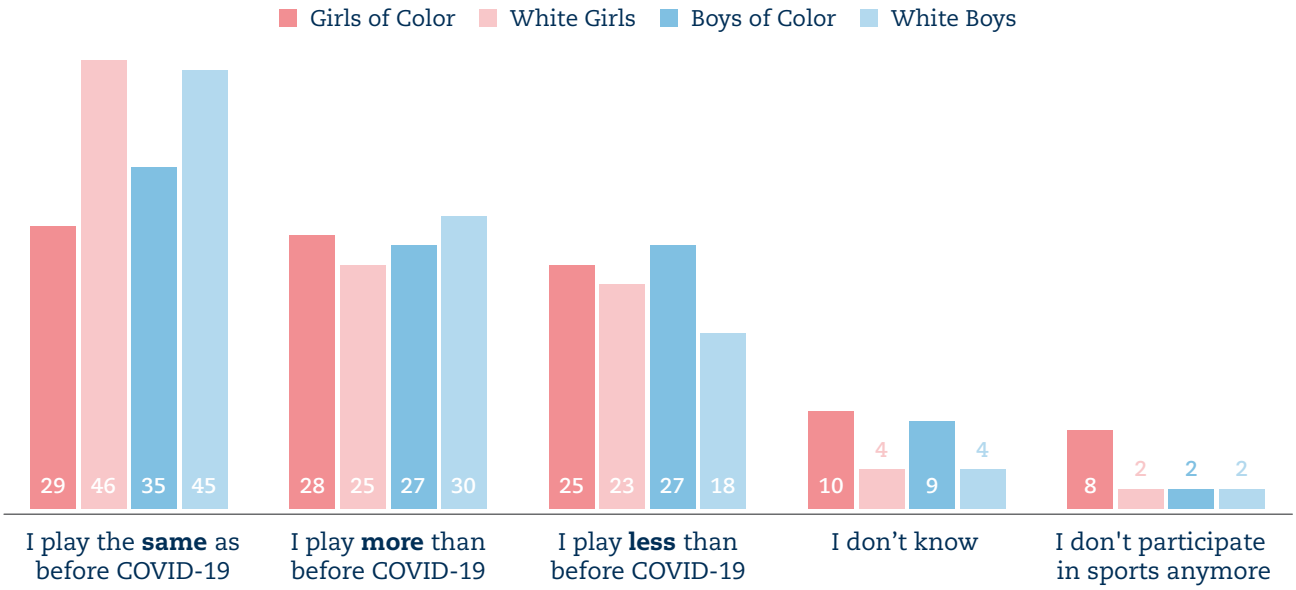
Participation in Sports by Intersecting Racial and Gender Identities

Engagement in Sports Since the Pandemic

Across intersecting racial and gender identities, the COVID-19 pandemic seems to have had the greatest impact on girls of color participation in sports (see Figure 61).

Girls of color have the highest proportion of youth who report not participating in sports anymore since the pandemic (8%) compared to white girls, boys of color, and white boys (see Figure 61). White boys have the highest proportion of youth who report participating in sports more since the COVID-19 pandemic (30%).

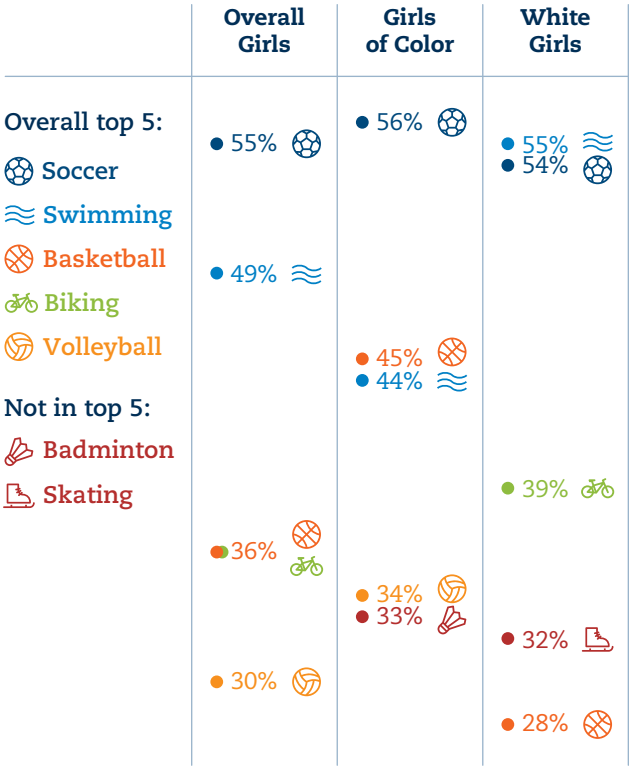
Figure 61. Sports Participation in the Aftermath of COVID-19 According to Race & Gender



Participation in Sports in the Last Three Years

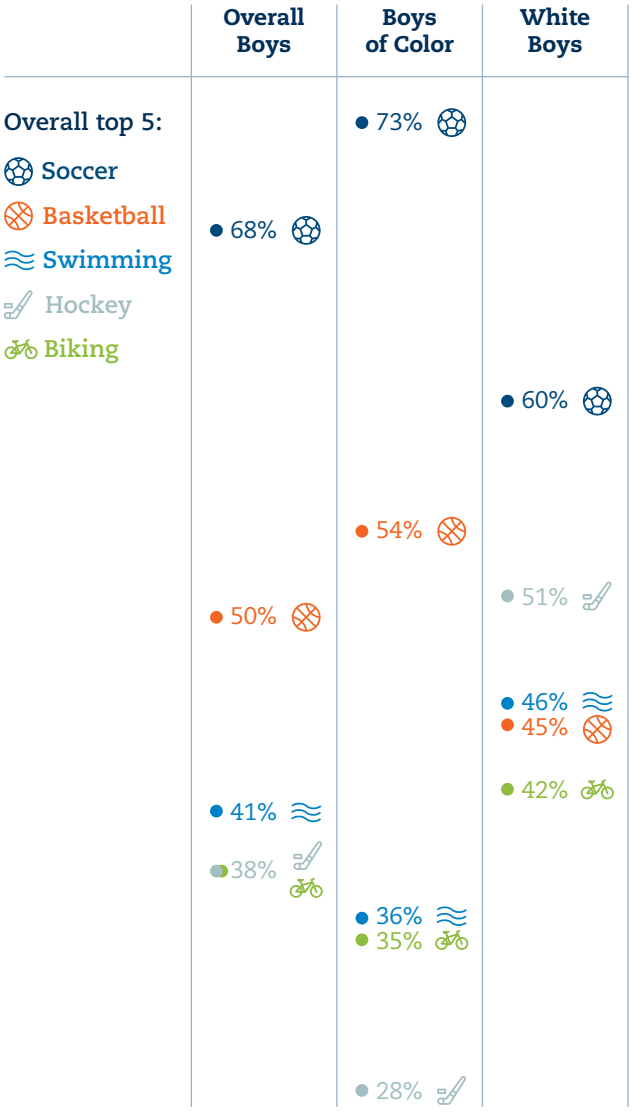
Both girls of color and White girls participate in sports overlapping with youth who identify as female overall. The top five sports played by these intersecting identity groups are the same except a higher proportion of girls of color have played badminton more than once in the last three years compared to White girls (see Figure 62). And a higher proportion of White girls have skated more than once in the last three years compared to girls of color (see Figure 62).

Figure 62. Sports Girls of Color and White Girls Have Played More Than Once in the Last Three Years



Boys of color and White boys have the same list of top five sports played more than once in the last three years as compared to each other and youth identifying as male overall (see Figure 63).

Figure 63. Sports Boys of Color and White Boys Have Played More Than Once in the Last Three Years



Sports Preferences by Intersecting Racial and Gender Identities

The sports girls of color want to try differ from both White girls and girls overall (see Figure 64). The top five sports girls of color want to play includes swimming and martial arts. White girls desired to play these sports in lower proportions; therefore, neither swimming nor martial arts is represented in the top five sports girls want to try overall (see Figure 64).

Figure 64. Sports Girls of Color and White Girls Want to Try.

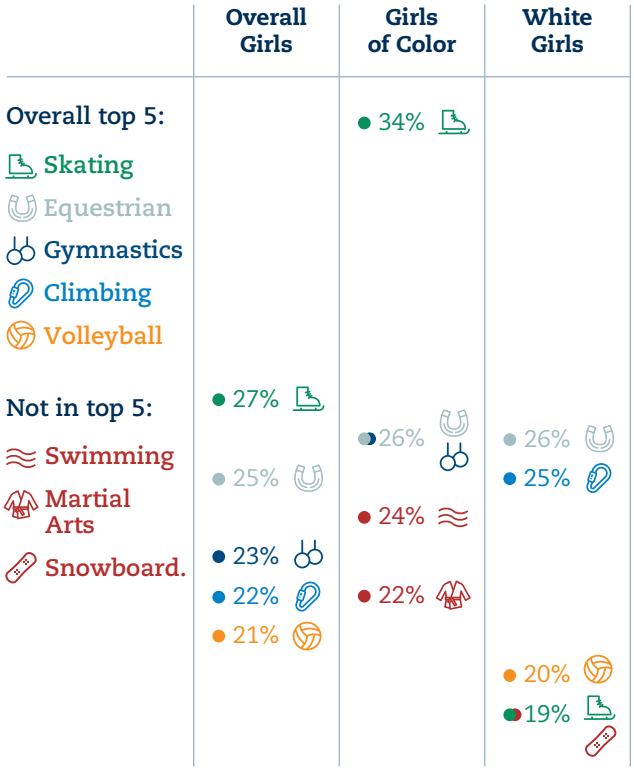
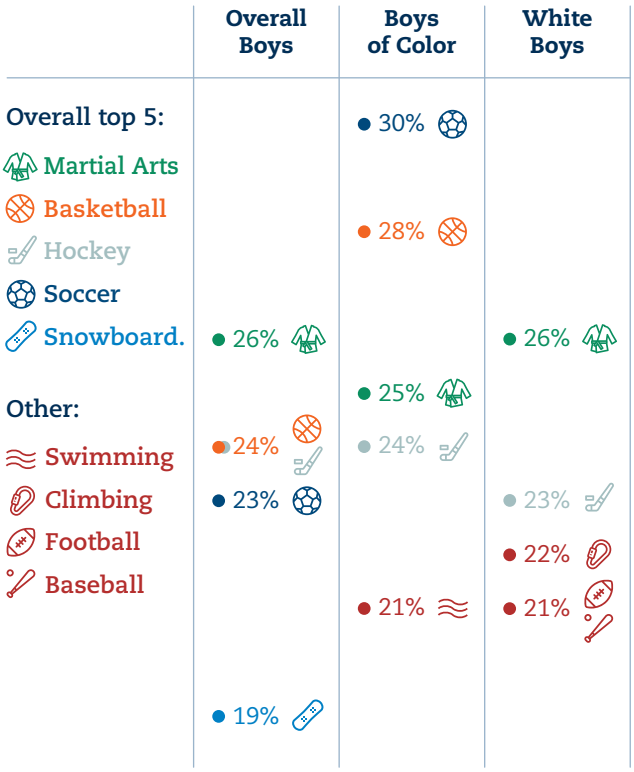


Figure 65. Sports Boys of Color and White Boys Want to Try



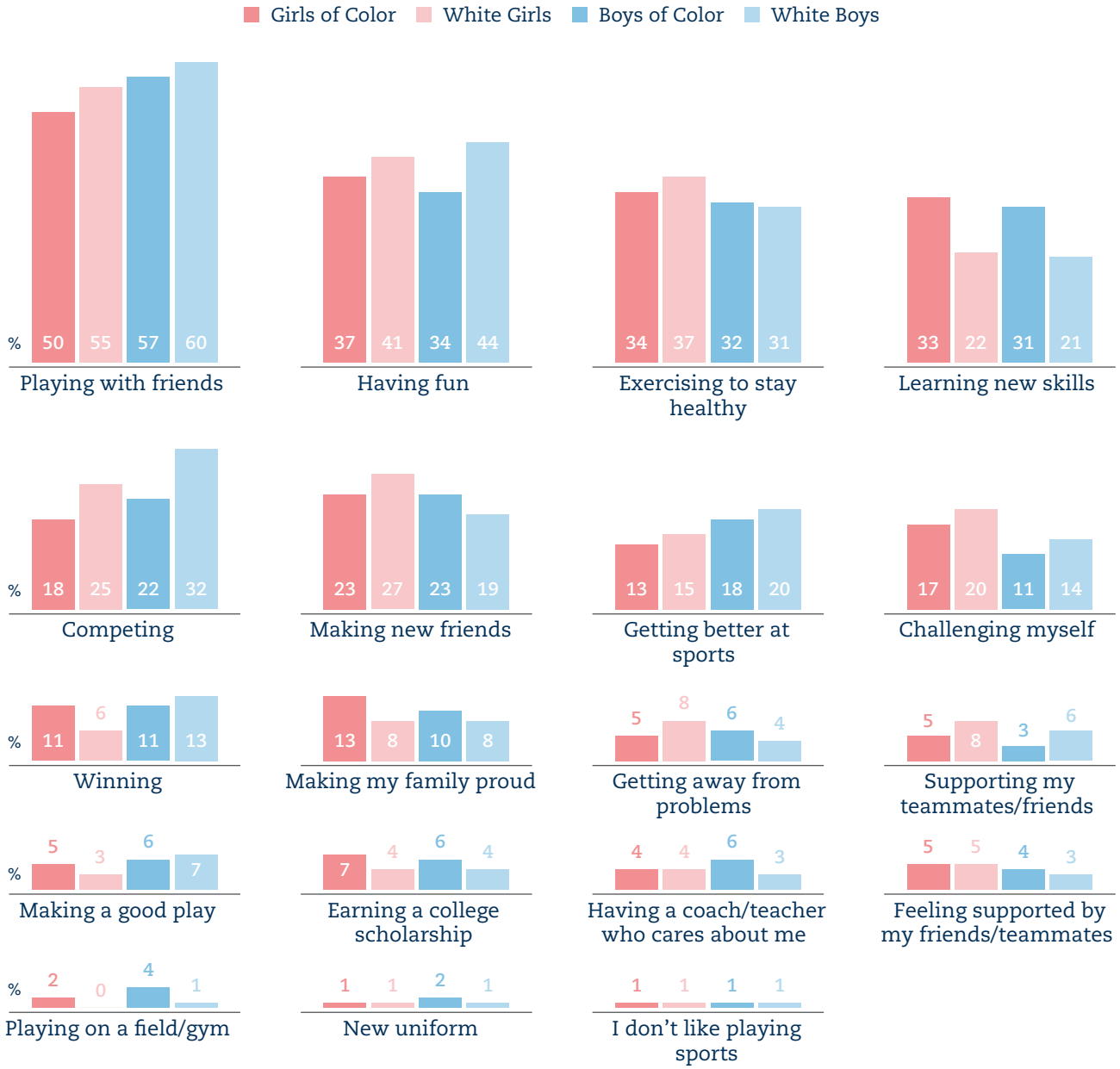
The top five sports boys of color want to try are similar to the top five sports boys want to try overall (see Figure 65). Whereas the majority of sports White boys want to try are not represented in the sports boys want to try overall. A higher proportion of White boys are interested in climbing, playing football, and playing baseball compared to boys of color and all youth identifying as male (see Figure 65).

Motivation for Current Levels of Sports Participation by Intersecting Racial & Gender Identities

What Youth with Intersecting Identities Like Most about Playing Sports

Girls of color, white girls, and boys of color have the same top three reasons for playing sports as the overall population, (i.e., playing with friends, having fun, and exercising to stay healthy) (see Figure 66). However, White boys report that they like to play sports in order to compete, rather than stay healthy (see Figure 66).

Figure 66. Why Youth Across Intersecting Racial & Gender Identities Like to Play Sports



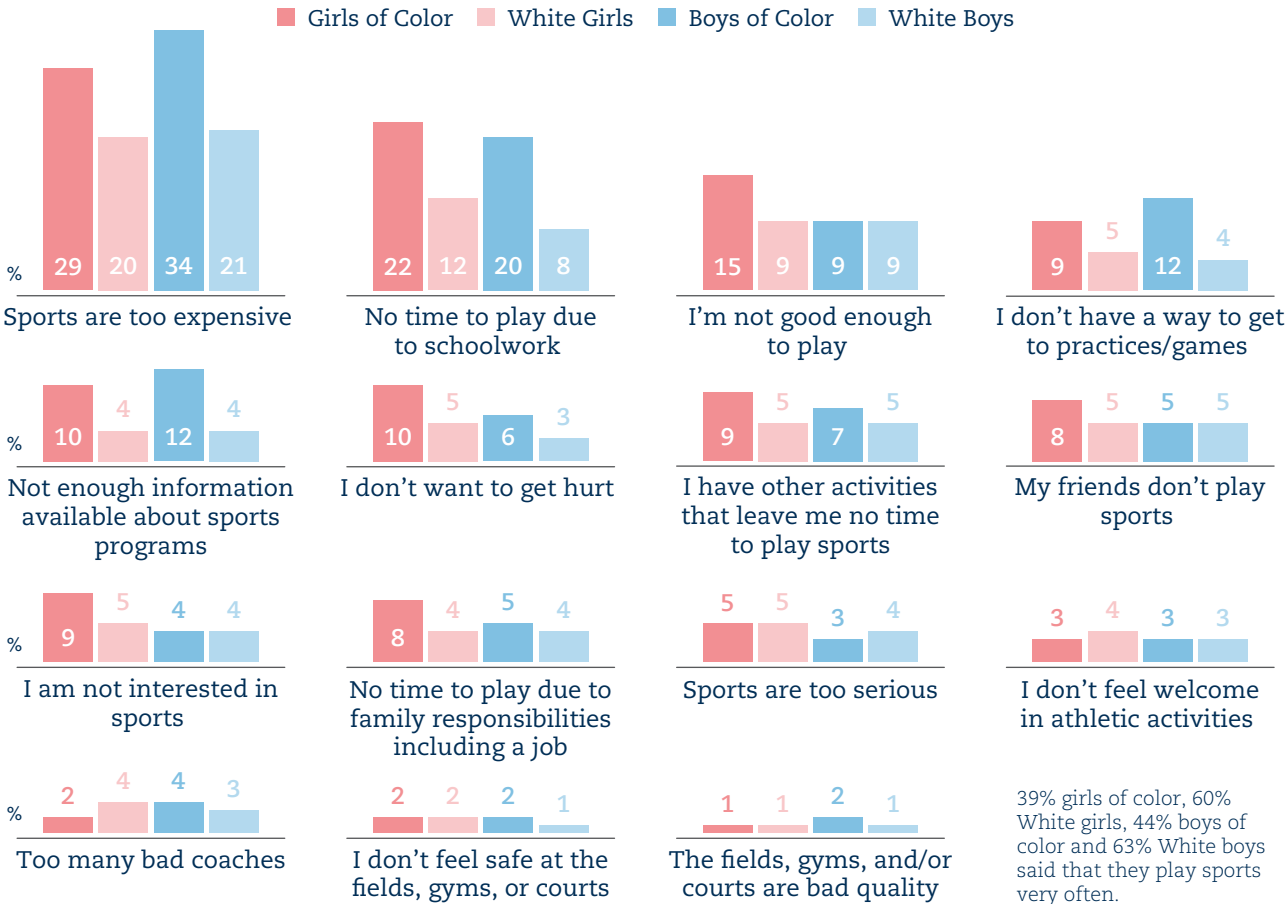
Reasons Youth with Intersecting Identities Choose Not to Play Sports

Girls of color, White girls, and White boys report that they do not play sports for the same top three reasons as each other and the general population (see Figure 67). According to survey data, these intersecting racial and gender identity groups choose not to play sports 1) because sports are too expensive, 2) because they do not have time to play due to schoolwork, and 3) because they do not believe they are good enough to play.

Nevertheless, it is important to note that compared to White girls and White boys, a higher proportion of girls of color choose not to play sports because they feel like they are not good enough to play, because they lack information about available sports programs, and because they do not want to get hurt (see Figure 67). In fact, the proportion of girls of color reporting that they do not play sports to avoid injury is twice the proportion of White girls and three times the proportion of White boys.

The top three reasons boys of color choose not to play sports differs from the other intersecting demographic groups. Compared to other groups, a lower proportion of boys of color feel as though they are not good enough to play sports. Rather, this group opts out of participating in sports due to reasons of access such as not having a way to get practices or games and not having enough information about sports programs.

Figure 67. Why Youth Across Intersecting Racial & Gender Identities Choose Not to Play Sports



39% girls of color, 60% White girls, 44% boys of color and 63% White boys said that they play sports very often.

Access to Sports Across Intersecting Racial & Gender Identities

Where Youth with Intersecting Identities Have Played Sports

Across all identities, lower proportions of youth have played sports at afterschool programs. However, where youth play sports most often differs across groups. Girls and boys of color have a higher proportion of youth who have played sports at school compared to other locations. Whereas, White girls and boys have a higher proportion of youth who have played at a local association/club compared to other locations (see Figure 68).

Figure 68. Where Youth Across Intersecting Racial & Gender Identities Play Sports

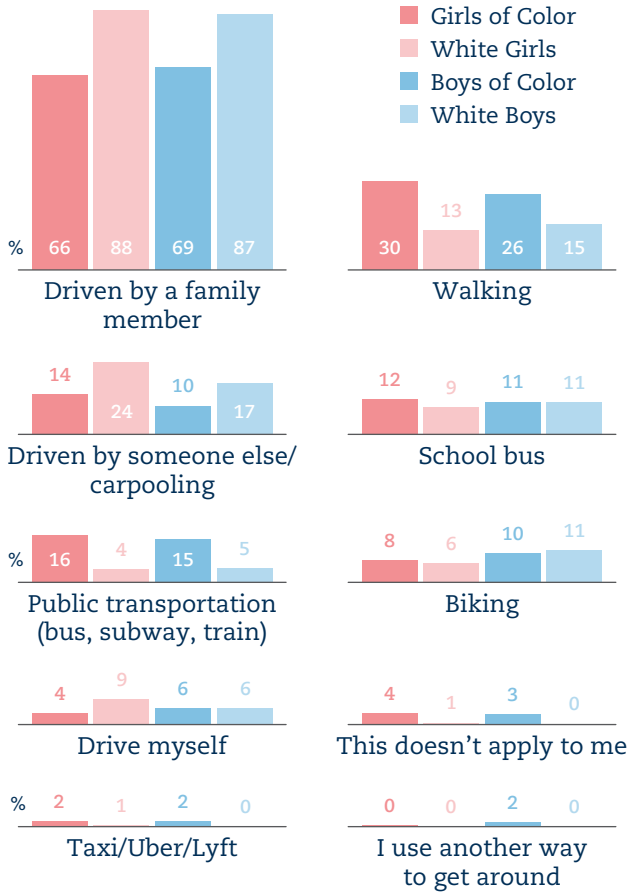
How Youth with Intersecting Identities Travel to Sports

Similar to the trends in the previous section, youth of color, regardless of gender, tend to utilize the same methods of transportation and these methods differ from White youth (see Figure 69).

Girls and boys of color have the same top three modes of transportation to sporting activities: 1) Being driven by a family member; 2) Walking; 3) Taking public transportation.

Whereas, White girls and White boys have the same top three modes of transportation: 1) Being driven by a family member; 2) Being driven by someone else/carpooling; 3) Walking.

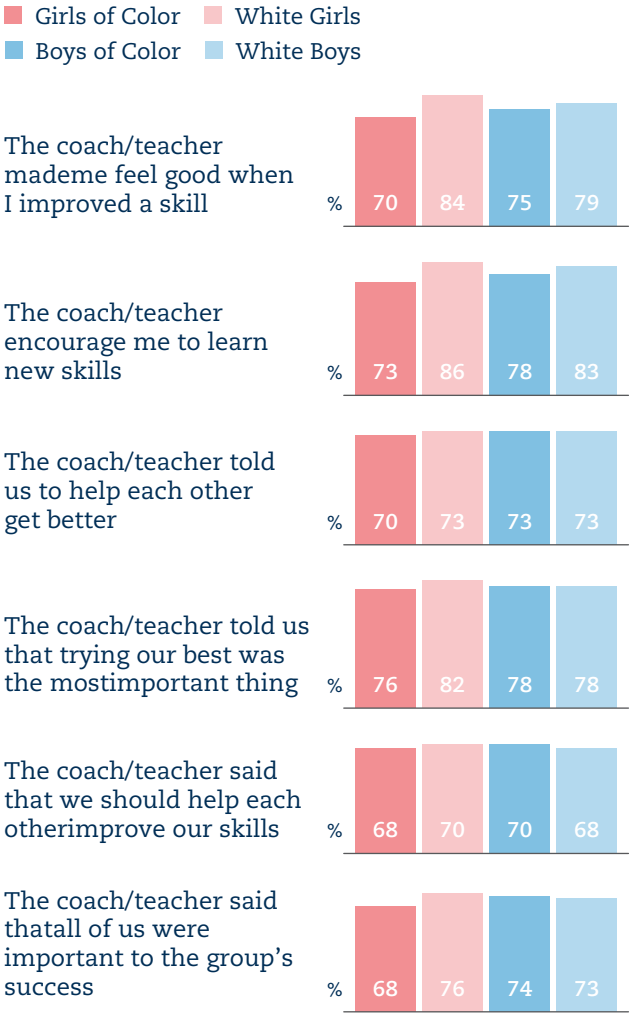
Figure 69. How Youth Across Intersecting Racial & Gender Identities Travel to Sporting Activities



Student-Coach Experiences Across Intersecting Racial & Gender Identities

Coaching Values

Figure 70. Percentage Answering "Almost Always" or "Frequently" to Coaching Items 1-6 Across Intersecting Racial & Gender Identities



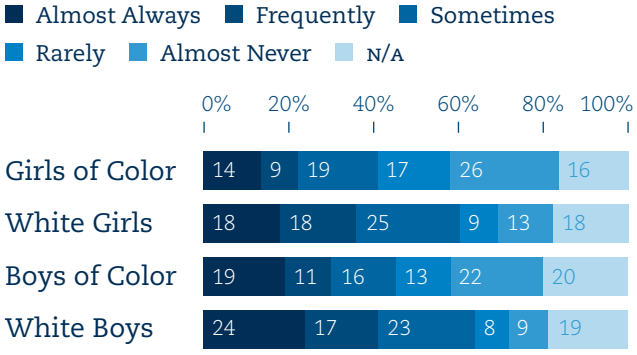
For coaching items 1–6, a higher proportion of White girls consistently report that their coaches/teachers affirm them in their sports participation more frequently compared to girls of color (see Figure 70).

While the frequency with which boys of color and White boys hear affirming comments from their coaches varies depending on the statement. For coaching items 1–3, a higher proportion of White boys report their coaches communicating these values to them more frequently compared to boys of color (see Figure 70). However, for coaching items 4–6, the opposite is true. Boys of color report hearing these values more often than White boys (see Figure 70).

Coach Representation

Across groups of intersecting racial and gender identities, girls of color report the lowest occurrences of representation among their coaches (see Figure 71). White boys report the highest occurrences of representation among their coaches.

Figure 71. Coach Representation Across Intersecting Racial & Gender Identities



- Girls of color have the lowest proportion of youth reporting that their coaches almost always (14%) or frequently (9%) look like them
- Girls of color have the highest proportion of youth reporting that their coaches almost never (26%) or rarely (17%) look like them
- White boys have the lowest proportion of youth who report that their coaches almost never (9%) look like them and the highest proportion of youth who report that their coaches almost always (24%) look like them.

jumpstart.canadiantire.ca

www.aspeninstitute.org/programs/sports-society/

resonanteducation.com

How to cite this report:
Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities, Jumpstart State of Play Youth Report, April 2024

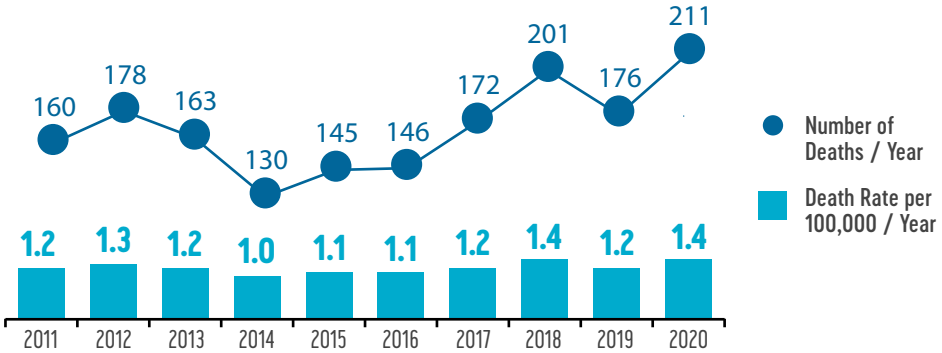
LIFESAVING SOCIETY®
The Lifeguarding Experts

DROWNING Report

Prepared for the Lifesaving Society by the Drowning Prevention Research Centre Canada

This infographic summarizes the most recent data on water-related fatalities available from the Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario. With the exception of the first chart, all data refers to the most current five-year period, 2016-2020.

ONTARIO WATER-RELATED FATALITIES AND DEATH RATES, 2011-2020



WHO IS DROWNING?

77% male **23% female**

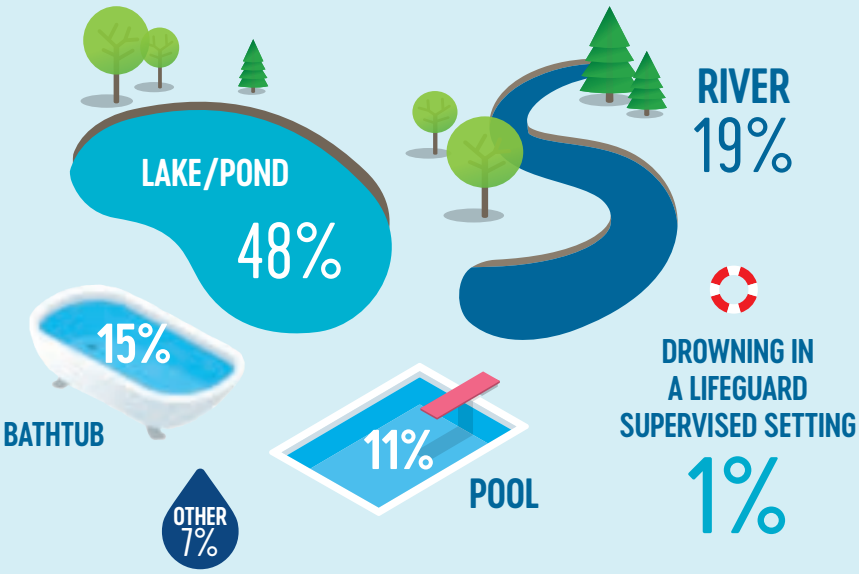
Age: 20-34 24% (1.5*)

Age: 65+ 26% (1.9*)

Age: 50-64 23% (1.4*)

* Death Rate per 100,000 / Year

WHERE?



DROWNING IN A LIFEGUARD SUPERVISED SETTING
1%

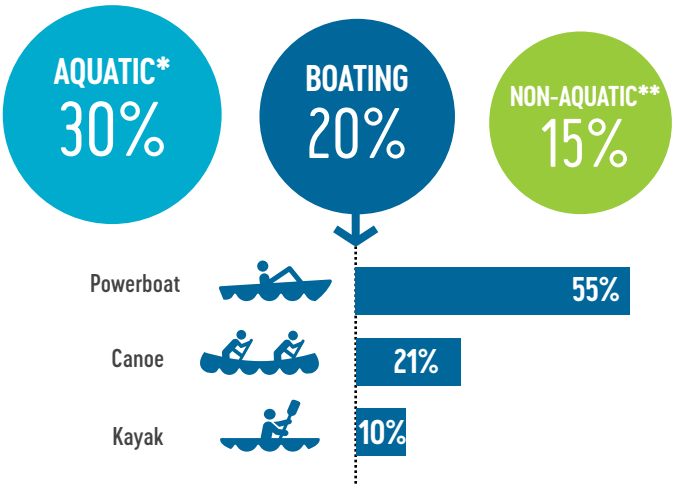
WHEN?

68%

OF DROWNINGS OCCURRED FROM

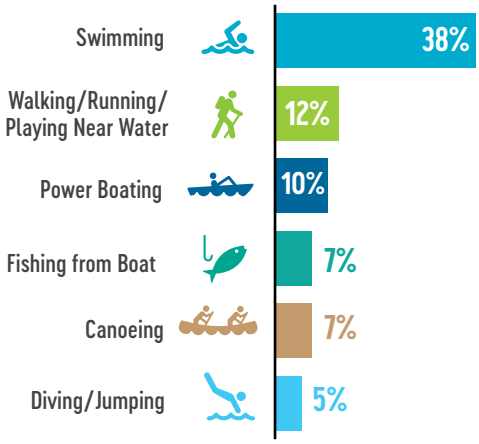
MAY to SEP

WHAT WERE THEY DOING?



* The person intented to be in the water (e.g. swimming/wading)
** Unintentional fall into water (e.g. walking/biking/working near water and fell in)

WATER-RELATED FATALITIES BY MOST COMMON RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY

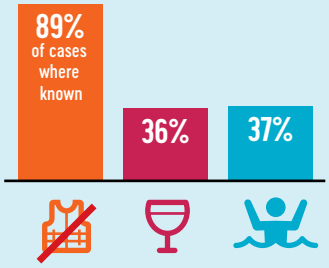


WHY? RISK FACTORS

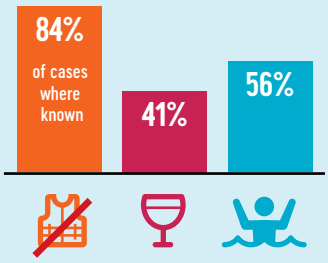
CHILDREN
AGE: <5

97%
Supervision Absent or Distracted

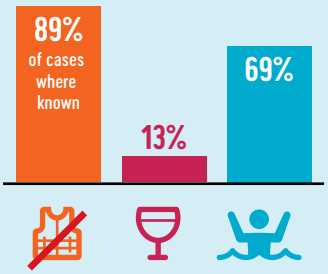
YOUNG ADULTS
AGE: 15-34



MIDDLE-AGED ADULTS
AGE: 35-64

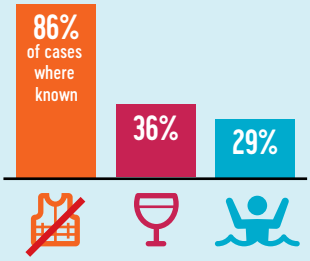


OLDER ADULTS
AGE: 65+

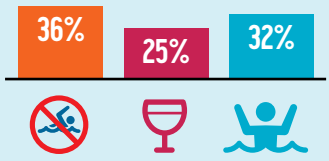


- Not Wearing a PFD
- Alcohol Consumption
- Alone
- Weak or Non-Swimmer

BOATING



SWIMMING



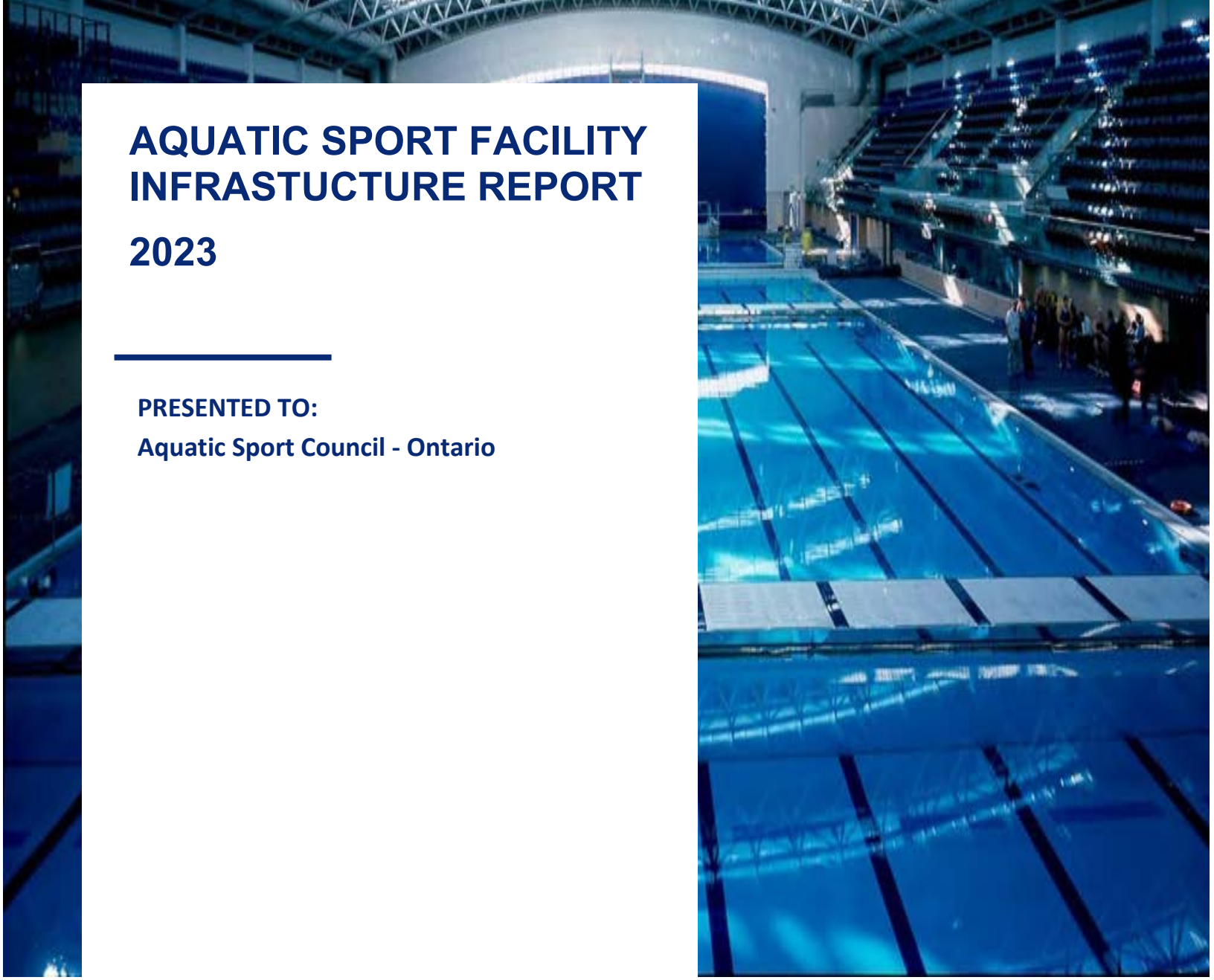
METHODS:
Water-related death data is extracted from the office of the Chief Coroner or Medical Examiner for each province and territory. Data is collected for all deaths resulting from incidents "in, on or near" water. "Near water" incidents were included if the intent was closely related to water-based recreational, vocational or daily living activity. The data includes only unintentional deaths, not deaths due to natural causes, suicide, or homicide.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:
We gratefully acknowledge the support, co-operation and efforts of:

- The Chief Coroner's and Medical Examiner's Offices in each province/territory, who permitted and facilitated confidential access to coroner's reports on unintentional water-related deaths.
- The volunteers who contributed their time and energy to extract data from the files.

CONTACT US:
The Drowning Prevention Research Centre is the lead agency for drowning and water-incident research in Canada.
Tel: 416-490-8844, Email: experts@drowningresearch.ca

Lifesaving Society Ontario
Tel: 416-490-8844, Email: experts@lifeguarding.com
www.lifesavingsociety.com



AQUATIC SPORT FACILITY INFRASTUCTURE REPORT

2023

PRESENTED TO:

Aquatic Sport Council - Ontario

JUNE 26

PRESENTED BY:

Aquatic Associates Consulting

Table of Contents

Introduction ..... Error! Bookmark not defined.

About Aquatic Associates Consulting 1

How Aquatic Associates Consulting was retained by Aquatic Sport Council - Ontario 1

Methodology for Collection of Data 1

Facts About 50M Pools in Canada 3

Demographic Overview 3

Aquatic Sport Participant Demographics 4

Top 31 Populated Cities in Canada with or without a 50M Pool 5

Ontario 50M Indoor Pools Inventory 7

19 Existing 50M Pools in Ontario – Possibility of Expansion 8

Generation of the Regions 10

Provincial Gaps in Access to 50M Pool Space 10

Aquatic Training and Competitions – Facility Levels 13

High Level Overview 13

The Details of Each Level 14

LEVEL 1 – 25M Pool 14

LEVEL 2 - 25M Pool 15

LEVEL 3 – 50M Pool 16

LEVEL 4 - 50M / 25M Pools 17

LEVEL 5 - 50M / 50M Pools (Optional Diving Pool) 18

Key Natatorium Features 20

Requirements / Considerations to building a 50m International Competitive Aquatic Facility 21

Community and Municipal Staff Buy-In 23

Funding 23

50M Pool Partnerships 23

Learn to Swim and Wellness Amenities 24

Strategy Suggestions 26
Mapping and Driving Distances 27
Introduction to the Mapping System 27
Facilitated Workshop & Summary Report 29
Results of the Day 29
Activity: What the ASC does well / What the ASC needs to develop 29
Activity: Focused Conversation 30
Report / Summary from Workshop Facilitators 32
In Closing 33
APPENDICES 34
APPENDIX A: Facilitated Workshop Meeting Notes 35
APPENDIX B: Responses of Aquatic Sport Groups for Sport Specific Information 48

Report Overview

About Aquatic Associates Consulting

We provide consulting services to provinces, privates groups, municipalities, not-for-profit organizations and more in recreation, active living, commercial aquatic facility operating, advocacy and programming. Our strength is our ability to provide individualized consulting services tailored to fit the needs of each customer and where necessary reach out to our large network of associate consultants in order to accomplish this.

Needs assessments, feasibility studies and business plans are conducted in partnership with experienced architects and recreation / sport consulting firms with regard to facilities and outdoor recreation areas. Our team works closely with the client and engages the community and all necessary stakeholders to understand their needs and gaps in service, then produce recommendations based on sound research and best practices.

Aquatic Associates has the proven ability to work with customers through every step of the process from initiation of a project to completion. It is important to our company and essential to the success of any project that customers are well informed throughout all stages of the collaboration. Aquatic Associates guarantee client / consultant communication throughout, seeking customer input ensuring all stakeholders involved are engaged and satisfied with the results.

How Aquatic Associates Consulting was retained by Aquatic Sport Council - Ontario

Aquatic Associates Consulting was initially contacted by Dan Thompson from Myrtha Pools about the potential of doing some background work for the Ontario Sports Council supported by Myrtha Pools on the existing 50m facilities in Ontario. From this initial discussion of interest, AAc received a formal RFP from the Ontario Sport Council through Dean Boles. A proposal was submitted including the steps on how we would move the project forward. AAc was awarded the contract. Shortly after that there were some preliminary meetings with Brian Miess and Anne Bell to kick off the project where a schedule to completion was agreed upon for the project timeframe.

Methodology for Collection of Data

Areas/Methods of Research

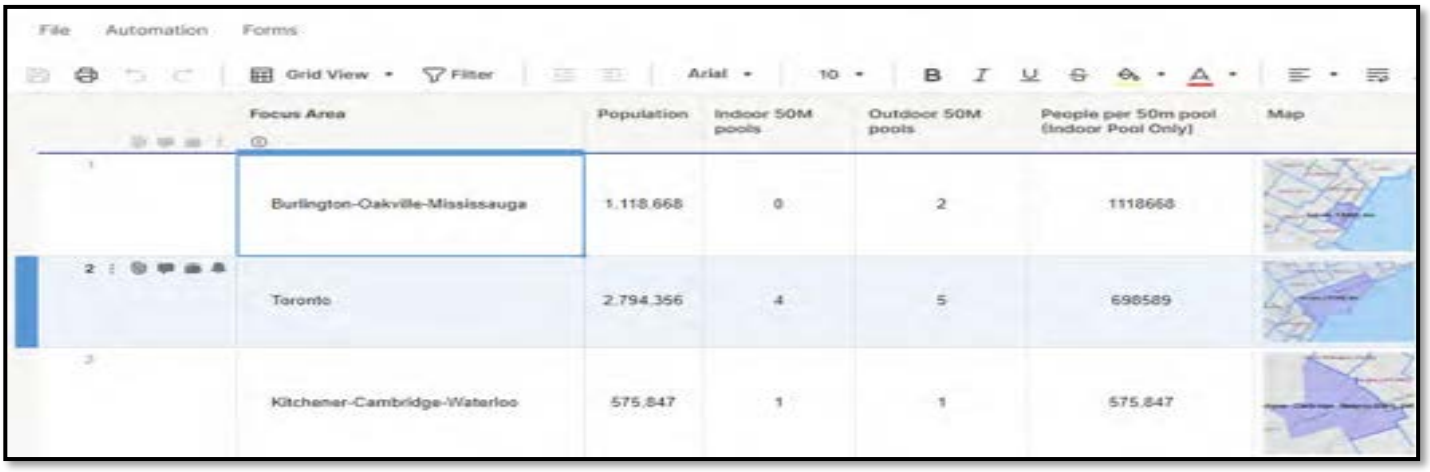
1. Data Collection and Reporting through research from various sources.
2. Census Reports and Future Population Projections
3. Current inventories of Canadian aquatic facilities
4. Facilitated one-day workshop with members of ASC including pre-workshop discussions.
5. Current definition of and physical space requirements of all levels of competition

Data Collection and Reporting

Smartsheet™ software was used extensively in reporting and analyzing data related to the project. Smartsheet™ allows for robust data housing, solid analyses of information, ease of reporting and the creation of dashboards. Visual representation of data throughout the study report enhances the presentation of results and proposals to a variety of stakeholders and allows a stronger understanding of what the data is representing.

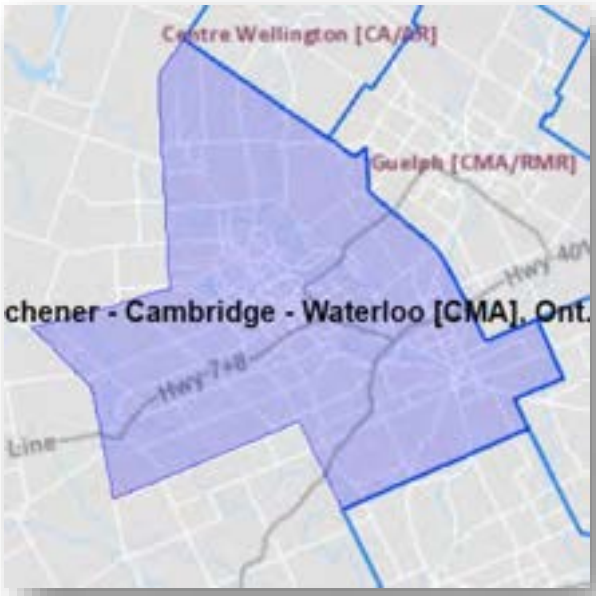
GIS (Geographical Information Systems) was used in developing and housing a layered mapping system of many data points including population, pool location, club location and more.

Smartsheet Sample – Aquatic Sport Council – Ontario 50M Pool Project 2023



	Focus Area	Population	Indoor 50M pools	Outdoor 50M pools	People per 50m pool (Indoor Pool Only)	Map
1	Burlington-Oakville-Mississauga	1,118,668	0	2	1118668	
2	Toronto	2,794,356	4	5	698589	
3	Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo	575,847	1	1	575,847	

GIS Sample – Kitchener – Cambridge – Waterloo Corridor



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Facts About 50M Pools in Canada

Demographic Overview

Population Ratio per 50M Pool

Primary	2021 Population	#of 50m Indoor Pools	Population Ratio per 50M Pool
Ontario	14,223,942.00	19	748, 629
Quebec	8,501,833.00	18	472, 324
British Columbia	5,000,879.00	15	333, 392
Alberta	4,262,635.00	11	387, 512
Saskatchewan	1,132,505.00	4	283, 126
Manitoba	1,342,153.00	3	447, 384
Nova Scotia	969,383.00	2	484, 692
Newfoundland	510,550.00	1	510, 550
New Brunswick	775,610.00	1	775, 619
PEI	154,331.00	0	N/A
Yukon	40,232.00	0	N/A
Northwest Territories	41,070.00	0	N/A
Nunavut	36,858.00	0	N/A

When comparing the provinces with the highest number of indoor pools these general observations can be made:

- Ontario has the largest population and has the most indoor 50M pools, by only one.
    - **Quebec** has 59% of the population of Ontario.
        - It has 94.74% of indoor 50M pools as Ontario.
    - **British Columbia** has 35.13% of the population of Ontario.
        - It has 78% of the indoor 50M pools as Ontario.
    - **Alberta** has 30% of the population of Ontario.
        - It has 58% of the indoor 50M pools as Ontario.

Per Capita - 4 Main Provinces

Primary	2021 Population	#Indoor 50M Pools	People per 50m pool (indoor only)
Ontario	14, 223, 942	19	748, 629
Quebec	8, 501, 833	18	472, 324
Alberta	4, 262, 635	11	387, 512
British Columbia	5, 000, 879	15	333, 392

Aquatic Sport Participant Demographics

Youth / Young Adult Demographics

When examining the current and future state of aquatic sport in Ontario it is also important to know how the youth demographics compare to the other provinces with the most 50M indoor facilities.
Note that the census lumped ages below 8 so accuracy of numbers did not allow for 6–9-year-olds. 25–29-year-olds were included to consider international competitors.

Youth Census	Province	Age Group	Total	Men	Women
2021 Canadian Census Report	Ontario	10-14yrs	803,850.00	413,215.00	390,635.00
		15-19yrs	801,455.00	413,485.00	387,970.00
		20-24yrs	895,600.00	465,525.00	430,075.00
		25-29yrs	975,400.00	497,465.00	478,215.00
Total Sum Ontario			3,476,305.00		
	Quebec	10-14yrs	489,425.00	250,855.00	238,570.00
		15-19yrs	429,400.00	219,400.00	209,995.00
		20-24yrs	410,660.00	235,250.00	225,405.00
		25-29yrs	527,150.00	266,455.00	260,700.00
Total Sum Quebec			1,856,635.00		
	British Columbia	10-14yrs	255,790.00	132,425.00	123,365.00
		15-19yrs	253,690.00	131,245.00	122,445.00
		20-24yrs	294,650.00	151,505.00	143,145.00
		25-29yrs	337,090.00	170,500.00	166,585.00
Total Sum British Columbia			885,430.00		
	Alberta	10-14yrs	280,588.00	144,460.00	136,120.00
		15-19yrs	249,765.00	128,745.00	121,015.00
		20-24yrs	248,740.00	128,515.00	120,150.00
		25-29yrs	275,465.00	138,510.00	136,955.00
Total Alberta			1,054,558.00		

Ontario has almost twice the number of potential participants for aquatic sports yet only one more available facility for training than the next province:

- **Quebec** has 53.41% of potential athletes between 10-29yrs that Ontario has
- **British Columbia** has 25.5% of potential athletes between 10-29 yrs that Ontario has
- **Alberta** has 30.34% of potential athletes between 10-29 yrs compared that Ontario has

Demographics can be important data when dealing with government officials at any level. Anything that may impact a constituent has the chance of greater impact. Although this number can be used for any sport group, when used with infrastructure (or lack of) data in ON it can add weight to any proposal. Adding this angle can also assist tie-in with any sport initiative a level of government may be looking at and/or any youth health/fitness initiative.

Top 31 Populated Cities in Canada with or without a 50M Pool

In an analysis such as this it is important to look at which cities in Canada building 50m pools. Using the Top 31 most populated cities in Canada:

Note: There is only 1 other city of the top 31 cities outside of Ontario that does not have a 50m pool and that is Burnaby – BC. Ontario

Top 31 Canadian Cities - Population and 50M Pools

Rank	Province	Municipality	Municipal status	2021 Population	# of 50m pools	Per Capita per facility
1	Ontario	Toronto	City	2,794,356.00	4	698,589.00
2	Quebec	Montreal	Ville	1,762,949.00	5	352,589.80
3	Alberta	Calgary	City	1,306,784.00	3	435,594.67
4	Ontario	Ottawa	City	1,017,449.00	3	339,149.67
5	Alberta	Edmonton	City	1,010,899.00	4	252,724.75
6	Manitoba	Winnipeg	City	749,607.00	2	374,803.50
7	Ontario	Mississauga	City	717,961.00	0	N/A
8	British Columbia	Vancouver	City	662,248.00	3	220,749.33
9	Ontario	Brampton	City	656,480.00	0	N/A
10	Ontario	Hamilton	City	569,353.00	1	569,353.00
11	British Columbia	Surrey	City	568,322.00	2	284,176.50
12	Quebec	Quebec City	Ville	549,459.00	2	274,729.50
13	Nova Scotia	Halifax	Regional Municipality	439,819.00	2	219,909.50
14	Quebec	Laval	Ville	438,366.00	1	438,366.00
15	Ontario	London	City	422,324.00	2	211,162.00
16	Ontario	Markham	City	338,503.00	1	211,162.00
17	Ontario	Vaughan	City	323,103.00	0	N/A
18	Quebec	Gatineau	Ville	291,041.00	1	291,041.00
19	Saskatchewan	Saskatoon	City	266,141.00	2	133,071.00
20	Ontario	Kitchener	City	256,885.00	1	256,885.00
21	Quebec	Longueuil	Ville	254,483.00	1	254,483.00
22	British Columbia	Burnaby	City	249,125.00	0	N/A
23	Ontario	Windsor	City	229,660.00	1	229,660.00
24	Saskatchewan	Regina	City	226,404.00	1	226,404.00
25	Ontario	Oakville	Town	213,759.00	0	N/A
26	British Columbia	Richmond	City	209,937.00	1	209,937.00
27	Ontario	Richmond Hill	City	202,022.00	0	N/A
28	Ontario	Burlington	City	186,948.00	0	N/A
29	Ontario	Oshawa	City	175,383.00	0	N/A
30	Quebec	Sherbrooke	Ville	172,950.00	1	172,950.00
31	Ontario	Greater Sudbury	City	166,004.00	1	166,004.00

The Facts

- Ontario has the highest provincial population at 14,223,942; approximately 38.45% of the national total.
- There are 45 x 50M pools of various design, in the top 31 most populated cities in Canada.
- 15 of the 31 (48.39%) highest populated cities in Canada are located in Ontario.
  - These 15 Ontario cities have a total population of 8,270,190 which is 22.36% of the Canadian population.
- Yet, 6 out of the 7 largest cities in Canada without 50M indoor pools are in Ontario.

Largest Cities in Ontario with 50M pools

- Of the 15 – 50M pools which result in per capita space of 590,727.90 (without regard for distance to travel):
  - 7 of the 15 cities in Ontario have **0 x 50M pools.**
  - 8 of these 15 cities in Ontario have at least **1 x 50M pool**

  - 5 cities have 1 x 50M pools.
  - 1 city has 2 x 50M pools.
  - 1 city has 3 x 50M pools.
  - 1 city has 4 x 50M pools.
    - Of the above 14 pools 8 are university pools.
    - This leaves 6 x 50M facilities purely open for general club/community use, program development, open competition scheduling, etc. If collegiate facilities are taken out of the mix – for argument's sake – the per capita 50M pool space in the largest cities jumps to 1,033,773.75. While this is not a true representation it gives food for thought.

Government has been more involved in the development of 50M pools in the other top 3 provinces. Ontario is the only one of the main provinces that institutions and games outnumber the ones built by municipalities or other levels of government.

Builder of 50M Pools

Province	Builder	Number Built
Ontario	Municipality	5
	University	9
	Games	5
Quebec	Municipality	12
	University	4
	Games	2
British Columbia	Municipality	12
	University	1
	Games	2
Alberta	Municipality	8
	University	2
	Games	0
	YMCA	1

Ontario 50M Indoor Pools Inventory

Inventory of existing indoor 50M pools in the province of Ontario as of April 2023.

Ontario 50M Pools

Primary	Location	Operated By	Built By	# of Lanes	Date Built	Notes
Etobicoke Olympium	Toronto	City of Toronto	Municipality	8	1975	
Douglas Snow Aquatic Centre	Toronto	City of Toronto	Municipality	6	1988	Unsure - approximation
TPASC	Toronto	City of Toronto / UofT Scarborough	Games	10	2014	
UofT	Toronto	University of Toronto	University	8	1980	
Markham Pan Am Centre	Markham	City of Markham	Games	10	2014	
Nepean Sportsplex	Ottawa	City of Ottawa	Municipality	8	1973	
Carleton University	Ottawa	Carleton University	University	6	1973	Unsure - approximation
uOttawa	Ottawa	University of Ottawa	University	8	1972	
LU Olympic Gold Pool	Sudbury	Laurentian University	University	8	1972	
Canada Games Complex	Thunder Bay	City of Thunder Bay	Games	8	1981	
Lakehead University Pool	Thunder Bay	Lakehead University	University	8	1968	Unsure, renovated in 2009
Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre	Brantford	City of Brantford	Municipality	8	1974	Building in 1972, pool added 1974
Victor Davis Memorial Pool	Guelph	City of Guelph	Municipality	6	1974	
McMaster University Pool	Hamilton	McMaster University	University	6	1967	
Canada Games Aquatic Centre	London	City of London	Games	8	1991	
Western Student Rec Centre	London	Western University	University	8	2009	
Brock University Pool	St. Catharines	Brock University	University	8	1981	
Wilfrid Laurier University Pool	Waterloo	Wilfrid Laurier University	University	6	1973	
WIATC	Windsor	City of Windsor	Games	10	2013	

The majority of indoor 50M pools in Ontario were built in three decades, 1970s, 1980s and 2010s. Only 4 have been built after 2000. More investment is needed in the 2020s and with a strategic long-term plan for sport growth and development.

The ASC – Ontario could provide active guidance with regard to this planning as a subject matter expert (SME). Whether directly at the provincial level and / or team with / supporting clubs in rallying support at municipal levels. Baby boomers are the largest sector of our population, were past competitors or just use pools to keep fit. They can be extremely supportive and vocal around causes they believe in. Taxpayers have power.

19 Existing 50M Pools in Ontario – Possibility of Expansion

Below is a list of the existing 19 indoor 50M pools in Ontario. It describes, to the best of AAc's knowledge, whether the existing sites have the ability to host another 50M pool. We have taken the initiative to include what we know of the facility in regard to any activity toward the possibility of expansion of the pool / facility in the future. The first 5 are ranked in order and after that they are listed from west to east across Ontario.

19 Indoor 50M Pools - Expansion Possibilities

Ranking	Facilities	Possibility of Expansion
1	Carleton University	
		Close to construction-ready drawing package designed by Perkins & Will for a new 50M pool. Challenges of existing site to fit everything needed for a 2 X 50M facility. University currently in discussion with City of Ottawa on their RFI on a 50M Pool Partnership
2	Ottawa University	
		Has had discussions internally and externally regarding the potential of a new 50M pool complex. The University has land for a ptoential 2 x 50M pool complex. UOttawa is also in discussion with city of Ottawa on their RFI on a 50M Pool Partnership
3	Etobicoke Olympium	
		Etobicoke Swimming had generated conceptual drawings of a potential expansion of the current facility to include another 50M pool. This concept was presented to City of Toronto in 2013 and initially well received. At this time Toronto was awarded the Pan Am Games and the proposal was sidelined as the Games facility became the City's priority. This facility has plenty of land around it to expand for a new pool
4	McMaster University	
		The University generated a proposal for the construction of a new aquatic centre as part of the bid for the 2026 Commonwealth Games.It would have included 2 x 50m Pool. Conceptual drawings were completed of the new facility. Unfortunately, the province did not effectively support the bid and the games are going to Calgary and Edmonton. On the campus was lane for the new facility.
5	Victoria Road Recreation Centre	
		This facility is in an important area of the province. At this time there are no known discussions for expansion the pool. Other than location it does have a few key advantages. The complex as recently been renovated so is a good foundation facility. They have the land on the site for the pool.
6	Windsor International Competition and Training Centre	
		There is no footprint for expansion on the site as a road had to be closed in order to build the centre. This facility services the community well. There has been no known discussion ongoing with regard to potential of expanding.
7	Canada Games Aquatic Centre - London	
		There is no footprint space that we could see which would allow the expansion of a new pool. In our discussion with the City of London and the Club there has been no indication of potential expansion of this complex.
8	Western University	
		Having only had the opportunity to be at this complex a few times, AAc is not very familiar with the footprint around this facility. There could potentially be the footprint but what we have gleaned is it only host events through significant support of the swim club. The facility does not have the basics to run a swim meet like a timing system, display board, etc.
9	Brock University	
		There is no obvious footprint that would allow the expansion of a new pool. In AAc's discussions with the University, the subject of expanding the facility has never come up.

19 Indoor 50M Pools - Expansion Possibilities

Ranking	Facilities	Possibility of Expansion
10	Wayne Gretzky Recreation Centre	
		This facility added a new 25m pool to the existing 71m pool approximately 10 years ago. That would have been the opportunity to lobby / get a 2nd 50M tank. There is no footprint that would allow for the expansion of a new pool.
11	Wilfred Laurier University	
		The facility was renovated about 14 years ago with no expansion of the facility. There is not the footprint that we could see that would allow the expansion of a new pool unless the newly renovated and upgraded soccer pitch is demolished.
12	Douglas Snow Aquatic Centre	
		This pool is 50m it has limited swim meets as the shallow end is too shallow for proper turning at the higher competition levels. There is not footprint that would allow expansion for a new pool.
13	University of Toronto - Downtown	
		There is no footprint that would allow the expansion of a new pool.
14	Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre	
		They have a major 3 pool complex there servicing the areas very well. There is no need for expansion at this time.
15	Pan Am Markham	
		There has been informal discussion with the club about the potential of a pool over the years, there has been very little with the City. With the construction of the new York University campus there is not the footprint that would allow for expansion of a new pool.
16	Thunder Bay Canada Games	
		It has been years since AAc staff have been at this facility but have had recent discussions about upgrades to the pool to attract athletes and spectators to the facility. Priority needs to be on major upgrades to this facility to keep it operational now and 20 years into the future.
17	Lakehead University	
		AAc knows very little about this facility so cannot comment at this time.
18	Laurentian University	
		There is no footprint that would allow for the expansion of a new pool. Expansion is not the priority for Laurentian at this time. The facility is currently closed. AAc is part of the inspection to determine what is needed to get it back up and operating. Priority needs to be on major upgrades to this facility to keep it operational now and 20 years into the future.
19	Nepean Sportsplex	
		With the City of Ottawa's RFI to the industry regarding a partnership on a new aquatic centre it seems evident the city is not interested in operating 50m pools at this time. Nepean saw a 25M warm water pool and wading play area expansion instead of another 50M pool at the time they invested in the Sportsplex.

Generation of the Regions

Along with parameters put in place to determine how the new regions were to be broken down, meetings were held with the ASC – Ontario for input resulting in additional consideration of the:

i. Population of the regions is being generated to ensure it is as equal as possible.
ii. Driving distances of all users within the region to get to the 50M pools.
iii. Existing regions that have been set up by the aquatic sports bodies.

Once the main portion of the data was collected regarding existing facilities, existing usage, expectation of the aquatic sports bodies and the Aquatic Sports Council the result was 5 Aquatic Regions:

Greater Toronto
Western Region
Eastern Region
Near North Region
Far North Region

Population Ratio Per New ON Region

Primary	Population	# of 50m pools	Population Ratio per 50M Pool
GTA	4,765,434.00	4	1191359
West	3,839,433.00	8	479929
East	2,926,188.00	3	975396
Near North	2,221,941.00	1	2221941
Far North	657,894.00	3	219298

Provincial Gaps in Access to 50M Pool Space

A requested outcome of this report was to provide details identifying which areas in Ontario were found to be lacking in 50M pool space. This could only be done through quantitative data that could compare regions allowing AAc to meet the 3 evaluation objectives for this report. In this it was determined that population would be the primary determinator on upgrading existing or building new aquatic facilities.

The Far North

It is understood and acknowledged that the Far North Region has unique distance challenges in accessing 50M pools. When we did our primary investigation of the Far North's two existing aquatic centres it became clear with the closure of Laurentian University's 50M pool in Sudbury and the required investments in the Thunder Bay Canada Games Pool that the priority is to get the Sudbury pool up and running and then plan for investment in both centres so they can once again provide the necessary services of the region and the province. This needs to be the priority over another 50m pool in the region.

Once this is addressed then consideration can be given to the option of the new centre. ASC – Ontario should be receptive to the opportunities of a 25m Regional Aquatic Centre to assist with the travelling distances of the region.

The Rest of Ontario

With the assumption that population is the demand and existing facilities are the supply urgency in specific areas is the best way to represent where there are gaps in service. Per capita representation is the primary focus for this analysis and is represented in Ontario through two divisions. The ranking cannot be shown in order in chart form following straight mathematical calculations as population cannot be divided by zero. If a zero was the sole criteria for ranking, there would be an unrealistic placement of Indoor 50M facilities. Other considerations impacting ranking:

- Isolation in province for other teams to travel to
- If there are no 50M indoor pools what is the number of people unserved in the area compared to those unserved in areas with 50M indoor pools.

"Division 1": Top Areas Lacking 50M Pool Space with the priority on areas without a 50m pool then the remainder are Per Capita.

Focus Areas Adjusted

Ranking	Primary	Population	Indoor 50M pools	Outdoor 50M pools	People per 50m pool (Indoor Pool Only)	Map
Overall Ranking	No Indoor 50M Pools Available				N/A indicates NO access	
1	Burlington-Oakville-Mississauga "corrido	1,118,668.00	0	2	N/A	
7	Kingston	172,546.00	0	0	N/A	
8	Peterborough	128,624.00	0	0	N/A	
	50M Indoor Pools Available					
2	Pickering-Ajax-Whitby-Oshawa "corridor	539,736.00	0	0	539736	
3	Huronia	533,169.00	0	0	533169	
4	Toronto	2,794,356.00	4	5	698589	
5	Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo	575,847.00	1	1	533,169.00	
6	Ottawa	1,017,449.00	3	0	339,150.00	

Division 2: Top Areas Lacking Indoor 50M Pools Space Per Capita as primary evaluation tool.

Focus Areas 2 Adjusted

RANKING	Primary	Population	Indoor 50M pools	Outdoor 50M pools	People per 50m pool (Indoor Pool Only)	Map
Overall Ranking	**No 50M Indoor Pools Available**					
1	Burlington-Oakville-Mississauga "corridor"	1,118,668.00	0	2	N/A	
4	Pickering-Ajax-Whitby-Oshawa "corridor"	539,736.00	0	0	N/A	
8	Peterborough	128,624.00	0	0	N/A	
7	Kingston	172,546.00	0	0	N/A	
	50M Pools Available					
2	Toronto	2,794,356.00	4	5	698589	
3	Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo	575,847.00	1	1	575,847.00	
5	Huronia	533,169.00	0	0	533169	
6	Ottawa	1,017,449.00	3	0	339,150.00	

Aquatic Training and Competitions – Facility Levels

The following are the proposed 5 competition facility levels to be adopted the ASC to the Field of Play (FOP) requirements of the pools. Standardization is critical to ensure the types of facilities being built or upgraded fit into these levels. This area around Competition and Training Level requirements is an opportunity for the ASC to become the go-to source (the recognized subject matter expert) regarding this topic. It is imperative to increase the ASC's profile in front of the people needing this information.

- Architects are not experts in aquatic sport training and competition requirements, and neither are local politicians, general consultants, nor health inspectors. It is imperative that the ASC develop and agree upon a guideline and provide it to all aquatic developers, provinces, architectural / engineering firms and municipalities prior to the decision-making process.
- Once this guideline is created the goal should be to have it become a provincial guideline. It even has the potential of being a national guideline.
- It should be stated somewhere in the guidelines that a proper feasibility study needs to completed prior to any facility design being completed based on these guidelines.
- There will also need to be a regular review cycle established of the guidelines. It must include all aquatic sports bodies and include a communication sent back out to all stakeholders.
- Create a strategic plan to the end goal of these becoming a National Standard.

High Level Overview

AQUATIC TRAINING AND COMPETITION – FACILITY LEVELS	
Level 1 – 25M Pool	Levels 1 through 5 have the ability to train for all 5 aquatic sports. All options should have learn-to-swim, leisure and warm water options for community use and revenue generation during non-sport use.
Level 2 – 25M Pool	
Level 3 – 50M Pool	
Level 4 – 50M / 25M Pools	
Level 5 – 50M / 50M Pools (Optional Diving Pool)	

** See charts following for each sport level of competition for facility levels

It is important to include a legal clause with these levels making it clear that these are based on research and are to be used as guidelines only, a proper feasibility study must be completed to confirm the details.

Note to Reader – These charts are for design details only and are not stated for construction purposes.

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The Details of Each Level

The goal would be that in all new builds the preferred options are selected to maximize the aquatic sport opportunities in both training and competition.

The below details consider requirements for the natatorium including the pools. There will be dry land training and dry space requirements for training and Level 3 and above to host that level of competition.

See Diving requirements at: https://diving.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Rule-Book-Chap-R-1-General-Diving-Canada-Rules.pdf

LEVEL 1 – 25M Pool

Able to train for all 5 aquatic sports.

COMPETITION POOL	
Length	**25.025m**
Lanes	**6 or 8**
Width of Lanes - minimum	**2.000m**
Width with 6 Lanes	**12.300m**
Width with 8 Lanes	**16.300m**
Width of Lanes – preferred	**2.500m**
Width with 6 Lanes	**15.300m**
Width with 8 Lanes	**20.300m**
Shallow End Depth minimum	**1.100m**
Shallow End Depth preferred	**1.200m**
Deep End Minimum	**3.000m**
Deck Width – Down Length at minimum 1 side	**3.000m**
Deck Width – Off deep end wall	**3.000m**
Starting Blocks	**No**
Springboards	**1 x 1.000m**
Competitor Seating	**Up to 150**
Spectator Seating	**100**
No Warm Up Facilities	

COMPETITION LEVELS for Level 1 – 25M Pool	
Lifesaving	Club Invitational, Regional, Provincial
Competitive Swimming	Club Invitational, Regional
Artistic Swimming	*Training Only, Recreational Competition*
Water Polo	*Training Only, Recreational Competition*
Diving	*Training only, Recreational Competition*

LEVEL 2 - 25M Pool

To be able to train for all 5 Sports.

COMPETION POOL	
Length	**25.025m**
Lanes	**6 or 10**
Width of Lanes - minimum	**2.000m**
Width with 6 Lanes	**12.300m**
Width with 8 Lanes	**16.300m**
Width with 10 Lanes	**20.300m**
Width of Lanes – preferred	**2.500m**
Width with 6 Lanes	**15.300m**
Width with 8 Lanes	**20.300m**
Width with 10 Lanes	**25.150m**
Shallow End Depth minimum	**1.100m**
Shallow End Depth preferred	**1.200m**
Deep End minimum	**3.750m**
Deck Width – Down Length at minimum 1 side	**4.000m**
Deck Width – Off deep end wall	**3.500m**
Starting Blocks	**FINA FR 2.7**
Springboards	**1 x 1.000m**
Springboards	**1 x 3.000m**
Competitor Seating	**Up to 300**
Spectator Seating	**300**
No Warm Pool required - some lanes in leisure pool	

COMPETITION LEVELS for Level 2 – 25M Pool	
Lifesaving	Club Invitational, Regional, Provincial
Competitive Swimming	Club Invitational, Regional
Artistic Swimming	*Training Only, Recreational Competition*
Water Polo	*Training Only, Recreational Competition*
Diving	*Training only, Recreational Competition*

LEVEL 3 – 50M Pool

To be able to train for all 5 Sports.

COMPETITION POOL	
Length	**50.050m**
Lanes	**8 or 10**
Width of Lanes	**2.500m**
Width with 8 Lanes	**15.300m**
Width with 10 Lanes	**25.150m**
Headwall Minimum	**1.000m**
Headwall Preferred	**1.500m**
Bulkhead Minimum	**1.000m**
Bulkhead Preferred	**1.500m**
Shallow End Depth minimum	**1.800m**
Deep End Depth preferred	**5.000m**
Deck Width – Down Length	**5.000m**
Deck Width – Off Ends	**4.000m**
Starting Blocks	**FINA FR 2.7**
Display/Timing/Scoring	**Display/Timing/Scoring**
Springboards	**2 x 1.000m**
Springboards	**3 x 3.000m**
Platform	**3m, 5m, 7.5m, 10m**
Platform Width	**5m and 10m – 3.100m**
Ceiling Height – minimum	**15.000m**
Competitor Seating	**800**
Spectator Seating	**800**
Dedicated Warm Up Pool not required but some 25m lanes would be preferred	

COMPETITION LEVELS for Level 3 – 50M Pool	
Lifesaving	Provincial, National
Competitive Swimming	Provincial, Regional National (Potential)
Artistic Swimming	Provincial
Water Polo	Provincial, National
Diving	Provincial

LEVEL 4 - 50M / 25M Pools

To be able to train for all 5 Sports.

COMPETITION POOL	
Length	**50.050m**
Lanes	**8 or 10**
Width of Lanes	**2.500m**
Width with 8 Lanes	**15.300m**
Width with 10 Lanes	**25.150m**
Headwall Minimum	**1.000m**
Headwall Preferred	**1.500m**
Bulkhead Minimum	**1.000m**
Bulkhead Preferred	**1.500m**
Shallow End Depth Min.	**2.000m**
Deep End Depth Min.	**5.000m**
Deck Width – Down Length	**5.000m**
Deck Width – Off Ends	**4.000m**
Starting Blocks	**FINA FR 2.7**
Display/Timing/Scoring	**Display/Timing/Scoring**
Springboards	**2 x 1.000m**
Springboards	**3 x 3.000m**
Platform	**3m, 5m, 7.5m, 10m**
Platform Width	**5m and 10m – 3.100m**
Ceiling Height – min	**15.000m**
Competitor Seating	**800**
Spectator Seating	**1,000**
WARM UP POOL	
Length 25m	**25.025m**
Length 50m	**50.050m**
Lanes	**8 or 10**
Width of Lanes	**2.500m**
Width with 8 Lanes	**15.300m**
Width with 10 Lanes	**25.150m**
Headwall Minimum	**1.000m**
Headwall Preferred	**1.500m**
Bulkhead Minimum	**1.000m**
Bulkhead Preferred	**1.500m**
Shallow End Depth Min.	**1.800m**
Deep End Depth Min.	**3.000m**
Deck Width – Down Length	**4.000m**
Deck Width – Off Ends	**3.000m**
Competitor Seating	**200**
Spectator Seating	**200**

COMPETITION LEVELS for Level 4 – 50M / 25M Pools	
Lifesaving	Provincial, National, International
Competitive Swimming	Provincial, Regional National – Eastern / Western
Artistic Swimming	Provincial, National
Water Polo	Provincial, National
Diving	Provincial, National, International – 10m Synchro Dive Required - No High Dive

LEVEL 5 - 50M / 50M Pools (Optional Diving Pool)

To be able to train for all 5 Sports.

COMPETITION POOL	
Length	**50.050m**
Lanes	**10**
Width of Lanes	**2.500m**
Width with 10 Lanes	**25.150m**
Headwall Minimum	**1.000m**
Headwall Preferred	**1.500m**
Bulkhead Minimum	**1.000m**
Bulkhead Preferred	**1.500m**
Shallow End Depth Min.	**3.000m**
Deep End Depth Min.	**5.000m**
Deck Width – Down Length	**7.000m**
Deck Width – Off Ends	**5.000m**
Starting Blocks	**FINA FR 2.7**
Display/Timing/Scoring	**Display/Timing/Scoring**
Springboards	**2 x 1.000m**
Springboards	**3 x 3.000m**
Platform	**3m, 5m, 7.5m, 10m**
Platform Width	**5m and 10m – 3.100m**
Ceiling Height – min	**15.000m**
Competitor Seating	**800**
Spectator Seating	**2,500**
Temporary Seating	**15,000**

DIVING POOL	
Length	**25.000m**
Lanes	**8**
Width of Lanes	**2.500m**
Width with 10 Lanes	**25.000m**
Deep End Depth Min.	**5.000m**
Deck Width – Down Length	**5.000m**
Deck Width – Off Ends	**5.000m**
Springboards	**2 x 1.000m**
Springboards	**3 x 3.000m**
Platform	**3m, 5m, 7.5m, 10m**
Platform Width	**5m and 10m – 3.100m**
Competitor Seating	**800**
Spectator Seating	**2,500**

WARM UP POOL	
Length 50m	**50.050m**
Lanes	**8 or 10**
Width of Lanes	**2.500m**
Width with 8 Lanes	**15.300m**
Width with 10 Lanes	**25.150m**
Headwall Minimum	**1.000m**
Headwall Preferred	**1.500m**
Bulkhead Minimum	**1.000m**
Bulkhead Preferred	**1.500m**
Shallow End Depth Min.	**1.800m**
Deep End Depth Min.	**3.000m**
Deck Width – Down Length	**4.000m**
Deck Width – Off Ends	**3.000m**
Competitor Seating	**200**
Spectator Seating	**200**

COMPETITION LEVELS for Level 5 – 50M / 50M Pools (Optional Diving Pool)	
Lifesaving	International
Competitive Swimming	International
Artistic Swimming	International
Water Polo	International
Diving	International - 10m Synchro Dive Required – No High Dive

Key Natatorium Features

KEY NATATORIUM FEATURES	
Ceiling	Although the primary reason for the ceiling is to protect people from the outside elements, it is imperative that in the design of the ceiling the following items be considered:
Natural Lighting	Utilizing natural light is an important design criterion to reduce emissions and the carbon footprint. With proper design, natural lighting could come from skylights properly placed in the ceiling.
Skylights	Should be designed with special glass refractive panels that allow refracted light that minimize the light changes created by outside factors such as fast-moving clouds. This type of glass will keep a steady light source throughout the day.
Artificial Lighting	Pool lighting should be LED to minimize energy consumption and should be reflective in design. The fixture faces into a nicely designed ceiling to reflect the light evenly back down onto all areas of the pool. There should be the ability to turn the light off and on from a control area for entertainment purposes.
Walls	Unlike community pools their deck walls can have large areas of glazing to add in natural light. This is not the case for 50M pools as most of the deck level walls will be utilized in programming space like athlete seating, off deck training rooms, staff offices, etc. There is the opportunity to unitize the upper portion of the walls with natural lighting using items such as high-level windows.
Athletic Seating	In a 50M pool competition facility there are needs to be a section of the deck area where aquatic athletes and coaches will sit during competitions. It is a larger portion around the 50M competition pool or 25M competition diving pool. Ideally this seating is of non-corrosive material and retractable, allowing the deck space to be utilized during training periods. Ensure a Programming Study is completed to determine what the correct number of seats is for the potential New Brunswick Centre.
Spectator Seating	This one is more difficult to predict in design. Unfortunately, they add dramatically to the construction cost of a Natatorium due to the ceiling span they create. These are typically permanent. However, a strong design will allow sections of the seating to be retracted to allow for more daily training / program space.
Change / Team Rooms	For training purposes more often, facilities are providing universal changing facilities with direct access from the lobby to the pool deck. This space needs to be flexible for competitions and be able to be divided up into Team spaces. Utilize natural lighting in the changerooms where possible.
Dryland Training Space	All aquatic sports have their required specialty dryland training space. Ensure that there is space for each sport utilizing the pool at any given time.
Equipment Storage Space	Competitions and training pools have big requirements for off deck storage space. Utilize every possible area such as under spectator seating areas, just off the pool deck.
Aquatic Staff Space	Ensure adequate staffing space for changing and administrative duties. This space should have easy access from the lobby and strong sightlines to the pools. It should be aligned with the entrances of the changerooms onto the pool deck.
IT - Video Display / Timing and Scoring Room	Ensure the appropriate off deck space is provided to support the requirements of the IT Infrastructure for the video display, timing and system systems.

KEY NATATORIUM FEATURES	
Lifeguard / Officials Training Support Spaces	Ensure air-conditioned space right off the pool deck is designed for leadership / officials training along with other programming options.
Multi – Purpose Space	Could be part of the pool deck or just off the pool deck.

Requirements / Considerations to building a 50m International Competitive Aquatic Facility

Air Transportation

One of the fundamental requirements for an international aquatic centre is to have an established international airport with direct overseas flights to the most popular hubs around the world. The more direct and affordable that flights available there are available for teams not just individuals, the more likely the event will be desirable to attend.
What are the existing airport amenities? How many flights international, national, and regional? How many of each are offered and how many are direct for potential teams being invited?
As part of an audit of the air transportation investigate the existing flight schedules and history and the possibility to increase the schedule for world class events.

Land Transportation

How long it takes to travel between locations upon arrival for the event has a huge impact on the athlete/official/spectator's experience. In fact, it can make or break the decision whether or not to attend this event again or for the facility to be awarded future high-profile events.

Do the hotels have public transportation to and from the aquatic venue or proposed access to it? Are there alternative modes of public transportation available such as taxi or uber services?
Consider the distance and ease of navigation between:

- airport and facility
- airport and hotels
- hotels and restaurants
- hotels and the facility

Typically, for local land travel a perimeter circle around the facility out to 200km for day travel and 600km for overnight travel is acceptable. Ensure there are adequate highways to get in and out of the city, to the hotels, to the facilities and other key points in the city? What are the conditions of these roads.
Are there different road and/or travel considerations travelers need to take into consideration when coming from other points in the Maritimes or coming from Quebec. These are important to map out as they are the closest large club locations. Are there unique highway considerations such as speed limits, construction, peak traffic times to avoid or toll highways? Will they be required to travel on any rural roads for part of the journey and what conditions are they?

To ensure strong attendance for regional competitions land transportation between key cities must be as streamlined and easy to accessible as possible.

Accommodations / Restaurants / Entertainment
Based on the size of the facility / event, ensure the overnight rooms can easily meet the demands of regular city activities, any other city special events and this aquatic event. Ideally, they are close to the facility; in walking distance would be the ultimate goal.

There must be a variety of restaurants available for all volunteers, swimmers, parents and other individuals associated with the event. Again, walking distance from the hotel and / or facility is best. If not possible, they should be on transit lines or short taxi rides away.

Families who attend together will be drawn to the event due to other entertainment / attractions that are in close proximity to the facility and hotel. Once the swimming event is over, they will look for a place to relax and have family time and perhaps extend their stay.

Community and Municipal Staff Buy-In

Any aquatic facility, no matter what competition level it is, requires the support of the community. No level of government will support a competitive pool if their taxpayers are not behind it. Each build must always consider and include learn-to-swim programs, wellness programming and wellness amenities.

For aquatic sports this is where relationship building is essential. The need to be seen as more than a "user group" for the "Introduction to…" programs or feeder programs and more of a partner in community engagement and health is imperative.

Funding

Aquatic Sport Groups require pool space for developing their athletes. They rent pool space in order to do this. A competitive complex may have a variety of user groups such as competitive swimming, artistic swimming, water polo and diving. Other groups such as Master swim Clubs and SCUBA also rent pool space.

As with all sport venues there is a need to go beyond basic user participation to help fund the building and then day-to-day operation of a facility. While there is funding available research always needs to be done as to what sources are available at any given time. New sources become available, and others disappear over time.

While funding can be applied for through municipal, and federal grants and loans as well as through some public institutional applications the primary source of funding for these types of facilities is through partnerships and sponsorships.

50M Pool Partnerships

A 50m Aquatic complex is a large capital undertaking and securing key partnerships and sponsors is elemental. Municipalities no longer fund, own and operate 50m complexes on their own. Often large corporate sponsorships are secured to design and build the facility and partnership in the operation of the facility.
These relationships are a win-win on both sides. Profile, visible support of the community and advertising for the funders and the full burden of the facility operation does not fall on the backs of the residents' taxes.

These partnerships and sponsors must be established and brought to the forefront as early in the process as possible.

Learn to Swim and Wellness Amenities

Competition facilities must have multi-purpose functionality. These community amenities are considered the minimum for overall successful operation. During off competition season, non-competition weekends as well as any time pools are sitting empty, they can and need to generate revenue. These facilities should generate a sense of pride for ownership of the community. Clubs pull from the community for their members. They need children to learn to swim, to see their clubs in action and get excited to join them. Below are just samples of what could / should be considered.

Programming Options Based on Facility Type

Legend

- school aged children, non-swimmers and swimmers with limited swimming skills
- all ages
- program could be delivered but not in an ideal setting based on depths, water temperature, accessibility, etc.

	25 Metre Lane	50 Metre Lane	Diving Pool	Leisure Pool	Teaching Pool	Warm Pool	Therapy Pool	Hot Tub	Sauna
Accessible Lift	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Bulkhead*		●							
Diving Springboard*	●	●	●						
Diving Tower*		●	●						
Headwalls*	●	●							
Hot Water								●	
Hydro Jets						●	●	●	
Inflatables*	●	●	●	◐	◐				
Moveable Floor*		●							
Ninja Cross*	●	●	●	◐	◐				
Ramp	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	
Spectator Viewing	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Tarzan Rope*	●	●	●						
Underwater Camera	●	●	●	●	●		●		
Warm Water						●	●		
Waterslide	●	●	●	●	●				

Programming Options Based on Facility Type, continued

	25 Metre Lane	50 Metre Lane	Diving Pool	Leisure Pool	Teaching Pool	Warm Pool	Therapy Pool	Hot Tub	Sauna
Aquafit	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Aqua Cycle	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Aqua Jogging	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Aqua Circuit Training	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Artistic Swimming	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Canoeing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Competitive Swimming	✓	✓		✓	✓				
Diving - Springboard	✓	✓	✓						
Diving - Tower		✓	✓						
Learn to Swim	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Lifeguard / Instructor / Leadership	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Lifesaving Sport	✓	✓		✓	✓				
Rowing / Paddling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
SCUBA Diving	✓	✓	✓						
Snorkelling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Therapy	✓					✓	✓	✓	
Underwater Rescue e.g., Pilot / Oil Rig / Coast Guard / Military	✓	✓	✓						
Underwater Sports e.g., Hockey	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Water polo	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				

Strategy Suggestions

- **Partnerships** are critical to the success of a 50M pool both in capital to build and funds to operate / maintain.
- **Renovations** are much less expensive than new builds.
- **Covering existing outdoor facilities** Look into renovating existing outdoor pools to meet summer demands for existing city programs. A cover will expand use of the facility to year-round for aquatic sport groups.
- 50M pools either temporarily or permanently around the province to meet demand.
- **Evaluate existing 25M facilities for possibility of upgrades.** This could be the addition of a 50M tank or upgrades to the existing facilities to make them more training and competition friendly.
- **Capacity Assessment:** Consider completing an event capacity assessment to be included with any proposal. Take the number of existing swimmers in the region and divide by the number of events. How many more events can realistically be held / supported each year?
- **Regional Planning** from the ASC perspective to create a strategic approach to provincial, municipal and regional governments for their aquatic sport and recreational infrastructure. As a united sporting group seen as subject matter experts willing to guide the future of community sport, health and wellness puts you “at the table.”
- **Development of Aquatic Levels for Sport Facilities** led by ASC and becoming adopted by the country will provide standardization for aquatic sport across Canada. Increases opportunities for more Canadians to access higher levels of competition and training.
- **Technical Expertise** from the ASC needs to be dynamic and pushed to decision makers and not static on a website. An example, to cut costs municipalities often cut a pool plan from 8 to 6 lanes when in reality programming demands and scheduling and operating of an 8-lane pool is cheaper.
- **Data analysis and provincial comparisons.** It is important that governments in Ontario understand how undervalued, under-represented and under-funded aquatic sport (and aquatic recreation for that fact) is in comparison to the rest of the country. This report touched on this at a very high level. Drilling down further may provide powerful tools and information for ASC and is beyond the scope of this study.
- **The Aquatic Sport Training Timetable** needs to be expanded to include the number of competitions and events. AAc has included the information it was able to gather as requested for this report. Unfortunately, response rates in some sports groups resulted in this data being incomplete upon submission. ASC will need to flesh this out at a later time.

Mapping and Driving Distances

Disclaimer

Many formulas were attempted in order to incorporate drive time to 50M pools in the analysis of this report. At this time, with the existing indoor 50M pool distribution it does not logically or easily apply in ON and would in fact take away from the impact of this report.

- Ontario has unique population "bubbles"
  - Relatively large bubbles in isolation in parts of the province
  - Easy access to 50M indoor pools outside of a region due to several large population bubble close together – e.g. Golden Horseshoe

Introduction to the Mapping System

As one of the outcomes AAc was asked to develop a layering mapping system that would provide visual details on categories such as:

- The new aquatic regions
- Populations of the regions
- Existing facility locations
- Existing aquatic clubs, etc.

While researching available options AAc looked for something that was easy to input and pull information from, that could potentially integrate with government mapping systems and not have a huge fee attached nor does it have a large cost to develop and maintain. The top software came up as the GIS (Geographical Information System). GIS is something many governments already use as their primary software for collecting and displaying data.

AAc is confident that GIS provides the best solution for ASC in meeting all objectives identified as QGIS is described below:

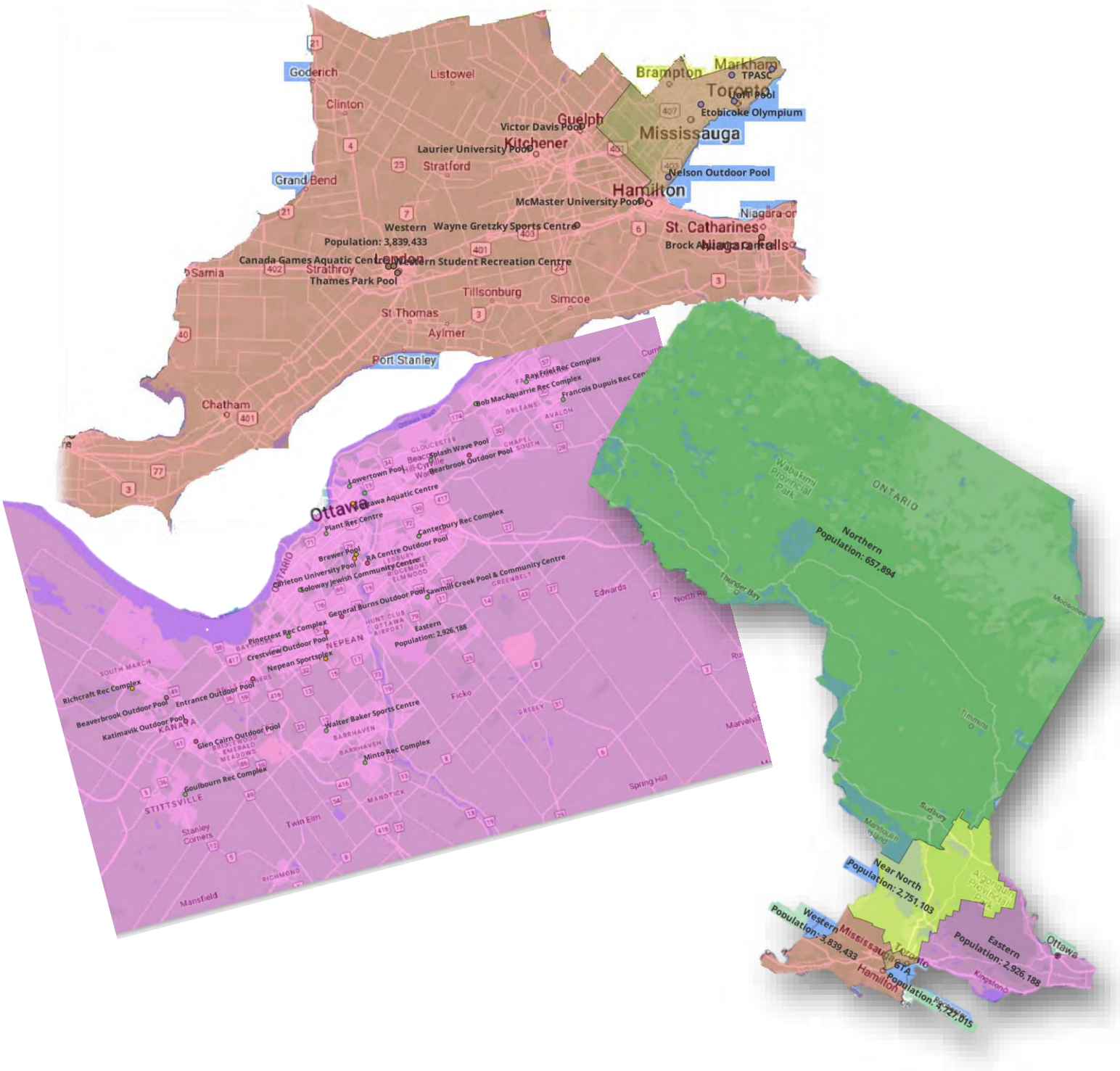
> *QGIS is the leading open-sourced desktop GIS application on the market. It is a free application and can be downloaded and used for many levels of requirements. QGIS is a user friendly Open-Source Geographic Information System (GIS) licensed under the GNU General Public License. QGIS is an official project of the Open-Source Geospatial Foundation (OSGeo). It runs on Linux, Unix, Mac OSX, windows and Android and supports numerous vector, raster and database formats and functionalities. (www.qgis.org)*

In giving the ASC-Ontario a foundation GIS data base to build upon AAc has provided the following layers of the 5 New Regions (as of current research and latest census reports):

- The Regions
- Populations in Regions
- Existing Indoor 50M pools in the regions
- Existing outdoor 50M pools in the regions
- Existing indoor sanctioned 25M pools in the regions
- Existing indoor training 25M pools in the regions
- Existing aquatic clubs in the regions – of the 5 aquatic sports
- Pool Level 1 through 5: identification of existing facilities in the regions

Note: Further discussion is required on how we transition from AAc study development to ASC operations of the database. We will need to set up a meeting with the ASC to discuss the options available to complete this transition.

Samples of GIS mapping (clockwise from top): Western Region 50M Pools, The New Regions, City of Ottawa Indoor and Outdoor Pools.



Facilitated Workshop & Summary Report

Thursday, January 19, 2023
Lifesaving Society Offices

Workshop Methodology

A one-day, interactive workshop involving selected representation from the Ontario Aquatic Council was held at the Lifesaving Offices on January 19. The agreed goal of the workshop was "To produce an outcome that supports a unified provincial strategy for Ontario aquatic sport." At the Preview meeting it was explained that this goal would be driven by using the focus question "How will the Aquatic Sport Council – Ontario support the growth of aquatic sport in Ontario?".

The Facilitators, Lesley Elaschuk and Lesley Anderson were able to hold individual meetings with most sport groups to gather information in advance of the workshop allowing further clarification on the unique needs of each sport group.

The workshop utilized a facilitated approach to Strategic Planning which included the following tools:

- Historical Scans to create a visual presentation of the evolution of Aquatic Sports in Ontario.
- Focused Conversations – utilizing the ORID approach to facilitation discussion around key findings.
- Visual Mind Mapping Tool – Mind Manager to assist with analyzing findings.
- Gestalting Cluster Method of Brainstorming to assist with creating consensus.

The format of the facilitated workshop allowed much discussion amongst the different aquatic sports groups, information and idea sharing, engagement. The group showed strong Practical thinking, Strategic thinking, Contradictory thinking and Visionary thinking in producing a united support for a unified Provincial Strategy for Ontario Aquatic Sport; agreeing a white paper regarding the need of more aquatic facilities in the province as well as ASC having a seat at various levels of government when it comes to aquatic planning / decision making.

Results of the Day

Activity: What the ASC does well / What the ASC needs to develop

This exercise ensured that all participants were starting with the same background understanding and launching pad for the day. After group work this list provided a general consensus of "Where We Have Landed in 2023."

5 THINGS ASC DOES WELL	5 THINGS ASC NEEDS TO DEVELOP
Brought all aquatic groups together	Aquatic Council
Increased education outreach	Engage universities
Added Parks and Recreation Ontario collaboration	Create structure
Conference / Tradeshow	Unified lobby voice for aquatics
Lobby to keep pools open during pandemic	Hybrid programming – foundation for aquatic sport
Engaging athletes	Introduction to sport for facility staff
Architect / builder interaction	Event management
Sports standards	Facility design for sport

At this point Tim Hamel provided the group with a presentation regarding the data which had been gathered up to this point, the layered mapping software, the division of the "new" regions and information on the locations of existing 50M pools, competition 25M pools and population projections. This information has been provided in detailed elsewhere in this report and will not be duplicated as part of the report on the facilitated workshop.

Activity: Focused Conversation

This activity took the rest of the afternoon. It involved a combination of using a focus question, brainstorming, and cluster method. Once the cluster method was complete the room named the clusters and then prioritized the clusters for resolution purposes.

Priorities Determined

1. Education
2. Alignment – ASC, all sport revitalizes, subgroup create for priorities.
3. Revitalize – quarterly meetings

The below are the cluster groups, their names and the content contained under each.

EDUCATION (11 priority points)	
Abstract for municipal and architects – various topics	Establish a municipal plan
Communicate	Develop lobby representing all aquatic sports to all levels of government
Use M2 to determine gaps	Promote lane safety/establish communication channels
Political engagement alignment strategy/educate local government officials	Advocacy assistance and education
Selling a learn to swim partnership model with swim schools	Promote the new/provide resource to municipalities
Need lobby expertise	Use white paper for 50M
Knowledge sources	Roadmap to developing regional ICIP funding strategy (infrastructure funding)
Roadmap to educated macro-economic consultants and architects	Roadmap to educate architects
Unity of plan for all	Provide the game plan! (Not suggesting action)
How to build political will in regional government – MP, MPP, councilors	Consider refurbishment, needs at some time

ALIGNMENT (8 priority points)	
System alignment	Collaborate on government policies (e.g., Rowan's Law)
Advocate for NSO facility standard changes	How to sell 1.2M deep water in shallow end
Share common goals and solutions	Forum for clubs to meet
Align with S&R entities	Support alternate funding streams for clubs
Aquatic groups working together	Get local aquatic groups talking
Support greater collaboration between sports	Standardize language
Develop 5 regional sport councils	Document "like" characteristics between aquatic sports
Break down barriers between sports	

REVITALIZE (8 priority points)	
Formalize the group	Establish, mission, vision, values
Establish mission, vision, values	Create funding strategy for ASCO
Revitalize ASCO	Formalize the group
Speaking up in a unified voice	Establish yearly objectives
Celebrate success (& share them)	Determine FAQs and answer them

Wrap up discussion was held. Brian Miess was primary lead on discussion next steps group will take on priorities for group and white paper. Smaller subset of this group planning on meeting in April/May.

Other Observations

During our research, through pre-workshop discussions, from experience with regional clubs and municipal aquatic employee and decision makers we came across points that went beyond the scope of this report. We felt they were important and should be captured so they can be explored at a later date should you desire.

The fact that Ontario is underrepresented as far as aquatic sport facilities are concerned is obvious. It also became clear that building facilities will not *automatically* create a dramatic increase in sport participants, aquatic sport teams becoming a priority for training space and time, nor an increase in the calibre of athletes in Ontario. There must be a systemic change in the province and that will require a more holistic approach. At the facilitated workshop this very topic was discussed. Some successes have already happened, and some great excitement generated. These have been isolated events that show what can be done. There seemed to be agreement that a concentrated and united aquatic sport approach must be created.

Multilayered, Multidirectional Approach

Building & Rebuilding Relationships

In Closing

Aquatic Associates Consulting strives to provide factually based data for our clients. We feel we have achieved this objective in the report to the Aquatic Sport Council- Ontario. We are confident that the Council will be able to utilize the information collected in their preparation of the White Paper being presented to the Province of Ontario. We would be proud to know that our report played a role in providing the facilities required in the proper locations across the provinces for years to come for all aquatic sports.

Aquatic Associates Consulting has thoroughly enjoyed working with the Aquatic Sport Council – Ontario and the sport bodies in this important work. It is very much needed in Ontario, and it is obvious there are many opportunities and much work to be done.

As Aquatic Sport Council starts putting together content for the White Paper AAc would be happy to assist in any manner.

In Partnership,

Tim Hamel,
Principal,
Aquatic Associates Consulting

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: Facilitated Workshop Meeting Notes

Facilitated Workshop

Community – Competition - Connection

Aquatic Sport Council – Ontario

Meeting Notes

AQUATIC SPORT COUNCIL ONTARIO

Pools for Ontario's Athletes

FACILITATED WORKSHOP
JANUARY 26, 2023
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM
LIFESAVING SOCIETY OFFICES
AGENDA

Facilitators: Lesley Elaschuk & Lesley Anderson
Technical Presenter: Tim Hamel

Welcome and Introductions	Where in the province are we?
We Have Come a Long Way!	Historical Scan
Where We Have Landed in 2023	The 5 and 5 of ASC in 2023
Break	
Data, data, data….wait to be impressed	Regions re-imagined, mapping, projections and more!
Lunch	
Consensus Facilitated Workshop	This activity will take the rest of the day. It will involve a combination of using a focus question, brainstorming, the cluster method, naming and resolution.
Prioritizing & Decisions	Determing top strategies ASC will work on for the white paper to the government. What other strategies were identified that should be followed up on in a timely manner yet not be in the white paper.
Next Steps & Wrap Up	

Welcome and Introductions

In attendance:

Sport Organization Reps: Kathy Torrens (ON- Water Polo), Jane Wright (ON-Water Polo), Trevor Scheffel (ON-Artistic Swimming), Perry Smith LSS), Renata Jaciw-Zurakowsky (LSS), Brian Miess (LSS), Jeff McCurdy (LSS), Ann Bell (SwimON), Stephanie Geosits (DiveON), Alan Swanston (SwimON), Mary Dwyer (ON-Artistic Swimming), Nish Damani (ON-Water Polo), Dan Thompson (Myrtha Pools).

Regrets: Patti Kennedy (Dive ON), Dean Chambers (DiveON), Dean Boles (SwimON), Juanita Bueschleb (PRO-ON)

Aquatic Associates Consulting: Lesley Elaschuk, Lesley Anderson, Tim Hamel, Patrick D'Almada, Kevin Goodwin (Virtual)

Lesley presented the land acknowledgement.

Aquatics creates Community, Competition and Connection.

Participants – PRO, Dive, Lifesaving, Waterpolo, Artistic, and Swim Ontario

The Workshop

Focus question guiding the day: How will the ASCO support the growth of aquatic sport in Ontario?

1. **We have come a long way – Activity -> Historical Scan**
   Created timelines from 1922 – 2022 – major aquatic events.
2. **Where we landed in 2023 – Activity -> The 5 and 5 of ASC in 2023**
   (AC and DC were the group names)
   5 Things that we do really well
   AC
   - Brought all aquatic groups together.
   - Added Parks and Recreation Ontario collaboration.
   - Increased education outreach
   - Conference / Tradeshow
   - Lobby to keep pools open during pandemic.
   - Engaging athletes
   - Architect / builder interaction
   - Sport standards

   DC
   - Brought sport together and maintained connection.
   - Developed base infrastructure needs for competition @ national, provincial and municipal.
   - Kept up to date for pool design.
   - The framework for an interdisciplinary group to lobby
   - The creation of organic synergies

5 things that we need to develop.

AC

- Engage universities.
- Create structure.
- Unified lobby voice for aquatics
- Hybrid programming – foundation for aquatic sport
- Intro. to sport for facility staff
- Event management
- Facility design for sport

DC

- 1. Formalize ASCO scope, mandate, membership
- 2. Explain our POS in the community
- Creates engagement with government, facilities, etc.
- Makes ASCO point of contact and expertise.

Technical Presentation – Tim Hamel

Facility Levels

- Tim presented the various levels of pools for local, regional, national and international swimming pools.

Mapping Presentation

- Used tourism geographic definitions but the borders do not follow the Tourism mapping – adjustments have been made for population within each region.
- Good discussion about potential border realignment.

Consensus Facilitation

Purpose – In response to the Focus questions – to identify opportunities to address the question, identify potential strategies and prioritize those potential strategies to take forward and develop**.**

<u>Prioritization Results</u>

Education – 11 dots

- Abstract for municipal and architects – various topics.
- Establish a municipal plan.
- Communicate
- Develop lobby representing all aquatic sports to all levels of government.
- Use m2 to determine gaps.
- Promote lane safety\establish communication channels.
- Political engagement alignment strategy\educate local government officials.
- Advocacy assistance and education
- Selling a learn to swim partnership model with swim schools.
- Promote the need\provide resource to municipalities.
- Need lobby expertise.
- Use white paper for 50M

- Knowledge sources
- Roadmap to developing regional icip funding strategy (infrastructure funding)
- Roadmap to educate macro-economic consultants / architects.
- Roadmap to educate architects.
- Unity of plan for all
- Provide the game plan! (Not suggesting action)
- How to build political will in regional government – MP, MPP, councilors
- Consider refurbishment needs at some time

Alignment – 8 dots

- System alignment
- Collaborate on government policies (e.g., Rowan's Law)
- Advocate for NSO facility standard changes
- How to sell 1.2-meter-deep water in shallow end
- Share common goals and solutions.
- Forum for clubs to meet.
- Align with S&R entities
- Support alternate funding streams for clubs.
- Aquatic groups working together.
- Get local aquatic groups talking.
- Support greater collaboration between sports.
- Standardize language.
- Develop 5 regional sports councils.
- Document "like" characteristics between aquatic sports
- Break down barriers between sports.

Revitalize – 8 dots

- Formalize the group.
- Establish mission, vision, values.
- Create funding strategy for ASCO.
- Revitalize ASCO
- Formalize the group.
- Speaking up in a unified voice
- Establish yearly objectives.
- Celebrate successes (& share them)
- Determine FAQ's and answer them.

Data – 8 dots

- Establish database.
- Data centralization and sharing
- Explore part "two" (i.e., pools with slides)
- Central repository of most current data of facilities and builds under consideration.
- Clarify key data points for collection.

Multisport Events – 2 dots

- Develop a multisport day to try out aquatic sports.
- Plan and execute festival of aquatic sports.
- Events hosting strategy.
- Develop a promotional video for aquatic multi sports.
- Develop a multi-sport workshop seminar.
- Facility sport training

Engage – 0 dots

- Educate aquatic programmers engage targeted clubs in recommendations.
- Provide leadership to help collaboration between sports.
- Buy in from coaches?
- How to engage municipal staff
- Invite regional reps to ASCO.
- Engagement with municipal facilities
- Create joint marketing opportunities for communities.
- Need hybrid pilot across sports.
- Share coach and leadership opportunities i.e., conferences
- Community alignment of their needs and branding

Development – 0 dots

- Aquatics for all
- Use learn to swim as basis.
- Everyone in Ontario learn to swim.
- Common teaching curriculum at intro
- Multisport intro programs
- Develop a product for deck staff.
- Sport intro to learn to swim.
- Prioritizing & Decisions

Next Steps and Wrap Up

Priorities

1. Education
2. Alignment – ASCO, all sport revitalizes, subgroup created for priorities.
3. Revitalize – quarterly meeting.

Immediate Need

- Complete White Paper – Gov't, unified voice – Follow up Meeting to be set by ASCO.
- Data – Aquatic Associates producing – Follow up Meeting to be set by AAc.

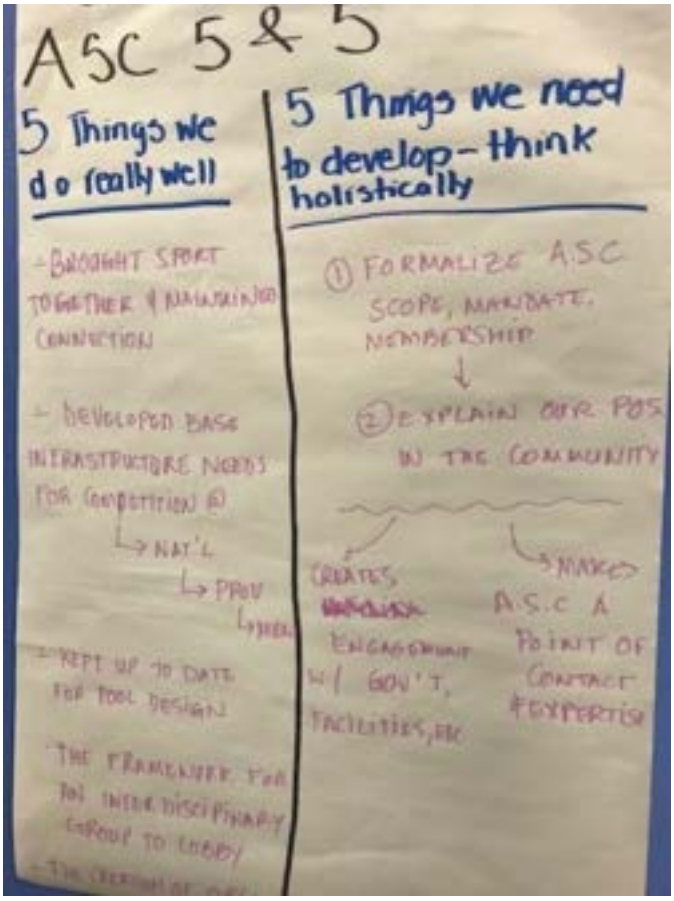
Report

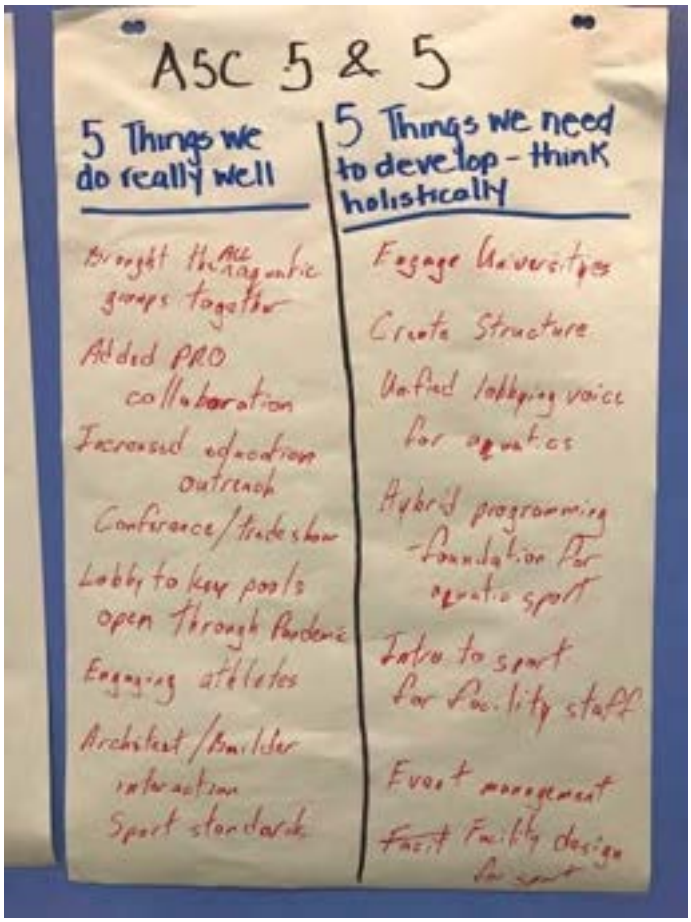
- Includes data.
- Findings from facilitation
- General study findings and recommendations

Wading Pool

- What about Leisure Pools built for training to be included?
- Data – ceiling heights for high diving
- What questions / risks do data create? Participants record and email.
- Laurentian Pool as possible solution for NE Ontario – still out of commission but being inspected to assess potential for reopening.

-


ASC 5 & 5
5 Things we do really well
5 Things we need to develop - think holistically
BROUGHT SPORT TOGETHER
DEVELOPED BASE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS FOR COMPETITION
NAT'L
PROV
KEPT UP TO DATE FOR TOOL DESIGN
FORMALIZE ASC SCOPE, MANDATE, MEMBERSHIP
EXPLAIN OUR POS IN THE COMMUNITY
CREATES
MAKES
A.S.C A POINT OF CONTACT EXPERTISE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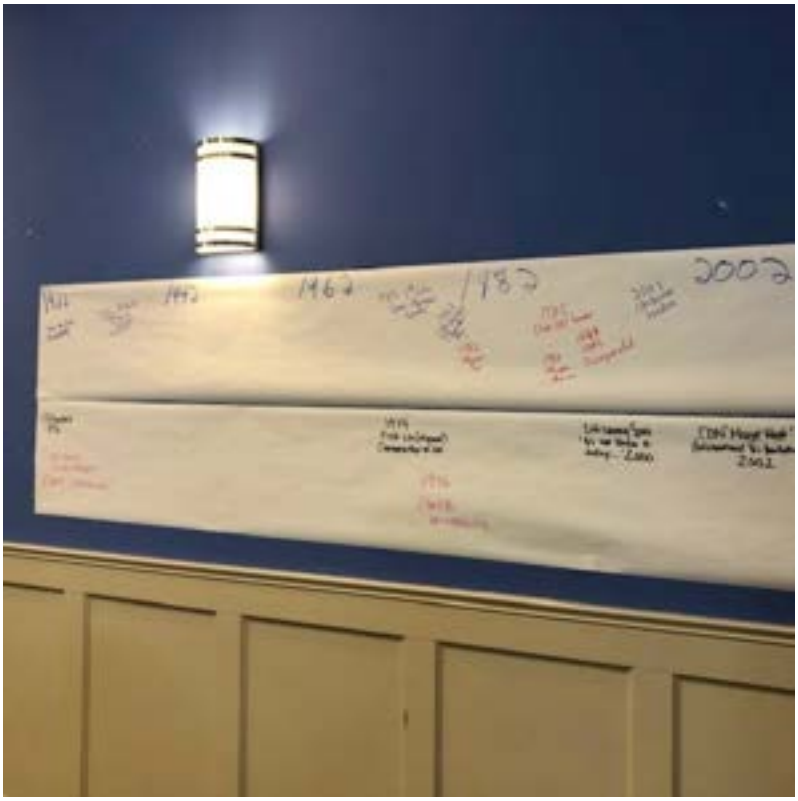
Increased education outreach
Conference/tradeshow
Lobby to key pools open through Pandemic
Engaging athletes
Architect/Builder interaction
Sport standards
Engage Universities
Create Structure
Unified lobbying voice for aquatics
Hybrid programming - foundation for aquatic sport
Intro to sport for facility staff
Event management
Facility design for sport



APPENDIX B

RESPONSES OF AQUATIC SPORT GROUPS FOR SPORT SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Received from:

Swim Ontario

Dive Ontario

Water Polo Ontario

LSS Ontario

RECEIVED FROM: DIVE ON

ONTARIO AQUATIC SPORT INFRASTRUCTURE STUDY

INFORMATION GATHERING FROM SPORT BODIES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

SUMMARY

Below are some of the key questions we are looking to get answered so we can begin to lay the foundation to our report and which will help guide in some of the process.

We are not looking for the Sport Governing Bodies to answers all of these questions but help to direct us to where we can source the information. Any information you have on the below will be very beneficial in reducing the time it takes to collect this information which can then be redirected to the report findings.

We will be using 2018-19 Season as our last season to give us the most up to date data based on a full season. The season will run September to August

We are looking to collect this information in established Regions of the Province either using existing Sports Structures or looking into other options in this study?

QUESTIONS

- What are the main items or outcomes you would like to see completed in this study?

  We would like validation of the gaps we see in facilities

  We would like data to support facility development in key population centres across the province.

- How are your Regions Broken Down, how many, where? We do not have Regions
- How many registered Teams or Clubs do you have in the Province? We have 10 Member Clubs and 1 Affiliate Member, Toronto Diving Academy, which is a DPC high performance training centre
- How are these broken into Regions, do you have club divisions? N/A
- How many registered Athletes do you have in your program?
- Between 900-1,000
- Competitive: 20% - Provincial and National Levels
- Recreational: 80%

What are their main Training Facilities for each of these Clubs or Teams?

Burlington Pools

Etobicoke Olympium*

London – Canada Games Aquatic Centre*

Markham Pools

Nepean Sportsplex*

Thunder Bay*

TPASC*

Toronto Pools - Woodbine

University of Toronto Athletic Centre (St. George Campus)

Waterloo Memorial Recreation Complex*

Windsor International Aquatic and Training Centre*

*Can host Provincials/National Qualifiers

How many Sanctioned Events does the Province host per year? What are the levels?

Three Provincials (National Qualifiers) and one Aspire Level Provincials.

Clubs host invitationals at their discretion.

Ontario will, on occasion, host Nationals or Worlds in conjunction with DPC.

Where are these events hosted? See list of pools with *

Facility Names and Amenities? See list of pools

Average number of Events per Athlete per season? Totally dependent on the athlete.

Can you provide any reports your Sport has completed over the past 10 years on Aquatic Infrastructure or any other reports that could assist us in getting a better understanding of the needs. None that I'm aware of.

Feel free to provide any other information you feel relevant to this study.

We would like to grow our sport as currently we only have member clubs in Ottawa, Windsor, K-W, London, the GTA and Thunder Bay. There are huge parts of the province that have no presence, largely due to the lack of appropriate facilities. For example, there was a high-level diver who left Ukraine and settled in Barrie, but there are no facilities north of Toronto available for training.

There are municipalities (like Vaughan) that have approached us about training their Rec Staff to teach/coach diving.

There are universities that are not maintaining their boards/platforms or have installed boards that are below standard.

CAN WE HAVE ALL INFORMATION SENT TO admin@aquaticassociates.com by **FRI OCT 7TH.**

RECEIVED FROM - LSS ON

Ontario Aquatic Sport Infrastructure Study – Aquatic Sport Council

Questions – Prepared by Perry Smith – Lifesaving Society

What are the main items or outcomes you would like to see completed in this study?

- A comprehensive inventory of aquatic facilities and identify what facilities are eligible to run the Lifesaving Sport Fundamentals.
- That facilities that are built in the future can accommodate multiple aquatic sports
- That there is a comprehensive list that outlines which facilities can host international competitive lifesaving sanctioned events.
- An understanding of how people perceive Lifesaving Sport and to educate them in the components of the sport.
- To establish a data base of contacts that would be interested in more information or to offer Lifesaving Sport in their aquatic facilities.
- That there be a listing of site tank dimensions, including deck space and other features available.
- That a calendar be available that details the championship quadrennial (or other) for each and all aquatic sport to better understand demands.

How are your regions broken down, how many, where?

We don't break down our sport into regions for sport but we do for our other learn to swim, lifesaving, programs. Another option is to align with the Ontario Tourism regions

https://www.ontario.ca/document/tourism-regions or more detailed resemblance OFSAA regions

http://ckarkofsaa.s3,cacentral-1.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/ofsaa_regions.jpg or perhaps our own Lifesaving Society Area map used for other purposes detailed below.

We define our regions as areas that are loosely divided by geographic and political boundaries with 5 general regions identified plus Nunavut.

West Region:

Area 1 – Windsor-Essex

Area 2 – Chatham-Kent

Area 3 - Sarnia-Lambton

Area 4 – London-Middlesex

Area 5 – Oxford-Brant-Norfolk

Area 6 – Niagara

Area 7 – Huron-Perth

Area 8 – Waterloo-Wellington

Area 9 – Hamilton-Wentworth

Greater Toronto Region

Area 10 – Burlington

Area 11 – Oakville

Area 12a – Mississauga

Area 12b – Brampton-Caledon

Area T1 – Toronto-Etobicoke District

AreaT2 – Toronto-North York District

Area T3 – Toronto-Scarborough District

Area T4 – Toronto – East York District

Central Region

Area 13 – Grey-Bruce

Area 14 Halton

Area 15 – Huronia

Area 16 – Muskoka-Parry Sound

Area 17 – York

Area 17a – Durham

Area 18a – Kawartha-Haliburton

Area 18b – Peterborough-Northumberland-Hastings

East Region

Area 20 – Kingston

Area 21 – Lanark-Leeds and Grenville

Area 22 – Cornwall

Area 23 – Ottawa

Area 23a – Upper Ottawa Valley

North Region

Area 24 – North Bay-Nipissing

Area 25 – Sudbury-Manitoulin

Area 26 – Algoma District

Area 27 Timiskaming

Area 28 – Cochrane District

Area 29 – Lake Superior

Area 30 – Dryden-Kenora

Nunavut

How many registered Teams or Clubs do you have in the Province?

2019

Junior Telegames (Remote competitions) - 17

Sport Fundamentals (Learn to Lifesaving Sport) – 27

Lifesaving Championships (Competitions) – 20

How many registered Athletes do you have in your program? Break out into competitive levels if possible. Break out into Regions?

We are in the process of revising our athlete registration system. An approximate count be 450 competitive athletes. We do not have a count on recreational participation as it can often be blended into other Lifesaving programs.

What are their main Training Facilities for each of these Clubs or Teams?

For the pool side of the competition, teams will use pools of any size to train indoor or outdoor depending on the facilities availability. Ontario Lifesaving events are hosted indoor at a 25m tank while national and international events are hosted either indoor or outdoor in a 50m tank. The events in each tank are bound to different rules. Teams will use outdoor waterfront and beach sites local to them to train for waterfront/surf and beach events.

How many Sanctioned Events does the Province host per year? What are the levels?

There are at least 3 pool championships and at least 3 waterfront championships held each year. The variable occurs when Ontario hosts national and International Championships in Ontario. In 2023 for example we are hosting 8 events not including our vocational Lifeguard Championships.

Junior Telegames are for age group and mixed relays occur four times a year, Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall. Age groups individual events are 7 yrs. and under, 8&9 yrs., 10&11 yrs., 12&13 yrs., 14&15 yrs., 16&17 yrs., Mixed Relays 44 years or less, and 45-64 years of age.

Seasonal Championships have age divisions. For Youth, Senior and Masters as follows; 14-15 years, 16-19 years, open16+ years, Masters 30+ years.

There are 7 sanctioned Championships as follows; Ontario Junior Lifesaving Championships – Pool, Ontario Junior Lifesaving Championships – Waterfronts, Ontario Senior Lifesaving Championships – Pool, Ontario Senior Lifesaving Championships – Waterfront, Ontario Lifeguard Championships, Ontario Masters Lifesaving Championships – Pool, Ontario Masters Lifesaving Championships – Waterfront.

On average four additional regional sanctioned competitions for all ages are organized.

Where are these sanctioned events hosted? Facility Names and Amenities? This broken into regions.

Ontario events can be hosted in 25m 6+ lane tanks (with lanes, starting blocks, touch pads, etc.) national events hosted in Ontario must be hosted in a 50m, 8+ lane tank (with lanes, starting blocks, touch pads, etc.) Depth is an important consideration for Lifesaving events to occur as some events require manikin pick-up from the bottom of the pool. The use of a hydraulic floor is helpful for use in some cases where depth is problematic. Events have been hosted at a variety of facilities across the province including but not exclusively to Markham Pan am, Etobicoke Olympium, Guelph Victor Davis, Oakville, Milton, University of Guelph, etc.

Our 2023 tentative schedule of events in Ontario is as follows;

Ontario Lifeguard Games – February 18, 2023 hosted at the University of Waterloo (Waterloo, ON)

Ontario Lifesaving Pool Championships for Seniors and Masters Age Groups - March 11-12, 2023 hosted at the Iroquois Ridge Pool in the Town of Oakville (Oakville, ON)

Ontario Lifesaving Pool Championships for Juniors Age Group – June 3-4, 2023 hosted at the Markham Pan Am Pool (Markham, ON)

Ontario Lifesaving Pool Championships for Junior, Senior and Masters - August 17-19, 2023 hosted by Saugeen Shores (Port Elgin, ON)

Canadian Pool Championships – June 9-11. 2023 hosted at the Windsor International Aquatic and Training Centre (Windsor, ON)

RLSS Commonwealth Lifesaving Pool Championships- September 13-17, 2023 hosted at the Windsor International Aquatic and Training Centre (Windsor, ON)

Average number of Events per athlete per season?

An athlete will generally attend 2-3 sanctioned Ontario events annually. High performance athletes will often attend more events in total. This number does not include community level, invitational, national or international events.

Can you provide any reports your Sport has completed over the past 10 years on Aquatic infrastructure or any other reports that could assist us in getting a better understanding of the needs.

Section 8 of the ILS Competition Rule Book https://www.ilsf.org/lifesaving-sport/rules/

For hosting national and international events. Reports on facility site visits available upon request.

RECEIVED FROM – WATER POLO ON

ONTARIO AQUATIC SPORT INFRASTRUCTURE STUDY

INFORMATION GATHERING FROM SPORT BODIES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

SUMMARY

Below are some of the key questions we are looking to get answered so we can begin to lay the foundation to our report and which will help guide in some of the process.

We are not looking for the Sport Governing Bodies to answers all of these questions but help to direct us to where we can source the information. Any information you have on the below will be very beneficial in reducing the time it takes to collect this information which can then be redirected to the report findings.

We will be using 2018-19 Season as our last season to give us the most up to date data based on a full season. The season will run September to August

We are looking to collect this information in established Regions of the Province either using existing Sports Structures or looking into other options in this study?

QUESTIONS

What are the main items or outcomes you would like to see completed in this study?

We would like to see what locations currently have facilities that can support water polo play in these respective categories: 13U, 15U, 17U+.

We would also like to see demographic trends by region, along with infrastructure projects in the horizon.

How are your Regions Broken Down, how many, where?

Currently we operate with 3 informal regions:

- **Southwest (London to Hamilton)**
- **GTA**
- **Capital Region (which includes Kingston)**

There is indication of a 'Northern' Region that would include Barrie, Orillia, etc.

How many registered Teams or Clubs do you have in the Province?

15 Club teams

9 University teams

How are these broken into Regions, do you have club divisions?

No

How many registered Athletes do you have in your program? Break out into competitive levels if possible. Break out into Regions?

2000 members

Membership categories are:

Community/ Recreational (local play, training)

Provincial (play in in Prov League)

National (play in National League)

What are their main Training Facilities for each of these Clubs or Teams?

London:

Canada Games Centre

Boys and Girls Club London Aquaplex

East Lions Community Centre

Thames Park (outdoor)

Western, Canada Games, YMCA

St-Mary's Pyramid Recreation Centre

YMCA of Stratford Perth

Hamilton:

McMaster University

Jimmy Thompson Pool

Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre

Guelph:

Victoria Road Recreation Centre

University of Guelph

GTA:

Etobicoke Olympium

Markham Pan Am Centre

TPASC

University of Toronto

Central Tech

Rosedale Heights

Ryerson University

Keele Public School

Gus Ryder Pool

Sunnyside Pool

Sir Wilfrid Laurier

Kingston:

Queen's University

Ottawa:

François Dupuis Recreation Centre
2263 Portobello Blvd, Ottawa, ON K4A 0X3

Splash Wave Pool
2040 Ogilvie Rd, Gloucester, ON K1J 7N8

Brewer Pool
100 Brewer Way, Ottawa, ON K1S 5T1

University of Ottawa – Montpetit Hall (MNT)
125 University Private, Ottawa, ON K1N 1A2

Carleton University – Carleton Athletics
65 University Rd, Ottawa, ON K1S

Pinecrest Recreation Complex
2250 Torquay Ave, Ottawa, ON K2C 1J3

Nepean Sportsplex
1701 Woodroffe Ave, Nepean, ON K2G 1W2

Walter Baker Sports Centre
100 Malvern Dr, Nepean, ON K2J 2G5

Richcraft Recreation Complex
4101 Innovation Dr, Ottawa, ON K2K 0J3

Cégep de l'Outaouais
333 Boulevard de la Cité-des-Jeunes
Gatineau, QC J8Y 6M4

Bob MacQuarrie Recreation Complex (BMRC) – Orléans

Sawmill Creek Pool
3380 D'Aoust Ave, Gloucester, ON K1T 1R5

How many Sanctioned Events does the Province host per year? What are the levels?

Approximately 4 provincially sanctioned events, however the NSO hosts multiple league events, National Chanmpionships per year.

Where are these events hosted? Facility Names and Amenities? This broken into regions

The primary facilities are:

Etobicoke Olympium

Toronto Pan Am Centre

Markham Pan Am Centre

University of Toronto

Nepean Sportsplex

Average number of Events per Athlete per season?

The average would be ~7 events per year per athlete over the age of 11.

Can you provide any reports your Sport has completed over the past 10 years on Aquatic Infrastructure or any other reports that could assist us in getting a better understanding of the needs.

Feel free to provide any other information you feel relevant to this study.

CAN WE HAVE ALL INFORMATION SENT TO admin@aquaticassociates.com

Response to:

What are the main items or outcomes you would like to see completed from this study?

Identification of communities most lacking in aquatic training facilities, based on:

- projected populations,
- a description of facility requirements for training and for competition
- distance to nearest facility suitable for training
- distance to nearest facility for competition at the regional and provincial level, and
- benefits of training facilities for health, sport in general and for competitive swimming.

The economic benefits of swimming event hosting.
The economic benefits of swimming programs in attracting families to communities.
The health, social and safety benefits of swimming programs; especially learn to swim programs.

AQUATIC SPORT COUNCIL ONTARIO
Pools for Ontario's Athletes

Pool Training Time for Aquatic Sport Development

This fact sheet is provided to give aquatic sport organizations a reference that can be used when communicating sport training time needs to aquatic programmers, pool operators and municipal planners. The information is aligned with the broadly accepted Long Term Athlete Development Model adopted for sport in Canada. Please note that different programs may have different needs, but on average these are a good starting point.

For more information, on pool allocation strategies please read the Aquatic Sport Council's "Community Planning Guide" or click here.

Athlete Level	Diving	Competitive Swimming	Synchronized Swimming	Water Polo
Introductory FUNdamentals	0.5 to 1.5 hours per week	0.5 to 1 hour sessions, 1 – 3 times per week moving to 0.5 to 1 hour sessions 3 – 6 times per week	0.5 to 0.75 hours/week	3 hours /week @ 2 X1.5 hours
Learn to Train	1 to 2 hour sessions, two times per week	60 - 90 minute sessions, 4 - 6 times per week	60-90 minutes sessions 2-3 times per week	7.5 hours /week @ 4-5 times per week
Train to Train	4 to 14 hours per week depending on age and competitive level	60 - 120 minute sessions, 6 - 12 sessions per week	4-6 sessions per week @ 120-180 minutes	8 hours / week @ 4 X 2 hours
Train to Compete	4 to 14 hours per week depending on age and competitive level	90 - 120 minute sessions, 8 - 12 sessions per week	6-8 sessions per week @ 120-240 minutes	12-14 hours / week @ 6 times per week
Train to Win	4 to 14 hours per week depending on age and competitive level	90 - 150 minute sessions, 10-15 sessions per week	8-10 sessions per week @ 120-240 minutes	12-14 hours / week @ 6 times per week

For more information:
Aquatic Sport Council – Ontario
www.aquaticsport.ca
info@aquaticsport.ca
647-629-8319

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2018-2019 Registration Report

Swimming Canada - October 02, 2020

Prepared for Swim Ontario

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide an analysis of national registration for the 2018-2019 season. We believe that this analysis will help identify areas where provinces are doing well and growing their sport base, as well as shed light on areas that could be improved. Each province is encouraged to ask questions regarding the information provided, as well as seek assistance in addressing specific provincial gaps.

Preamble

This analysis uses the athlete registration data taken from the Swimming Canada Registration Tracking and Results System (RTR). Consecutive seasons are compared utilizing athlete ID numbers for accurate tracking. The key areas for investigation from both a national and provincial perspective are: ages where there is the greatest recruitment, retainment or loss, the number of years of experience where there is the greatest athlete loss, retention or transition from precompetitive to competitive, as well as the differences in registration statistics between the sexes in both the competitive and precompetitive programs. Throughout this report, we have used the term precompetitive to describe those athletes that are registered as "Non-Competitive" in the Swimming Canada RTR. Abbreviations used in several tables throughout this document are listed below.

Diff. Difference between two season's registration numbers

Quit The number of athletes that did not return from the previous season

New New registrations to either the competitive or precompetitive programs

Returned The number of athletes that had previous registered, quit, but have reregistered this season

Pre to Comp The number of athletes that have transitioned from a precompetitive program to a competitive program

Comp to Pre The number of athletes that have transitioned from a competitive program to a precompetitive program"

Export The number of athletes that have moved away from a province between seasons

Import The number of athletes that have moved into a province between seasons

Retained The number of athletes that have reregistered in the same competitive or precompetitive program

The analysis performed within this document groups athletes by both age, and by years of experience. The age for every athlete is calculated using their year of birth as of December 31st, 2018. This provides a consistent basis for tracking at what age an athlete may have registered or quit, rather than attempting to calculate the athletes age as of the date of registration, or the date of leaving which is typically not tracked by club registrars. Years of experience is calculated from the year the athlete first registered to the start of September 2018 season. An athlete who registered in March or June of the previous and then did not return in September would be included in the group having quit after the first year of experience.

1 Competitive Program Registration, Retainment, and Loss

In this section, a national registration summary will be presented followed by a specific provincial summary. We believe that illustrating when athletes join, stay, or leave competitive swimming, it will help in answering:

- What types of training, competition, and membership engagement are being optimally employed when athletes first register with a competitive swimming program?
- Are the ages for recruitment, retention, or loss for a province similar or different to the national picture, and is this a good thing?
- Does the age of when athletes choose to leave the sport align with the ages athletes start to specialize in a given sport or activity?

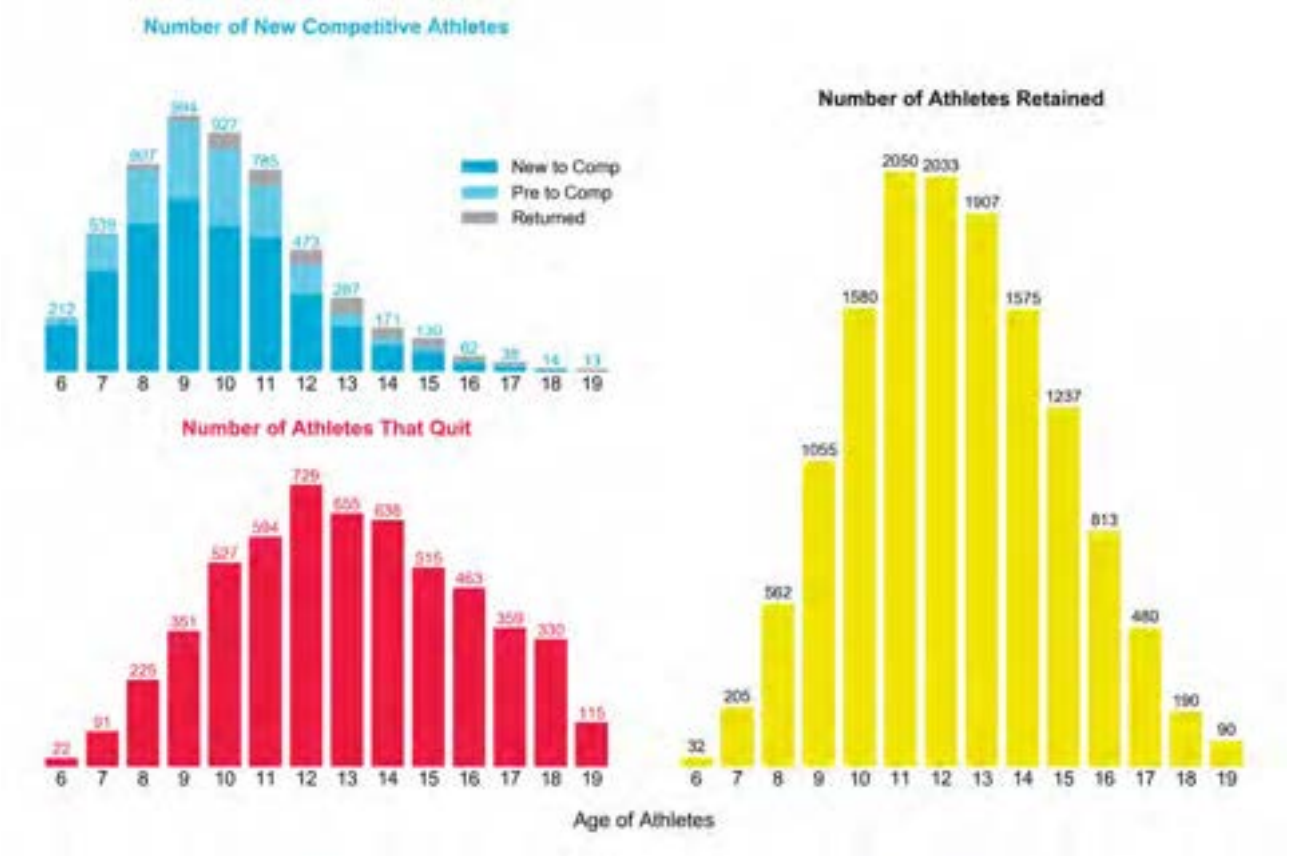

Figure 1: Swimming Canada Female Competitive Athlete Registration Summary for the 2018-2019 season. The top left chart illustrates the number of new competitive registrations, the bottom left shows the number of athletes that did not return after the previous season, and the right shows the number of athletes that have reregistered. Athlete ages are listed below each bar, while the total number of athletes for each category is shown at the top of each bar.

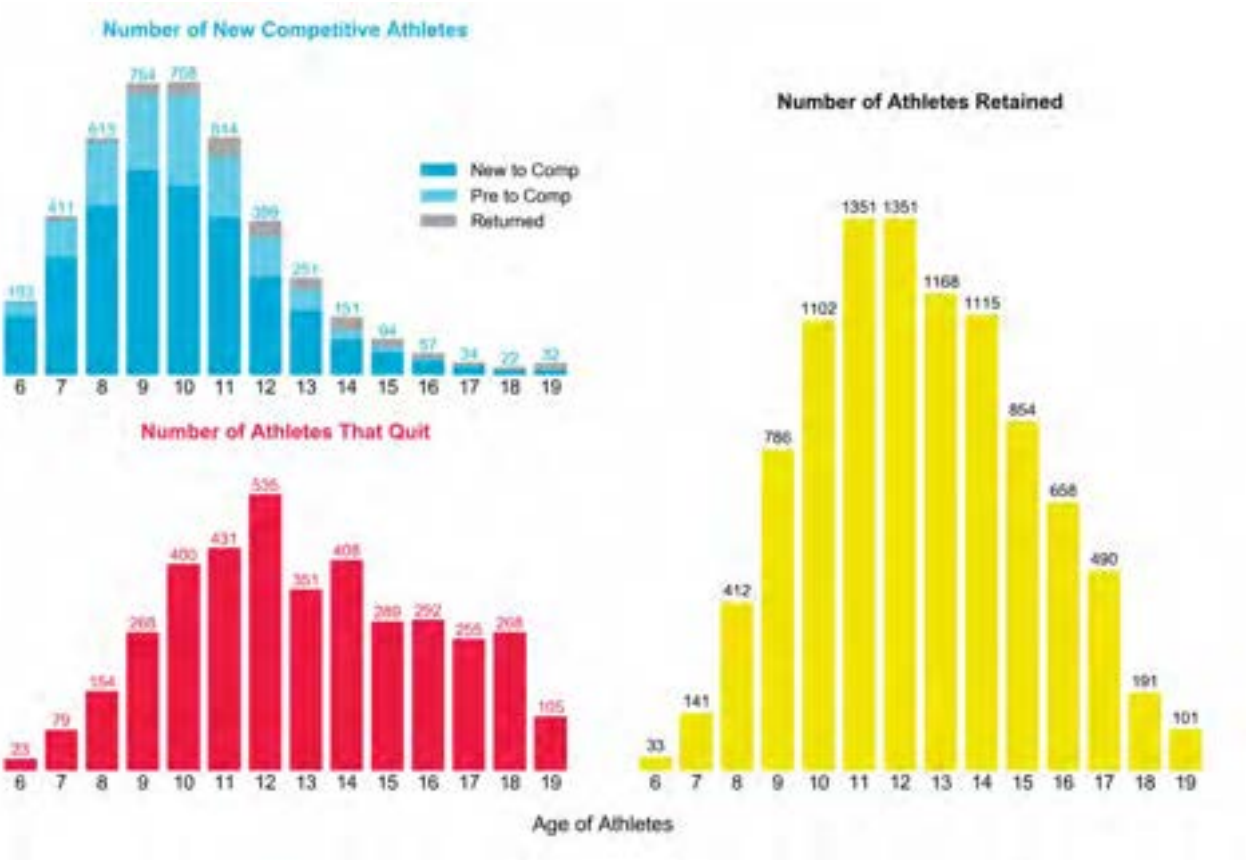

Figure 2: Swimming Canada Male Competitive Athlete Registration Summary for the 2018-2019 season. The top left chart illustrates the number of new competitive registrations, the bottom left shows the number of athletes that did not return after the previous season, and the right shows the number of athletes that have reregistered. Athlete ages are listed below each bar, while the total number of athletes for each category is shown at the top of each bar.

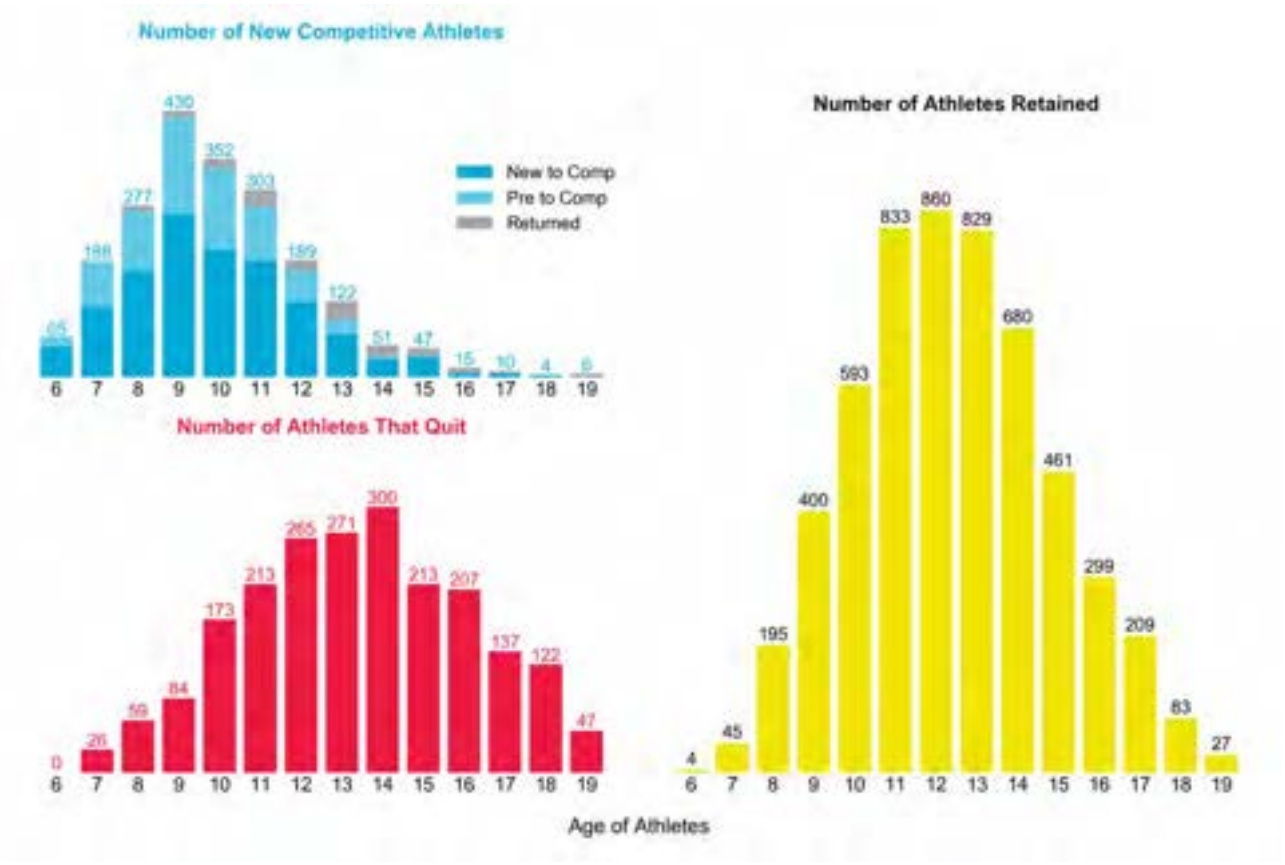

Figure 3: Swim Ontario Female Competitive Athlete Registration Summary for the 2018-2019 season. The top left chart illustrates the number of new competitive registrations, the bottom left shows the number of athletes that did not return after the previous season, and the right shows the number of athletes that have reregistered. Athlete ages are listed below each bar, while the total number of athletes for each category is shown at the top of each bar.

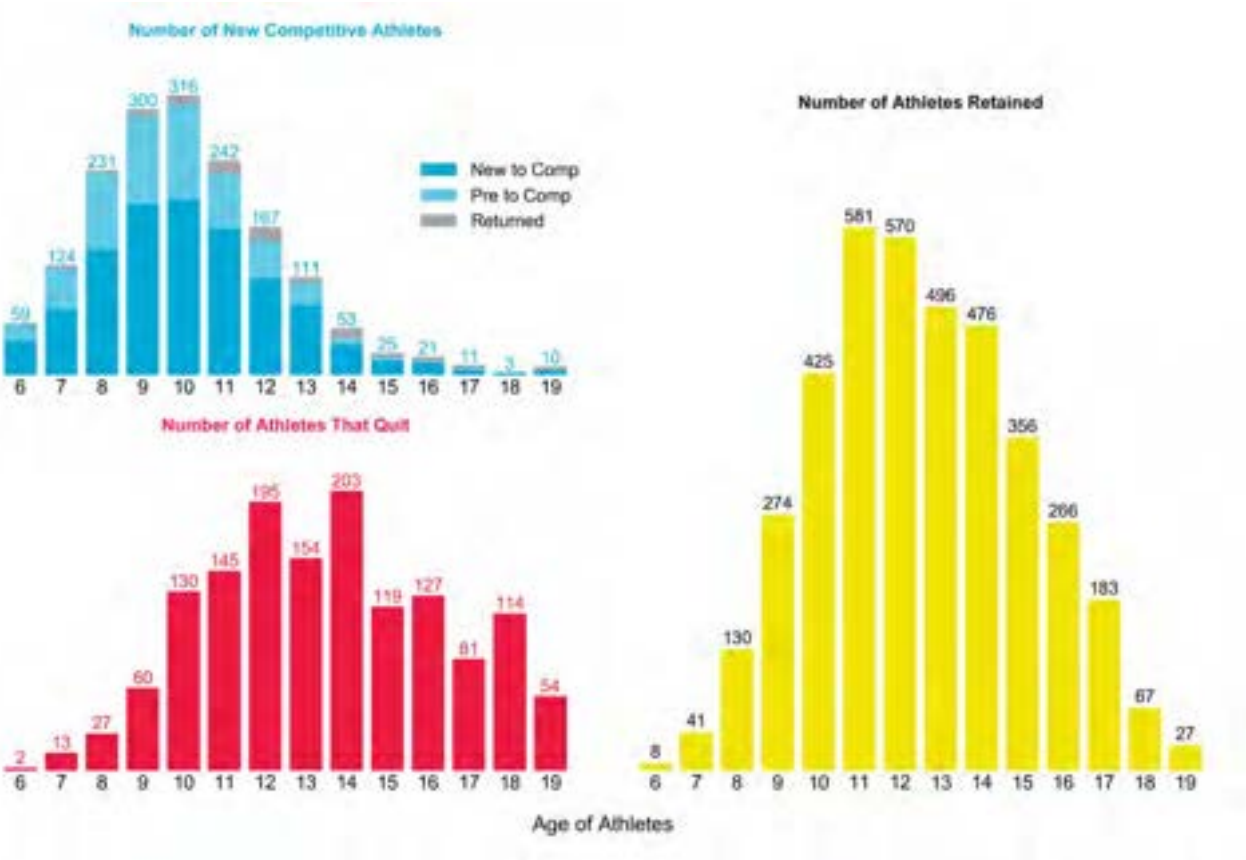

Figure 4: Swim Ontario Male Competitive Athlete Registration Summary for the 2018-2019 season. The top left chart illustrates the number of new competitive registrations, the bottom left shows the number of athletes that did not return after the previous season, and the right shows the number of athletes that have reregistered. Athlete ages are listed below each bar, while the total number of athletes for each category is shown at the top of each bar.

PSO	Group	2017-2018	2018-2019	Diff.	Quit	New	Returned	Pre to Comp	Comp to Pre	Export	Import
SWIMAB	Female	2294	2183	-111	-635	334	39	199	-45	-15	12
	Male	1568	1503	-65	-458	228	39	144	-27	-5	14
	Total	3862	3686	-176	-1093	562	78	343	-72	-20	26
SWIMBC	Female	2197	2236	39	-574	293	76	330	-84	-15	13
	Male	1830	1888	58	-469	239	56	275	-45	-14	16
	Total	4027	4124	97	-1043	532	132	605	-129	-29	29
SWIMMB	Female	632	666	34	-225	201	11	44	0	-2	5
	Male	402	478	76	-139	167	12	36	-1	-1	2
	Total	1034	1144	110	-364	368	23	80	-1	-3	7
SWIMNB	Female	647	668	21	-199	203	16	0	0	-7	8
	Male	379	434	55	-109	155	13	0	0	-6	2
	Total	1026	1102	76	-308	358	29	0	0	-13	10
SWIMNL	Female	313	294	-19	-86	9	5	51	0	-1	3
	Male	184	204	20	-33	16	5	33	0	-2	1
	Total	497	498	1	-119	25	10	84	0	-3	4
SWIMNS	Female	517	458	-59	-162	92	12	7	-9	-4	5
	Male	313	308	-5	-99	80	8	13	-7	-3	3
	Total	830	766	-64	-261	172	20	20	-16	-7	8
SWIMON	Female	7720	7548	-172	-2162	1266	176	652	-103	-20	19
	Male	5436	5596	160	-1476	1089	113	505	-71	-23	23
	Total	13156	13144	-12	-3638	2355	289	1157	-174	-43	42
SWIMPEI	Female	102	98	-4	-39	24	6	8	-2	-1	0
	Male	96	87	-9	-34	14	2	12	0	-4	1
	Total	198	185	-13	-73	38	8	20	-2	-5	1
FNQ	Female	4946	4697	-249	-1583	1211	119	58	-56	-6	8
	Male	3636	3590	-46	-1178	1023	107	28	-28	-5	7
	Total	8582	8287	-295	-2761	2234	226	86	-84	-11	15
SWIMSK	Female	417	409	-8	-107	25	11	72	-9	-2	2
	Male	202	206	4	-63	27	5	47	-7	-7	2
	Total	619	615	-4	-170	52	16	119	-16	-9	4

Table 1: National Competitive Registration Summary by Provincial Sport Organization. The previous season's total competitive registration count and the current season's count are listed in the first two columns, while the third column is the difference between them. All subsequent columns breakdown the changes in registration for the 2018-2019 season. Definitions for column headings are listed on page two of this document.

2 Registration, Retainment, and Loss Comparisons to Previous Years

Using previous years data from Swimming Canada's RTR, comparisons can be made between the 2018-2019 season and the previous three seasons. This, along with the registration breakdown from the previous page, can help establish if registration related initiatives, such as province wide membership drives or steps taken to retain more senior athletes with the competitive program, are working as intended.

2.1 New Competitive Registrations

In this section, new registrations, transfers from precompetitive, and athletes returning to competitive swimming after one or more years away will all be grouped together as new registrations. This grouping will make comparing the 2018-2019 season to the previous season's new registration data easier to understand. The new registration data from the three seasons prior to 2018-2019 have been used to find the average, minimum and maximum new registration sums by individual age for comparison to the 2018-2019 season. If membership growth has been a provincial goal, then one would expect to see the 2018-2019 season's new registration values higher than the average over the last three seasons, and ideally over the maximum values of the previous three seasons.

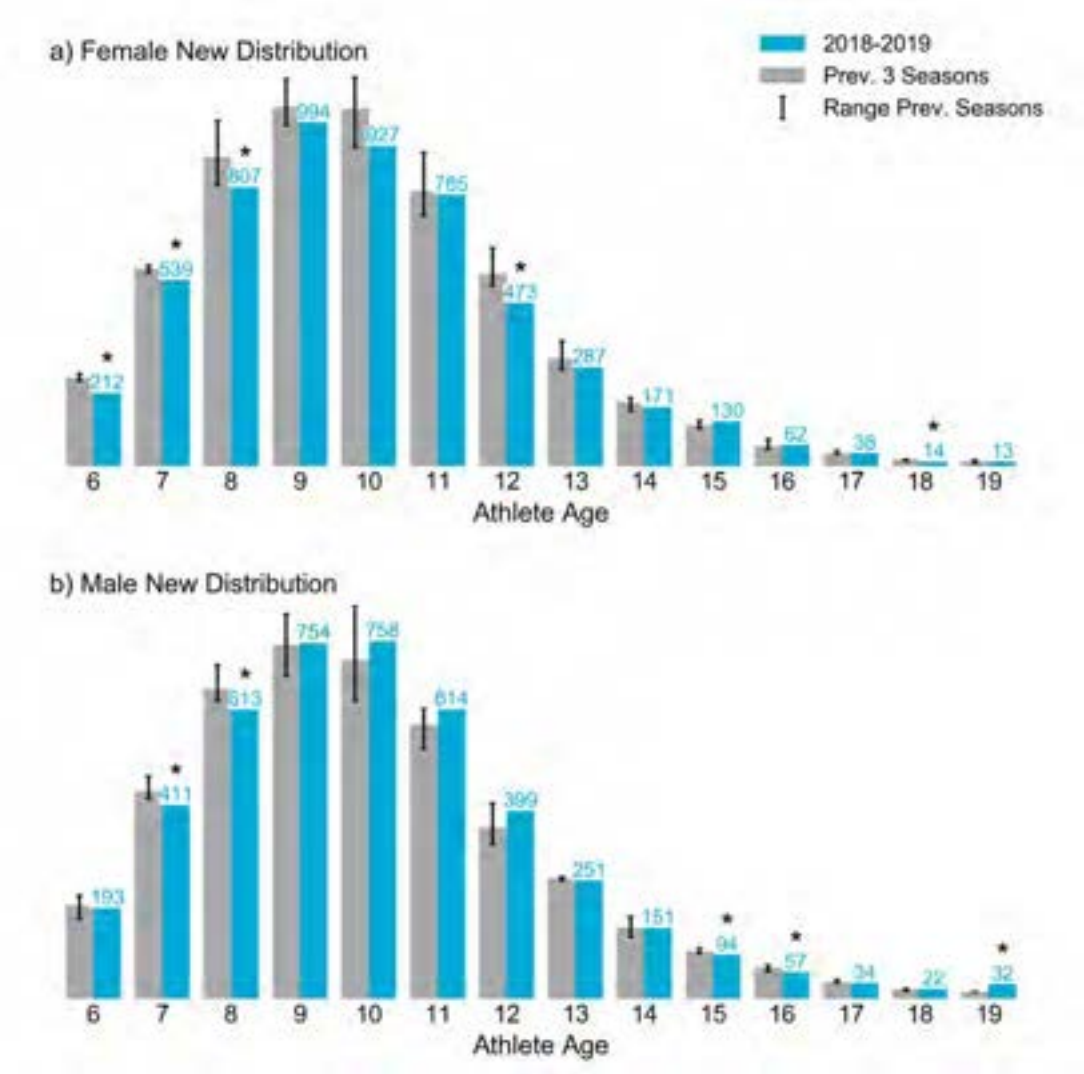

Figure 5: Swimming Canada New Registration Comparison. Female new registrations by age are shown in the top chart, while male new registrations are shown in the bottom chart. New registrations include those new to competitive swimming, those transferring from precompetitive to competitive, and those athletes who are returning to competitive swimming after at least one season away. The blue bars are data collected from the 2018-2019 season. The grey bars are an average of the previous three seasons, and the thin black bar at the top of each grey bar is the maximum and minimum ranges over the previous three seasons. A " * " over top of the blue bars indicate whether the new registrations from the 2018-2019 season are outside the range of the previous three seasons maximum or minimum.

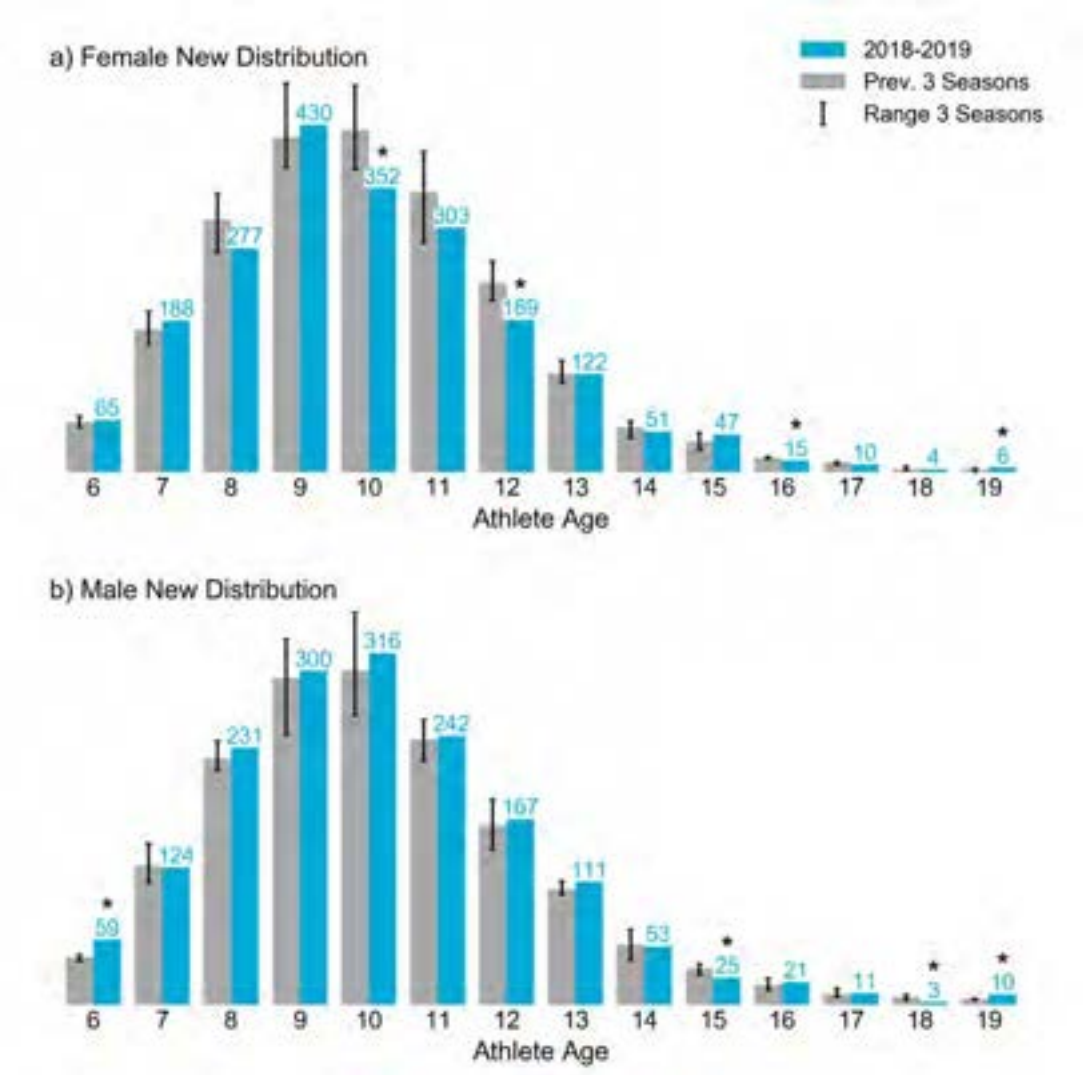

Figure 6: Swim Ontario New Registration Comparison. Female new registrations by age are shown in the top chart, while male new registrations are shown in the bottom chart. New registrations include those new to competitive swimming, those transferring from precompetitive to competitive, and those athletes who are returning to competitive swimming after at least one season away. The blue bars are data collected from the 2018-2019 season. The grey bars are an average of the previous three seasons, and the thin black bar at the top of each grey bar is the maximum and minimum ranges over the previous three seasons. A " * " over top of the blue bars indicate whether the new registrations from the 2018-2019 season are outside the range of the previous three seasons maximum or minimum.

Age	2018-2019	Mean	Previous 3 Seasons Minimum	Maximum
6	65	62	55	69
7	188	176	157	199
8	277	312	271	344
9	430	414	376	481
10	352	423	374	478
11	303	346	283	396
12	189	234	212	261
13	122	122	110	138
14	51	55	42	63
15	47	38	27	49
16	15	17	16	19
17	10	12	9	13
18	4	4	2	7
19	6	3	0	5

(a) Female New Registration Summary

Age	2018-2019	Mean	Previous 3 Seasons Minimum	Maximum
6	59	43	39	45
7	124	125	109	145
8	231	221	210	237
9	300	293	242	328
10	316	300	260	352
11	242	238	219	256
12	167	161	139	184
13	111	104	99	111
14	53	54	40	68
15	25	33	27	37
16	21	18	13	24
17	11	10	7	15
18	3	7	4	9
19	10	5	4	6

(b) Male New Registration Summary

Table 2: Swim Ontario New Registration Summary. The total new registration for the 2018-2019 season sums for each age are listed in the first column of each table. The mean, maximum, and minimum values are calculated from the previous three seasons.

2.2 Competitive Registration Losses

Competitive registration losses refer to those athletes who were registered in the previous season, but did not return in the 2018-2019 season. Similar to the previous section, a comparison between the 2018-2019 season and the previous three seasons has been illustrated to see if the number of athletes in each age group that are quitting is the same, on the rise, or in decline. If membership growth has been a goal, then one would expect to see fewer losses than in the previous three years.

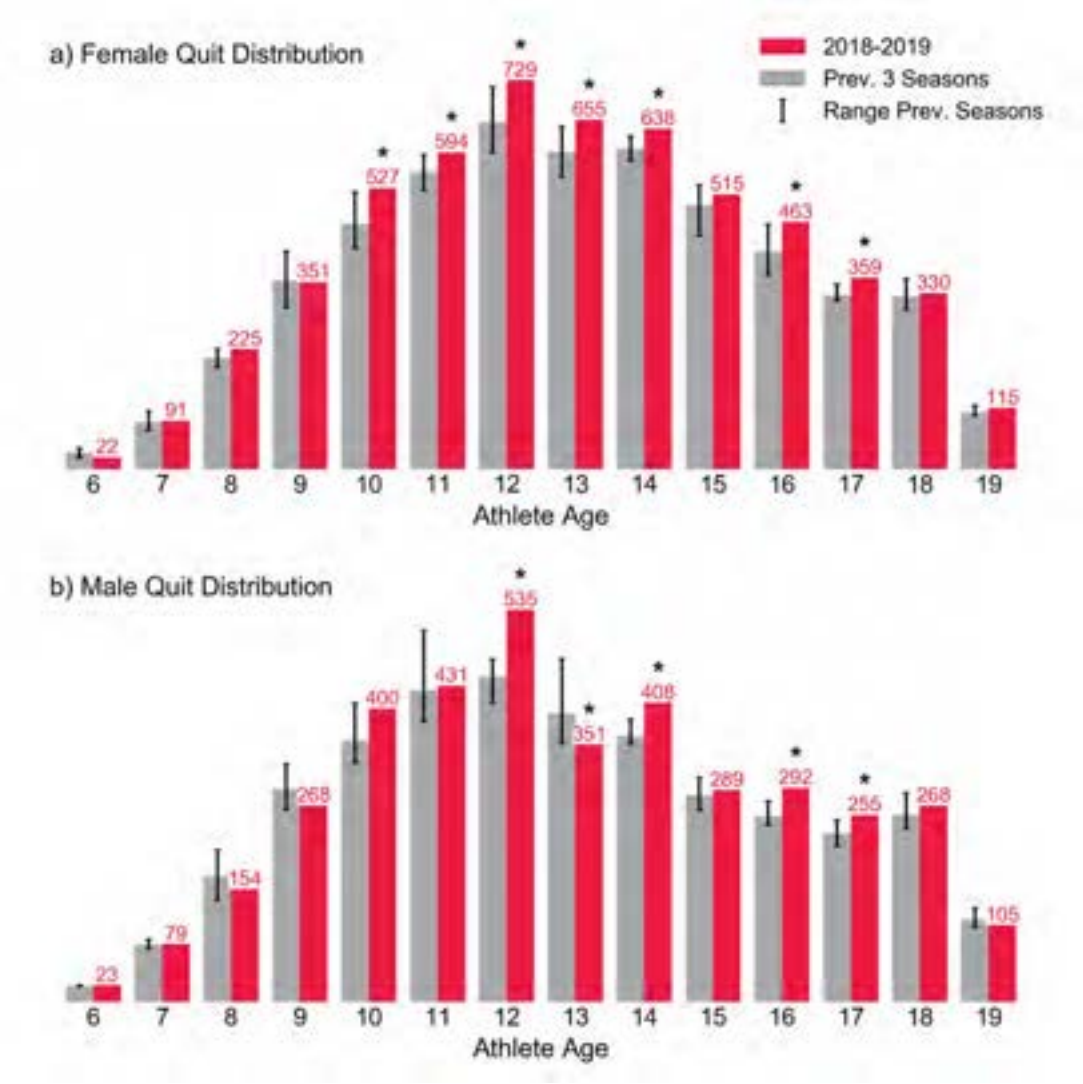

Figure 7: Swimming Canada Competitive Registration Losses Comparison. Female registration losses by age are shown in the top chart, while male registration losses are shown in the bottom chart. The red bars are the total number of athletes by age that did not register again in the 2018-2019 season. The grey bars are an average of the previous three seasons losses, and the thin black bar at the top of each grey bar is the maximum and minimum ranges over the previous three seasons. A " * " over top of the red bars indicate whether the registration losses from the 2018-2019 season are outside the range of the previous three seasons maximum or minimum.

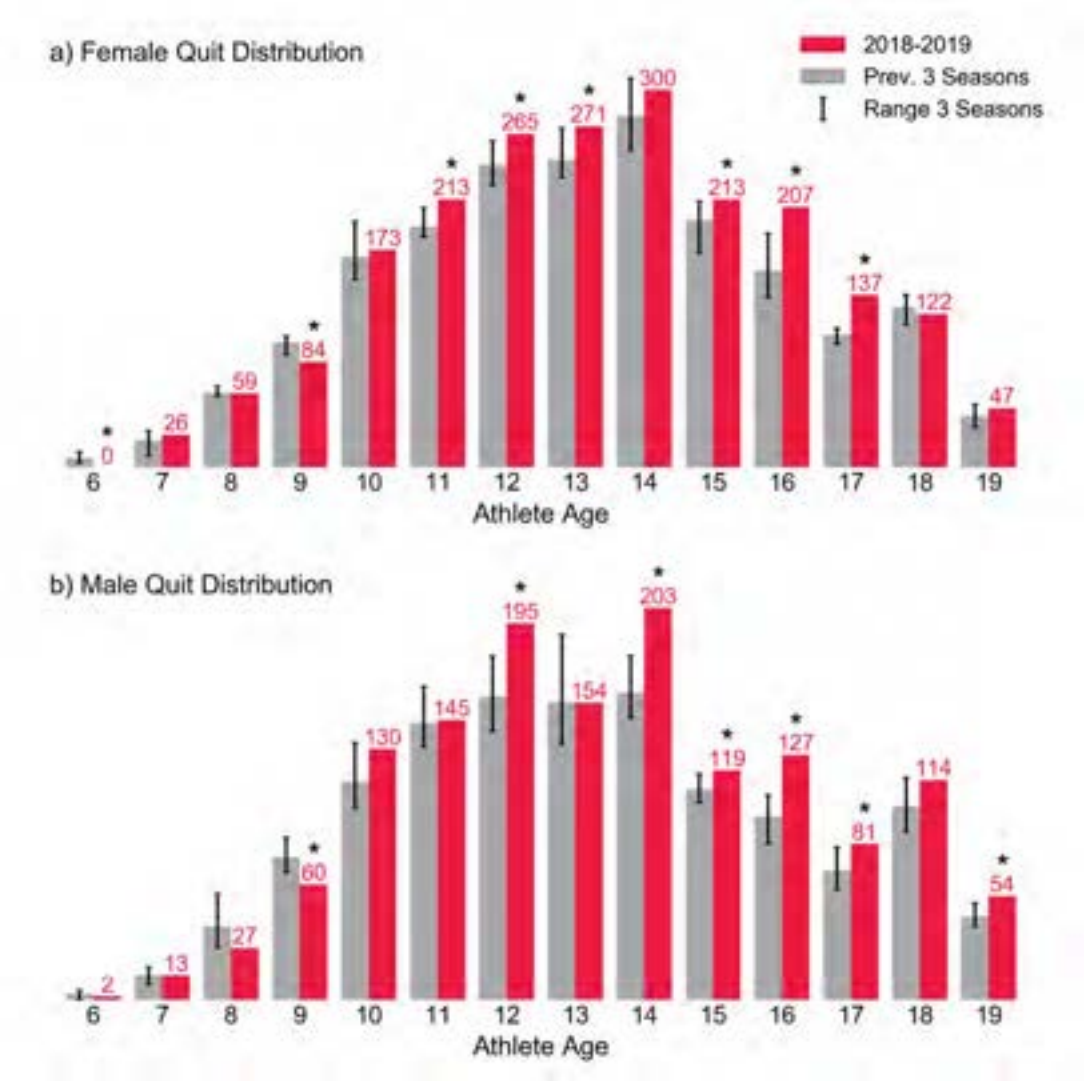

Figure 8: Swim Ontario Competitive Registration Losses Comparison. Female registration losses by age are shown in the top chart, while male registration losses are shown in the bottom chart. The red bars are the total number of athletes by age that did not register again in the 2018-2019 season. The grey bars are an average of the previous three seasons losses, and the thin black bar at the top of each grey bar is the maximum and minimum ranges over the previous three seasons. A " * " over top of the red bars indicate whether the registration losses from the 2018-2019 season are outside the range of the previous three seasons maximum or minimum.

Age	2018-2019	Previous 3 Seasons Mean	Minimum	Maximum
6	0	7	3	12
7	26	21	9	29
8	59	59	56	64
9	84	99	89	104
10	173	167	149	195
11	213	191	183	206
12	265	240	224	259
13	271	244	230	269
14	300	279	251	309
15	213	196	170	211
16	207	156	135	186
17	137	105	98	110
18	122	127	113	137
19	47	41	32	50

(a) Female Competitive Registration Losses Summary

Age	2018-2019	Previous 3 Seasons Mean	Minimum	Maximum
6	2	3	0	5
7	13	13	8	17
8	27	38	27	55
9	60	74	66	84
10	130	113	99	133
11	145	143	131	162
12	195	157	139	178
13	154	154	132	189
14	203	159	146	178
15	119	109	102	117
16	127	95	81	106
17	81	67	57	79
18	114	100	87	115
19	54	43	38	50

(b) Male Competitive Registration Losses Summary

Table 3: Swim Ontario Competitive Registration Losses Summary. The total number of athletes that have not returned for the 2018-2019 season are listed for each age in the first column of each table. The mean, maximum, and minimum values are calculated from the previous three seasons.

2.3 Competitive Registration Retainment

Competitive registration retainment refer to those athletes that registered as competitive in the previous season, and have registered for competitive again for the 2018-2019 season. Athlete retainment is more than just a balance of how many athletes register season to season. It is a measure of how many athletes enjoy competitive swimming as their sport, and are willing to return year after year to participate and potentially compete. Strong numbers in athlete retainment are believed to positively correlated with the following key areas, as well as others:

i Competitive density and increased likelihood of meaningful competition

ii Continued development of social peer groups later in an athlete's career

iii Increased senior athlete leadership within a club and provincial program

iv Stable club revenue

In this section, a comparison is again drawn between the 2018-2019 season and the previous three seasons retainment. If membership growth has been a goal, then one would hope to see the current season's retainment higher than the average over the last three seasons, and ideally over the maximum values of the previous three seasons. As well, one would hope to see the peak value of retainment occuring at a later age than previous seasons.

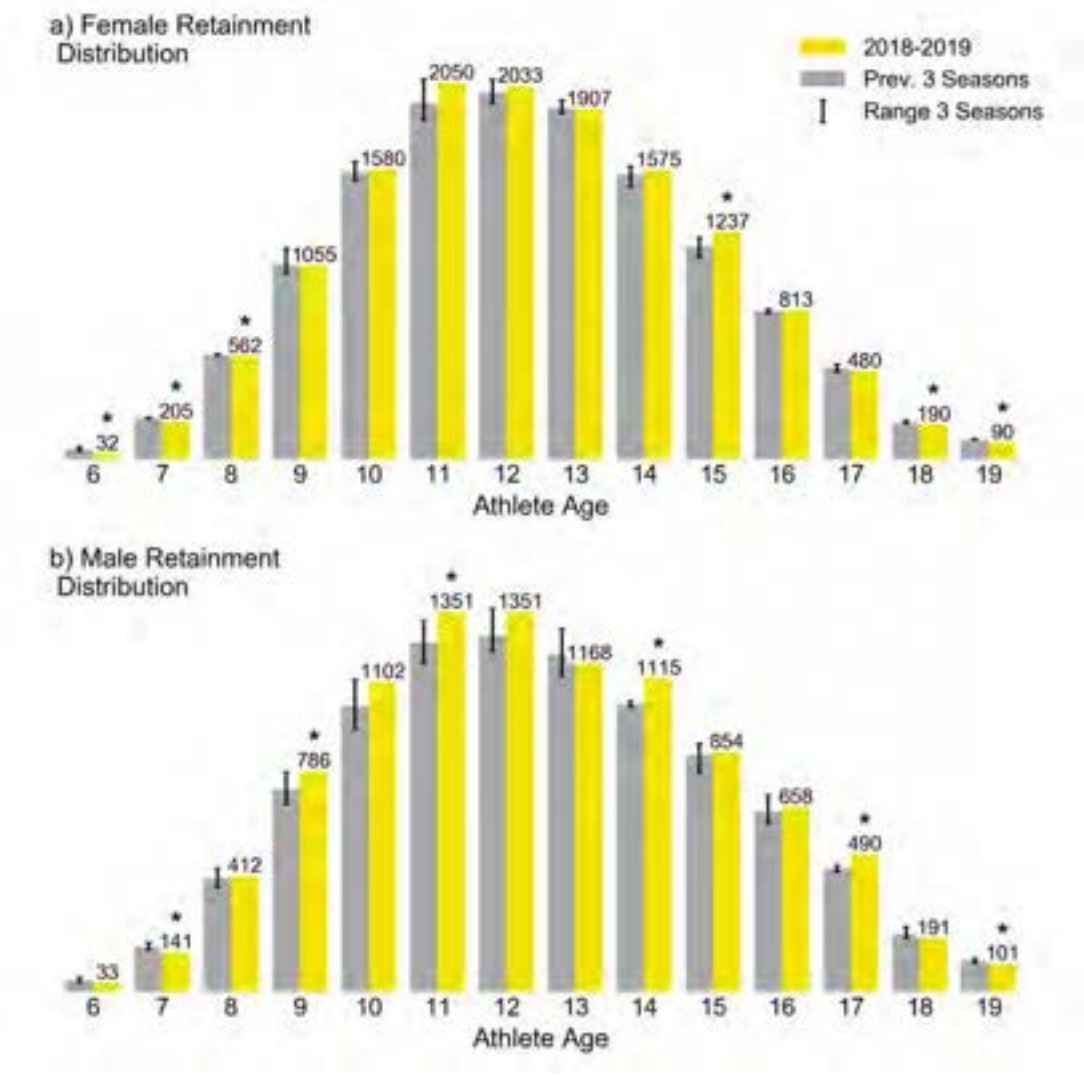

Figure 9: Swimming Canada Competitive Registration Retainment Comparison. Retained female registrations by age are shown in the top chart, while retained male registrations are shown in the bottom chart. The yellow bars are data collected from the 2018-2019 season. The grey bars are an average of the previous three seasons, and the thin black bar at the top of each grey bar is the maximum and minimum ranges over the previous three seasons. A " * " over top of the yellow bars indicate whether the registration losses from the 2018-2019 season are outside the range of the previous three seasons maximum or minimum.

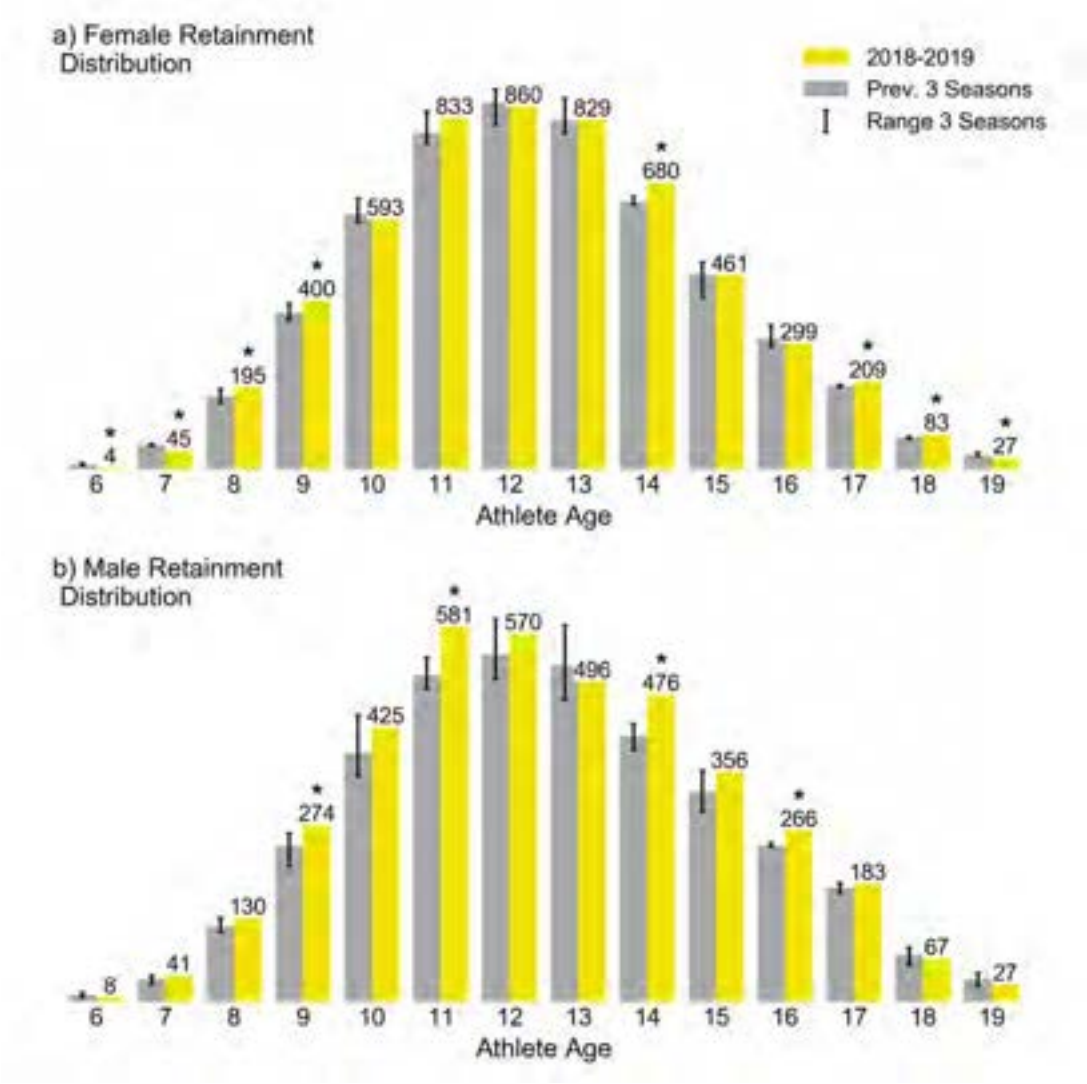

Figure 10: Swim Ontario Competitive Registration Retainment Comparison. Retained female registrations by age are shown in the top chart, while retained male registrations are shown in the bottom chart. The yellow bars are data collected from the 2018-2019 season. The grey bars are an average of the previous three seasons, and the thin black bar at the top of each grey bar is the maximum and minimum ranges over the previous three seasons. A " * " over top of the yellow bars indicate whether the registration losses from the 2018-2019 season are outside the range of the previous three seasons maximum or minimum.

Age	2018-2019	Previous 3 Seasons Mean	Minimum	Maximum
6	4	11	8	15
7	45	57	54	60
8	195	172	155	191
9	400	371	354	393
10	593	605	585	641
11	833	798	772	848
12	860	870	816	901
13	829	827	796	879
14	680	634	627	646
15	461	461	404	490
16	299	309	288	343
17	209	197	194	200
18	83	75	72	77
19	27	33	30	39

(a) Retained Female Competitive Registration Summary

Age	2018-2019	Previous 3 Seasons Mean	Minimum	Maximum
6	8	11	7	15
7	41	36	27	41
8	130	117	108	130
9	274	241	209	261
10	425	385	349	444
11	581	505	484	533
12	570	537	499	593
13	496	521	467	583
14	476	411	389	430
15	356	326	294	358
16	266	242	239	246
17	183	177	168	184
18	67	73	57	85
19	27	35	24	45

(b) Retained Male Competitive Registration Summary

Table 4: Swim Ontario Retained Competitive Registration Summary. The total number of athletes that have returned for the 2018-2019 season are listed for each age in the first column of each table. The mean, maximum, and minimum values are calculated from the previous three seasons.

3 Competitive Program Registration Loss by Years of Experience

Another way of looking at competitive registration losses is by grouping those who have left the sport by years of experience. This may assist in isolating if there is a a competitive registration issue seen inside of the first few years of registration, or if the majority of athletes are quitting the sport after a long and enjoyable career. It is also possible that one may see a trend, regardless of how many years' experience, if there is a common age when athletes leave the sport. Unfortunately, the majority of athletes leave competitive swimming inside the first five years. For greater athlete retention, one would expect to see a decrease the percentage that leave the sport within this timeframe. It should also be noted when comparing provincial percentages, provinces that have limited precompetitive registration, or none at all, may see an increased percentage of athletes that leave the sport within the first year than those provinces that have larger numbers of precompetitive registrations.

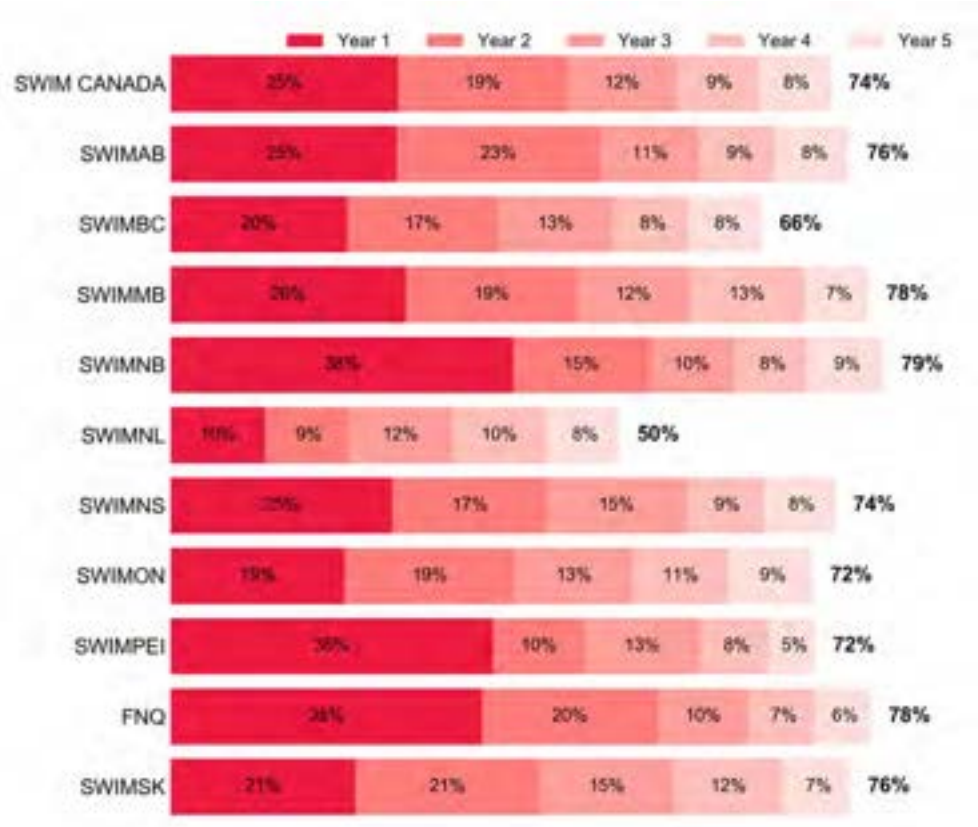

Figure 11: Provincial Female Percentage Breakdown of Years' Experience Prior to Leaving the Sport. The percentage of the total number of athletes that quit after a length of time are shown within each bar for years one to five. The total percentage of athletes that quit within the first five years is shown in bold at the right end of each bar.

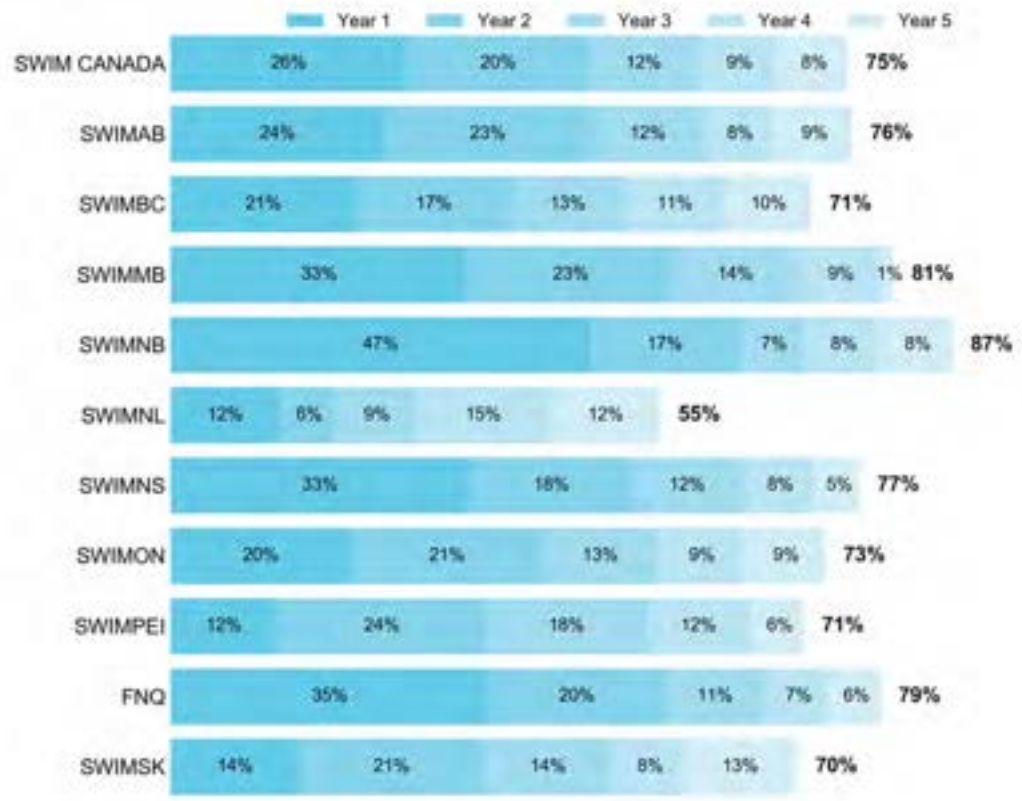

Figure 12: Provincial Male Percentage Breakdown of Years' Experience Prior to Leaving the Sport. The percentage of the total number of athletes that quit after a length of time are shown within each bar for years one to five. The total percentage of athletes that quit within the first five years is shown in bold at the right end of each bar.

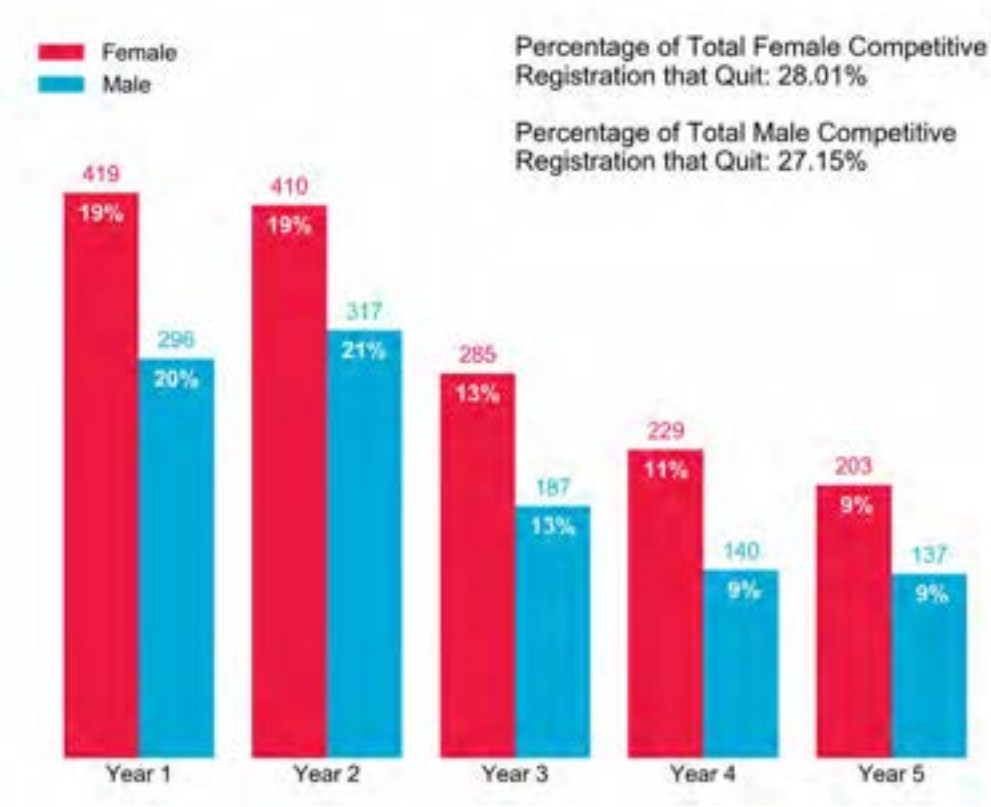

Figure 13: Swim Ontario Competitive Registration Losses Breakdown by Years' of Experience. The number of athletes that did not return to the 2018-2019 season by year of experience is indicated above each bar. The percentage of all competitive athletes that did not return by year experience is shown within each bar. The percentage of the previous season's competitive registration total that quit is also shown.

Year	Count	Mean	25%	50%	75%
1	1462	11.06	9	11	13
2	1096	11.78	10	12	13
3	692	12.33	11	12	14
4	532	13.35	12	13	15
5	464	14.06	12	14	16
6	439	14.92	14	15	16
7	289	15.54	14	16	17
8	262	16.42	15	17	18
9	166	17.28	16	17	18
10	134	17.93	17	18	19

(a) Swimming Canada

Year	Count	Mean	25%	50%	75%
1	419	11.40	10	11	13
2	410	11.92	10	12	13.75
3	285	12.49	11	13	14
4	229	13.41	12	14	15
5	203	14.24	13	14	16
6	188	14.96	14	15	16
7	123	15.60	14	16	17
8	128	16.41	15	17	18
9	54	17.30	16	18	18
10	51	17.80	17	18	19

(b) Swim Ontario

Table 5: Female Athlete Loss Age Statistics by Year of Experience. The years of experience athletes had prior to quitting is listed on the left of each table. The mean, 25th, 50th, and 75th percentile ages athletes quit are listed for each year of experience. The mean and the 50th percentile (median) represent the ages most central to the age distribution for each year of experience. The 25th and 75th percentile provide a measure of how widely distributed the ages are when athletes quit for each year of experience. Fifty percent of the athletes that quit for each year of experience lie between the ages shown in the 25th and 75th percentile.

Year	Count	Mean	25%	50%	75%
1	1070	11.33	9	11	13
2	827	11.78	10	11	13
3	492	12.52	11	12	14
4	355	13.08	11	13	14
5	322	14.35	12	14	16
6	265	15.36	14	15	17
7	187	15.80	14	16	17
8	160	16.73	15	17	18
9	116	17.71	16	18	18.25
10	96	18.20	17	18	19

(a) Swimming Canada

Year	Count	Mean	25%	50%	75%
1	296	12.07	10	12	14
2	317	12.12	10	12	14
3	187	12.82	11	13	14
4	140	13.14	12	13	14
5	137	14.54	13	14	16
6	116	15.34	14	15	17
7	72	15.82	14	16	17.25
8	75	16.77	16	17	18
9	47	17.96	17	18	18.5
10	33	18.39	18	18	19

(b) Swim Ontario

Table 6: Male Athlete Loss Age Statistics by Year of Experience. The years of experience athletes had prior to quitting is listed on the left of each table. The mean, 25th, 50th, and 75th percentile ages athletes quit are listed for each year of experience. The mean and the 50th percentile (median) represent the ages most central to the age distribution for each year of experience. The 25th and 75th percentile provide a measure of how widely distributed the ages are when athletes quit for each year of experience. Fifty percent of the athletes that quit for each year of experience lie between the ages shown in the 25th and 75th percentile.

4 Precompetitive Program Registration, Retainment, and Loss

In this final section, we will briefly present information regarding precompetitive registration. It can be observed that each province has their own philosophy towards registering athletes as precompetitive. Some provinces do not offer precompetitive registration. Others have very limited participation in this category. While still others have nearly as many precompetitive registrations as they do competitive. Therefore, a national precompetitive picture cannot be effectively drawn.

It can also be observed that there is a great deal of turnover in precompetitive athlete registrations, with many athletes opting to leave the sport versus transfer to a competitive program. Through an investigation of the years of experience a precompetitive athlete has prior to leaving the sport, it can be seen that the vast majority of athletes leave after their first year of registration, while only a small percentage of athletes transfer to competitive in general. This may be why those provinces that do not offer precompetitive programs or have low precompetitive registrations also have a higher percentage of athletes that leave the competitive program after the first year. While many clubs promote a precompetitive program to both increase their revenue streams and recruit athletes towards their competitive program, clubs need to be more strategic when engaging the precompetitive group to increase membership retainment levels.

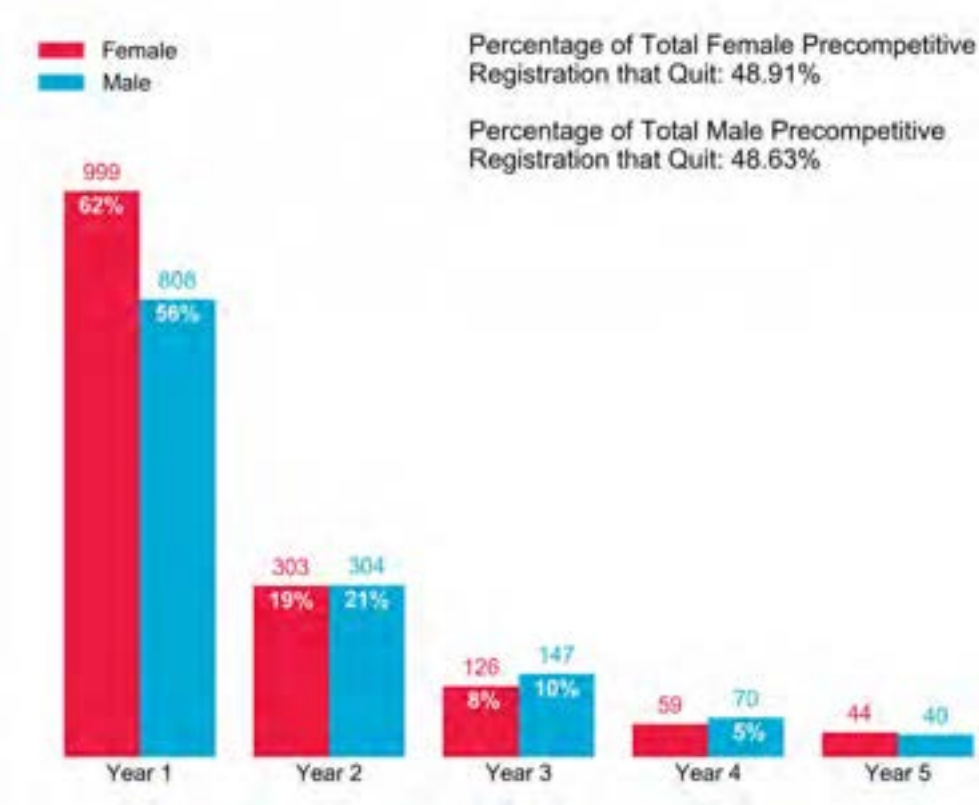

Figure 14: Swim Ontario Precompetitive Registration Losses by Years of Experience. The number of athletes that did not return to the 2018-2019 season by year of experience is indicated above each bar. The percentage of all precompetitive athletes that did not return by year of experience is shown within each bar. If a percentage is not shown within the bar, then the value is less than 4%. The percentage of the previous season's precompetitive registration total that quit is also shown. For the greatest precompetitive retention, the highest athlete losses would occur after five years or more. An athlete that transferred to a competitive would not be included in this summary. Only athletes that have left the sport are illustrated above.

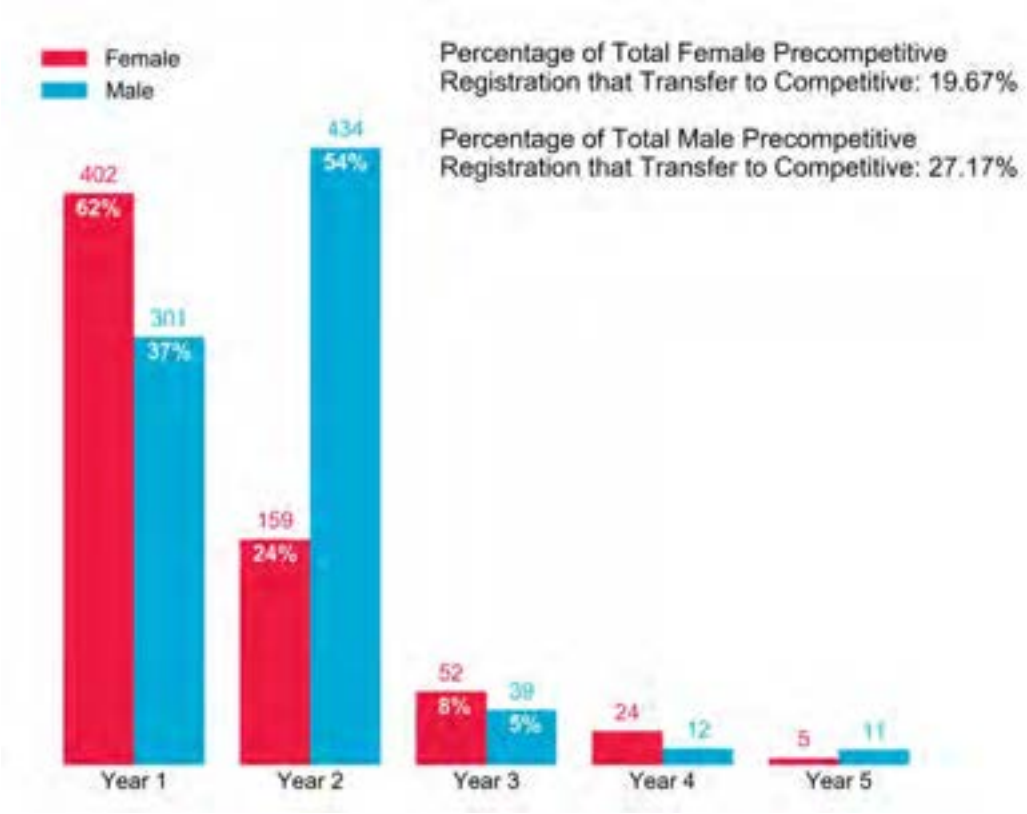

Figure 15: Swim Ontario Precompetitive Registration Transfers to Competitive by Years of Experience. The number of athletes that transferred to competitive for the 2018-2019 season by year of experience is indicated above each bar. The percentage of all athletes that transferred from precompetitive to competitive is shown within each bar. If a percentage is not shown within the bar, then the value is less than 4%. The percentage of the previous season's precompetitive registration total that transferred is also shown. To grow the total number of competitive athletes, a province would want to see a high percentage of precompetitive athletes transferring to competitive.

PSO	Group	2017-2018	2018-2019	Diff.	Quit	New	Returned	Pre to Comp	Comp to Pre	Export	Import
SWIMAB	Female	1131	1430	299	-529	942	43	-199	45	-4	1
	Male	913	1290	377	-435	902	28	-144	27	-1	0
	Total	2044	2720	676	-964	1844	71	-343	72	-5	1
SWIMBC	Female	2339	2369	30	-1098	1277	99	-330	84	-4	2
	Male	2270	2301	31	-1087	1261	89	-275	45	-3	1
	Total	4609	4670	61	-2185	2538	188	-605	129	-7	3
SWIMMB	Female	99	20	-79	-55	20	0	-44	0	0	0
	Male	65	41	-24	-29	40	0	-36	1	0	0
	Total	164	61	-103	-84	60	0	-80	1	0	0
SWIMNB	Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SWIMNL	Female	167	165	-2	-52	79	23	-51	0	-1	0
	Male	112	110	-2	-39	58	12	-33	0	0	0
	Total	279	275	-4	-91	137	35	-84	0	-1	0
SWIMNS	Female	92	98	6	-61	63	2	-7	9	0	0
	Male	50	68	18	-23	45	1	-13	7	0	1
	Total	142	166	24	-84	108	3	-20	16	0	1
SWIMON	Female	3314	2923	-391	-1621	1660	113	-652	103	-3	9
	Male	2955	2705	-250	-1437	1531	90	-505	71	-2	2
	Total	6269	5628	-641	-3058	3191	203	-1157	174	-5	11
SWIMPEI	Female	66	67	1	-37	40	4	-8	2	0	0
	Male	47	55	8	-22	41	1	-12	0	0	0
	Total	113	122	9	-59	81	5	-20	2	0	0
FNQ	Female	327	337	10	-191	185	20	-58	56	-2	0
	Male	191	235	44	-107	141	10	-28	28	0	0
	Total	518	572	54	-298	326	30	-86	84	-2	0
SWIMSK	Female	532	709	177	-224	446	20	-72	9	-2	0
	Male	490	701	211	-213	439	24	-47	7	0	1
	Total	1022	1410	388	-437	885	44	-119	16	-2	1

Table 7: National Precompetitive Registration Summary by Provincial Sport Organization. The previous season's total precompetitive registration count and the current season's count are listed in the first two columns, while the third column is the difference between them. All subsequent columns breakdown the changes in registration for the 2018-2019 season. Definitions for column headings are listed on page two of this document.

How many sanctioned events does the Province host per year - **381**

Attached is spreadsheet with this data

What are their levels

Meet Type	Number	Levels
InHouse	49	Time Trial / club dev.
International	1	OJI
Inv (closed)	93	Regional
Inv-Open	178	Regional
Masters	6	Masters
Prov.Champ	8	Provincial
SNC	1	National
TT-1	8	Record attempt Time Trial
TT-II	23	Time Trial
varsity	14	OUA- Varsity

Where are these events hosted? Facility Names and Amenities (number of lanes under pool name / Course laid out in columns / total times pool was used is last column)

Region / City / Pool/Lanes	LC	OW	SC	SC / LC	Y (yards)	(blank)	Count of Pool
Central							
Bowmanville			**3**				**3**
Alan Strike Aquatic and Squash Centre			3				3
6			3				3
Brampton		**2**	**4**				**6**
McMurchy Pool			4				4
6			4				4
Professor's Lake		2					2
0		2					2
Caledon			**2**				**2**
Mayfield Recreation Centre			2				2
6			2				2
Etobicoke	**12**		**19**				**31**
Etobicoke Olympium	12		19				31
5			1				1

8	12		18				30
Georgetown			**4**				**4**
Georgetown Indoor Pool			4				4
6			4				4
Milton			**5**				**5**
Milton Sports Centre			5				5
8			5				5
Mississauga			**5**				**5**
University of Toronto: Mississauga			5				5
8			5				5
Newmarket			**3**				**3**
Magna Centre			3				3
8			3				3
North York	**1**						**1**
Douglas Snow Aquatic Centre	1						1
6	1						1
Oakville			**8**				**8**
Iroquois Ridge Community Centre			8				8
8			8				8
Oshawa			**4**				**4**
Donevan Recreation Complex			4				4
6			4				4
Pickering			**5**				**5**
Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex			5				5
8			5				5
Port Hope			**4**				**4**
Jack Burger Sports Complex			4				4
6			4				4
Richmond Hill			**2**				**2**
Centennial Pool - Richmond Hill			2				2
6			2				2
Thornhill			**3**				**3**
North Thornhill Community Centre			2				2
6			2				2
Thornlea Pool			1				1
6			1				1

Toronto	**8**		**14**				**22**
Toronto Pan Am Sport Centre - Competition Pool	6		6				12
5	1						1
6	1						1
10	4		6				10
University of Toronto	2		7				9
8	2		7				9
York Recreation Centre Pool			1				1
6			1				1
Unionville	**13**		**6**	**3**			**22**
Markham Pan Am Pool - LC	13			1			14
10	13			1			14
Markham Pan Am Pool - SC			6	2			8
10			6	2			8
Vaughan			**1**				**1**
Vellore Village C.C.			1				1
6			1				1
Whitby			**2**				**2**
Anne Ottenbrite Pool			2				2
6			2				2
Woodbridge			**1**				**1**
Woodbridge Pool and Memorial Arena			1				1
5			1				1
Eastern							
Amherstview			**3**				**3**
W.J. Henderson Rec. Centre			3				3
5			3				3
Belleville, ON			**4**				**4**
Quinte Sports & Wellness Centre			4				4
8			4				4
Brockville			**2**				**2**
Brockville YMCA			2				2
6			2				2
Carleton Place			**2**				**2**
Carleton Place Aquatic Centre			2				2
4			2				2

Cornwall			**1**				**1**
Cornwall Aquatic Centre			1				1
6			1				1
Deep River			**1**				**1**
Deep River Community Pool			1				1
6			1				1
Kingston			**6**				**6**
Kingston Family YMCA			1				1
4			1				1
Queen's University			5				5
5			1				1
7			4				4
Nepean	**4**		**2**	**2**			**8**
Nepean Sportsplex Pool	4		2	2			8
8	4		2	2			8
Ottawa	**3**		**11**	**1**			**15**
Brewer Pool			2				2
6			2				2
Carleton University	1		1				2
6	1		1				2
Richcraft Recreation Complex			1				1
8			1				1
University of Ottawa	2		7	1			10
4			2				2
8	2		5	1			8
Perth			**2**				**2**
Perth & District Indoor Pool			2				2
6			2				2
Petawawa			**3**				**3**
Dundonald Hall			3				3
6			3				3
Huronia							
Barrie			**5**				**5**
East Bayfield Community Centre			5				5
4			1				1
8			4				4

Bracebridge			**9**				**9**
Bracebridge Sportsplex			9				9
8			9				9
Collingwood			**3**				**3**
Collingwood Centennial Pool			3				3
6			3				3
Orangeville			**3**				**3**
Hallmark Toyota Aquatic Centre			3				3
6			3				3
Orillia			**5**				**5**
YMCA of Orillia			5				5
6			5				5
Owen Sound			**2**				**2**
Owen Sound YMCA Pool			2				2
8			2				2
Peterborough			**3**				**3**
Allan Marshall Pool			3				3
6			3				3
Port Elgin			**3**				**3**
Centennial Pool - Port Elgin			3				3
5			3				3
Unionville	**1**						**1**
Markham Pan Am Pool - LC	1						1
10	1						1
North East							
Elliot Lake			**1**				**1**
Ruben Yli-Juuti			1				1
6			1				1
Hanmer			**1**				**1**
Howard Armstrong Rec. Centre			1				1
5			1				1
Hearst			**1**				**1**
Piscine Stephane Lecours Swimming Pool			1				1
6			1				1
Kapuskasing					**2**		**2**
Donat Brousseau Pool					2		2

4					2		2
Kirkland Lake			**2**				**2**
Joe Mavrinac Community Com.			2				2
6			2				2
North Bay			**3**				**3**
22 Wing North Bay Fitness and Wellness Centre			1				1
5			1				1
North Bay Aquatic Community Centre YMCA			2				2
6			2				2
Sault Ste. Marie			**5**				**5**
John Rhodes Community Centre			5				5
4			1				1
6			1				1
8			3				3
Sudbury	**3**		**8**				**11**
Gatchell Pool			5				5
6			5				5
LU Olympic Gold Pool	3		3				6
8	3		3				6
Timmins			**5**				**5**
Archie Dillion Sportsplex Pool			5				5
6			5				5
North West							
Dryden			**1**				**1**
City of Dryden Pool & Fitness Centre			1				1
5			1				1
Fort Frances			**1**				**1**
Memorial Sports Centre			1				1
5			1				1
Kenora			**1**				**1**
Kenora Aquatic Centre			1				1
6			1				1
Thunder Bay	**3**		**3**				**6**
Canada Games Complex	2		1				3
6			1				1
8	2						2

Lakehead University	1		2				3
8	1		2				3
Western							
Ancaster			**3**				**3**
Ancaster Aquatic Centre			3				3
6			3				3
Aylmer					**1**		**1**
Ontario Police College					1		1
5					1		1
Baden			**6**				**6**
Wilmot Aquatic Centre			6				6
8			6				6
Blenheim			**2**				**2**
Blenheim Rotary Pool			2				2
4			2				2
Brantford	**3**		**8**		**2**		**13**
W. Ross MacDonald School					2		2
6					2		2
Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre	3		8				11
0			1				1
8	3		7				10
Burlington	**1**		**7**				**8**
Burlington Centennial Pool			7				7
6			7				7
Nelson Outdoor Pool	1						1
8	1						1
Cambridge			**1**				**1**
John Dolson Centre			1				1
6			1				1
Chatham			**1**				**1**
Chatham Kent YMCA			1				1
6			1				1
Guelph	**3**		**8**				**11**
University of Guelph - Gold Pool			8				8
8			8				8
Victor Davis Memorial Pool	3						3

6	3						3
Hamilton	**8**		**9**				**17**
Hill Park Recreation Centre			2				2
6			2				2
McMaster University Pool	8		5				13
6	8		5				13
Westmount Recreation Centre			2				2
8			2				2
Ingersoll			**1**				**1**
Victoria Park Community Centre			1				1
4			1				1
Leamington			**4**				**4**
Leamington Kinsmen Recreation Complex			4				4
6			4				4
London	**4**		**11**				**15**
Canada Games Aquatic Centre	2		10				12
8	2		10				12
Thames Park Pool	1						1
8	1						1
Western Student Recreation Centre	1		1				2
8	1		1				2
Sarnia			**1**				**1**
Sarnia Family YMCA			1				1
8			1				1
Simcoe			**4**				**4**
Annaleise Carr Aquatic Centre			4				4
5			4				4
St. Catherines	**1**		**6**				**7**
Brock University	1		6				7
8	1		6				7
St. Thomas			**4**				**4**
Family YMCA - St. Thomas Elgin			4				4
6			4				4
Tillsonburg			**2**				**2**
Tillsonburg Community Centre			2				2
6			2				2

Waterloo	**3**		**4**	**1**	**1**		**9**
University of Waterloo					1		1
6					1		1
Wilfrid Laurier University Pool	3		4	1			8
6	3		4	1			8
Windsor	**6**		**9**				**15**
Windsor International Aquatic and Training Centre	6		9				15
10	6		9				15

LCM Pools breakdown

Region / City / Pool/Lanes	Count of Pool
Central	
Etobicoke	**12**
Etobicoke Olympium	12
8	12
North York	**1**
Douglas Snow Aquatic Centre	1
6	1
Toronto	**8**
Toronto Pan Am Sport Centre - Competition Pool	6
5	1
6	1
10	4
University of Toronto	2
8	2
Unionville	**13**
Markham Pan Am Pool - LC	13
10	13
Eastern	
Nepean	**4**
Nepean Sportsplex Pool	4
8	4
Ottawa	**3**
Carleton University	1
6	1

University of Ottawa	2
8	2
Huronia	
Unionville	**1**
Markham Pan Am Pool - LC	1
10	1
North East	
Sudbury	**3**
LU Olympic Gold Pool	3
8	3
North West	
Thunder Bay	**3**
Canada Games Complex	2
8	2
Lakehead University	1
8	1
Western	
Brantford	**3**
Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre	3
8	3
Burlington	**1**
Nelson Outdoor Pool	1
8	1
Guelph	**3**
Victor Davis Memorial Pool	3
6	3
Hamilton	**8**
McMaster University Pool	8
6	8
London	**4**
Canada Games Aquatic Centre	2
8	2
Thames Park Pool	1
8	1
Western Student Recreation Centre	1
8	1

St. Catherines	**1**
Brock University	1
8	1
Waterloo	**3**
Wilfrid Laurier University Pool	3
6	3
Windsor	**6**
Windsor International Aquatic and Training Centre	6
10	6
Count of Pool	**77**

Average number of Events per athlete per season

registration category	Count of Category	Average of Swim Meet Count	Age Group
Competitive - Development	6088	8	11-14
Competitive - Fundamental	1194	4	8&Under
Competitive - Open	2012	9	15&Over
Competitive - Skills	2822	6	9-10
Open - Varsity	79	9	Varsity
(blank)			
Grand Total	**12195**	**8**	

Registration

	Clubs	2021-22 Season Comp Swimmers	Pre-comp Swimmers
Central Region	42	5190	1926
Eastern Region	20	1601	942
Huronia Region	10	922	392
Northeast Region	13	600	98
Northwest Region	8	217	172
Western Region	28	2559	1888
Masters	8	1362	
University	10	410	
Totals	139	12861	5418

2019-2020 Season

Clubs	Comp Swimmers	Pre-comp Swimmers
43	5940	1968
22	1721	757
9	878	444
16	661	166
9	247	171
29	3085	1171
8	905	
11	440	
147	13877	4677

RECEIVED FROM – WATER POLO ON

ONTARIO AQUATIC SPORT INFRASTRUCTURE STUDY

INFORMATION GATHERING FROM SPORT BODIES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

SUMMARY

Below are some of the key questions we are looking to get answered so we can begin to lay the foundation to our report and which will help guide in some of the process.

We are not looking for the Sport Governing Bodies to answers all of these questions but help to direct us to where we can source the information. Any information you have on the below will be very beneficial in reducing the time it takes to collect this information which can then be redirected to the report findings.

We will be using 2018-19 Season as our last season to give us the most up to date data based on a full season. The season will run September to August

We are looking to collect this information in established Regions of the Province either using existing Sports Structures or looking into other options in this study?

QUESTIONS

What are the main items or outcomes you would like to see completed in this study?

We would like to see what locations currently have facilities that can support water polo play in these respective categories: 13U, 15U, 17U+.

We would also like to see demographic trends by region, along with infrastructure projects in the horizon.

How are your Regions Broken Down, how many, where?

Currently we operate with 3 informal regions:

- **Southwest (London to Hamilton)**
- **GTA**
- **Capital Region (which includes Kingston)**

There is indication of a 'Northern' Region that would include Barrie, Orillia, etc.

How many registered Teams or Clubs do you have in the Province?

15 Club teams

9 University teams

How are these broken into Regions, do you have club divisions?

No

How many registered Athletes do you have in your program? Break out into competitive levels if possible. Break out into Regions?

2000 members

Membership categories are:

Community/ Recreational (local play, training)

Provincial (play in in Prov League)

National (play in National League)

What are their main Training Facilities for each of these Clubs or Teams?

London:

Canada Games Centre

Boys and Girls Club London Aquaplex

East Lions Community Centre

Thames Park (outdoor)

Western, Canada Games, YMCA

St-Mary's Pyramid Recreation Centre

YMCA of Stratford Perth

Hamilton:

McMaster University

Jimmy Thompson Pool

Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre

Guelph:

Victoria Road Recreation Centre

University of Guelph

GTA:

Etobicoke Olympium

Markham Pan Am Centre

TPASC

University of Toronto

Central Tech

Rosedale Heights

Ryerson University

Keele Public School

Gus Ryder Pool

Sunnyside Pool

Sir Wilfrid Laurier

Kingston:

Queen's University

Ottawa:

François Dupuis Recreation Centre
2263 Portobello Blvd, Ottawa, ON K4A 0X3

Splash Wave Pool
2040 Ogilvie Rd, Gloucester, ON K1J 7N8

Brewer Pool
100 Brewer Way, Ottawa, ON K1S 5T1

University of Ottawa – Montpetit Hall (MNT)
125 University Private, Ottawa, ON K1N 1A2

Carleton University – Carleton Athletics
65 University Rd, Ottawa, ON K1S

Pinecrest Recreation Complex
2250 Torquay Ave, Ottawa, ON K2C 1J3

Nepean Sportsplex
1701 Woodroffe Ave, Nepean, ON K2G 1W2

Walter Baker Sports Centre
100 Malvern Dr, Nepean, ON K2J 2G5

Richcraft Recreation Complex
4101 Innovation Dr, Ottawa, ON K2K 0J3

Cégep de l'Outaouais
333 Boulevard de la Cité-des-Jeunes
Gatineau, QC J8Y 6M4

Bob MacQuarrie Recreation Complex (BMRC) – Orléans

Sawmill Creek Pool
3380 D'Aoust Ave, Gloucester, ON K1T 1R5

How many Sanctioned Events does the Province host per year? What are the levels?

Approximately 4 provincially sanctioned events, however the NSO hosts multiple league events, National Chanmpionships per year.

Where are these events hosted? Facility Names and Amenities? This broken into regions

The primary facilities are:

Etobicoke Olympium

Toronto Pan Am Centre

Markham Pan Am Centre

University of Toronto

Nepean Sportsplex

Average number of Events per Athlete per season?

The average would be ~7 events per year per athlete over the age of 11.

Can you provide any reports your Sport has completed over the past 10 years on Aquatic Infrastructure or any other reports that could assist us in getting a better understanding of the needs.

Feel free to provide any other information you feel relevant to this study.

CAN WE HAVE ALL INFORMATION SENT TO admin@aquaticassociates.com

The health & wellbeing benefits of swimming

individually
societally
economically
nationally

Commissioned by Swim England's Swimming and Health Commission, chaired by Professor Ian Cumming

Produced June 2017

This report was produced by the Swimming and Health Commission. The Commission was established by Swim England to identify evidence for the health benefits of swimming and to promote future research in this area. Although established by Swim England, the Commission operates entirely independently under the chairmanship of Professor Ian Cumming.

Contents

Foreword 05

Introduction 06

Glossary & definitions 07

Chapter 1
The individual physical health benefits of swimming:
a literature review 08

Chapter 2
The wellbeing benefits of swimming:
a systematic review 26

Chapter 3
The physiological effects of swimming:
a systematic review 44

Chapter 4
The wellbeing benefits of swimming to communities:
a literature review 106

Chapter 5
The public health benefits of swimming:
a systematic review 118

Chapter 6
Swimming as a sport – the health and wellbeing benefits:
a systematic review 134

Chapter 7
Swimming for health and wellbeing:
the economic case 146

Foreword

Whether it's for leisure, pleasure or competition, swimming is a great way to improve your health and wellbeing. These are the key themes from a scientific report commissioned by Swim England on the health and wellbeing benefits of swimming. The evidence from this report is an important landmark and shows that:

- Swimming is one of England's most popular sports
- Swimming may be associated with a decrease in early death due to cardiovascular disease and any other cause
- Swimming can have a number of health and wellbeing benefits for individuals, patients, communities, the public and the nation
- There is emerging scientific data for the physical and mental health benefits of swimming
- Research on swimming and health benefits is sparse and sporadic. Specific areas of further research need to be developed
- The future now offers opportunities for Swim England to lead on a strategy that engages with and retains the public passion for swimming for health and wellbeing

Going forward, it will be important to link the health, economic and wellbeing benefits of swimming as a key strategy to address the physical inactivity epidemic in this country. We also need further research on the specific health and wellbeing benefits of swimming.

This is not the time to tread water; we need to enrich and harness the evidence and opportunity, and to encourage more to swim, and swim regularly. We need to move as a nation to take more exercise. So do swim for pleasure, leisure, or as a sport.

Professor Dame Sally C. Davies
Chief Medical Officer for England

Introduction

Swim England's 'Swimming and Health Commission' is the first time that the relationship between swimming and health and wellbeing has been scientifically investigated in this depth. Swim England is the national governing body for the sport in England and they commissioned this work to provide a baseline of knowledge from which to build future evidence and share best practice.

An independent team of United Kingdom (UK) researchers have reviewed and scrutinsed the available evidence for the Commission on the benefits of swimming for: individuals, patients, communities and nations. Their scope was to scientifically review the health and wellbeing benefits across the lifespan, to highlight disparities in evidence, practice and access, and to evidence the many health advantages that swimming regularly affords to us all.

It is clear from the evidence that being able to swim, swimming regularly, and swimming as a part of daily community life can have considerable health and wellbeing benefits. For instance, research has identified that any amount of swimming participation compared to those who engaged in none, was associated with a 28% and 41% reduction in all cause and cardiovascular disease cause mortality respectively. The striking evidence of where swimming has afforded significantly improved health, quality of life and a sense of community are additional examples of best practice that need to be promoted across the nation.

And it is evident that water-based exercise can confer several specific advantages, as compared to land-based exercise. For this reason, water-based exercise prescription should be a key consideration for all health care clinicians, providers and commissioners.

It is also emphasised that having adequate opportunities to learn to swim and have positive experiences in early life, particularly among those from disadvantaged backgrounds, may be an important step to tackle drowning as one of the causes of avoidable and tragic death.

It is estimated that those who swim for recreational or competitive purposes are eight times more likely to meet physical activity guidelines. Long-term swim training can also improve cardiorespiratory fitness or endurance in healthy pre-pubertal girls and adults, women during pregnancy, children with asthma, and adults with osteoarthritis (a condition affecting joints, causing pain and stiffness).

It is however concerning to find in many areas a profound lack of robust scientific evidence in swimming as a contemporary means to: increase physical activity levels, move the inactive into swimming as a preferred physical activity, and to use a variety of community swimming venues to promote health and wellbeing at population levels.

This report is just the start of a focus on swimming being a greater part of the national and international picture to increase health and wellbeing through physical activity, leisure and water based sports.

This full scientific report of the commission is divided into seven chapters. Each chapter contains a review of the evidence for the health benefits of swimming together with key points and summary statements. Chapter one focuses on the individual health benefits of swimming and other water based activities. Swimming and mental health and wellbeing is covered in chapter two. The physiology of swimming and health benefits is detailed in chapter three. Chapter four explores the evidence for swimming benefits for communities within a framework of delivering community capacity. Chapter five details the public health benefits of swimming and the importance of fulfilling key societal priorities such as reducing the number of deaths by drowning. Chapter six describes the benefits of swimming as a sport and the final chapter seven looks at the economic case for swimming. A summary of this full report is available as a separate document and highlights the key points from each chapter.

Glossary and definitions

Swim England is the national governing body for swimming in England. The organisation and network helps people learn how to swim, enjoy the water safely, and compete in all their sports.

Swimming is the sport or activity of propelling oneself through water using the limbs. In the context of this summary it includes all forms of swimming and water based activities.

Physical Activity (PA) is any volitional movement of skeletal muscle that results in energy expenditure is regarded as physical activity.

Exercise is a form of leisure-time physical activity that is planned, structured, and repetitive. Exercise training is purposeful and is performed with specific external goals, including the improvement or maintenance of physical fitness, physical performance or health.

Sport is a form of physical activity that includes rules and is usually competitive.

Metabolic Equivalents (MET). Physical activity is measured in METs e.g. the energy it takes to sit quietly. For the average adult, this is about one calorie per kilogram of body weight per hour. Moderate intensity activity is those that used 3 – 6 METS and vigorous activities more than 6 METs.

Chapter 1

The individual physical health benefits of swimming: a literature review

Dr Fiona Moffatt, The University of Nottingham

Key words:

swimming
swimming pool
aquatic therapy
hydrotherapy

Introduction

The global pandemic of physical inactivity is well recognised with concomitant implications for global health (Andersen et al., 2016). In the United Kingdom (UK), a significant proportion of children, adolescents and adults fail to meet the national recommendations for physical activity: 90% of 2-4 year olds, 80% of 5-15 year olds (BHF, 2015), and 39% of adults (BHF, 2017). Similar patterns are seen globally (Hallal et al., 2012). The cost of such physical inactivity is high – globally, the economic burden of physical inactivity in terms of healthcare costs, productivity losses and disability adjusted life years amounts to £51.5 billion per annum (Ding et al., 2016).

An intimate relationship exists between physical (in)activity and physical health (Reiner et al., 2013). Sedentary behaviour is associated with adverse cardiometabolic adaptations such as insulin resistance, altered lipid trafficking, muscle fibre type alteration and ectopic fat storage (Saunders et al., 2014). Poor cardiorespiratory fitness/physical inactivity is a significant risk factor for the majority of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), including cardiovascular disease, dementia, certain cancers, osteoporosis, obesity and Type 2 diabetes (Lee et al., 2012; Reiner et al., 2013). It is also the strongest independent risk factor for development of post-operative morbidity and mortality (Snowden et al., 2013).

A multi-agential approach to promoting physical activity has been highlighted as imperative to the promotion of national and international physical activity (PA) guidelines (Gates et al., 2016). These guidelines detail the recommended amount of physical activity required to achieve physical health benefits for young children (at least 180 minutes per day), children aged 5 and over (at least 60 minutes per day), and adults (at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity activity per week, plus two episodes of strength/balance training)(Department of Health, 2011). Physical activity may be multi-modal, including activities such as walking, jogging/running, aerobics, racket sports, swimming, cycling. Adults who are physically active have a reduction in all-cause mortality of up to 30% compared to sedentary individuals and a reduced risk of developing chronic disease (Kokkinos, 2012). Furthermore, evidence suggests that physical activity and exercise interventions produce similar results to drug therapy in terms of mortality outcomes in the secondary prevention of coronary heart disease, rehabilitation post-stroke, treatment of heart failure and prevention of diabetes (Naci and Ioannidis, 2013).

This chapter presents a contemporary review of the empirical evidence in relation to swimming and aquatic exercise, and physical health. Specifically, it will aim to elucidate how swimming/aquatic exercise influences the physical health of the general population and, additionally, certain specific sub-groups or those with chronic disease.

Why might swimming influence physical health?

Most studies exploring the relationship between physical activity and physical health have used interventions such as walking, cycling, running or aerobics classes (Chase et al., 2008a; Mohr et al., 2014). Of interest are the unique features that aquatic based exercise offers, and how swimming and aquatic exercise relate to health outcomes. Swimming and other forms of aquatic exercise (aqua-jogging and aqua-aerobics for example) are some of the most popular choices for meeting physical activity recommendations – both for the aerobic and strength/balance element (Lazar et al., 2013). Exercise in an aquatic environment confers many benefits – minimised weight-bearing stress, a humid environment and a decreased heat load (Yuan et al., 2016). This may offer a personalised exercise opportunity for particular populations, especially the elderly, pregnant women, and those with arthritis, type 2 diabetes, disabilities or excess adiposity (Delevatti et al., 2015; Lazar et al., 2013). The unique nature of swimming and aquatic exercise will be considered.

The aquatic environment has been recognised as a place for active play and recreational exercise since the nineteenth century (Wiltse, 2013). Chase et al. (2008) compared the health aspects of swimming with alternative forms of aerobic exercise, and sedentary behaviour. Participants included 10,518 women and 35,185 men aged 20-88 years old; the majority were Caucasian and of middle/upper socio-economic status. Screening included a formal subjective and objective history, anthropometric measurements, blood tests and a graded exercise test. Participants were categorised as 'sedentary' (no participation in activity over the previous three months), 'walkers' (primarily engaged in run/walk/jog at a pace ≥15min/mile), 'runners' (primarily engaged in run/walk/jog at a pace ≤15min/mile), and 'swimmers' (exclusively engaged in swimming activity). The results demonstrated that all types of physical

activity produced demonstrable health benefits in comparison to a sedentary lifestyle. Of all the groups, swimming and running achieved the highest treadmill test duration/maximal metabolic equivalent (MET) levels, although the Body Mass Index (BMI) of swimmers was significantly higher than that of runners. It is worthy of note however, that the 'swimmers' category only formed approximately 1% of the total participant population, and therefore this could affect the internal validity of the study. Equally, the limited demographics of the population could adversely affect external validity. The authors, however, conclude that swimming constitutes a valuable lifetime activity that appears to produce healthy levels of cardiorespiratory fitness and, as such, is a viable alternative to other forms of exercise. This is further supported by the results of a prospective study of the health effects of physical activity and fitness in men (n=40,547), that concluded that swimmers had lower mortality rates than those who were sedentary, walkers or runners even after controlling for age, body mass index, smoking/alcohol and family history (Chase et al., 2008b). Similar results have been demonstrated by Oja et al. (2015); in a cohort study of over 80,000 British adults, swimming participation was associated with a significantly reduced risk of all-cause mortality of 28%, and cardiovascular disease mortality of 41%.

Clearly, the aquatic environment offers scope for aerobic activity, however the specific interaction between physiological and hydrodynamic effects of immersion are also of particular interest and are thought to confer additional effects/advantages (Chase et al., 2008b); Becker (2009) describes these in detail (Table 1).

Table 1:
Hydrodynamic principles of water immersion (after Becker, 2009 and Brody and Geigle, 2009)

Hydrodynamic principle	Effect
Density	The human body density is slightly less than that of water, therefore the volume of water displaced weighs more than the immersed body resulting in an upward force equal to the volume of water displaced
Hydrostatic Pressure	Pressure is proportional to the liquid density and the immersion depth. Hydrostatic pressure results in plastic deformation of the body, shifting blood towards the heart, raising right atrial pressure, and causing a cephalad displacement of the diaphragm
Buoyancy	Immersion to the xyphoid offloads bodyweight by 60% or more, to C7 by 75% or more. Buoyancy results in 'offloading' of peripheral and spinal joints
Viscosity	Limb movement in water is subject to drag force and turbulence. Viscous resistance offers opportunities for strength training via the principle of loading
Thermodynamics	Water may be used over a wide range of temperatures due to its heat capacity and conduction properties. Many public pools operate at 27-29°C, although sometimes increase to 33.5-35.5°C for 'therapeutic' sessions. Neutral temperatures provide a safe and comfortable environment for exercise

In total, the effects of swimming and aquatic exercise on physical health are sequelae of both aerobic training, and the unique properties of water as an exercise medium. The following sections will consider the evidence to support these beneficial health effects, from a body system perspective.

Effects of swimming on cardiovascular and cardiometabolic health

Displacement of blood into the thoracic vasculature (secondary to the hydrostatic pressure gradient) results in increased venous return, a 60% increase in central blood volume, increased cardiac preload, a concomitant increase in stroke volume of approximately 35%, and a reduction in heart rate secondary to baroreceptor stimulation (Becker, 2009; Brody and Geigle, 2009; Lazar et al., 2013; Weston et al., 1987). Immersion to the neck also reduces systemic vascular resistance via a reduction in sympathetic vasoconstriction and nitric oxide release; this state continues into the post-immersion period (Becker, 2009; Lazar et al., 2013). Whilst systolic pressure increases with physical activity, this is generally less than on land; end-diastolic pressures are decreased (Becker, 2009).

Upon commencement of aerobic exercise (specifically aqua-jogging), oxygen consumption is noted to be greater for a given speed of ambulation, therefore a beneficial training effect may be realised at a slower speed than on land (Evans et al., 1978). Lazar et al. (2013) note that, given the viscous resistance of water, the energy cost of swimming a given distance is approximately four times that of running the same distance. Whilst it has been long suggested that swimming is associated with a lower maximal oxygen consumption(VO_2max) than other aerobic exercise (Holmér and Astrand, 1972), data are in fact equivocal; Lazar et al. (2013) suggest that these differences are attributable to factors such as swim skill/speed, clothing, water temperature, and baseline cardiac status.

1. Swimming/aquatic exercise and risk factor modification

Aerobic exercise is recommended as a cardioprotective lifestyle intervention, reducing cardiovascular mortality in both genders and across the life span (Nagle et al., 2017). However, the effect of swimming on blood pressure modification has produced inconsistent results (Lazar et al., 2013). In normotensive subjects, swim training has been associated with a small rise in systolic and diastolic blood pressure (Chen et al., 2010; Cox et al., 2006). It should be noted however, that this rise was not clinically significant as it did not take participants into the hypertensive category (Lazar et al., 2013). Conversely, in male and female subjects, with varying severities of hypertension, swimming has been consistently associated with a reduction in blood pressure and improvements in vascular function such as carotid artery compliance, flow-mediated dilatation and cardiovagal baroreflex sensitivity (Arca et al., 2014; Bartels et al., 2016; Chen et al., 2010; Laurent et al., 2009; Mohr et al., 2014; Nualnim et al., 2012; Tanaka, 2009). Swim/aquatic exercise training at moderate to high intensity, may confer greater anti-hypertensive benefits, however further research is warranted (Mohr et al., 2014; Nagle et al., 2017).

Obesity is a major public health concern and associated with significant cardiovascular and cardiometabolic co-morbidity (Boidin et al., 2015). Between 1971 and 2002, obesity increased three-fold amongst children and two-fold amongst adults, with significant disparities in ethnic groups (Stempski et al., 2015). As forms of aerobic activity, swimming and aquatic exercise are legitimate choices for weight reduction and management (Lazar et al., 2013). Aerobic activity is associated with decreased body fat, attenuation of loss of lean body mass commonly seen during dietary restriction, and reduction of visceral adipose tissue (Klijn et al., 2007). For obese individuals, the unique nature of the aquatic environment, specifically the ability to reduce weight-bearing and thermoregulatory stressors, may confer an added advantage relative to other forms of aerobic exercise. Studies regarding the effects of swimming and aquatic exercise on body composition have, however, been variable (Lazar et al., 2013; Meredith-Jones et al., 2011). Some researchers have shown no significant changes in body weight, percentage body fat or fat distribution with swimming or aquatic exercise programmes (Gwinup, 1987; Tanaka et al., 1997). Others have demonstrated significant improvements in the same parameters in healthy and Type 1 diabetic young women (Sideraviciūte et al., 2006), sedentary older women (Cox et al., 2010), obese adults (Boidin et al., 2015), Type 2 diabetic men (Cugusi et al., 2015), adults with coronary artery disease (Volaklis et al., 2007), and post-menopausal women (Colado et al., 2009). The confounding factors underpinning conflicting results may be attributed in part to discrepancies in: programme type, intensity and duration; addition of caloric/dietary restriction; or differences in baseline parameters (Meredith-Jones et al., 2011).

Interest has been expressed in the effects that swim training and aquatic exercise may have on blood lipids, glycaemia, and insulin sensitivity, known aetiological factors in the genesis of cardiometabolic morbidity (Lazar et al., 2013; Meredith-Jones et al., 2011). The augmented atrial pressures associated with immersion are known to cause neural and hormonal adjustments, including suppression of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS) (Lazar et al., 2013). Activation of the RAAS has been associated with development of conditions such as obesity and Type 2 diabetes (Delevatti et al., 2015). A recent systematic review sought to better elucidate the relationship between aquatic exercise and glycaemic and lipid profile variables (Delevatti et al., 2015). Eight studies considered the effects of prolonged aerobic training (8-24 weeks), with variable exercise protocols and session duration/frequency. Participants included both sexes, a range of age groups, and individuals with coronary artery disease, chronic heart failure, Type 2 diabetes and dyslipidaemia. All studies demonstrated improvement in at least one variable when compared to the control group or pre-training measurements. Only one study compared aquatic exercise to land-based exercise, however, the biochemical improvements seen in both were not significantly different. The authors conclude that, despite methodological limitations, there is some evidence to indicate that aquatic exercise constitutes an interesting therapeutic option for improving lipid profile and glycaemic control.

2. Swimming/aquatic exercise and heart disease

The use of swimming and aquatic therapy for individuals with established cardiovascular disease has long been debated, with concerns expressed that immersion-related central haemodynamic responses may be detrimental in this population causing myocardial ischaemia, arrhythmia or ventricular decompensation (Adsett et al., 2015; Lazar et al., 2013; Meyer, 2006). However, swimming and aquatic exercise are increasingly used as a successful form of cardiac rehabilitation in both coronary artery disease and congestive heart failure (Adsett et al., 2015; Becker, 2009; Laurent et al., 2009; Lazar et al., 2013; Neto et al., 2015). In a review of relevant literature, Lazar et al. (2013) note that swimming has been associated with delayed sensation of angina compared to land-based exercise. Consequently, the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Cardiac Rehabilitation offers the following advice to patients with known coronary heart disease: *"Due to the buoyancy and temperature in water it is very easy to underestimate how hard your body is working. It is a good idea to exercise at a lower level than you would do out of the water. You should always feel comfortable and able to continue easily with the activity"* (ACPICR, undated). An increasing volume of literature supports the use of swimming and aquatic exercise in patients with impaired left ventricular ejection fractions (LVEF), but stable symptoms (Adsett et al., 2015; Lazar et al., 2013; Neto et al., 2015). Benefits included improvements in LVEF/ 6 Minute Walk Test / VO_2peak and increased levels of plasma nitrates (Adsett et al., 2015; Laurent et al., 2009; Neto et al., 2015; Teffaha et al., 2011). Becker (2009) has proposed a clinical algorithm for aquatic activity decision-making, intended to guide healthcare practitioners in advising patients safely and appropriately.

In summary, evidence suggests that swimming and aquatic exercise are viable methods for improving cardiorespiratory fitness, and may be a particularly attractive option for those individuals who are less tolerant of land-based exercise. Furthermore, swimming appears to constitute a valuable intervention for risk factor modification, especially for hypertension. Swimming and aquatic exercise appear to be safe in individuals with established cardiovascular disease, where symptoms are stable, and exercise prescription is directed by an appropriately qualified practitioner.

Effects of swimming on pulmonary health

Deep water immersion (to at least the level of the thorax), has significant implications for the pulmonary system. This is in part mediated by translocation of blood to the thoracic vasculature and also by the direct compression of the chest wall by hydrostatic pressure (Becker, 2009). The resultant impact - 6-9% reduction in vital capacity and an increase in work of breathing – means that the aquatic environment can plausibly offer a valuable opportunity for respiratory training (especially inspiratory muscle training) and rehabilitation. Santos et al. (2012) conducted an observational study of healthy seven to eight year old boys who either played football twice a week (n=25), swam twice a week (n=25), or were sedentary (n=25). The swim group showed statistically significantly higher levels of maximal inspiratory and expiratory pressures (indicative of greater respiratory muscle strength) compared to both football and sedentary groups. Similarly, favourable advantages in spirometry have been demonstrated in adult swimmers compared to individuals who played other sports (Mehrotra et al., 1998). Further research suggests that these advantages become more significant the longer the individual sustains swimming as a form of regular physical activity (Nilesh et al., 2012). Santos et al. (2012) conclude that, theoretically, swimming could be recommended in chronic respiratory disease, or other degenerative conditions, where respiratory muscle strength needs to be maintained or gained.

Of particular interest is the effect of swimming interventions for children with asthma. Asthma is the most common chronic disease in the paediatric population, and is increasing in prevalence in many parts of the world (Wang and Hung, 2009; Wong and Chow, 2008). A cycle of deconditioning and poor cardiorespiratory fitness is known to occur in many children, as fear of an asthma attack can preclude engagement in physical activity (Welsh et al., 2005). Consequently, swimming is commonly recommended as a form of physical activity for this population given that the environment offers humidity, warmth, low pollen exposure and hydrostatic pressure against the chest wall which reduces the work of breathing associated with expiration (Beggs et al., 2013). Furthermore, swimming has the additional advantages of promoting normal physical/psychological development, developing cardiorespiratory fitness and enhancing lung volumes and breathing techniques (Wang and Hung, 2009). A Cochrane review aimed to determine the effectiveness and safety of swimming as an intervention in children and adolescents with asthma

(Beggs et al., 2013). Based on eight studies (n=262), the authors concluded that there was moderate level evidence that swimming increased lung function, and high level evidence that it increased cardiorespiratory fitness. There were no reported adverse effects on asthma control or exacerbation. The quality of evidence regarding swimming and aquatic exercise for adults with asthma is very low, such that a recent Cochrane review was unable to make recommendations regarding effectiveness and safety (Grande et al., 2014).

Swimming-pool based exercise has also been used as a form of pulmonary rehabilitation for individuals with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) (de Souto Araujo et al., 2012; Rae and White, 2009). Pulmonary rehabilitation is a key component of COPD therapeutic management, and is particularly effective in improving exercise capacity and quality of life (McCarthy et al., 2015). A Cochrane Review sought to compare the effectiveness and safety of water-based exercise in patients with COPD, as compared to no exercise or land-based exercise (McNamara et al., 2013a). Five studies were included (n=176), with exercise based interventions lasting between four and twelve weeks. The included studies provided limited quality evidence that water-based training offered advantages over land-based training in terms of improving exercise endurance. Little information was available in terms of long term effects of training. A randomised controlled trial of water-based training versus land-based training or control for patients with COPD and co-existent co-morbidities such as obesity, or musculoskeletal/neurological conditions was conducted (McNamara et al., 2013b). Results of this study showed that water-based training was significantly more effective than either land-based training or control for improving exercise capacity (peak and endurance), and fatigue (as measured by the Chronic Respiratory Disease Questionnaire). Given that water-based training confers at least equivalent benefits as land-based programmes, aquatic pulmonary rehabilitation should be considered. This may be of particular importance for individuals with other physical co-morbidities who are better able to exercise (and progress exercise) in water (McNamara et al., 2015)

In summary, evidence suggests that swimming and aquatic exercise can influence respiratory muscle strength and pulmonary function in healthy children and adults. Water-based exercise is also a viable therapeutic option for improving lung function and cardiorespiratory fitness in certain lung pathologies such as asthma and COPD.

Effects of swimming on musculoskeletal (MSK) health

During immersion, the increased cardiac output is preferentially distributed to the skin and muscle rather than the splanchnic beds, resulting in a 225% increase in muscle blood flow and, potentially, an increase in oxygen delivery to active muscle (Becker, 2009). The effect of buoyancy on the musculoskeletal system is also significant, mitigating ground reaction forces, thereby reducing compressive weight-bearing stresses on joints (Barker et al., 2014). The relative ease of movement in water may also activate supraspinal pathways resulting in a reduction in perceived pain (Hall et al., 2008). Furthermore, immersion in thermoneutral water attenuates the sympathetic nervous system response which, combined with the effects of hydrostatic pressure, may serve to reduce oedema and pain perception in individuals with musculoskeletal (MSK) complaints (Barker et al., 2014).

The Global Burden of Disease Study 2010 demonstrated that MSK conditions are highly prevalent, responsible for 21.3% of total years lived with disability globally, and constitute the fourth greatest burden for global health (Hoy et al., 2015). Given that this burden is predicted to rise as a result of the projected increases in the ageing population, effective MSK management strategies are a critical concern for public health, and the beneficial effects of swimming and aquatic exercise have been lauded as viable therapeutic options (Barker et al., 2014). A meta-analysis of 26 randomised and quasi-randomised trials investigating the effects of aquatic exercise on MSK conditions concluded that, when compared with no exercise controls, aquatic exercise achieved moderate improvements in physical function, pain and quality of life (Barker et al., 2014). When compared with land-based exercise, aquatic exercise achieved comparable results. The authors conclude that these findings support the notion that patients can choose the mode of intervention that is most appealing, therefore promoting compliance and adherence. Whilst this study investigated MSK conditions *en masse*, systematic reviews and randomised controlled trials of individual conditions have produced similar findings, for example in osteoarthritis (OA) (Bartels et al., 2016; Batterham et al., 2011; Lu et al., 2015; Waller et al., 2014), ankylosing spondylitis (Dundar et al., 2014) and fibromyalgia (Lima et al., 2013). Whilst the benefits of regular exercise in improving functional independence and quality of life for individuals with rheumatoid arthritis have been acknowledged, there remains concern regarding exercise prescription for those with significant damage, especially in weight-bearing joints (Finckh et al., 2003). As such, it is proposed that exercise programmes

should be designed around modailities that reduce joint loading, particularly water walking and swimming (Finckh et al., 2003).

One study explored the effects of swimming on OA (Alkatan et al., 2016). In this study, 48 adults with OA were randomly assigned to twelve weeks of supervised swim or cycle training. The results indicated that swimming elicited similar if not enhanced effects on vascular function and inflammatory markers compared to cycle training. Whilst clearly significant in terms of improving cardiovascular disease risk profile, the reduction in inflammatory markers is also highly relevant in terms of OA pathogenesis and progression.

In summary, evidence suggests that aquatic exercise has positive effects for a wide range of musculoskeletal conditions, favourably influencing pain, function and, for some, quality of life. The nature of the aquatic environment is ideally suited to individuals with MSK problems, given the reduced compressive joint force secondary to buoyancy. Further high quality evidence is needed to establish optimal physical activity and exercise programmes.

Effects of swimming on neurological health

It is well recognised that exposing infants to physical exercise facilitates neurological development and subsequent motor abilities (Sigmundsson and Hopkins, 2010). A number of small preliminary studies have suggested potential improvements in motor development as a result of baby swimming (specifically prehension and balance), however the methodological limitations preclude definitive conclusions (Dias et al., 2013; Sigmundsson and Hopkins, 2010).

In adults with neurological disease, water based physical activity has been more widely explored (Marinho-Buzelli et al., 2015; Plecash and Leavitt, 2014). A systematic review aimed to investigate the effects of swimming/aquatic exercise on the mobility of individuals with neurological disease. Twenty studies were considered, with participants including individuals with multiple sclerosis (MS), Parkinson's disease (PD) and stroke, predominantly in the chronic phase of their disease. Dynamic balance and walking performance were the most frequently measured outcomes. The authors conclude that there is moderate level evidence that aquatic exercise improves mobility in individuals with neurological disorders, but acknowledge that heterogeneity was high. There was a lack of high level evidence that water based exercise was superior to land-based interventions.

A randomised single-blind controlled pilot study (not included in the systematic review) endeavoured to compare the effects of aquatic exercise versus land-based exercise on balance in individuals with PD (Volpe et al., 2014). Thirty-four PD patients were randomised to either aquatic exercise or control (usual land-based rehabilitation). All participants underwent the same rehabilitation period. No adverse effects were reported and compliance was good amongst both groups. Both groups demonstrated improvements post-intervention, but between group analysis revealed that the aquatic exercise group made significantly greater improvements in the domains for Berg Balance, Activities-Specific Balance Confidence, Falls, Falls Efficacy and PD-Questionnaire-39. The authors note that the unique physical properties of water appeared to play a critical role in ameliorating balance control, offering enhanced proprioceptive training and protected conditions in which to activate postural reactions thereby reducing the likelihood or fear of falling.

For patients with MS, fatigue is one of the most common and disabling symptoms with far reaching biopsychosocial sequelae (Wood et al., 2013). Exercise is considered a significant component of MS management, with implications for slowing disease progression (Kargarfard et al., 2012). A randomised controlled trial of 32 women with relapsing-remitting MS aimed to explore the impact of aquatic therapy on MS-related fatigue (Kargarfard et al., 2012). Participants were randomly allocated to either aquatic training for eight weeks or control (maintenance of normal daily activity). Using the Modified Fatigue Impact Scale, the authors revealed that individuals who had received aquatic training showed significant improvements in comparison to the control group. Furthermore, these findings were more significant at eight weeks than at four. The authors hypothesise that the thermodynamic properties of water permitted individuals with MS to exercise without experiencing heat-fatigue, and the effects of buoyancy allowed greater periods of physical activity to be endured before tiring. No adverse events were reported within the aquatic training group, but attrition was high from both control (n=5) and intervention groups (n=6), limiting the internal validity of the study.

In summary, evidence suggests that exercise in an aquatic environment offers additional advantages for individuals with neurological and neurodegenerative conditions. In particular, exercise in water promotes balance and confers a greater margin of therapeutic safety for individuals with an elevated risk of falling (Becker, 2009). Given the prevalence of baby swimming classes, future research should aim to establish the benefits for neurological development.

Effects of swimming on health for people with disability

It is well recognised that people with disability are less physically active than those without (Li et al., 2016; Sport England, 2015), and yet greater participation has been associated with better physical and psychological health (Martin Ginis et al., 2017). Physical activity programmes are required that address environmental barriers and offer appropriate resources (Fragala-Pinkham et al., 2010; Mulligan and Polkinghorne, 2013). Other barriers, from the perspective of adolescents with cerebral palsy (CP), are that physical activity is associated with fatigue, pain, risk of injury and is not fun to engage with (Declerck et al., 2016). Paediatric aquatic therapy has been well described in the literature (especially for children with CP), as it enables individuals to perform activities that they could not achieve on land (Lai et al., 2015). In particular, the aquatic environment increases postural support, provides greater protection to joint integrity and improves muscle strength, cardiorespiratory fitness and gross motor function (Kelly and Darrah, 2005; Lai et al., 2015).

Kelly and Darrah (2005) notes that many studies of aquatic therapy in children with disability have described individualised interventions. There is, however, increasing interest in group aquatic exercise schemes, as a way of providing physical activity opportunities in a motivating and socially stimulating environment. Kelly and Darrah (2005) suggest that this may facilitate greater engagement and compliance. One study has described a ten week group swimming intervention for youth (aged seven to seventeen years) with CP using randomised controlled methods (Declerck et al., 2016). The authors reported that walking and swimming skills improved significantly in the intervention group compared to the controls, and that these improvements were maintained at 20 weeks. Furthermore, levels of enjoyment were rated as high, and there was no significant increase in pain or fatigue.

In summary, a small volume of evidence supports the use of swimming and aquatic exercise for individuals with disability. This evidence originates primarily from the paediatric field and, in particular, individuals with CP. Group interventions are proposed as a possible way of improving engagement.

Effects of swimming on health for the frail elderly

A consequence of ageing is the impaired ability of the central nervous system to secure and maintain body balance, and make requisite adaptive reactions (Avelar et al., 2010). This situation is further compounded by age-related sarcopenia (Bergamin et al., 2013), and the combined effects significantly increase the risk of falling (de Oliveira et al., 2014). The role of exercise in attenuating these age-related changes is well recognised (Cadore et al., 2013; Taaffe, 2006), and yet engagement with physical activity and sport is known to decline significantly in older adults (Hallal et al., 2012; Oja et al., 2015). This may, in part, be due to perception of risk and fear of falling (Sato et al., 2009).

The Concord Health and Ageing in Men Project studied a population-based cohort of 1,667 older men between 2005 and 2011, and examined the associations between common sporting activities and the incidence of falls (Merom et al., 2014). After adjusting for certain parameters, swimming was the only activity associated with a protective effect. Swimmers also demonstrated lower postural sway and a faster narrow walk test than men who only participated in lifestyle physical activities. The authors hypothesise that factors specific to swimming (improved core muscle function as a result of maintenance of a horizontal swim position, and increased ankle dorsiflexion and proprioception secondary to swim kick) may be implicated in the favourable results produced.

A number of intervention studies have described aquatic exercise and swimming as a therapeutic option for improving balance, enhancing strength and/or reducing risk of falling (Avelar et al., 2010; Bergamin et al., 2013; de Oliveira et al., 2014; Merom et al., 2014; Oh et al., 2015; Sato et al., 2009). These studies also indicate the ability of swimming/aquatic exercise to improve balance in older adults, although there were no additional benefits compared

to land-based exercise in these studies (Avelar et al., 2010; de Oliveira et al., 2014). Gains in strength (hip abductors/adductors, knee extensors and ankle dorsiflexors) and improvements in physical functioning have also been described as a result of aquatic exercise training (Bergamin et al., 2013; Oh et al., 2015; Sato et al., 2009).

Rising life expectancy is associated with an increased prevalence of dementia; a recent meta-analysis estimated that there are over 9.9 million new cases of dementia diagnosed globally each year – one new case every 3.2 seconds (Prince et al., 2015). Furthermore, this number is projected to increase to 131.5 million by 2050 (Prince et al., 2015). Luengo-Fernandez et al. (2010) estimated that the health and social care costs for dementia almost match the combined costs for heart disease, stroke and cancer. A body of evidence is emerging that suggests exercise and physical activity may have a protective and disease-modifying influence for dementia (Ahlskog et al., 2011). Henwood et al. (2015) described a feasibility study, designed to influence physical performance and function, using an aquatic exercise programme for nursing home residents with moderate to severe dementia, low walking speed and sub-normal muscle strength. Two 45-minute aquatic exercise sessions per week were provided over a 12 week period. Eighteen participants started the programme, however eight were withdrawn for a variety of reasons. Post-intervention, a significant increase was demonstrated in grip strength, and positive (non-significant) trends in standing balance and step test. This study indicates that aquatic therapy for patients with dementia is feasible and safe, and warrants further investigation.

In summary, swimming appears to confer a significant protective effect in terms of reducing falls in elderly adults, and mitigating age-related frailty. Further, randomised trials of swimming as a fall prevention strategy are indicated. Swimming and aquatic exercise offer a potentially valuable strategy for re-engaging elderly adults with physical activity, in an environment that offers a greater margin of therapeutic safety. The influence of swimming and aquatic exercise on physical, cognitive and behavioural functioning in patients with dementia is an area for future research.

Effects of swimming on health for women

Physical inactivity levels increase with advancing age (Cox et al., 2008). In particular, disparities between physical activity levels in men and women are notable, with women being more likely to adopt sedentary behaviours (BHF, 2015). Swimming/aquatic and walking interventions are frequently advocated for older, sedentary women (ACSM, 2016). Cox et al. (2008) examined exercise adherence, in both the short and long term, to a six month supervised swimming or walking programme, followed by six months of the same programme unsupervised. Participants (n=116), were healthy sedentary women aged between 50 and 70 years who were randomly allocated to one of the two groups. Both modes of training were associated with good retention rates and adherence to exercise at six months (76.3% for swimmers versus 74.3% for walkers), and at twelve months (65.8% for swimmers versus 54.6% for walkers). Predicted barriers to adherence in the group of unsupervised swimmers (six to twelve month phase), such as difficulty finding a suitable pool/travelling to the venue or the cost of entry being prohibitive, were not realised in this study.

1. Effects of swimming on post-menopausal osteoporosis

Remaining physically active is of particular significance in post-menopausal women, as exercise is an important stimulus for the prevention and management of osteoporosis (Moreira et al., 2014). It is suggested that approximately 30% of post-menopausal women in the United States and Europe will develop osteoporosis, causing considerable morbidity, mortality and economic burden (Gómez-Bruton et al., 2013; International Osteoporosis Foundation, 2015). During physical activity, the effects of ground reaction forces and contractile forces from skeletal muscle promote osteogenesis, influencing bone mineral content and bone mineral density (Gómez-Bruton et al., 2013; Moreira et al., 2014). Given the reduced weight-bearing effect of the aquatic environment, some have suggested that swimming may have less osteogenic effects than higher impact sport, across all age ranges (Gómez-Bruton et al., 2013). A systematic review of 64 studies presented knowledge of the effects of swimming on bone mass, structure and metabolism in swimmers (Gómez-Bruton et al., 2013). The key findings were that swimmers demonstrated lower bone mineral density than individuals who engaged in high impact sport. Whilst swimmers' bone mineral density was comparable to sedentary controls, swimmers' bone turnover rate was higher. The authors suggest that this may result in swimmers having stronger bone structure, and therefore stronger bone, than sedentary controls.

Whilst physical activity clearly has a beneficial effect on osteometabolism, not all populations can tolerate high impact activities (Becker, 2009; Moreira et al., 2014). In these cases, aquatic exercise offers a viable alternative. A study of 108 post-menopausal women evaluated the effects of a 24 week high intensity aquatic exercise programme (Moreira et al., 2013). Participants were randomised to the intervention group or a sedentary control group. Findings demonstrated significant improvements in the intervention group for: rate of falls; flexibility; balance; strength and bone formation markers. In the control group, bone mineral density was reduced by 1.2% at the greater trochanter, however the swimming group showed no change. The authors concluded that the aquatic high intensity exercise programme was effective at attenuating bone resorption and promoting bone formation.

2. Effects of swimming during pregnancy

Swimming/aquatic exercise is one of the most common modes of physical activity selected by pregnant women in the UK (Liu et al., 2011) . It is believed to constitute a safe option as the aquatic environment reduces the chance of over-heating and the central blood volume expansion may be beneficial for utero- circulation during exertion (Lynch et al., 2007). A Cochrane review of aerobic exercise in pregnancy summarised that whilst there were positive effects for maternal physical fitness, the evidence was insufficient to infer risks or benefits to either mother or baby (Kramer and McDonald, 2006). Nonetheless, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists have recommended: *"Physical activity in pregnancy has minimal risks and has been shown to benefit most women, although some modification to exercise routines may be necessary because of normal anatomic and physiologic changes and fetal requirements. Women with uncomplicated pregnancies should be encouraged to engage in aerobic and strength-conditioning exercises before, during, and after pregnancy"* (ACOG, 2015). Lynch et al. (2007) investigated the efficacy of a second trimester swim training programme in 39 nulliparous, previously sedentary women. Twenty seven women were allocated to a swim group, twelve to a non-swimming comparator group. Results revealed a significant increase in cardiorespiratory fitness for the swim group, without any adverse effects for mother or baby.

Physical activity is also associated with the prevention of excessive weight gain in pregnancy (Barakat et al., 2012). Excessive maternal weight gain has been implicated in the development of gestational diabetes, with potentially adverse, short and long term, health implications for mother and infant. Studies investigating the efficacy of exercise training programmes (include aquatic training) in the prevention of gestational diabetes have demonstrated improved levels of maternal glucose tolerance.

Swimming and aquatic exercise is frequently recommended to pregnant women because of the reduced risk of falling, and the reduced risk of injury given hormonally driven ligament laxity (Melzer et al., 2010). A study conducted by Andersen et al. (2015) used self-reported data on pelvic girdle pain and information regarding physical exercise at around gestational week 16. Physical exercise was associated with a decreased risk of pelvic girdle pain. In particular, participants who selected swimming as physical exercise had lower odds for pelvic girdle pain than non-exercisers. This was not seen in other forms of exercise.

3. Effects of swimming and breast cancer

Breast cancer is the most common cause of cancer in the UK and will affect one in eight women over their lifetime (Cancer Research UK, 2015). There is an increasing interest in the importance of exercise therapy for women diagnosed with breast cancer, in particular aimed at modifying body composition (Fernández-Lao et al., 2013). Data suggests that women who are obese have a much greater risk of breast-cancer related mortality (Protani et al., 2010). Fernández-Lao et al. (2013) used a controlled clinical trial to compare an aquatic exercise programme, a land based programme and a control group for 98 breast cancer survivors. Results indicated that whilst land-based exercise was more effective at reducing body fat, aquatic exercise was superior in relieving breast symptoms in the short term. Aquatic exercise programmes have also been shown to be effective in reducing breast cancer-related fatigue (Cantarero-Villanueva et al., 2013) and hormone therapy-induced arthralgia (Cantarero-Villanueva et al., 2013).

In summary, swimming and aquatic exercise can make an important contribution to women's health. Swimming/aquatic exercise is a well-established physical exercise activity in pregnancy and appears to be a safe choice for women with uncomplicated pregnancies. Exercise in an aquatic environment also offers a safe environment for women at risk of/with established osteoporosis, and still confers benefits despite reduced weight-bearing status. Aquatic exercise also offers interesting options for symptom relief in individuals with breast cancer, although randomised controlled studies are required with longer term follow-up.

Summary and recommendations

As one of the most popular modes of physical activity, swimming/aquatic exercise confers significant physical health benefits for both healthy individuals and those with disease. Furthermore, these health benefits extend across the entire life-course – this chapter has presented evidence that demonstrates favourable effects of aquatic exercise from foetus through to the frail elderly.

Whilst there is a large body of literature considering aquatic exercise *per se*, there is relatively much less exploring the effects of swimming as a unique activity. It is imperative that this is addressed in future research, particularly given the compelling evidence presented that swimmers demonstrate lower all-cause mortality rates, and reduced incidence of falls in later life.

Many of the studies presented have methodological limitations – future studies of swimming and aquatic therapy should ensure larger sample sizes, especially where exploring the effect on modifiable risk factors. A focus on programme intensity, frequency and design for optimal physical health benefits, as well as longer-term effectiveness, would be of significant value for clinical and public health arenas.

The unique nature of the aquatic environment as a medium for exercise and physical activity has been comprehensively described. What is evident is that water-based exercise can confer a number of specific advantages, as compared to land-based exercise. As an environment that offers reduced weight-bearing stress, higher humidity levels, decreased heat load and a greater margin of therapeutic safety in terms of falls-risk, swimming/aquatic exercise is extremely well-placed to safely and effectively meet the needs of a wide-range of individuals, in both the treatment and prevention of physical health issues. Water-based exercise prescription should be a key consideration for health care clinicians and commissioners.

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Chapter 2

The wellbeing benefits of swimming: a systematic review

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Key words:

swimming
wellbeing
health
quality of life
mental health

Introduction

There is an increasing recognition of the importance of maintaining and promoting the wellbeing of individuals within society and the entire lifespan (Naci and Ioannidis 2015). With unprecedented changes in global demographics including the fact people are living longer, yet with more years of disability (Vos, Flaxman et al. 2013) and an increasing number of mental health problems across the lifespan (Whiteford, Degenhardt et al. 2013), the need for strategies to maintain and improve wellbeing are fundamental for individuals and the communities they reside (Lovell, Wheeler et al. 2014). The World Health Organisation (WHO) state that promoting wellbeing across the lifespan should include a multitude of factors including tackling poverty, food and water shortages, appropriate management of disease, infrastructure and lifestyle behaviours (World-Health-Organisation 1998). Set within this context, is the growing realisation that physical activity, sport, leisure and exercise can play an integral role in achieving the wellbeing agenda (Eime, Young et al. 2013).

In the wider physical activity literature, there is an abundance of evidence demonstrating that physical activity and exercise positively influence wellbeing (Netz, Wu et al. 2005, Penedo and Dahn 2005). For instance, physical activity, including outdoor fitness programs and exercise has been shown to improve social and emotional wellbeing among youth who may be at risk of poor mental health outcomes (Lubans, Plotnikoff et al. 2011). A landmark study published in the Lancet conducted among 2,223 boys and 2,838 girls aged 16 demonstrated that vigorous participation in sports was positively associated with emotional wellbeing (Steptoe and Butler 1996). Moreover, physical activity has been shown to positively improve the wellbeing of specific groups such as veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (Caddick and Smith 2014), people with depression (Schuch, Vancampfort et al. 2016), people in prison (Woods 2017) and young people using wheel chairs (O'Brien, Noyes et al. 2016). At the other end of life's spectrum, a previous systematic review (Windle, Hughes et al. 2010) found that two sessions of exercise a week for 45 minutes can significantly improve the wellbeing of older people (standardised effect size = 0.27; CI = 0.14-0.40). Moreover, the authors indicated that there was evidence of an incremental cost-effectiveness ratios (compared with minimal intervention) of £7,300 and £12,100 per quality adjusted life year gained for community-based walking and exercise programmes, respectively (Windle, Hughes et al. 2010).

Swimming remains one of the most popular forms of physical activity across the world (Hulteen, Smith et al. 2017) and may offer a unique opportunity to promote, maintain and improve wellbeing across the lifespan, with potential to reach all individuals of society, regardless of gender, age, disability or socioeconomic status (Lee and Oh 2013). Despite the aforementioned established wellbeing benefits of physical activity more broadly, the literature considering the potential wellbeing benefits of swimming among individuals in society has to the best of our knowledge not been synthesised previously. With this in mind, the current chapter provides a synthesis of findings from a comprehensive systematic review of 4,352 de-duplicated articles within the literature to answer the following questions:

1) What is the evidence for swimming across the lifespan from 'cradle to grave' (including children, adolescents, working age and older age) on wellbeing?
2) What is the evidence for swimming and aquatic exercise to improve wellbeing across general specific populations who may particularly benefit from water based activities?
3) What are the gaps within the literature and important questions for the future?

The final section of the chapter includes a consideration of the gaps in the knowledge base of swimming and wellbeing in addition to recommendations and visions for how swimming can meet the pressing desire to promote the wellbeing of all individuals across society.

What is wellbeing and why is it important?

There has been growing interest in the concept of wellbeing, with particular momentum since the previous millennium (Lindert, Bain et al. 2015). This is for good reason, since wellbeing is associated with good self-rated health, longevity, healthy lifestyle, better mental and physical health, social connectedness and a feeling of the ability to contribute to wider society (Lindert, Bain et al. 2015). A previous meta-analysis demonstrated across 35 studies that good psychological wellbeing was associated with an 18% reduction in premature mortality compared

to those with poor wellbeing in the general population (Hazard Ratio 0.82; 95% Confidence Interval (CI) = 0.76-0.89; p < .001) (Chida and Steptoe 2008). Moreover, individual components of wellbeing such as happiness and contentment are associated with positive health outcomes (Graham 2008) and a reduced odds of developing a mental illness (Weich, Brugha et al. 2011). Perhaps unsurprisingly, many national bodies, including the UK government (Department of Health 2014) and International bodies such as the World Health Organisation (WHO) (World Health Organisation 1998) recognise that promoting and maintaining wellbeing is of utmost importance.

Despite the uniform consensus on the importance of wellbeing, there continues to be a lack of agreement regarding a definition of wellbeing and how best to measure and monitor this construct (Dodge, Daly et al. 2012). This is personified in a recent systematic review, which focussed only on "subjective wellbeing" and identified 60 different scales had been used in the literature and found that the majority of studies used a heterogeneous definition of wellbeing (Lindert, Bain et al. 2015). Nonetheless, wellbeing is often interlinked or used interchangeably with quality of life (QOL), happiness, positive mental health, healthy ageing and is regarded as a higher order construct (Diener 2000, Lindert, Bain et al. 2015). A definition from the United Kingdom (UK) Government is "*Wellbeing is about feeling good and functioning well and comprises an individual's experience of their life; and a comparison of life circumstances with social norms and values*" (Department of Health 2014). At its simplest, wellbeing can be defined as feeling good and judging life positively (Veenhoven 2008). A recent systematic review on subjective wellbeing measurement for the WHO health policy unit defined wellbeing as *"a cognitive process of contentment, satisfaction or happiness derived from optimal functioning. Optimal functioning is a relative rather than an absolute concept as the benchmark for judging lies in an individual's perception of his or her own aspirations*" (Lindert, Bain et al. 2015).

Wellbeing extends beyond the typical boundaries of good health, in that it incorporates other facets including physical vitality, cognitive alertness, feeling connected, mental health, social satisfaction, a sense of accomplishment, personal fulfilment and purpose (Naci and Ioannidis 2015) It also encapsulates areas of life such as feelings of satisfaction, optimism, self-esteem, having control over one's life, having a purpose in life and a sense of belonging (Department of Health 2014). There is consensus that wellbeing is a multifaceted construct, which consists of a subjective component (for example an individual's own perception of their health state and happiness) and an objective component (for example captured by expert checklists, e.g. Warwick and Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (Tennant, Hiller et al. 2007) (Department of Health 2014)).

In summary, wellbeing is a positive outcome that is meaningful for individuals and for society, because it informs us about how well people perceive their lives are and if they are content (Tennant, Hiller et al. 2007, Weich, Brugha et al. 2011, Naci and Ioannidis 2015).

Why might swimming or water based activities be good for wellbeing?

As is evident from the literature, there is robust evidence that engaging in physical activity is good for wellbeing (Steptoe and Butler 1996, Netz, Wu et al. 2005, Penedo and Dahn 2005, Windle, Hughes et al. 2010). The well-established definition of physical activity is "*any bodily movement produced by skeletal muscles that results in energy expenditure*" (Caspersen, Powell et al. 1985) and clearly swimming fits within this definition or that of exercise. The potential for swimming to improve wellbeing is considerable. Swimming is an activity that people can participate in regardless of age, ethnicity and culture and may offer a unique strategy for people to engage in a meaningful form of physical activity (Oh and Lee 2015). Moreover, unlike many other sports (for example football, golf, squash), swimming is considered to be more inclusive across genders (Thomson, Kearns et al. 2003). There has been a growing interest within the literature over the last 30 years, suggesting that swimming can improve an individual's health and reduce stress compared to other sports (Lee and Oh 2014). However, robust quantitative data is still lacking at this moment in time to confirm or refute such long held beliefs. Whilst not a wellbeing construct per se, a recent study of over 80,000 adults suggested that swimming may offer a protective effect from early all-cause and cardiovascular cause death, with a more protective effect evident compared to other sports (Oja, Kelly et al. 2016). The unique opportunity for swimming to improve wellbeing also stems from its popularity, with a recent global meta-analysis demonstrating that swimming is particularly popular among young people (Hulteen, Smith et al. 2017). Swimming is also very popular in England, with national data from the Active People Survey by Sport England (Sport England 2016) demonstrating that between October 2015 and September 2016, 2,516,700

people aged 16 years or older reported swimming (including all swimming and diving (indoor and outdoor), water polo, deep water swimming, open water swimming, deep water diving) at least once a week. It has been established in previous research, that personal preference, enjoyment and choice is a key factor to determine long term adherence to a physical activity/sport and thus receive the long term health and wellbeing benefits (Rhodes, Martin et al. 1999, Ekkekakis and Lind 2006). *Therefore, the relative popularity of swimming across the lifespan indicates that swimming may offer an unrivalled opportunity for individuals to remain engaged in long term physical activity.*

Anecdotal commentaries suggest that swimming can be fun, improve longevity and it can have benefits across the lifespan and be adapted to meet the needs of all sectors of society (Hetzler 2013) although scientific data is currently lacking to confirm/refute such statements. However, some authors have suggested that compared to other sports and leisure activities, swimming is very low risk in terms of injury (Oh and Lee 2015), although again there is a lack of scientific data on this subject. Moreover, swimming may be conducive to engagement as a form of physical activity when an individual may have a particular injury or ailment (for example osteoarthritis or low back pain) which may preclude participation in other activities and also form an integral part of an individual's rehabilitation and recovery (Bidonde, Busch et al. 2014).

All of these factors, suggest that swimming offers a unique opportunity for people of all ages and abilities, the possibility to enhance their wellbeing and psychological health through physical activity (Oh and Lee 2015). Swimming pools and facilities can offer a way of meeting an individual's social, emotional and cultural wellbeing (Hendricks et al 2016). In addition, other forms of immersion and swimming in natural water can also offer wellbeing benefits to the individual particularly when in outer spaces (Foley 2015). In light of this, Swim England has suggested in its report "*Swimming: Taking the plunge for a fitter lifestyle*" (Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) 2014) that swimming can play a central role in meeting the wellbeing and social health needs of the population. Specifically, the ASA report identified that swimming can:

- Soothe the mind and reduce anxiety
- Relax the body
- Support the body in a relatively weightless environment
- Offer opportunities to socialise. Swimming pools are meeting points
- Reduce loneliness and introduce friends
- Contribute to creating a sense of place and promote swimming pools as places to go.

However, at this time, there is insufficient robust data, published in peer reviewed journals to confirm/refute these potential benefits. Thus, future research is required to confirm such beliefs, values and statements.

Despite the potential benefits of swimming, there are some alarming changes in the number of people taking part in swimming which should serve as a severe strategic warning to society, communities and individuals. Previous data on swimming practices in England from October 2005 to September 2006 found that 3,273,800 people age over 16 years engaged in swimming, which is just over 750,000 less people engaging in weekly swimming compared to current figures (Sport England 2016). Thus, at a time when promoting wellbeing is a national (Department of Health 2014) and International (World Health Organisation 1998) priority, never has there been a more pressing time to explore and raise awareness of the importance of swimming to meet the potential individual wellbeing benefits of swimming. The recent global meta-analysis of sport and leisure participation rates (Hulteen, Smith et al. 2017) demonstrates that swimming was a top five sport in all world geographical regions in childhood, but dropped outside the top five commonly participated sports in all geographical areas except the Eastern Mediterranean and Western Pacific in adulthood.

Clearly an urgent area for future research is to understand why swimming levels are dropping generally, but specifically consider why swimming participation rates become notably less popular in the progression to adulthood. At this moment in time, no quantitative research is available informing researchers/policy makers why numbers participating in swimming are dropping and investigation of this should be considered a priority. Future qualitative work may also consider why frequent swimmers decided to stop, which should inform future public health interventions and prevent the current haemorrhaging of swimming participation observed in society.

What does the evidence say for the wellbeing effects of swimming across the lifespan and in special populations?

The next section is dedicated to a review and critique of the reported literature on the potential wellbeing benefits across specific populations.

Children

There are rising concerns about the increasing levels of sedentary behaviour and low levels of physical activity in young people which is associated with worse physical, mental, social and wellbeing outcomes (Strong, Malina et al. 2005, Van Hecke, Loyen et al. 2016). There is good evidence from systematic reviews that engaging in physical activity and sport can improve mental health (including reducing depression and anxiety), self-esteem, cognitive performance and academic achievements (Biddle and Asare 2011). Thus, it is reasonable to hypothesise that swimming could play a pertinent role in helping children become more active, feel connected with their peers and improve wellbeing outcomes. However, the evidence at this stage is largely circumstantial and indirect with virtually no robust evidence directly attributing swimming has a positive influence on wellbeing in children. However, one should not mistake an absence of evidence as meaning swimming does not have wellbeing benefits. Although it indicates that robust evidence on swimming, wellbeing and childhood is required as a matter of priority.

Nonetheless, promoting swimming in childhood is the optimal time to provide a positive experience for children to begin the swimming and wellbeing journey. In fact, young people tend to have higher participation rates in swimming compared to adults and it is a vital time to harness and maintain this over the lifespan and tackle health inequalities early on (Audrey, Wheeler et al. 2012). Thus, providing access and opportunities for young children to swimming is the prime time to provide the catalyst for a lifetime of swimming and the associated wellbeing benefits. Moreover, having positive swimming experiences in childhood reduces the likelihood of developing a fear of water in adulthood (Poulton, Menzies et al. 1999), thus emphasising the importance of beginning swimming in adolescence.

A recent study in a large city in England investigated the impact of the local authority providing free swimming passes to 1,011 young disadvantaged children in a pre and post-test study (Pringle, Zwolinsky et al. 2014). The authors found that providing free swimming passes helped increase self-report physical activity levels among children, with the most notable improvements seen among those who were sedentary or insufficiently active at baseline (Pringle, Zwolinsky et al. 2014). The greatest effect was seen among young girls and not boys who tended to be more active at baseline. Whilst it might be a reasonable assumption to join the dots and assume that since this study found an increase in self-report physical activity (which has established wellbeing benefits in this group (Biddle and Asare 2011, Lubans, Richards et al. 2016)), that this equals an improvement in wellbeing, the authors did not collect information on wellbeing. Moreover, there is no robust data available demonstrating the direct benefit of swimming on wellbeing in children in the general population available in the literature.

Cognition in children

One of the key components of wellbeing is good cognitive health (Naci and Ioannidis 2015). There is a considerable amount of literature demonstrating that physical activity and sport participation are good for the cognitive health of children, including academic performance, confidence and happiness (Esteban-Cornejo, Tejero-Gonzalez et al. 2015, Lubans, Richards et al. 2016). In particular, it appears that vigorous physical activity, which could include competitive swimming, may have the largest impact on cognition in adolescents (Esteban-Cornejo, Tejero-Gonzalez et al. 2015). However, there is a paucity of studies that have specifically investigated the relationship of swimming on cognition in adolescents to date, thus precluding any definitive conclusions being made. However, one study provides a partial insight (Lee, Wong et al. 2014). The authors recruited adolescents who had in the past two months completed some/all of the following: intensive rowing, swimming and triathlon training and compared their neurocognitive performance versus age and sex matched controls that were not engaging in regular exercise. The authors found that frequent exercisers (which could have been any of the aforementioned activities) had better cognitive performance, which they state may have been attributed to increases in brain derived neurotrophic factor. However, it is not possible to confirm/refute whether the differences in cognition among "swimmers" and controls were actually due to swimming for a number of reasons. First, the differences in cognition could be due the other types of exercise (for example

rowing participation) or other random confounders such as differences in education, social class or intelligence among many others. Second, this is a cross sectional study, which precludes any inferences to be made such as swimming may have contributed to cognition. Only future controlled trials, whereby adolescents are randomly allocated to swimming or no activity and followed up over time can make claims about the potential direct benefits of swimming on cognition.

In 2013, a study into the cognitive benefits of swimming lessons for children (Jorgensen 2013), reported that children participating in regular swimming lessons achieved a range of developmental milestones much earlier than the wider population regardless of socio-economic background or gender. Swimmers were between six and twelve months ahead of the norm in physical skills, cognitive skills, mathematics, language development, counting and ability to follow instructions ($p<0.001$). These areas were considered to be the key skills utilised in "formal education contexts" which, the authors believe, may give swimmers a "considerable advantage" as they start their academic studies. Whilst informative, this research is not published in a peer review journal and is a survey design with no randomisation or specific intervention (e.g. randomising children to swimming and not swimming would enable assertions to be made about causation), meaning the results acquired could potentially be attributed to many other factors, including chance.

In summary, there is an alarming dearth of robust evidence demonstrating the benefits of swimming in children for wellbeing. Future research is required to evaluate the potential benefits in cognition and wellbeing for adolescent swimmers using robust study designs. Nonetheless, even in the absence of swimming specific evidence, swimming could be considered a valuable approach to improve wellbeing given the irrefutable literature of the importance of physical activity in this group more generally (Biddle and Asare 2011, Lubans, Richards et al. 2016).

Adults

Swimming in working and middle age may be a highly desirable form of physical activity to improve wellbeing since it enables the individual to swim at their own pace without putting great pressure on joints like ground exercise (Lee and Oh 2013). There is however, a paucity of studies evaluating the wellbeing effects from swimming in the general adult's population (specific populations are considered below). A survey study among 200 females aged 40-60 years across five cities in Korea suggested that participation in swimming was associated with improved life satisfaction, mental health and self-perception of health (Lee and Oh 2013). A study of 300 adults reported that participating in swimming lessons was associated with better self-rated health, including better psychological health, reduced levels of stress and lower levels of disability (Oh and Lee 2015). Thus, there is some evidence in the general population that swimming is associated with better self-reported wellbeing and outcomes. However, these inferences are based on poor quality evidence (for instance cross sectional/retrospective studies), precluding any firm conclusions that swimming specifically improves wellbeing in adults.

Older adults

There is growing recognition that the number of older people is significantly rising as life expectancies increase across the world and the United Kingdom (Salomon, Wang et al. 2013). Physical activity, a sport and leisure have an integral component in promoting healthy ageing and wellbeing (Windle, Hughes et al. 2010, Stubbs, Chen et al. 2017). Thus, swimming has the potential to meet the wellbeing needs of the growing older adult population. However, there is a severe lack of evidence demonstrating the specific benefits of swimming in the general older adult population.

One study found that regular older swimmers (n=16) who reported swimming between two and five times a week over a period on average of 2.5 years, had significantly better executive function on three tasks, compared to sedentary older adults of similar age and gender who did not swim (Abou-Dest, Albinet et al. 2012). Interestingly, the authors observed that the better improvements in executive function among swimmers were not attributed to cardiorespiratory fitness. This longitudinal study provides some interesting evidence, but the very small sample size precludes any meaningful conclusions being drawn.

Aquatic exercise for medical conditions: chronic musculoskeletal conditions

There is robust evidence demonstrating that people are living longer, yet with more years with disability and chronic musculoskeletal conditions such as osteoarthritis or low back pain are leading contributors to this burden (Vos,

Flaxman et al. 2013, Smith, Hoy et al. 2014). Swimming and aquatic exercise may have considerable potential to help address this burden and improve quality of life and wellbeing. A systematic review of seven studies found that aquatic exercise may improve disability and pain in people with low back pain but offered no data on wellbeing constructs (Waller, Lambeck et al. 2009). A recent Cochrane review found some evidence that aquatic exercise improved anxiety symptoms (standardised mean difference (SMD) -0.57, 95% CI -0.95 to -0.19, 7 studies) and sleep (SMD -0.63, 95% CI -1.12 to -0.14) among people with fibromyalgia (Bidonde, Busch et al. 2014). However, no influence was observed on mental health (mean difference (MD) =-3.03, 95% CI -8.06 to 2.01, four studies), self-efficacy (MD=MD 9.54, 95% CI -3.39 to 22.46, two studies, 88 participants) or fatigue (SMD -0.31, 95% CI -0.75-0.13).

A Cochrane review suggested that aquatic exercise has a small improvement on quality of life among people with hip or knee osteoarthritis (SMD = 0.25, 95% CI -0.49 to -0.01, 10 studies) (Bartels, Juhl et al. 2016). A randomised trial investigated the benefits of 20 swimming sessions over 4 weeks versus usual care among people with ankylosing spondylitis (Dundar, Solak et al. 2014). The authors found that people engaging in aquatic exercise had better vitality ($p < 0.001$), social functioning ($p < 0.001$), role limitations due to emotional problems ($p < 0.001$), and general mental health ($p < 0.001$) scores at 4 and 12 weeks compared to their baseline scores. Aquatic exercise may also help young people with juvenile idiopathic arthritis, with a controlled trial over 20 sessions suggesting that aquatic exercise may improve physical and psychological quality of life (Takken, Van Der Net et al. 2003).

Aquatic exercise for medical conditions: other medical conditions

A preliminary meta-analysis of three studies suggested that aquatic exercise offered no advantage over land based exercise to improve quality of life among people with heart failure (Adsett, Mudge et al. 2015). A recent small (n=21) pilot controlled trial found that two 45 minute aquatic exercise sessions for 6 weeks did not improve quality of life among people with early stage Parkinson's disease versus usual care (Carroll, Volpe et al. 2017). A pre- and post-test study with no control group found some suggestion that aquatic therapy may improve quality of life and physical activity levels among 18 men with type 2 diabetes (Cugusi, Cadeddu et al. 2015).

Pregnancy

It was not possible to identify any specific studies considering the potential wellbeing effects of swimming on pregnancy. However, a recent large Danish birth cohort study (n= 78,486) found that compared to women who did not swim, women who swam in early/mid-term had a slightly reduced risk of giving birth pre-term (hazard ratio (HR) 0.80, 95% CI 0.72-0.88) or giving a birth to a child with congenital malformations (HR 0.89, 95% CI 0.80-0.98).

Multiple sclerosis

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a relapsing and remitting progressive neurological disorder that affects the brain and spinal cord and typically results in loss of muscle control, balance and altered sensation (Kargarfard, Etemadifar et al. 2012). Given this, it is perhaps unsurprising that the wellbeing of people with is often affected, requiring the potential input of safe and effective interventions to address this (Dehnavi, Heidarian et al. 2015). A recent aquatic exercise program in a swimming pool over 8 weeks, including three sessions a week lasting 60 minutes found that exercise in the swimming pool improved multiple wellbeing domains (Kargarfard, Etemadifar et al. 2012) . Specifically the study found that the aqua exercise improved mental health, health perception, energy levels, fatigue, emotional health and possibly cognitive function.

Cancer

An eight week randomised control trial of aquatic exercise for cancer (Cantarero-Villanueva, Fernandez-Lao et al. 2013) among 68 breast cancer survivors were randomised to aquatic exercise group in deep water pool or a control (usual care) group. The intervention group attended three times a week, for 60 minutes for 8 weeks in a structured aquatic exercise in a local swimming pool. The study found that aquatic exercise significantly improved fatigue, cognition/mood with a small improvement in reduced depression symptoms (Cantarero-Villanueva, Fernandez-Lao et al. 2013). Whilst there were these improvements immediately after the intervention, the results were attenuated at 6 month follow up.

Another RCT among 42 breast cancer survivors investigated a multimodal physiotherapy program which included aquatic deep water running (Cantarero-Villanueva, Fernandez-Lao et al. 2013). The intervention included traditional physiotherapy and deep water running for one hour for three times a week over eight weeks delivered by physiotherapists. The results found that compared to usual care, the intervention group had improvements in fatigue (Cohens D =0.69, p<0.001), affective meaning (D=1.0, p<0.01), sensory (D=0.26, p=0.04) but no change in cognition. The exercise group also had significant improvements in physical quality of life (D=0.59, p<0.01), mental quality of life (D=0.50, p<0.001), and overall QOL (D=1.35, p<0.001). There was no longer term follow up and it remains unclear if the improvements can be actually attributed to aquatic running.

Mental health

There is now strong evidence that physical activity can prevent the onset of depression (Mammen and Faulkner 2013) whilst inactivity increases the risk of developing anxiety reduced mood (Endrighi, Steptoe et al. 2015, Teychenne, Costigan et al. 2015). Moreover, there is strong evidence that exercise can improve mental health symptoms for people with depression (Schuch, Vancampfort et al. 2016), quality of life (Schuch, Vancampfort et al. 2016) and symptoms of anxiety and stress (Stubbs, Vancampfort et al. 2017). Thus, there is considerable potential for swimming to improve the wellbeing with people with mental illness and poor mental health. However, there are no studies specifically measuring the influence of swimming on wellbeing among people with mental health conditions in the literature. Nonetheless, a report by the Mental Health Charity "Mind" states that swimming is good for people's mental health and wellbeing and recommend swimming as an approach (MIND). Considerations reported by Mind include the fact that people may be nervous about body image. Body image within the context of swimming can act as a barrier to participation since people who are anxious about how their body will look to others, while they are exercising, and may avoid swimming. It has been suggested that having a buddy to attend swimming, or for ladies attending a women only swimming session can help swimming participation and any social physique anxiety (MIND, Soundy, Freeman et al. 2014).

Future research should investigate the potential benefits of swimming for people with mental illness.

Dementia and cognitive decline

There is increasing recognition that as people are living longer, the number of older people who will be affected by cognitive decline and dementia is subsequently rising (Prince, Ali et al. 2016). People with dementia are at increased risk of having a number of physical comorbidities, declining physical capabilities and increasing frailty (Bunn, Burn et al. 2014). Consequently, people with dementia may have reduced wellbeing and social interaction and there is a pressing need for meaningful activities to promote better wellbeing in this group (Nyman and Szymczynska 2016). Swimming is one potential strategy that can help improve the wellbeing of those with dementia, with particular benefits among those who have previously engaged in swimming in the past (Neville, Clifton et al. 2013). Swim England is leading the way forwards and suggests that swimming can play a central part in meeting the wellbeing needs of people with dementia (Amateur Swimming Association, 2014). Currently, Swim England has developed the Dementia Friendly Swimming Project to help enhance the swimming experience of those living with dementia and their carers by improving facilities and removing barriers to participation (Dementia Action Alliance 2017). Over this three year project, Swim England hope to be working with over 100 swimming pools, training 300 key swimming staff and 300 staff in front line roles, and developing 60 cascade courses to aid sustainability. In addition, the project will seek to positively enhance the swimming experience for more than 3,000 people living with dementia and 1,500 adult carers (Amateur Swimming Association, 2014). To date, robust data considering the potential wellbeing effects of such initiatives are not publically available.

In the research literature, one venture seeking to promote wellbeing through swimming in dementia is the Watermemories Swimming Club in Australia, which is a swimming club designed to increase physical exercise while being easy to implement, safe, and pleasurable (Neville, Clifton et al. 2013). In an evaluation of the 12 week swimming Watermemories Swimming Club, 11 people with dementia from two care facilities were recruited and supported to swim for up to 45 minutes (Neville, Henwood et al. 2014). The authors found that over a 12 week period, the swimmers with dementia had a significant improvement in psychological wellbeing. The authors suggest that the improvement in psychological wellbeing could be attributed to the exercise from swimming in addition to the socialisation, rekindling of positive memories, fun and relaxation. Importantly, the participants with dementia also experienced a reduction in behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia, including those which were

troubling to their carers (Neville, Henwood et al. 2014). In a separate publication, the authors noted that attending swimming also resulted in an improvement in a number of physical performance measures including grip strength (Henwood, Neville et al. 2015). Given the positive results, the authors have called for a larger randomised control study to be conducted. The authors also provide some helpful considerations from their experience of running the Watermemories Swimming Club including ensuring that swimming facilities should be carefully chosen have disabled access, heating, adequate changing area and appropriate floating devices among others (Neville, Clifton et al. 2013).

Future, robust evaluation studies are required to determine the benefits of swimming among people with dementia. There is no reliable data within the UK context at this moment in time, despite commendable efforts to increases participation among this population.

Cerebral palsy, learning disabilities and autism

Children with cerebral palsy often have a range of motor progressive changes that can impair ones quality of life and wellbeing (Liptak 2008). Moreover, as children with cerebral palsy progress in adulthood, they can have reduced functioning, mobility, experience social isolation and reduced social interaction (Liptak 2008). Thus swimming, particularly in childhood, is important for this groups individual wellbeing and social interactions. A systematic review published over ten years ago found some preliminary evidence that swimming and aquatic exercise may improve respiratory function and possibly activity levels in children with neuromotor impairments (mainly cerebral palsy) (Getz, Hutzler et al. 2006). The authors noted there were no harmful effects of aquatic interventions and called for more robust research to confirm their preliminary evidence. A more recent systematic review found aquatic exercise improved gross motor skills including walking speed (Roostaei, Baharlouei et al. 2016). A recent controlled cross over study (Declerck and P 2014) among fourteen children with cerebral palsy demonstrated that there participation in swimming was associated with a trend for improvements in motor abilities, social function and suggested that swimming could be an important strategy to prevent the deconditioning common among those with Cerebral Palsy. Moreover, the authors noted that the children had high levels of adherence and enjoyment with improvements noted in high levels of adherence, low adverse events and was greatly enjoyed by participants. In another study, aquatic therapy was shown to improve motor control, social functioning, emotional wellbeing and actual physical activity levels (Lai, Liu et al. 2015).

A 16 week swimming training program demonstrated that swimming may be a useful way to help children with intellectual disabilities to safely lose weight (Casey, Rasmussen et al. 2010). Losing weight has been shown to be associated with improvements in cognition in the general population and may therefore be useful in this aspect of wellbeing (Veronese, Facchini et al. 2017). Moreover, there is strong evidence from an umbrella review that adiposity is associated with an elevated risk of eleven cancers (oesophageal adenocarcinoma, multiple myeloma, and cancers of the gastric cardia, colon, rectum, biliary tract system, pancreas, breast, endometrium, ovary, and kidney) and losing weight may therefore reduce the risk of cancer (Kyrgiou, Kalliala et al. 2017). Some children with cerebral palsy may be particularly scared of getting into the water, but this can be overcome as was evidenced in a 14 week swimming study where children's confidence improved quickly after the first introductory week of a session (Ozer, Nalbant et al. 2007). Finally, a study intervened through swimming (Pan 2010) and then examined the impact on social-emotional behaviour. The effect size of this intervention was 0.6, indicating a moderate improvement in social-emotional behaviour.

Specialist populations: black, minority ethnic and hard to reach groups

Over the past twenty years or so there has been an increasing emphasis on the importance of increasing physical activity and sports engagement among Muslim youth (Hamzeh and Oliver 2012). A recent qualitative study demonstrated that Muslim young females can find swimming challenging due to their beliefs and in particular find the notion of wearing swimsuits in front of their peers or others a challenge (Hamzeh and Oliver 2012). Another study across three University of Washington swimming centres which were exclusively restricted to Somali immigrants (Moore, Ali et al. 2010) provided an evaluation of free swimming sessions. Overall the authors reported that twenty six swim events were held in just under two years, including nine swim lessons, four water safety lessons and two water aerobic classes with a mean of 30 people attending each event. Overall 52 men and 29 women completed a survey and 89% said they would not attend if the opposite sex was in attendance too. Respondents also reported they were keen to keep attending to engage in physical activity even if they were not able to swim. These examples provide evidence that it is possible to engage hard to reach groups and cater for their particular needs and support

them to attending swimming. However, there is no data specifically illustrating how providing free swimming did/did not influence wellbeing. Thus, going forwards, such UK initiatives should adopt a more robust approach to capture the potential wellbeing benefits from swimming participation.

Reaching ostracised groups – A case study of Aboriginal people

It is well established that marginalised groups in society tend to have worse wellbeing and engage in lower levels of physical activity (Gracey and King 2009, Gracey 2014). A pertinent example of how swimming can reach ostracized groups within society who have profound health inequalities and social isolation is within the context of aborigines. Aboriginal people die decades before members of Australian general population due to socioeconomic and environmental disadvantage, inadequate education, underemployment, racial prejudice, high-risk health-related behaviours and limited access to clinical services and health promotion programmes (Gracey 2014). A recent systematic review (Hendrickx, Stephen et al. 2016) including twenty studies found some evidence that providing swimming pools for aboriginal people had a range of social and emotional wellbeing benefits including improved school attendance among children, better water safety and social connection. In particular it was noted that swimming pools can provide an important hub where families can come together in a safe environment and enjoy positive relationships. Moreover, among the young aboriginal children, access and attendance at swimming pools may possible reduce their involvement in petty crime and keep them on the 'straight and narrow' (Hendrickx, Stephen et al. 2016).

In a local UK example, an in-depth qualitative study across two deprived neighbourhoods in Glasgow, provides compelling insight into the value of having access to a local swimming pool (Thomson, Kearns et al. 2003). The authors illustrated that whilst people in the deprived areas recognised and valued the benefits derived from physical activity, a greater emphasis was placed by the local people on the wellbeing and mental health benefits from swimming (Thomson, Kearns et al. 2003). Specifically, participants noted that attending the swimming pool provided a unique opportunity to improve their mental health, reduce stress and provide an opportunity to allow the individuals to be relieved from disadvantages and isolation.

Thus, it appears that ensuring access to swimming pools may provide a unique opportunity for individuals to feel good about themselves, provides a point of contact with others and forget about their current problems they may be facing, which may not be possible from other types of sport or leisure. In addition to such fascinating qualitative insights, future intervention research that includes providing free swimming to those from disadvantaged backgrounds should focus on capturing the wellbeing benefits through recognised outcomes measures such as the Warwick and Edinburgh Wellbeing Scale (Tennant, Hiller et al. 2007).

Summary and recommendations

There is growing recognition that exercise can cross many boundaries and meet the wellbeing needs of the population from the cradle to grave. However, there is a dearth of research specifically considering the wellbeing benefits of swimming among the general population. The literature is also incredibly difficult to locate due to poor indexing in electronic databases. For instance, a search on the "bible" of health and medical databases with the broad terms of "swimming and wellbeing" identifies only 16 potential articles (as of 1.4.2017). To date, the literature considering the wellbeing benefits of swimming in the general population is largely circumstantial and relies on "leaps of faith" drawing from indirect inferences from the general benefits of physical activity and exercise. There is however promising evidence that aquatic exercise can improve quality of life in people with osteoarthritis, some other musculoskeletal disorders and people after cancer. There are several important initiatives happening (for example Dementia Friendly Swimming) and it is essential, that this is accompanied by robust evaluation, so that further opportunities to demonstrate the value of swimming are not missed.

Recommendations

- There is an urgent need to investigate why there is a drastic haemorrhaging in the numbers of people swimming in general and in the transition from childhood to adulthood.

- Investment in research is required to investigate the wellbeing benefits of swimming across the lifespan in the general population, with a particular focus on mental health, emotional health and subjective wellbeing. Understanding and relaying this information may potentially help participation with the considerable public interest in the wellbeing value of specific activities.
- More research is particularly required to consider the wellbeing benefits of swimming on people with mental health conditions, people with learning disabilities (including Downs Syndrome), older adults with and without dementia and other ostracised groups such as black and minority ethnic groups, homeless people and those who are isolated and identified as being lonely.
- Targeted pragmatic evaluations of "hot" initiatives, such as the dementia friendly swimming, are required to document potential improvements in wellbeing. This could also include addressing social inequalities and promoting participation among ostracised groups such as the homeless, migrants and vulnerable children and adults at risk of poor wellbeing and health.

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Appendix

Methods

The current systematic review was conducted in accordance with best practice, namely the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses Statement (PRISMA)[1]. A pre-specified but unpublished protocol was adhered to as set out below.

Eligibility Criteria

Studies were considered eligible if they met the following criteria:

Population – People of any age, gender and ethnicity were eligible. In addition to the general population, studies in potentially vulnerable populations such as learning disabilities, downs syndrome, dementia and people with any type of disability were sought.

Intervention – Studies considering any type of swimming or aquatic activity (structured or unstructured) in a swimming pool or natural waters (e.g. lake, sea) were considered. This review also included non-quantitative (e.g. qualitative) studies considering people's experience of swimming and wellbeing.

Comparator – Studies investigating swimming benefits or experience of wellbeing with and without any comparison group are eligible.

Outcomes – Any quantitative or qualitative study reporting wellbeing as an outcome or an individual's experience were included. In addition, studies reporting the following outcomes were also included cognitive health, confidence, mental health, happiness, emotional health and quality of life.

Study Design – A wide range of study designs were eligible including intervention studies (Randomised controlled trials (RCT), nonrandomised controlled trials, pre and post-test intervention studies), observational studies (including case control, cohort or survey data) and qualitative studies (including focus groups, individual interviews). In addition, any previous systematic reviews or syntheses were also considered.

Search Strategy

In order to inform this systematic review, the following search procedures were undertaken. First, an electronic database search of Embase (1974 to 2017 Week 07), PsycINFO (1806 to February Week 2 2017), Social Policy and Practice (inception to 18.2.2017) and Ovid MEDLINE (Inception to 18.2017) was undertaken. The electronic database search was undertaken using the following key word search terms (swim* or swimming pool or aquatic therapy) and (wellbeing or mental health or confidence or cognition or cerebral palsy or dementia or disability). Second, the database Google Scholar was searched on 18.2.2017 using various combinations of key search terms to identify specific articles potentially meeting the inclusion criteria. Third, combinations of key search terms were used in the main Google search database to identify nonacademic literature of potential relevance (e.g. policies). Finally, the reference lists of included articles was undertaken to identify articles that meet the inclusion criteria.

Study Selection

All 'hits' from the searches were exported into an excel file. One author (BS) reviewed the abstracts and titles of all hits and then developed a list of potentially eligible articles that were considered at the full text review. At the full text review, the eligibility criteria were applied and a final list of included studies was considered to inform the review.

Data extraction

Data or qualitative quotations were extracted on a predetermined database.

Synthesis of results

Due to the anticipated heterogeneity in terms of study deign, populations and outcomes, a quantitative synthesis (e.g. meta-analysis) was not deemed appropriate. Therefore, a best evidence synthesis was undertaken to address the questions of the review.

Search results

The initial database search acquired 5,545 potentially eligible articles. After the removal of duplicates, 4352 articles were screened at the abstract and title level.

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Chapter 3

The physiological effects of swimming: a systematic review

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Key words:

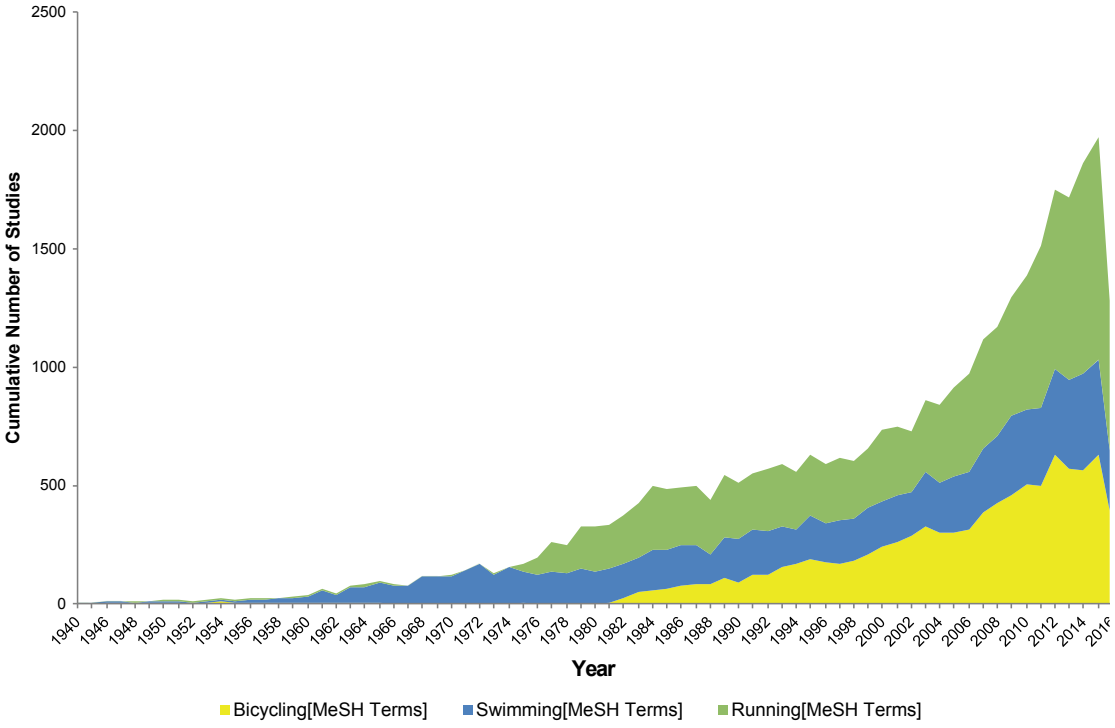
swimming
physiology
acute effects
chronic adaptations

Introduction

Regular exercise is associated with a lower risk of premature mortality and chronic disease, improved physical fitness levels, and enhanced health and quality of life (Booth et al., 2012, Warburton et al., 2006). As well as being an important life-saving skill, swimming is a popular aerobic exercise that might provide health benefits for young and adult populations, as well as patients with non-communicable disease (Chase et al., 2008). Around 14 million Americans report that they swim for fitness between one and 49 times per year, and 7.5 million swim 50 or more times a year (P.A.C., 2013). In 11 of 12 European countries surveyed, swimming was in the top five most participated in sports (Scheerder et al., 2011). According to Sport England's Active Lives Survey (A.L.S., 2016), 11% of adult respondents aged 16 years and over reported participating in swimming at least twice over a 28 day period. This survey ranked swimming as the sixth most popular activity, behind walking (73%), running (15%), cycling (15%), fitness classes (14%), and gym sessions (12%).

Swimming represents an appealing alternative form of health-enhancing aerobic exercise, especially for elderly populations and patients with chronic diseases, such as arthritis, due to its low impact nature (Lazar et al., 2013). However, despite its popularity and potential for benefit, swimming has received much less attention in the scientific literature compared to running and cycling, particularly in recent times (see figure 1). This relative under-researching of swimming can be attributed to the difficulty in taking physiological measures during swimming, the need to acquire a certain level of skill and technique to achieve a prescribed exercise intensity, and concerns over the safety of swimming for populations with non-comunicable disease (Tanaka, 2009).

Figure 1.
The number of published studies per year on bicycling, swimming, and running from 1940 to 2016 (searched for using MESH term on PubMed: 1st April 2017)



Swimming is unique from other forms of exercise regarding body position, breathing pattern, the muscles groups employed, and the medium in which it is performed. Water has several distinctive physical properties that considerably influence aquatic locomotion. These properties, such as density, pressure, and heat capacity, can therefore, determine the physiological responses and adaptations to swimming. The density of water (mass per unit volume of water), which is about 800 times greater than air (998.2 vs 1.205 $kg \cdot m^{-3}$ at 20°C and 760 mmHg), provides a considerable resistance to the ability of a swimmer to move through it (i.e. drag) (di Prampero, 1986). In addition, water density is influenced by its temperature. As water temperature rises above 0°C, the density of water increases until reaching a peak density of ~1 $g \cdot cm^{-3}$ at 4°C (the temperature of arctic water) (Pendergast et al., 2015). As the

temperature of water increases beyond this point, the density of water falls in a linear fashion. The higher the density of water, the more difficult it becomes to function in water, or in other words, the higher the energy cost of swimming (Pendergast et al., 2015).

Water density also influences swimmers buoyancy (ability to float). A human's body density is slightly greater than the density of water, so when fully immersed in water the individual tends to sink (Holmer, 1979). It is therefore, easier to float in warmer water compared to colder water due to its lower density. The salt content of water also influences its density, with higher salt content increasing the mass of water, which results in a greater water density. Therefore, whereas it might be easier to float, swimming in saltwater has a greater energy cost due to its higher density compared to fresh water (Pendergast et al., 2015). Conversely, because warm water is less dense the energy cost of swimming is lower but buoyancy is reduced. However, swimmers with higher adiposity will have improved buoyancy because adipose tissue is less dense than lean tissue (di Prampero, 1986). Women tend to have a higher proportion of adipose tissue than men and therefore, sink less than men (Holmér, 1992). In addition, the lower density of women's legs allows them to swim higher in the water, reducing the drag on the body (Zamparo et al., 2011).

Water pressure becomes a crucial factor when functioning at depths starting at 10m below sea level (i.e., 2 atmosphere absolutes, where sea level pressure is 1 atmosphere absolute) (Pendergast et al., 2015). On the surface whilst swimming the pressure of water (assumed to be 40–60 mmHg) leads small respiratory and circulatory adjustments, such as compression of superficial veins, especially of the lower extremities and abdomen, resulting in a reallocation in blood volume to the thoracic cavity and heart (Meyer, 2006).

Water has a high specific heat capacity (energy required to raise temperature of pure water by 1°C = 4.18 $kJ{\cdot}kg^{-1}{\cdot}°C^{-1}$ vs. air = 1.3 $kJ{\cdot}kg^{-1}{\cdot}°C^{-1}$) and can conduct heat 20 times greater than air. The high heat conductivity of water can lead to marked increases in heat dissipation during swimming, and can have a major influence on swimming performance (Pendergast et al., 2015). Although, in waters 24-25°C enough heat can normally be produced through muscle activity during swimming to balance heat loss, further decreases or increases in water temperature can lead to an increased risk of hypothermia and hyperthermia, respectively (Holmer, 1979). The risk of hypothermia is greater in less-trained, lean men compared to both less-trained men with greater adiposity, due to the insulating properties of adipose tissue, and well-trained, lean men, due to a greater thermoregulatory capacity in trained swimmers (Holmer, 1979, Rust et al., 2012). Taken together and alone, the physical properties of water including its density, pressure, and thermal capacity and conductivity, represent significant challenges to the human swimmer and elicit particular physiological effects in an attempt to meet these demands.

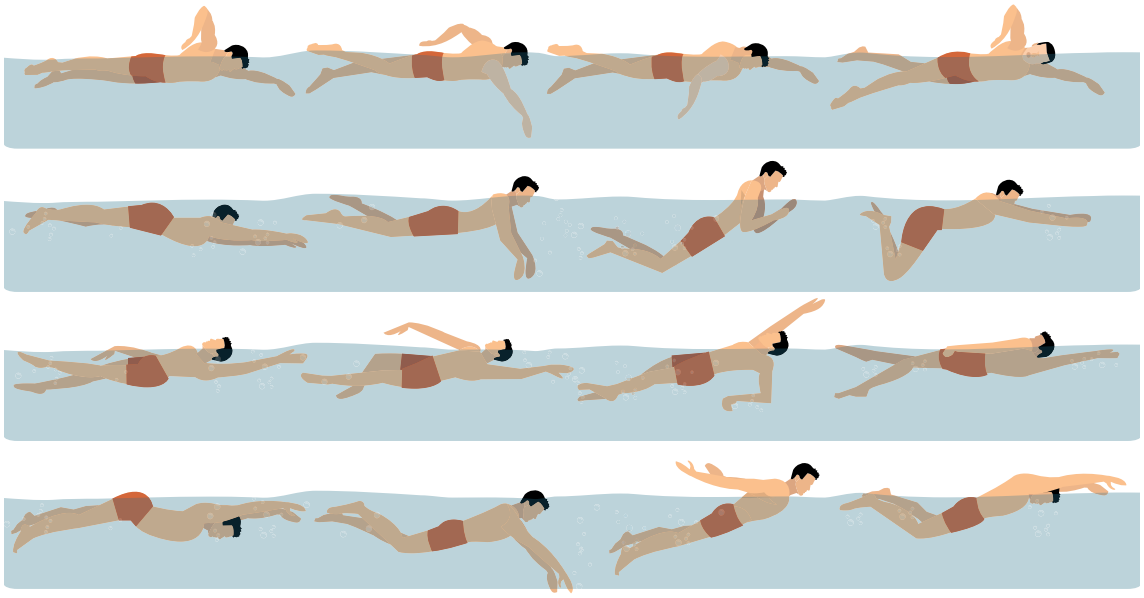
Determination of the acute physiological effects of exercise is necessary to elucidate the biologic mechanisms by which repeated exposure to these effects may induce chronic adaptations. Within an evidence-based framework, knowledge of the short and long-term physiological responses to a particular exercise (e.g. swimming) is crucial to optimise the design and application of safe and effective exercise prescription (Bufford et al 2013). Furthermore, a greater understanding of swimming physiology would allow clinicians to identify the populations that may benefit most from swimming and those for which this particular mode of exercise might be contraindicated or require certain modifications or supervision to ensure safety.

Previous reviews of the physiology of swimming have focused more on competitive swimming (Aspenes and Karlsen, 2012, Barbosa et al., 2010, Cooper et al., 2007, Costa et al., 2012, Ferreira et al., 2016, Holmer, 1979, Holmér, 1992, Lavoie and Montpetit, 1986, Marino, 1984, Palayo et al., 2007, Pendergast et al., 2015, Toubekis and Tokmakidis, 2013, Troup, 1999, Videler and Nolet, 1990), with less scientific attention on swimming in healthy or chronic disease populations. Most of the reviews dedicated to the latter, have centred on the effects of swimming on cardiovascular physiology (Koenig et al., 2014, Lazar et al., 2013, Tanaka, 2009) or respiratory and asthma-related conditions (Bar-Or and Inbar, 1992, Beggs et al., 2013, Bougault and Boulet, 2012, Bougault et al., 2009, Fisk et al., 2010, Geiger and Henschke, 2015, Rosimini, 2003, Weisgerber et al., 2003). However, to the best of our knowledge, this chapter is the first to systematically review the literature examining the short and long-term physiological effects of recreational swimming in both healthy populations and those at risk of or diagnosed with chronic disease.

The current chapter consists of a synthesis of findings following the screening of 6,219 articles derived from a comprehensive literature search of the three major electronic databases (CENTRAL, PubMed, and Embase) and reference checking of eligible articles and relevant previous reviews (see Appendix A and B). The aim of the current study was to systematically review the existing literature investigating: 1) the acute physiological effects of a swimming bout, and 2) the chronic adaptations to regular swimming in young people, adults and older adults who are

healthy (but not trained or swimming competitively), and populations at risk of or diagnosed with chronic disease. Only randomised controlled trials (RCT), quasi-RCT, controlled trials (CT), or pre-post design single group studies that investigated the acute and chronic physiological effects in participants who were swimming naïve, untrained or who swam recreationally, were eligible. Studies were included if they investigated the acute effects of and chronic adaptations to any of the four contemporary swim strokes, namely, front crawl, backstroke, breaststroke, and butterfly (see Figure 2). The scope of the review was to provide a physiological analysis of the effects of swimming as opposed to only immersion in water (for an excellent comprehensive review of head-out-of-water immersion interested readers are directed to Pendergast et al. 2015). In addition, due to the influence of water temperature on human physiology, the acute and chronic responses to cold water swimming [defined as swimming when air and water temperatures are below 18°C (Kolettis and Kolettis, 2003)] are described separately. In the chapter's final section we include a summary of the key conclusions and recommendations, and consider the gaps in the knowledge base of the physiology of swimming. For a full description of the systematic review methodology and flow of studies please see Appendix A and B.

Figure 2.
Contemporary swim strokes (from top to bottom; front crawl, breaststroke, backstroke, and butterfly)



Acute Physiological Effects of Pool Swimming

Our systematic search identified 22 eligible studies (1 RCT, 2 CTs, 8 CTs with crossover, 4 pre-post single group studies, and 7 pre-post single group studies with crossover) that investigated the acute effects of swimming on different physiological responses in healthy children and adolescents (3 studies), healthy adults (9 studies), pregnant women (3 studies), and patients with cardiovascular disease (7 studies). Only one of the trials had multiple publications (McMurray et al., 1991). The eligible studies included a total of 431 participants, and all participants took part in one or more acute swimming bouts. Seven studies (n participants = 204 compared acute responses to swimming compared to cycling exercise (Bucking and Krey, 1986, Heigenhausen et al., 1977, Holmer, 1972, Lehmann and Samek, 1990, Madger et al., 1981, McMurray et al., 1991, Meyer and Buking, 2004, Lakin et al., 2013, Spinnewijn et al., 1996), whereas, three studies compared swimming to running (Dixon and Faulkner, 1975, Holmer, 1972, Holmer and Bergh 1974, n = 12), and one study each compared swimming to dance (Atsumi et al., 2008, n = 37), gymnastics (Schmid et al., 2007, n = 30), and walking, volleyball, and calisthenics (Fletcher et al., 1979, n = 22).

Eight of the eligible studies studied the acute effects of breaststroke swimming only (Böning et al., 1988, Galbo et al., 1979, Lehmann and Samek, 1990, Madger et al., 1981, McMurray et al., 1991, Spinnewijn et al., 1996, Ueda and Kurokawa, 1995, Weiss et al., 1988), two studies examined front crawl swimming only (Dixon and Faulkner, 1975, Fletcher et al., 1979), whereas, one study each included an acute bout of backstroke (Viti et al., 1989) and backstroke

or breaststroke (Holmer 1972), and another study participants chose to use front crawl, breaststroke, or side stroke (Heigenhauser et al., 1977). The remaining nine studies did not provide swimming stroke information. Six eligible studies examined the acute effects of swim bouts with durations between 30 and 60 minutes (Atsumi et al., 2008; Boning et al., 1988, Galbo et al., 1979, Morgan and Shenoi, 1989, Lakin et al., 1979, Sasaki et al., 1993), whereas, 13 studies included swim bouts less than 30 seconds duration (Bucking and Krey, 1986, Dixon and Faulkner, 1975, Fletcher et al., 1979, Heigenhausen et al., 1977, Holmer, 1972, Holmer and Bergh 1974, Lehmann and Samek, 1990, Madger et al., 1981, Meyer and Buking, 2004, Schmid et al., 2007, Ueda and Kurokawa, 1995, Viti et al., 1989, Weiss et al., 1988), and the remaining three studies did not report swim duration information. The specific study characteristics as well as the outcomes of these studies appear in Table 1.

The following section will review the evidence of the acute physiological effects of bouts of swimming in each of the populations listed above and provide a summary of the risk of bias within each eligible trial. In regards to the risk, due to the nature of swimming as an intervention, participants and study personnel cannot be blinded to the type of exercise performed, and as a result all of the studies were at a high risk of performance and detection bias. In addition, because none of the studies protocols were published or registered on a trial registry, it was not possible to assess reporting bias and therefore, all eligible studies were at an unclear risk of reporting bias (see Figure 3 and Appendix D). Therefore, in each of the following populations, the only the risk of selection and attrition bias, along with other sources of bias in the eligible studies, will be summarised.

Healthy children and adolescents

Only three eligible studies (2 CTs and 1 RCT) investigated the effects of an acute bout of swimming in school children (Atsumi et al., 2008, Grace et al., 1987, Morgan and Shenoi, 1989). None of the studies provided information regarding the swim stroke adopted in swimming bouts. Two of the studies (Grace et al., 1989, Morgan and Shenoi 1989) included only measures of middle ear function. Given that chlorinated water has been identified as a risk factor for middle ear effusion (fluid build-up in middle ear), which in turn is a risk factor for hearing damage, Morgan and Shenoi (1989) investigated the acute effects of swimming on Eustachian tube function of 30 children aged between four and eight years with healthy middle ears (Morgan and Shenoi, 1989). Standard tympanometry assessments prior to swimming, 30-45 minutes after swimming and 14 hours post swimming revealed that swimming did not affect Eustachian tube function of children. Similarly, Grace and colleagues found that middle ear pressure was not adversely affected in 52 healthy schoolchildren who completed an average of four swim bouts (Grace et al., 1987). Characteristics of studies can be found in Table 1.

In the third eligible study, reported solely on free radical scavenging activity in a sample of children and adolescents (mean age: 11.8 years) (Atsumi et al., 2008). The authors (2008) found that free radical scavenging activity was significantly reduced after 50 minutes of swimming compared to resting levels, suggesting that, similar to other forms of exercise, swimming acutely reduces anti-oxidative capacity due to the production of free radicals/reactive oxygen species during exercise (Atsumi et al., 2008).

Two of the studies were at a high risk of selection bias because they were non-randomised controlled trials (Atsumi et al., 2008, Grace et al., 1987), whereas, the other study was at an unclear risk of selection bias because the authors did not provide information regarding the randomisation method used (Morgan and Shenoi, 1989) (see Figure 3 and Appendix D). All three studies were at a low risk of attrition bias because all participants completed each of the assessments. None of the studies compared the responses to swimming versus other modes of exercise in a crossover design. We found no data on the cardiorespiratory responses to swimming. Therefore, future studies are required to investigate the comparative physiological responses to swimming compared to other modes of exercise in crossover design studies (with randomised order of condition) in a sufficient number of children.

Healthy university students and adults

Nine eligible studies (3 single group studies, 2 single group studies with crossover, and 4 CT with crossover) investigated the acute effects of swimming on healthy adults (Böning et al., 1988, Dixon and Faulkner, 1975, Galbo et al., 1979, Holmer, 1972, Holmer and Bergh 1974, Lakin et al., 2013, Ueda and Kurokawa, 1995, Viti et al., 1989, Weiss et al., 1988). The duration of the single bout of exercise also varied considerably from one hour (Galbo et al., 1979, Böning et al., 1988) to a 5-8 minutes swimming test (Holmer and Bergh 1974). The majority of these studies investigated the effects of breaststroke swimming (Böning et al., 1988, Galbo et al., 1979, Holmer, 1972, Ueda and

Kurokawa, 1995, Weiss et al., 1988), whereas, two studies employed backstroke (Holmer, 1972, Viti et al., 1989), one study used front crawl (Dixon and Faulkner, 1975), and two studies did not report the swim stroke used (Holmer and Bergh 1974, Lakin et al., 2013). See Table 1 for characteristics of studies.

Three studies have reported 19-25% lower maximal oxygen uptake (VO_2max) values during swimming tests compared to running tests (Dixon and Faulkner, 1975, Holmer, 1972, Holmer and Bergh 1974), whereas, one study reported 10% lower swimming VO_2max values compared to cycling in four participants who were not "swim trained" (Holmer 1972). Similarly, swimming peak minute ventilation (VEpeak) values were approximately 15% lower compared to running (Dixon and Faulkner, 1975, Holmer 1972), and 5% lower compared to cycling (Holmer 1972). During swimming, VO_2, heart rate (HR), and blood lactate all increase progressively with increases in swimming intensity in both males and females (Ueda and Kurokawa, 1995, Weiss et al., 1988), whereas, VO_2 and blood lactate are significantly lower and HR is significantly higher while swimming in swimming pools with higher temperatures (33°C) compared to normal (27°C) or lower (21°C) swimming pool temperatures (Galbo et al., 1979).

When comparing physiological responses of swimming to cycling, HR elevates similarly in both exercise modes at submaximal and maximal intensities and it's higher when swimming whole body breaststroke versus leg or arms only (Weiss et al., 1988). However, in one study of six recreational swimmers, HRmax values were similar in four participants during swimming, running, and cycling (Dixon and Faulkner, 1975). In the same study (1975) swimming cardiac output was 25% lower compared to running, although, arterial-venous oxygen difference did not differ between the two modes. With regards to blood pressure (BP), systolic BP (SBP) also demonstrates significant progressive increases from rest (134±12 mmHg) to sub-maximal (176±22 mmHg) and maximal (187±18 mmHg) intensity (Weiss et al., 1988).

Upon the cessation of a single bout of swimming, HR and blood lactate may remain significantly elevated up to two hours post swimming in healthy untrained individuals (Viti et al., 1989, Böning et al., 1988). However, the differences in maximal lactate concentrations between swimming, cycling, and running appears to vary among individuals (Holmer 1972). Moreover, SBP remained significantly higher only within the first minute post-cycling compared to post-swimming in untrained participants, while diastolic BP (DBP) is significantly higher after cycling versus swimming up to five minutes (Lakin et al., 2013). After these immediate post-swimming BP responses, both SBP and DBP significantly reduced thereafter up to 50 minutes of recovery, whereas DBP continues to remain decreased after 75 minutes of swimming (Lakin et al., 2013). In the same study, no significant differences were observed in cardiac output, total peripheral resistance and heart rate variability during recovery between cycling and swimming, however, stroke volume was significantly lower post-swimming compared to post-cycling (Lakin et al., 2013).

Breaststroke swimming has been observed to significantly reduce plasma insulin, but not glucose (Galbo et al., 1979). The same study reported significantly decreased free-fatty acids and glycerol within 15 minutes of swimming, but progressive and significant increases from the 15th to the 60th minute (Galbo et al., 1979). In addition, different hormonal responses have been observed while swimming at different temperatures or while swimming whole body compared to legs or arms only. In specific, epinephrine and norepinephrine increased proportionately with swimming intensity and are also elevated while swimming whole body breaststroke vs. arms or legs only (Weiss et al., 1988). In addition, in healthy men, adrenaline and noradrenaline were significantly higher while swimming at lower (21°C) and higher (33°C) than normal swimming pool temperatures (Galbo et al., 1979). In healthy male university students, cortisol significantly increased only with whole body high-intensity swimming (Weiss et al., 1988) and also elevated significantly more rapidly while swimming at 33°C compared to normal swimming pool temperature i.e. 27°C (Galbo et al., 1979).

In regards to other outcomes, adrenaline, noradrenaline atrial natriuretic peptide, plasma renin and aldosterone remained significantly elevated post-swimming, irrespective of pool temperature (Galbo et al., 1979, Viti et al., 1989), however, arginine vasopressin did not change post-swimming compared to resting values (Viti et al., 1989). Finally, after swimming for 30 minutes, core temperature remained significantly reduced up to six minutes post-swimming in untrained individuals (Lakin et al., 2013).

The evidence reported above comes from small sample studies (largest study n = 17 eligible participants) with a high risk of selective bias due to a lack of random allocation to groups or randomisation of condition order (see Figure 3 and Appendix D). Three of the studies (Böning et al., 1988, Ueda and Kurokawa, 1995, Viti et al., 1989) were also at a high risk of other bias due to the single group pre-posttest design. However, all nine studies were at a low risk of attrition bias because all participants completed each of the assessments. There is a lack of studies investigating

the acute effects of different swim strokes, front crawl in particular, compared to other popular modes of exercise, in crossover design studies with adequate sample sizes that randomise condition order, and blinds outcome assessors to the purpose of the experiment (e.g., independent outcome assessors for each of the conditions).

Pregnancy

Three studies have investigated the acute effects of swimming on different cardiorespiratory and metabolic maternal and/or fetal responses in women who were pregnant (McMurray et al., 1991, Sasaki et al., 1993, Spinnewijn et al., 1996). All three were small single group studies (n participants ≤17), of which two had a crossover design where all participants competed a bout of cycling in addition to a swimming bout (McMurray et al., 1991, Spinnewijn et al., 1996). Two studies (McMurray et al., 1991, Spinnewijn et al., 1996) utilized breaststroke swimming, based on an assumption that this stroke is safer for pregnant women, whereas, the other study did not report the swim stroke employed. Characteristics of studies can be found in Table 1.

Two studies assess gas exchange variables during swimming and cycling (McMurray et al., 1991, Spinnewijn et al., 1996). One study observed that, whereas swimming and cycling VO_2peak were similar 8-12 weeks postpartum, during pregnancy (25th and 35th weeks gestation) swimming VO_2peak was significantly reduced (25.5±6.2 vs. 20.8±4.4 ml·kg^{-1}·min^{-1}) but cycling VO_2peak remained unaffected (McMurray et al., 1991). The authors (1991) reported that the reduction in swimming VO_2peak was significantly correlated with decreases in VEpeak. However, Spinnewijn and colleagues (1996) found that both swimming and cycling VO_2peak was unaffected by pregnancy with similar values during pregnancy (between weeks 30-34 gestation only) and postpartum. Although, in agreement with McMurray et al. (1991), the VO_2peak was lower (~9%) for swimming compared to cycling both during and after pregnancy (Spinnewijn et al., 1996). Differences between the two above studies are likely due to the swimming test protocols employed, with one using a continuous protocol (Spinnewijn et al., 1996) and the other study utilising a discontinuous protocol (McMurray et al., 1991).

Compared to postpartum, resting HR is higher during pregnancy (McMurray et al., 1991, Spinnewijn et al., 1996). The HRmax response during pregnancy does not appear to differ between swimming and cycling (mean range: 179 to 184 bpm) (McMurray et al., 1991, Spinnewijn et al., 1996). In regards to fetal HR, in one single group study of 11 pregnant women during their third trimester (35-38th week), fetal HR rose significantly during swimming, but no pathological deceleration was observed (Sasaki et al., 1993). However, another study reported two episodes (4% of all exercise trials) of transient fetal bradycardia during maximal maternal swimming compared to four episodes (9% of all trials) during maximal cycling in a sample of 13 pregnant women at 25 and 35 weeks gestation (McMurray et al., 1991). In addition, this study (1991) also observed no significant differences in the mean umbilical artery SBP/DBP ratio observed between swimming and cycling, after adjustment for fetal HR. The results above suggest that swimming is a safe mode of exercise during pregnancy.

One of the studies also reported that both swimming and cycling resulted in significant increases in hematocrit, hemoglobin and total plasma protein, however, all variables were significantly lower during pregnancy compared to postpartum (McMurray et al., 1991). Only one study reported blood lactate responses, and found that blood lactate was lower during pregnancy versus postpartum and compared to cycling (Spinnewijn et al., 1996).

The generalisability of the above findings is difficult due to the small number of studies with low samples sizes. Breaststroke was the only reported stroke studied in the above studies, so results are confined to this stroke. In addition, none of the two crossover studies (McMurray et al., 1991, Spinnewijn et al., 1996) randomised the order in which the swimming and cycling bouts was performed resulting in a high risk of selection of bias (see Figure 3 and Appendix D). These same two trials also excluded participants who did not complete all assessments leading to a high risk of attrition bias. Sasaki et al. (1993) was also at a risk of other bias due to the single group pre-post test design. Therefore, there is need for crossover design studies with adequate sample sizes that randomise condition order, adopts an intention-to-treat analysis approach, and blinds outcome assessors to the purpose of the experiment, that investigate acute responses to swimming before, during, and after pregnancy compared to different modes of exercise.

Individuals with cardiovascular disease

Studies have also focused on the acute physiological effects of swimming in individuals with different cardiovascular diseases. We identified three single group with crossover studies (Bucking and Krey 1986, Fletcher et al., 1979, Madger et al., 1981) and four CTs with crossover (Heigenhausen et al., 1977, Lehmann and Samek, 1990, Meyer and Bucking 2004, Schmid et al., 2007). In general, the physiological effects of swimming were investigated after swimming bouts of various durations, from five minutes of comfortable swimming (Bucking and Krey 1986, Meyer and Bucking, 2004) to swimming 100 feet (Fletcher et al., 1979), and intensities, from incremental intensity or comfortable speed swimming tests (Heigenhausen et al., 1977, Madger et al., 1981, Schmid et al., 2007) to intermittent swimming protocols (Lehmann and Samek, 1990). In three studies the style of swimming was breaststroke (Lehmann and Samek, 1990, Madger et al., 1981, Meyer and Bucking 2004), in two studies stroke was not provided (Schmid et al., 2007, Bucking and Krey 1986), one study used front crawl (Fletcher et al., 1979) and in one study the participants chose their own stroke (front crawl, breaststroke, or side stroke) (Heigenhausen et al., 1977). Characteristics of studies can be found in Table 1.

During swimming, there was a linear increase in VO_2, which was proportionate to increases in intensity in males with previous myocardial infarction (MI) (Heigenhausen et al., 1977). In another study, the VO_2 response during swimming was lowest in patients with chronic heart failure (9.7±3.3 ml·kg^{-1}·min^{-1}) compared to patients with coronary artery disease (12.4±3.5 ml·kg^{-1}·min^{-1}) and healthy controls (13.9±4 ml·kg^{-1}·min^{-1}) (Schmid et al., 2007). While similar increases in VO_2 were observed between swimming and cycling in two studies (Heigenhausen et al., 1977, Madger et al., 1981), VO_2 during swimming was higher when compared to other exercise modes, such as walking and playing volleyball in untrained individuals post uncomplicated MI (Fletcher et al., 1979). For patients with ischemic heart disease, swimming at individual-selected comfortable speeds required 81±16% at 25.5°C and 83±17% at 18°C of VO_2peak (Madger et al., 1981). However, the authors (1981) reported that VO_2 response varied greatly dependent on swimming ability, with the worst swimmer consuming as much as 108% (VO_2 = 1.47 L·min) of VO_2peak achieved during cycling, compared to the best swimmer who used as 54% (VO_2 = 0.85 L·min) of cycling VO_2peak (Madger et al., 1981). Furthermore, Heigenhauser and colleagues (1977) reported that in patient's post MI, VO_2peak was 21% lower during swimming compared to cycling, despite higher HR at any given VO_2, possibly due to a potential failure of participants to reach maximal values.

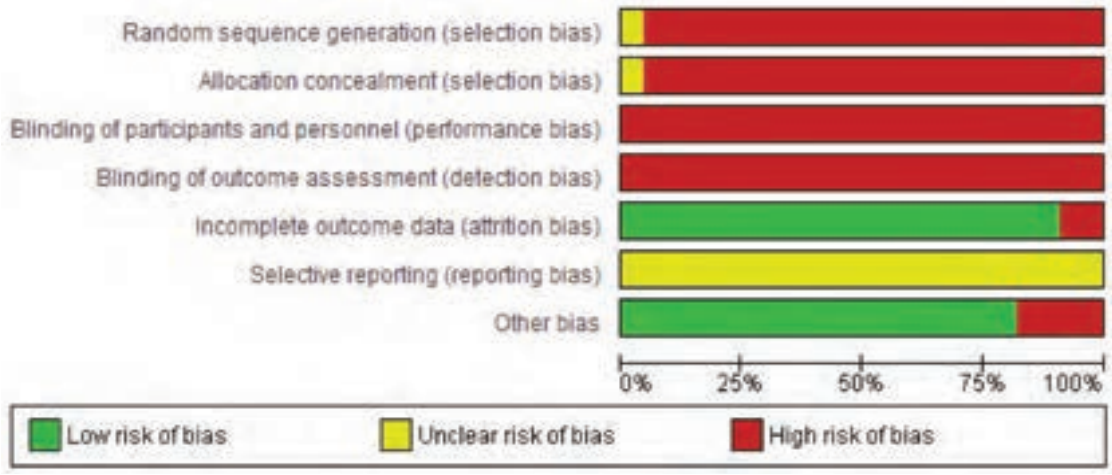
HR and cardiac output (CO) also increased proportionately to intensity (Heigenhausen et al., 1977, Schmid et al., 2007) with similar responses occurring during swimming and cycling (Heigenhausen et al., 1977, Meyer and Bucking 2004, Madger et al., 1981), but higher HR during swimming compared to walking and playing volleyball in individuals post MI (Fletcher et al., 1979). Significantly higher HR and lower CO at any given VO_2 have also been reported in individuals post MI (Heigenhausen et al., 1977). During swimming, SBP increased to 122, 143 and 130 mmHg in healthy individuals, patients with coronary artery disease and chronic heart failure, respectively, whereas, SBP and DBP also increased significantly more in patients with coronary artery disease compared to patients with chronic heart failure and healthy individuals (Schmid et al., 2007). Furthermore, immediately post-swimming and up to 95 minutes recovery, CO, total peripheral resistance and respiratory frequency were unchanged compared to baseline values in patients with coronary artery disease and chronic heart failure (Schmid et al., 2007). Finally, in a study of four heart disease patients 6-10 weeks post-MI, compared to after five minutes of cycle ergometry at 100 W, higher mean pulmonary arterial and pulmonary capillary pressures and oxygen saturation, but not HR, were observed after five minutes of swimming at a speed of 20-25 m·min^{-1} (Bucking and Krey, 1986).

With regards to adverse cardiac physiological responses of swimming, a study of four patients with previous transmural infract, found no arrhythmias during swimming (Bucking and Krey 1986). While this was also the case for 13 patients with coronary artery disease and mild left ventricular damage, three out of 12 patients with coronary artery disease and marked left ventricular damage experienced arrhythmias while swimming (Lehmann and Samek, 1990). There is a suggestion that patients who were post-MI are less able to identify ischemic symptoms during swimming. In a study that included eight post-MI patients that experienced ST segment depression and angina at their post-MI exercise tolerance test, six of these participants had ST segment depression both at swimming pool temperatures of 25.5°C and 18°C while swimming, two had angina in 25.5°C and only one at 18°C (compared to 5 participants reporting angina during cycling) (Madger et al., 1981).

When interpreting the above findings, it is important to note that three of the seven studies (Bucking and Krey 1986, Madger et al., 1981, Heigenhausen et al., 1977) had very low sample sizes (n = 4-12), which limits generalisability. The swim bouts (mostly breaststroke or frontcrawl) studied were also of very short duration (all <10 minutes), with two

of the trials using bout durations of 1-2 minutes (Fletcher et al., 1979, Schmid et al., 2007). All studies were at a high risk of selection bias due to a lack of randomisation of either group allocation or condition order, but a low risk of attrition bias, because of acceptable handling of missing data (or no reported missing data) and other sources of bias (see Figure 3 and Appendix D). Therefore, appropriately designed crossover studies using longer duration bouts of swimming with larger samples are required to establish the acute effects and suitability of swimming in patients with cardiovascular disease, compared to other exercise modes used during rehabilitation.

Figure 3.
Risk of bias of acute swimming studies. Review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item presented as percentages across all included studies.



Chronic Physiological Adaptations to Pool Swimming

Our systematic search on the chronic physiological adaptations of swimming revealed 31 eligible trials (16 RCTs, 2 quasi-RCT, 11 CTs, and 2 single-group studies) investigating the effects of swimming on physiological outcomes in healthy children and adolescents (3 studies), university-aged students and adults (7 studies), as well as pregnant women (1 study) and individuals with asthma (11 studies), down-syndrome (1 study), cystic fibrosis (1 study), hypertension (5 studies), osteoarthritis (1 study), and perforated tympanic membrane (1 study). Seven of the trials had multiple associated publications (10 additional articles). There were a total of 1,592 participants in the eligible studies, with 886 participating in a swim training group, 476 in a non-swimming control (22 studies), 84 in a walking group (2 studies), 55 in a cycling group (3 studies), 35 in a running group (2 studies), 20 in a soccer group (1 study), and 26 in a golf group (1 study). Four of the studies compared two different swim interventions (Fernandez-Luna et al., 2013, Lavin et al., 2015, Mohr et al., 2014, Soultanakis et al., 2012), whereas in another two studies participants performing the same swim intervention were separated into groups based on condition symptoms (Bemanian et al., 2009; Fitch et al., 1976).

In 10 of the studies, the swim intervention consisted of front crawl only (Casey and Emes, 2011, Celik et al., 2013, Magel et al., 1975, Lavin et a;., 2015, Lun and Wang, 2014, Matsumoto et al., 1999, Mohr et al., 2014, Soultanakis et al., 2012, Silva et al., 2009, Tanaka et al., 1997, Varray et al., 1991), three studies used a combination of backstroke and front crawl (Wang and Hung, 2009, Weisgerber et al., 2003, Weisgerber et al., 2008), one study involved front crawl and breaststroke, one study utilised breaststroke only (Obert et al., 1996), three studies comprised of a variety of swim strokes (Bielec et al., 2013, Cox et al., 2006, Lynch et al., 2007), and the other 12 studies did not provide swim stroke information. Most of the studies were of short-durations, with the 22 studies less than 15 weeks duration (mode duration = 12 weeks in 9 studies; range = 4 weeks to 2 years). Three studies had a duration of one year (Chen et al., 2010; Huang et al., 1989, Obert et al., 1996), whereas, one single group study consisted of a 2-year intervention (Bielec et al., 2013). In the following section we will review the evidence of the effects of swim training in each of the populations listed above and provide a summary of the risk of bias within each eligible trial (see Figure 4 and Appendix E). The characteristics and the outcomes of the studies included appear in Table 2.

Healthy children and adolescents

We found just three eligible studies investigating the effects of swim training in healthy children (Gonenc et al., 2000), pre-pubertal girls (Obert et al., 1996), and adolescents (Bielec et al., 2013). Two studies were controlled trials (CTs) and one was a pre-post single group design, none of the three eligible studies were RCTs. One two year study involved a breaststroke intervention (Obert et al., 1996), whereas, another study utilised a one year intervention comprising of a mixture of front crawl, backstroke, and breast stroke (Bielec et al., 2013), and the third study comprosed of a four week technical swim drill intervention (Gonenc et al., 2000). See Table 2 for the characteristics of studies.

Only one small study (Obert et al., 2016), consisting of 14 pre-pubertal girls (intervention n = 5), examined the effects of swim training (10-12 hours per week for 1 year) on VO_2peak (assessed via swim bench exercise test), and found significant pre-post increases in relative VO_2peak ($ml \cdot min^{-1} \cdot kg^{-1} \cdot mb$). In addition, significant pre-post improvements in HRmax, VEmax ($L \cdot min^{-1}$), and maximal O_2 pulse were observed in the swim group only. However, absolute VO_2peak ($L \cdot min^{-1}$) changed significantly in both groups. A pre-post single group study (Gonenc et al., 2000) reported beneficial improvements in anti-oxidant defence (assessed via superoxide dismutase, malondiadehyde, and glutathione peroxidase) in 12 untrained healthy children.

Two of the CTs investigated body mass and body mass index (BMI) changes in response to swim training. Bielec and colleagues (2013) reported that in a large population of 6th grade junior high school students (n = 230) gains in body mass were significantly lower after one year in the swim group (1 x 45 minutes per week swimming) compared to controls, but not after two years. Similarly, no significant between group differences in BMI, posture scoliosis, or scapula and shoulder asymmetry were observed over the two years. Obert et al. (1996) reported significant pre-post increases in body mass and lean mass in both swim and control groups, but a significant increase in body fat % in the control group.

Importantly, all studies were at a high risk of selection bias (no randomisation or allocation concealment), performance bias (no blinding of participants or researchers to knowledge of intervention received), detection bias (outcome assessors were not blind to group allocation) (see Figure 4 and Appendix E). The three studies were also at an unclear risk of reporting bias (insufficient information about selectiveness of reporting), but a low risk of attrition bias due to no missing data. One study was judged to be at a high risk of other bias because of a pre- and post-test single group design, whereas, the other two studies were at a low risk of other sources of bias.

Due to the high risk of bias across the three studies, caution must be exercise when interpreting the findings of these studies. Therefore, there is currently insufficient evidence regarding the effects of swim training on aerobic capacity, body mass and composition, and anti-oxidant defences. Future research is needed to investigate the efficacy of swim training in healthy children and adolescents, in addition to examining the comparative effects of swim training compared to other modes of exercise.

Healthy university students and adults

Seven eligible studies (5 RCTs and 2 CT) investigated the effects of swim training on healthy university students (Celik et al., 2013, Magel et al., 1975, Lu and Wang, 2014, Soultanikis et al., 2012) and adults (Cox et al., 2006, Fernandez-Luna et al., 2013, Lavin et al., 2015). All but one of the studies were 12 weeks or less duration (Cox et al., 2006 was 6 months), and five of the seven employed a front crawl swim intervention, whereas, the remaining two used a mixture of swim strokes (Cox et al., 2006, Fernandez-Luna, 2013). See Table 2 for the characteristics of studies.

Three studies have shown increases in VO_2peak or VO_2max with a swim training intervention (Celik et al., 2013, Magel et al., 1975, Cox et al., 2006). One study observed mean pre-post increases of ~5 $ml \cdot kg^{-1} \cdot min^{-1}$ mean in sedentary male university students over 12 weeks healthy adults (Celik et al., 2013), whereas, another study involving six university-aged recreational swimmers reported 11% increases in VO_2peak (Magel et al., 1975). However, Cox and colleagues (2006) revealed more modest changes relative to walking in sedentary women aged 50-70 years over six months (mean pre-post increase in predicted VO_2peak swimming vs. walking, 1.75, 95% CI, 1.27 to 2.24 $ml \cdot kg^{-1} \cdot min^{-1}$ vs. 2.54, 2.00 to 3.08 $ml \cdot kg^{-1} \cdot min^{-1}$).

The pre-post changes in VO_2peak in the two studies were equivalent to changes observed in running and cycling (Celik et al., 2013) and walking (Cox et al., 2006) interventions. Interestingly, the changes in swimming VO_2peak may be specific to swimming. Magel and colleagues (1975) found no significant increases in running VO_2peak despite the improvement in swimming VO_2peak. In the same study (1975), VEmax, HRmax, and swim time also improved significantly pre-post swim intervention, with no changes in values during running or the reported pre-post values of a separate control group. No improvement in VO_2peak were observed as a result of short duration stroke-matched breathing and controlled breathing during swimming interventions (12 sessions over 4 weeks), and no changes in other submaximal exercise variables [e.g., HR, respiratory exchange ratio (RER), or rating of perceived exertion] were found (Lavin et al., 2015). However, in this study (2015), pre-post running economy improved in both swim groups, with a slightly greater increase with controlled breathing during swimming.

In a brief four week study that randomised healthy collegiate untrained swimmers into either a sprint swimming or sprint combined with endurance swim training, only the sprint and endurance swimming combined group significantly improved pre-post swimming velocity at lactate threshold (i.e., improved exercise capacity) (Soultanakis et al., 2012). Both swim groups significantly increased 50 meters swim sprint performance and peak swim velocity, and lowered lactate concentrations at lactate threshold, but neither group changed pre-post peak blood lactate concentrations or the blood lactate concentration at individual lactate threshold after four weeks (Soultanakis et al., 2012).

Only one of the eligible studies investigated the effects of swim training on BP compared to a walking intervention in heathy sedentary women aged 50-70 years (Cox et al., 2006). This large RCT (n = 116) found that six months of swim training resulted in a statistically significant 4.4 mmHg (95% CI 1.2 to 1.75 mmHg) increase in supine SBP (and standing SBP) relative to the walking group (adjusted for initial BP, age, hypertension treatment status and change in weight). No significant within-group or between-group changes in DBP were observed at 6 months. In light of the SBP increase observed with swimming compared to walking, the authors suggested that for sedentary healthy older women wishing to engage in swim training, blood pressure monitoring may be needed. However, because this study lacked a no exercise control group, it is unclear whether the changes were due to spontaneous changes in BP (due to regression to the mean). It is also noteworthy the low baseline BP values of participants in this study. Taken together, further research is required to determine the clinical significance of this finding.

Only one study, consisting of 116 sedentary older women, investigated the effects of swim training on blood biomarkers (Cox et al., 2006). This six-month RCT with a 12 month follow-up (2006), found that despite no within or between group differences in total cholesterol (TC), high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C), low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C), and triglycerides after 6 months of either swimming or walking, at 12 months follow-up, the walking group had significantly increased TC and LDL-C compared to the swimming group. However, no significant within or between group differences were observed for fasting glucose, glucose area under curve (AUC), fasting insulin, and Homeostasis Model Assessment, at either 6 months or 12 months, although, insulin AUC was significantly higher in the walking group at 6 months but not 12 months compared to the swim training group. The authors (2006) suggested that these positive impacts on lipids with swimming may counteract the increases in SBP reported above.

Only two of the eligible studies (Fernández-Luna et al., 2013, Lavin et al., 2015) examined the effects of swim training on lung function in healthy adults. Significant increases forced vital capacity (FVC) have been reported in healthy adults after a three month swim training intervention in both chlorinated (pre: 4.25±0.86 L; post: 4.35±0.85 L) and ozone (pre: 4.26±0.86 L; post: 4.43±0.82 L) pools, whereas, significant increases in 1-second forced expiratory volume (FEV1) were only observed in the ozone pool swim group (pre: 3.50±0.65 L; post: 3.59±0.67 L) (Fernández-Luna et al., 2013). In addition, forced expiratory flow (FEF) 25-75% decreased significantly only after swimming in the chlorinated pool, and no pre-post changes in any other pulmonary variables were observed in the control group (Fernández-Luna et al., 2013). Interestingly, the authors (2013) also found higher lung permeability (significantly higher concentrations in Clara cell secretory protein 16 but not surfactant protein) in those swimming in the chlorinated pool compared to ozone pool, suggesting that ozone pools impact less on the lung epithelial of swimmers.

Increases in FVC with relevant decreases in FEV1/FVC have also been observed in adults as a result of a stroke-matched breathing intervention (12 sessions over 4 weeks) but not controlled breathing during swimming, whereas, significant pre-post intervention increases in maximum expiratory pressure were also observed when data were pooled from both interventions (Lavin et al., 2015).

Statistically significant reductions in body mass and BMI have been observed in sedentary older healthy women after six months of swim training, and significantly lower body mass and BMI at 12 months follow-up in a swim versus walking intervention group (Cox et al., 2016). Similarly, Lu and Wang (2014) observed a significant but modest decrease in BMI after 12 week swimming, cycling, power striding, and running interventions but not in a control group. In another RCT, although, there were significant reductions in pre-post BMI of sedentary healthy male college students in swim, running, and cycling intervention groups (vs. no change in a control group), no significant reductions were also observed in any group after 12 weeks in body fat % (Celik et al., 2013). No pre-post changes in body mass and BMI were observed in after a 4-week swimming intervention of either stroke-matched breathing and or controlled breathing during swimming interventions (Lavin et al., 2015).

One study investigated the effects of swim training on various anthropometric measurements compared to walking (Cox et al., 2006). This study (2016) observed that waist circumference was significantly lower in the swim group compared to the walk group at 6 months but not at 12 months follow-up, whereas, hip circumference was significantly lower in the swim group compared to the walk group at both 6 and 12 months. In addition, pre-post 6-month arm muscle girth and 6-month and 12-month calf girth were significantly lower in the swim group compared to the control group. No between group differences were observed in any other anthropometric measure (triceps skinfold and forearm, chest, gluteal thigh, and mid-thigh girth).

In regards to other outcomes in swim training studies with health adults, no effects were detected in cartilage oligomeric matrix protein, a marker of cartilage degradation (Celik et al., 2013) or total cartilage volume (Lu and Wang, 2014). Swim training also seems to have beneficial effects in improving strength. Swimming for 12 weeks induces increases in muscular strength in male University students (Celik et al., 2013) and college students (Lu and Wang, 2014).

However, most evidence for the physiological effects of swim training in healthy university students or adults is based on short-duration (6 studies ≤12 weeks), small sample (average group size: 16) RCTs. All seven studies were at a high risk of performance and detection bias (no blinding of participants or research personnel/outcome assessors), and an unclear risk of reporting bias (lack of sufficient information to make a judgement) (see Figure 4 and Appendix E). Three trials were at a high risk of selection bias, due to a lack of random allocation of groups (Fernandez-Luna et al., 2013, Magel et al., 1975) and a failure to conceal allocation in the other (Celik et al., 2013), whereas, two studies were at an unclear risk of selection bias due to insufficient information regarding randomisation method used (Lavin et al., 2015, Soultanikis et al., 2012). All trials were considered at a low risk of attrition bias (minimal or no loss-to-follow-up) or other sources of biases. Therefore, despite the potential of swimming training to improve cardiorespiratory fitness, and modestly reduce body mass and certain girth measurements, the findings above are generally based on short-duration and small sample RCTs. Consequently, adequately powered trials investigating the effects of different swim strokes with blinded outcome assessors and better reporting of randomisation and allocation concealment methods are needed. In particular, we can provide no firm recommendations regarding the effects of swimming on lung function in healthy adults because of a lack of low bias RCTs with a non-swimming control group.

Pregnancy

We identified one eligible small sample short-duration CT that investigated the effects of swim training on different physiological parameters of pregnant women (Lynch et al., 2007). The study included 23 sedentary women that initiated swimming training (involving front crawl, backstroke, breaststroke, and skill drills) from the 16th until the 28th week of gestation (i.e. 12 week intervention) and 11 previously active non-swimming pregnant women as a control. Although the swimming program intended to cease on the 28th week of gestation, nine women continued to swim until the 32nd week of gestation and seven until the 36th week of gestation. After the 12 week intervention, aerobic fitness, assessed via physical work capacity at a HR of 170 bpm during submaximal cycle ergometer testing, improved significantly after 12 weeks (16th to 28th week: 804 kg·m·min to 898 kg·m·min) and thereafter, remained unchanged at 36 weeks of gestation (897 kg·m·min) in those women that continued. Physical work capacity of the non-swimming group remained unchanged over the study period. Resting maternal HR significantly reduced post-intervention, while, fetal heart rate also significantly decreased with advancing gestational age. However, maternal SBP, DBP and umbilical artery systolic/diastolic ratios remained unchanged. Similar gains in body mass have been reported with the progression of gestation in both swimming and control individuals. In addition, no significant

differences were detected between the groups for pre-swimming and during-swimming HR or rectal temperature and body mass.

However, this study was at a high risk of bias. Specifically, there was a high risk of selection bias, due to the allocation of women based on physical activity levels (only sedentary women were allocated to the swim training group), performance bias, a result of a lack of blinding of participants and personnel, detection bias, because of a lack of blinding of outcome assessors, and attrition bias, due to the omission from the analyses of participants who dropped out of the study (see Figure 4 and Appendix E). Whereas, the study was deemed to be at a low risk of other sources of bias, there was an unclear risk of reporting bias because of insufficient information available to make a judgement. Therefore, there is a scarcity of good quality data regarding the effectiveness of swim training for women during pregnancy.

Individuals with asthma or cystic fibrosis

Ten eligible studies examined the effects of swim training in children with asthmatic, whereas, one RCT studied the effects of swimming in adults with mild but persistent asthma. Of the six studies that comprised of children with asthma, seven were RCTs (Matsumato et al., 1999, Varray et al., 1995, Varray et al., 1991, Wang and Hung, 2009, Weisgerber et al., 2003, Weisgerber et al., 2008, Wicher et al., 2010), and three were CTs (Bemanian et al., 2009; Fitch et al., 1976, Huang et al., 1989). Eight of the studies included non-swimming controls (Arandelovic et al., 2007, Huang et al., 1989, Matsumoto et al., 1999, Varray et al., 1991, Varray et al., 1995, Wang and Hung, 2009, Weisgerber et al., 2003, Wicher et al., 2010), one study compared swimming with a golf control (Weisgerber et al., 2008), one study separated the swim group into participants who were healthy, had asthma, allergic rhinitis, or atopic dermatitis (Bemanian et al., 2009), and another study included a non-asthmatic swimming comparison group (Fitch et al., 1976). Six of the studies provided no information regarding swim stroke, but of the remaining three studies, three used front crawl and backstroke (Wang and Hung, 2009, Weisgerber et al., 2003, Weisgerber et al., 2008). and two involved a front crawl only intervention (Matsumoto et al., 1999, Varray et al., 1991). See Table 2 for characteristics of studies.

Swim training significantly and meaningfully imporoved VO_2peak and ventilatory threshlold compared with usual care in two studies (Varray et al., 1995, Varray et al., 1991). Cardiorespiratory fitness, assessed via physical work capacity (treadmill running) at 170 beats per minute, improved as a result of five months of swim training in school children with asthma, but not in a non-asthmatic swimming control group (Fitch et al., 1976), and after 12 weeks of swim training in another study (Wicher et al., 2010). Children with asthma, who swam every day for six weeks, achieved a significantly higher improvement in work load at lactate threshold assessed by both swimming and cycle ergometer, compared to a non-swimming asthmatic control group (Matsumoto et al., 1999). However, no significant differences were observed between swim training and golf groups after nine weeks (Weisgerber et al., 2008).

The effects of swim training in children with asthma on spirometry variables are mixed. In a study of 96 girls who were healthy or had asthma, allergic rhinitis, or atopic dermatitis, a 2-month swim training intervention resulted in improved peak expiratory flow (PEF) rate improved by more than 20% in 27.6% of all girls (Bemanian et al., 1999). In the same study (1990), significant PEF rate pre-post increases were observed in healthy individuals, and participants who were asthmatic or obese, but not in those with rhinitis or dermatitis. Similarly, PEF improved significantly by 63% in a group of asthmatic children after one year of swimming, compared to a 25% increase in a non-swimming, age, gender, and asthma severity matched control group (Huang et al., 1989). Only PEF improved in another group of asthmatic children after six weeks of swimming (mean, 95% CI pre: 244 L·min, 228 to 260; post: 330 L·min, 309 to 351), while all other spirometry parameters (FEV1, FEF50%, FEF25-75%) significantly increased in both swimming participants and controls (Wang and Hung, 2009). In agreement, Fitch et al. (1976) also failed to show significant pre-post improvements in FEV1 and FVC after five months of swimming in schoolchildren with asthma, and three RCTs did not find any significant improvement in measures of lung function with swim training compared to usual care controls (Varray et al., 1995, Varray et al., 1991, Wicher et al., 2010). Although in one study a swim group had significant increases in FEV1 % predicted compared to a golf group (Weisgerber et al., 2008).

Exercise-induced asthma appears to remain unaltered after a 5-month swimming intervention in asthmatic children, while asthma disability and medication use significantly decreased (Fitch et al., 1976). In another study, significant reductions were recorded for asthmatic children (but not controls) in asthma attacks, wheezing, days requiring medication, hospitalization, emergency visits and absence from school as a result of a one year swimming intervention (Huang et al., 1989). However, another study found no beneficial improvements in symptoms (and

respiratory function) in children with moderate persistent asthma, however, this study was of a much shorter duration (5-6 weeks) and also, lost many participants at follow up (Weisgerber et al., 2003). Swim training may also result in significant reductions in exercise-induced bronchoconstriction in asthmatic children after swimming in a heated pool (Matsumoto et al., 1999) as well as improved asthma severity (Wang and Hung, 2009) after six weeks of swimming.

There is a paucity of data regarding the effects of swim training on body mass and composition in children with asthma. Only one eligible study included body composition as an outcome variable, and reported that after a five month swimming intervention body fat % was significantly reduced compared to controls (Fitch et al., 1976).

One eligible RCT found that in adults with mild but persistent asthma, FEV1 (pre: 3.55±0.85 L; post: 3.65±0.86 L), FVC (pre: 4.27±0.97 L; post: 4.37±0.98 L) and PEF (pre: 7.08±1.87 L; post: 7.46±1.67 L) improved after 6-months of swim training in a non-chlorinated pool (swimming delivered alongside asthma education) (Arandelović et al., 2007). When the authors (2007) compared the swim training group to the control group at the end of the study, FEV1, FVC, and PEF were significantly higher in the swim training group. In addition, although there was a significant improvement in reduced bronchial hyper-responsiveness in both swim and control groups, after the study period bronchial hyper-responsiveness was significantly lower in the swim group compared to the control group (Arandelović et al., 2007).

All of the trials investigating individuals with asthma were at a high risk of performance and detection bias because of a failure to blind participants, study personnel and outcome assessors (see Figure 4 and Appendix E). Only one study was at a low risk of selection bias (Weisgerber et al., 2008). Three studies were at a high risk of selection bias, due to inadequate randomization and allocation of concealment (Bemanian et al., 2009, Fitch et al., 1976, Huang et al., 1989), and another six were at unclear risk of bias, because of insufficient information provided about randomization methods (Arandelović et al., 2007, Matsumato et al., 1999, Varray et al., 1995, Varray et al., 1991, Wang and Hung, 2009, Wicher et al., 2010). Weisberger et al. (2003) was at a high risk of selection bias due to a lack of allocation concealment, despite an acceptable randomization method (random numbers table). five studies (Arandelović et al., 2007, Huang et al., 1989, Weisgerber et al., 2003, Weisberger et al., 2008, Wicher et al., 2010) were at a high risk of attrition bias as a result of exclusion of non-completers from their analyses, whereas, all remaining studies were at a low risk. All studies were at unclear risk of reporting bias because insufficient information was available on which to base a judgement, and only one (Bemanian et al., 2009) of the seven studies were at a high risk of other sources of bias due to poor level of reporting in the trial. There is a need for well-designed RCTs with a non-swimming control with an adequate sample size of duration in children with asthma, in particular.

One study has focused on swimming and cystic fibrosis (Edlund et al., 1985). This CT investigated a 12-week progressive aerobic swimming training (no swim stroke details provided) program (swimming pool temperature at 32-35°C) against a non-swimming control group. The VO_2peak (pre vs. post: 56.2±6.7 vs. 60.0±14.28 $ml \cdot kg^{-1} \cdot min^{-1}$) and VEmax (pre: 39.8±6.6 vs. post: 45.8±16.2 $L \cdot min^{-1}$) both improved significantly in the swimming group but not controls, while pulmonary function (FEV1, FVC, residual volume, total lung capacity, residual volume/total lung capacity %, and diffusion capacity) did not improve in either of the groups. Importantly, the clinical disease state of these patients significantly improved in the swimming but not controls groups. However, this small trial had a number of shortcoming that exposed it to high risk of bias, including selection bias (groups were not randomly allocated), performance and detection bias (lack of blinding of participants, personnel, and outcome assessors), and attrition bias (non-completers excluded from analyses), and an unclear risk of reporting bias (insufficient information provided) (see Figure 4 and Appendix E). However, we could find no other potential sources of bias. Due to the availability of a single flawed short-duration small sample CT, no firm recommendations can be made regarding swimming for individuals with cystic fibrosis.

Individuals with hypertension

We found five eligible studies investigating the effects of swim training in individuals with hypertension. Of these studies, two CTs studied patients with either mild (stage 1) or moderate (stage 2) hypertension (Silva et al., 2009, Tanaka et al., 1997), one pre-post SG study consisted of both mild and normotensive young adults (Chen et al., 2010), one quasi-RCT included premenopausal women with mild hypertension and obesity (Mohr et al., 2014), and another quasi-RCT comprised of participants with prehypertension or mild hypertension (Nualnim et al., 2012). Three

of the studies involved a front crawl intervention (Mohr et al., 2014, Silva et al., 2009, Tanaka et al., 1997), whereas, the remaining two studies did not provide this information. Table 2 provides the full characteristics of studies.

A non-significant pre-post increase in treadmill VO_2peak (28±1 to 30±1 ml·kg^{-1}·min^{-1}) of adults diagnosed with either prehypertension or mild hypertension was reported after 12 weeks of swim training at intensities equal to 60-75% of HRmax, compared to no pre-post change at all in the control group (27±1 ml·kg^{-1}·min^{-1} before and after) (Nualnim et al., 2012). Another study of women with mild hypertension and obesity found that pre-post endurance performance (via Yo-Yo Intermittent Endurance test) was improved equivalently in both a moderate- and high-intensity swim intervention (45±4% and 58±5%), with no changes in a control group (Mohr et al., 2014). In the same study, the HR response to submaximal exercise was significantly similarly reduced before and after both moderate and high-intensity swim training. Tanaka and colleagues (1997) assessed exercise capacity via blood lactate concentrations during submaximal exercise, and found significantly decreased blood lactate concentrations after the same submaximal test pre and post a 10-week swim intervention (pre: 3.1±0.5 vs. post: 2.6±0.2 mmol·L) in patients with hypertension (Tanaka et al., 1997).

Four of the eligible studies consisting of individuals with hypertension have found reductions in SBP (Chen et al., 2010, Mohr et al., 2014, Nualnim et al., 2012, Tanaka et al., 1997), whereas in contrast, two studies found increases after swim training (Chen et al., 2010, Silva et al., 2006). In women who were hypertensive and obese, SBP significantly decreased 15-weeks post-swimming intervention both with high-intensity (mean: -6±1 mmHg) as well as moderate-intensity (mean: -4±1 mmHg) swim training with no significant changes in DBP (Mohr et al., 2014). Similarly, significant reductions in seated and supine SBP (but not DBP) were observed 10-weeks post swimming intervention (seated SBP pre-post: 150±5 to 144±4 mmHg) in individuals with mild and moderate hypertension (Tanaka et al., 1997). In addition to significant pre-post reductions in casual SBP (131±3 to 122±4 mmHg), Nualnim et al. (2012) also reported significant decreases in ambulatory SBP and carotid SBP in a swim training group, with no significant changes found in an attention control group. These findings are consistent with a single group design study which demonstrated that a one year swim training significantly lowered resting SBP by ~17 mmHg in young adults with mild hypertension (n = 7) compared to baseline values (Chen et al., 2010). Conversely, the same study (2010) observed pre-post increases in resting SBP by ~6 mmHg in participants who were normotensive (n = 16), and no pre-post changes in DBP in either participant group was found. Similarly, another study investigating the effects of a 10-week swimming intervention in both hypertensive males and females revealed increases in both SBP (mean increase: 4.9 mmHg) and DBP (mean increase: 6.5 mmHg) (Silva et al., 2009).

With regard to vascular responses, swim training significantly improves carotid artery compliance, flow-mediated dilation and cardiovagal baroreflex sensitivity in individuals with hypertension after 12 weeks of swim training (Nualnim et al., 2012). However, no change in casual forearm vascular resistance was detected in hypertensive individuals following a 10-week swimming intervention (Tanaka et al., 1997).

In women who are obese and hypertensive, high-intensity swimming improves insulin sensitivity, decreases plasma insulin and expression of adhesion molecules linked with endothelial dysfunction (soluble intracellular cell adhesion molecule-1 and soluble vascular cell adhesion molecule-1), whereas moderate-intensity swimming does not seem to induce the same metabolic responses (Mohr et al., 2014). The same study (2014) also examined the expression of intramuscular proteins obtained via biopsies. Although phosphofructokinase protein expression, vastus lateralis muscle glycogen and lipids did not change either via high-intensity or moderate intensity swim training, citrate synthase in the deltoid muscle (but not in vastus lateralis), 3-hydroxyacyl-CoA dehydrogenase and complex i-v in the deltoid muscle, all significantly increased after both high-intensity as well as moderate intensity swim training (Mohr et al., 2014). After one year of swim training, pre-post insulin resistance improved in hypertensive individuals (Chen et al., 2010), but no significant differences have been detected in various other metabolic biomarkers, such as cytokines, glucose or insulin, haemoglobin, lipids and catecholamines in other studies on hypertensive individuals (Nualnim et al., 2012, Tanaka et al., 1997).

Similar to changes in BP, body composition responses to swimming in individuals with hypertension are inconsistent. In women who were hypertensive and obese, adiposity decreases and lean body mass increases following 15-weeks of both high-intensity (body fat % decrease: 43.1±1.1% to 41.4±1.2%; lean body mass mean increase: 1.7±0.3 kg) and moderate-intensity (body fat % decrease: 44.1±1.2 to 42.1±1.0; lean body mass increase: 1.3±0.3 kg) swim training, but no changes occurred for the same variables in controls (Mohr et al., 2014). In contrast, no changes in any body composition variable or body mass were reported as a result of swim training of various durations in three studies (Chen et al., 2010, Nualnim et al., 2012, Tanaka et al., 1997). In addition to this, swim training does not seem to have

any effects on bone mineral content and/or density in premenopausal women who are obese and hypertensive (Mohr et al., 2014).

In regards to risk of bias, three studies were at high risk of selection bias due to inadequate randomisation and allocation concealment (Chen et al., 2010, Mohr et al., 2014, Silva et al., 2009), and the remaining two studies were at an unclear risk of selection bias because insufficient information was provided (Nualnim et al., 2012, Tanaka et al., 1997) (see Figure 4 and Appendix E). All of the swimming studies investigating individuals with hypertension were at a low risk of attrition bias (no or appropriate handling of missing data), and all but one was at a low risk of other sources of bias (Chen et al., 2010, due to single group design). As expected all studies were at a high risk of performance bias (lack of blinding of participants and personnel), and only one study was at a low risk of detection bias because it was the lone study to blind outcome assessors (Nualnim et al., 2012).

Although, studies have found improvements in vascular responses and lean mass, and reductions in blood pressure, insulin resistance, and body fat, the evidence is derived from non-RCTs of short duration and low sample sizes. Moreover, given that selection bias and detection bias can dramatically influence the internal validity of findings (Higgins et al., 2011), the data presented here must be interpreted with caution. There is need for higher quality RCTs of adequate duration and sample size with low risk of bias to determine the impact of swim training on blood pressure and other cardiovascular risk factors in individuals with hypertension.

Individuals with osteoarthritis

We found one eligible RCT that investigated the effects of swimming in middle age and older adults with osteoarthritis (Alkatan et al., 2016). This study (2016) randomized participants into either a 12-week swimming intervention (involving front crawl and breaststroke) or cycling programme, and revealed that physical performance (assessed via distance covered in a 6-min walk test) improved significantly in both interventions. However, vascular endothelial function (measured via brachial flow-mediated dilation) improved significantly after swimming but not post-cycling training. Whereas, significant improvements were detected in other parameters of cardiovascular function (carotid artery compliance, reduced carotid-femoral pulse wave velocity, carotid artery stiffness index, carotid artery distensibility) in both groups, others measures (blood pressure, SBP, DBP, pulse pressure, heart rate, carotid intima media thickness) did not change with either intervention (Alkatan et al., 2016).

With regards to biomarkers, only interleukin-6 and glycated haemoglobin significantly improve after 12 weeks of swimming and cycling, while no changes were observed in any other biomarker (Alkatan et al., 2016). Although, no significant changes were observed in lean body mass or body fat % in either intervention, body mass (swimming, baseline vs. post-intervention: 92.0±4.7 vs. 89.4±3.9 kg), visceral adiposity (swimming, baseline vs. post-intervention: 3.4±0.3 vs. 3.0±0.3 kg), and waist circumference (swimming, baseline vs. post-intervention: 106±3 vs. 103±3 cm) reduced significantly and similarly after both interventions. In addition, muscular strength (assessed via knee isokinetic dynamometry at both $60^{o} \cdot s^{-1}$ and $120^{o} \cdot s^{-1}$ and maximal grip strength) significantly increased similarly in both training groups (Alkatan et al., 2016).

Alkatan et al. (2016) was a generally well designed study, with a low risk of selection bias, due to appropriate randomization of participants, detection bias, because outcome assessors were blinded to participant allocation, attrition bias, as a result of utilising an intention-to-treat analysis, and other sources of bias (see Figure 4 and Appendix E). However, the study was at a high risk of performance bias due to the nature of the interventions. as it was not possible to blind participants to the intervention received, and of reporting bias, because although C-reactive protein was listed as one of its outcome variables, no outcome data regarding this variable were provided in the publications. Furthermore, although the study finds that swimming and cycling have broadly similar effects in this sample of middle-aged and older women with osteoarthritis, the lack of a control group does not preclude the possibility that these findings may have been due to regression to the mean.

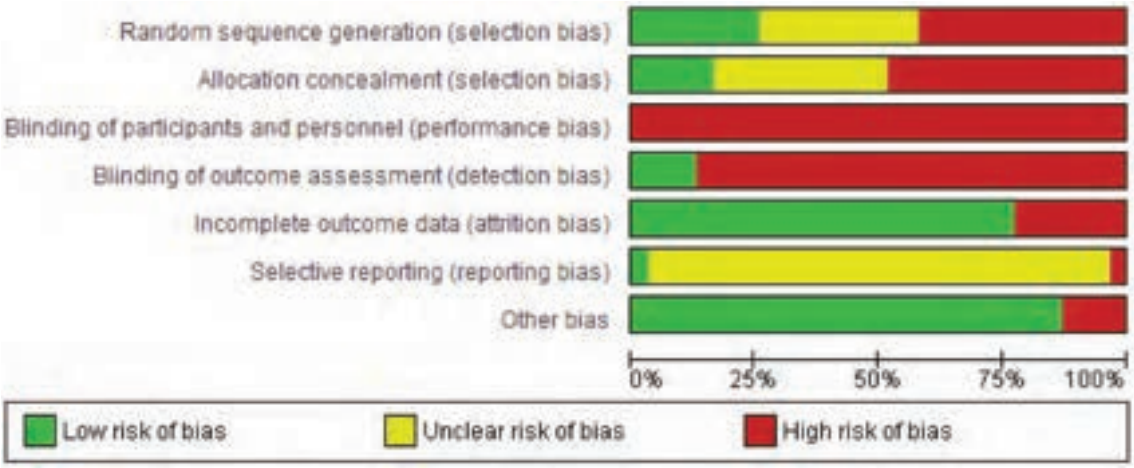
Other populations

We identified two eligible studies (both RCTs) in populations that could not be included in any of the categories above. One RCT investigated the effects of a 12-week swimming intervention on respiratory aspects of speech productions in individuals with Down syndrome (Casey and Emes, 2011). The results of this study revealed that front crawl swimming did not improve maximum phonation duration, initiation volume, and expired mean airflow. The

study (2011) was at a low risk of attrition bias (minimal loss-to-follow-up) and other sources of bias. However, this study was at a high risk of both performance (lack of blinding of participants) and detection bias (lack of blinding of outcome assessors), and an unclear risk of selection bias (no method of randomization was provided) and reporting bias (insufficient information to make a judgement).

The other RCT assessed the effects of a 4-week swimming intervention (swim stroke details not reported) on the rate of ear discharge in Aboriginal children with a tympanic membrane (i.e. eardrum) perforation (Stephen et al., 2013). Children were randomized to a swimming intervention in a chlorinated swimming pool or non-swimming controls. This study revealed that a similar number of children in both groups (swimming: 24 of 41 vs. controls: 38 of 48) had ear discharge after four weeks, whereas, swimming did not affect associated bacteria in the nasopharynx and middle ear. Therefore, the authors concluded that, although swimming intervention is unlikely to substantially reduce rates of chronic suppurative otitis media (a chronic inflammation of the middle ear and mastoid cavity, usually with a perforated tympanic membrane) and related bacteria in the nasopharynx and middle ear, it did not exacerbate ear discharge and thus, should not be discouraged. This study was a well-designed study, with a low risk of selection bias (appropriate randomization and allocation concealment), detection bias (blinding of outcome assessors), attrition bias (all available data was analysed), reporting bias (all outcomes in study protocol were reported in the publication), and other sources of bias (see Figure 4 and Appendix E). Due to the nature of the intervention, the study was at a high risk of performance bias because the participants could not be blinded to the intervention received.

Figure 4.
Risk of bias of chronic swimming studies. Review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item presented as percentages across all included studies.



The acute and chronic effects of cold water swimming

Acute physiological responses to swimming in cold water

We identified five eligible studies investigating the acute physiological responses to swimming in cold water. Two of these studies were single group studies (Lombardi et al., 2011, Zenner et al., 1980), two studies were CTs (Siems and Brenke, 1992, Siems et al., 1999), and the other was single group study with crossover (Tipton et al., 1999). All studies were conducted in healthy individuals, and in three of the studies the swim group comprised of regular winter swimmers (Siems and Brenke, 1992, Siems et al., 1999, Zenner et al., 1980) (median swim group n: 15). See Table 3 for the characteristics and findings of these studies.

Two studies investigated the acute cardiovascular responses of cold water swimming (Tipton et al., 1999, Zenner et al., 1980). Significantly progressive increases in both VO_2 and HR, as well as inspiratory volume and respiratory frequency with decreasing water temperatures from 25°C to 18°C and 10°C, were demonstrated in a study that investigated competent swimmers never exposed to cold water previously (Tipton et al., 1999). In the same study, hyperventilation was observed with decreasing water temperatures. After 60 seconds of vigorous intensity swimming in cold water, SBP and DBP both remain elevated immediately post-swimming compared to baseline values (SBP: from 132±4 to 181±6 mmHg, and DBP: from 80±2 to 86±4 mmHg, levels of significance not reported)

and still remain elevated up to four minutes (SBP 4-min post-swimming: 151±5 mmHg, and DBP 4min post-swimming: 84±4 mmHg, significance not reported) (Zenner et al., 1980). Although no significant heart disturbances occur after cold water swimming (Zenner et al., 1980), swimming in cold water can also cause hypothermia, and in turn, swimming-related deaths. As such, a study investigating swimming capability of 10 swimmers in cold and warm water concluded that swimming efficiency, stroke length, and core temperature decreased more (without any significant changes in cardiorespiratory responses) while swimming in cold water compared to warmer water temperatures (Tipton et al., 1999). The authors (1999) suggested that the greater drop in core temperature could be the cause swimming failure in cold water (Tipton et al., 1999).

Three studies have investigated the acute responses of swimming in selected blood parameters. In 15 individuals who swam 150m in cold water, significant increases occurred after swimming in haematocrit and haemoglobin as well as in red blood cell (4.7%) and white blood cell (40.6%) and platelet (25%) count (Lombardi et al., 2011). From the relative number of leukocytes only eosinophils significantly increase after swimming while from the absolute number of leucocyte subpopulations, significant increases were detected in the absolute number of neutrophil granulocytes, lymphocytes and monocytes (Lombardi et al., 2011). During cold-water swimming, extensive formation of oxygen free radicals occurs, however, resting levels of biomarkers of the anti-oxidative system (uric acid, glutathione, oxidized glutathione, erythrocyte superoxide dismutase, and catalase) of regular cold-water swimmers were better in cold-water swimmers compared to those observed in cold-water non-swimmers (Siems and Brenke, 1992, Siems et al., 1999). The above findings are suggestive of an adaptive response to repeated oxidative stress in winter swimmers.

The above evidence comes from relatively small sample studies with a mixture of regular winter swimmers and participants unaccustomed to winter swimming. All of the studies were at a high risk of selection bias due to no randomization of group allocation or condition order, and performance and detection bias because of a lack of blinding of participants, research personnel, and outcome assessors). One of the studies (Tipton et al., 1999) was at a risk of attrition bias because not all participants completed all conditions and excluded from analyses. Therefore, to elucidate the physiological acute effects of cold water swimming better designed randomised crossover trials in a variety of other populations are required.

Chronic physiological adaptations to swimming in cold water

Our search identified five studies investigating the chronic physiological adaptations to cold water or winter swimming (see Table 3 for characteristics of studies). Of the eligible studies, three were CTs (Gibas-Dorna et al., 2016, Hermanussen et al., 1995, Hirvonen et al., 2002) and two single group studies (Huttunen et al., 2001, Lubkowska et al., 2013). The swim intervention group consisted of regular winter swimmers in four of the studies (median swim group n: 22) (Gibas-Dorna et al., 2016, Hermanussen et al., 1995, Hirvonen et al., 2002, Huttunen et al., 2001) (for characteristics and findings of studies seeTable 3).

Hermanussen and colleagues (1995) compared healthy student's physiological responses before, and 30 and 60 minutes after a cold water swim, both on the first and last day of a 2.5 month winter swimming programme consisting of at least once weekly 2-10 minute swims. Post-winter swim training, there was an almost 50% increase in basal insulin from baseline concentrations, in addition to an inhibition of insulin secretion at 30 and 60 minutes post-cold water swim (Hermanussen et al., 1995). Moreover, slightly higher increases in cortisol concentrations from pre to 30 minutes post-cold water swim, but, uniform decreases in cortisol between 30 and 60 minutes post-cold water swim, were observed post-intervention (Hermanussen et al., 1995). Both before and after winter swim training, thyroid-stimulating hormone concentrations increased by almost 50% in all participants 30 minutes after cold water swimming, and decreased by around 20% from 30-60 minutes post-swim. No major changes were detected in prolactin, luteinizing hormone, follicle stimulating hormone or growth hormone responses before and after winter swim training, although, there was an almost two-fold increase in basal prolactin concentrations from pre- to post-winter swimming (Hermanussen et al., 1995).

Similarly, Hirvonen et al. (2002) observed no changes in plasma catecholamines, serotonin, plasma homovanillic acid and ß-endorphin values in winter swimmers before and after the winter swimming season compared to non-swimming controls. However, another previous similar study (but with no control group) found a diminished catecholamine (norepinephrine and epinephrine) response to a cold water immersion test after a winter training

season, suggesting that cold adaptation induced by winter swimming may attenuate the catecholamine responses to cold water (Huttunen et al., 2001).

A study that investigated the effects of winter swimming for six months, twice a week, revealed that winter swimmers improved their insulin sensitivity compared to controls (Gibas-Dorna et al., 2016). Despite there were no significant changes in body composition parameters in the total sample of participants pre-post intervention, significant reductions were detected in fat-free mass, total body water and muscle mass in women but not in men (Gibas-Dorna et al., 2016). Similarly unchanged body composition and anthropometric characteristics with winter swimming have been observed previously (Lubkowska et al., 2013).

Lubkowska and colleagues (2013) studied the oxidant/antioxidant status of 15 healthy men who had never been exposed to cold water immersion, before and after five months of winter swimming (2-5 min swimming 2-3 times per week). The authors reported favorable changes in a number of biomarkers in the antioxidant system and a milder response to cryogenic temperatures after five months of winter-swimming. The results suggest that healthy winter swimmers have an increase capacity and efficiency of the antioxidant system and an improved defensive response to increasing oxidative stress. However, winter swimmers also experienced significant decreases in the number of red blood cells, hemoglobin and hematocrit, and increase in SBP. However, as with the favourable changes observed in this study, the clinical importance of these more unfavourable results need to be confirmed in future RCTs. Furthermore, a previous study observed no significant changes in SBP or DBP before and after the winter swimming season compared to a control group of non-swimmers (Hirvonen et al., 2002).

The findings above must be interpreted with caution due to the high risk of selection bias (none of the controlled trials did not randomise group allocation), performance and detection bias (no blinding of participants, research personnel, and outcome assessors), and attrition bias (non-completers were not included in the analyses) across studies. Furthermore, swimming protocols are often poorly reported and training is not well monitored, as such it is difficult to ascertain in the eligible studies how much swimming was performed by the participants. This makes it difficult to separate the physiological adaptations resulting from swimming to those due merely to immersion in cold water. Therefore, there is a need for well-designed RCTs with adequate sample sizes that investigate the physiological adaptations to cold water swim training in both regular cold water swimmers and participants unaccustomed to cold water swimming. Studies are also required to compare adaptations to cold water swimming versus cold-water immersion.

Summary of findings

Acute physiological effects of pool swimming

There is a paucity of recent studies investigating the acute effects of swimming on different physiological responses and systems. Up until the year 2000, there was an extensive interest to identify the cardiorespiratory and metabolic responses of swimming, however, between 2000 and 2017, there were only four eligible studies published. Based on the available evidence we can conclude the following:

Healthy children and adolescents (3 eligible studies)

- At least acutely, swimming in chlorinated pools does not appear to adversely affect Eustachian tube function or middle ear pressure in healthy children. Whether this is the case in the long-term or for children with pre-existing ear problems is currently unknown.
- Swimming may result in a reduction in free radical scavenging activity (biomarker indicative of anti-oxidative capacity), possibly due to the acute production of free radicals and other reactive species during swimming.
- Surprisingly, none of the eligible studies investigated the acute effects of swimming on important physiological systems, such as the cardiorespiratory and metabolic systems.

Healthy adults (9 eligible studies)

- During swimming, cardiorespiratory (VO_2, VE, HR, BP), metabolic (blood lactate) and hormonal (epinephrine, norepinephrine) responses correspond to increases in intensity; however, these appear to be lower compared to other modes of exercise, such as running and cycling.
- Swimming VO_2max can be ~20% lower compared to running VO_2max, and ~10% lower compared to cycling VO_2max. Similarly, swimming maximal cardiac output can be ~25% lower compared to running. However, the HRmax appears similar between swimming, running, and cycling.
- Upon cessation of swimming, HR and blood lactate may remain increased up to two hours post-swimming but SBP and DBP start to reduce one minute and five minutes post-swimming, respectively. Cardiac output responses post-swimming appear to be similar with cycling, but stroke volume appears to be lower post-swimming compared to post-cycling.

Pregnancy (3 eligible studies)

- During pregnancy, VO_2peak may decrease from the second to the third trimester. However, whether VO_2peak is different during pregnancy and up to 12 weeks postpartum is unclear. HR seems to elevate more while swimming during pregnancy versus postpartum while in contrast, metabolic responses seem to be lower during pregnancy compared to postpartum. During pregnancy and postpartum, VO_2peak may be ~10% lower for swimming compared to cycling.
- Fetal HR also rises significantly while swimming when pregnant without any pathological decelerations. Although, cases of transient fetal bradycardia can be observed during maximal swimming (~4%), these are lower compared to those seen in maximal cycling (~9%). These results collectively suggest that swimming during pregnancy is safe.

Individuals with cardiovascular disease (7 eligible studies)

- Similarly with the healthy population, cardiorespiratory responses during swimming in this population correspond to increases in intensity. However, these vary considerably according to the swimming level of the patient. Swimming appears to stress the cardiorespiratory system more compared to walking and volleyball playing, but similar to cycling for competent swimmers.
- When recommending a swimming programme for patients with cardiovascular disease, exercise physiologists should consider the following:
    1. During swimming, patients with cardiovascular disease may be less able to recognise symptoms of exercise-induced ischemia, such as angina, compared to during exercise modes like cycling.
    2. Even in those with stable chronic heart failure, performance during cycle ergometer exercise at workload of 70 or 110W (i.e., 4-6 METs) may be a good indicator of the safety of swimming in thermoneutral water.
    3. Energy expenditure, measured via VO_2peak, varies considerably according to swimming ability. For unskilled swimmers even swimming at an individual-selected comfortable speed, intensities could be close to maximal values.
    4. An inadequate chronotropic response to exercise (determined during cycle ergometry) may indicate an impaired tolerance swimming, due to a reliance on HR to maintain cardiac output in patients with reduced ejection fraction.

Limitations of evidence and recommendations for future study

- Generalisation of the findings in this review is difficult because the majority of the 22 eligible studies investigating the acute physiological responses to swimming have studied the effects of breaststroke swimming in small samples of predominantly male untrained participants. These studies tended to adopt crossover designs comparing swimming responses to mostly cycling (surprisingly, only data on 12 individuals are available comparing swimming to running).
- All but one acute study was at a high risk of selection bias due to either a lack of randomisation of group allocation or exercise condition order (the other study was at an unclear risk). None of the studies attempted

to blind outcome assessors to the purpose of the experiments and as a result were at a high risk of detection bias (all studies were at a high risk of performance bias because it is impossible to blind participants to exercise mode). Lower risk of detection bias could be achieved through the use of independent outcome assessors in each exercise condition studied.

- There is a need for better designed crossover studies of the acute physiological responses to different swim strokes (front crawl in particular) compared to other popular exercise modes (e.g., running, walking, and cycling) in children and adolescents, pregnant women, and chronic diseases populations, such as individuals with type 1 or 2 diabetes, obesity, cancer, and arthritis.

Chronic physiological adaptations to pool swimming

Compared to acute physiological responses, there is a more recent studies investigating chronic physiological adaptations to swim training (22/31 studies since 2000), with a focus on investigating individuals with co-morbidities (19 studies) rather than healthy participants. Our conclusions based on the available evidence follows.

Healthy children and adolescents (3 eligible studies)

- Swimming training improves significantly cardiorespiratory fitness as well as anti-oxidative defences compared to controls.
- It seems that healthy children that start swimming training have significantly lower gains body mass and body fat compared to controls. However, swim training does not improve posture scoliosis or scapula and shoulder asymmetry.

Healthy university students and adults (7 eligible studies)

- Significant improvements are seen in cardiorespiratory fitness, strength and lung function when the intervention is, at least, 12 weeks. Cardiorespiratory adaptations are similar to other modes of exercise, such as cycling and running, while, the swimming cardiorespiratory adaptations observed may be specific to swimming (i.e. post-intervention improvements in swimming VO_2peak, VOEmax and HRmax but no relevant increases in these variables during cycling).
- However, one relatively large 6-month RCT with a low risk of selection, attrition, and other bias, found increased SBP in sedentary older women post-swim training relative to a walking intervention (Cox et al., 2006). Although, this study also found significant increases in TC and LDL-C in the walking group at 12 months follow-up. The authors (2006) suggested that these positive impacts on lipids with swimming may counteract the increase in SBP.
- RCTs of 3-6 months duration suggest that swimming can have a modest impact on body mass, similar to running and cycling. While in the short-term at least, swimming may lower waist circumference and hip circumference in sedentary older women compared to a walking intervention.

Pregnancy (1 eligible study)

- Cardiorespiratory fitness and resting HR significantly improve from the 16th until the 28th week of gestation (i.e. 12-week intervention) in response to swim training but blood pressure responses remain unaltered while similar body mass gains are observed between swimmers and controls. Women that continue swimming after the 28th week until the 36th week of gestation appear to maintain rather than improve their cardiorespiratory fitness.

Individuals with asthma or cystic fibrosis (11 eligible studies)

- Cardiorespiratory fitness (VO_2peak and ventilatory threshold) significantly improves in children with asthma in response to swim training, however, the effects on lung function parameters are controversial, with perhaps small improvements in FEV1% predicted. Asthma severity and symptoms also may improve post-swimming interventions when the duration of the intervention is above six weeks of swimming. Lung function also can improve in adults with asthma after six months of swim training.

- Significant improvements in VO_2peak and minute ventilation, but not lung function, have been observed in children with cystic fibrosis after swimming for 12 weeks. Importantly, the clinical disease state of the patients participating in swim training may improve, compared to participants in a non-swimming control group.
- Individuals with hypertension (5 eligible studies)
- In response to swim training, cardiorespiratory fitness does not seem to increase significantly after 12 weeks but fitness in different field tests increases significantly after both moderate and high-intensity swim training. Beneficial adaptations also occur in cardiac and vascular function (apart from forearm vascular resistance) as well as biomarkers linked with vascular dysfunction.
- The majority of the studies suggest that swim training can reduce SBP in individuals with prehypertension and mild to moderate hypertension, whereas, DBP appears to remain unchanged.
- Insulin sensitivity and expression of adhesion molecules improves significantly but no significant differences have been detected in various other metabolic biomarkers, such as cytokines, haemoglobin, lipids and catecholamines.
- The majority of the available studies suggest that swimming either does not change or minimally alters body composition parameters and bone mineral content and density in adults with hypertension.
- Individuals with osteoarthritis (1 eligible study)
- Fitness (assessed via a field test) and functional parameters of the vasculature improve with swim training in a similar manner to cycling training, however, SBP and vascular structure remains unchanged after 12 weeks of both swimming and cycling. Body composition and strength also improves significantly with swim training, in a similar manner to cycling.

Other populations (2 eligible studies)

- Swimming for 12 weeks does not improve respiratory aspects of speech productions in individuals with Down Syndrome, and four weeks of swimming does not exacerbate ear discharge in children with eardrum perforation.

Limitations of evidence and recommendations for future study

- Most of the 31 eligible studies that examined the chronic physiological adaptations of swim training adopted RCT, quasi-RCT, or CT designs to compare swim training to mostly cycling or walking or running. In contrast to the acute studies, the majority of studies employed interventions comprised of front crawl or a mixture of swim strokes.
- No study included mortality or disease outcome as an endpoint, instead, the trials mostly focused on cardiorespiratory, lung function, haematological and body composition effects of swim training.
- Due to the relatively small swim training group sizes (median n = 15), it is difficult to generalise our findings to each population. In addition, most of the studies were at a high or unclear risk of selection bias (~80% of studies due to inadequate randomisation or poor reporting of method of randomisation), a high risk of performance (100% of studies) and detection bias (~80% due to inadequate blinding of participants and research personnel and outcome assessors), and a high or unclear risk of reporting bias (~95% due to insufficient information available to make a judgement). However, most trials were at low risk of attrition bias (~80% due to minimal or no loss-to-follow-up) and appeared to be free of other sources of bias (~90%).
- No study investigating the chronic physiological adaptations to swim training in children and adolescents, pregnant women, and individuals with hypertension or cystic fibrosis were RCTs, and therefore, represent low quality evidence.
- In addition, we could find no experimental data for the effects of swim training in other chronic disease groups such as individuals with type 1 or 2 diabetes and other metabolic conditions, cancer, and rheumatoid arthritis.
- Therefore, future well-designed RCTs with appropriate randomisation, allocation concealment, blinding of assessors, and handling of missing data, are required to establish the efficacy and effectiveness of different swim strokes on physiological outcomes in various populations including children and adolescents, sedentary adults, older adults, and individuals with non-communicable diseases.

The acute and chronic effects of cold water swimming

- Due to the dearth of studies (acute responses, 5 studies; chronic adaptations, 5 studies) that investigate the effects of cold water (or winter) swimming, it is difficult to form robust conclusions.
- Evidence from five eligible studies (2 pre-post single group studies, 2 CT, and 1 CT with crossover) suggests that, acute bouts of swimming in cold water can increase VO_2 and heart rate, as well as increase inspiratory volume and respiratory frequency with decreasing water temperatures, resulting in hyperventilation. Although no significant heart disturbances were reported while swimming in cold water, there is a risk of swimming failure (i.e. reduced swimming efficiency), probably because of a significant drop in core temperature.
- Evidence for the acute responses to cold water swimming comes from several relatively small sample studies comprising mostly of regular winter swimmers (3 out of 5 studies). All studies were at a high risk of selection bias (no randomization of group allocation or condition order), and performance and detection bias (no blinding of participants, research personnel, and outcome assessors). One of the studies was at a risk of attrition bias because not all participants completed all conditions.
- Five eligible studies (3 CTs and 2 single group studies) reported on the chronic adaptations to cold water swimming, with the majority consisting on regular winter swimmers (4 out of 5 studies).
- Marked increases in insulin sensitivity and basal prolactin concentrations have been observed in individuals unaccustomed to winter swimming. The chronic effects of swimming in cold water on haematological markers and blood pressure are unclear, and require further study. None or modest changes in anthropometric characteristics and body composition have been reported with winter swimming.
- Winter swimming may improve the capacity and efficiency of the antioxidant system and improve the body's defensive response to greater oxidative stress. Furthermore, cold water swimming may induce cold adaptation that may attenuate the catecholamine responses to cold water immersion.
- Chronic adaptation to cold water swimming studies were at a high risk of selection bias (both non-randomised controlled trials), performance and detection bias (lack of blinding of participants, research personnel, and outcome assessors), and attrition bias (non-completers were not included in the analyses), but appeared free of other sources of bias.
- Both acute studies with randomised crossover and chronic studies with random allocation of participants are required to establish the physiological effects of cold water swimming in populations other than those accustomed to winter swimming.

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Table 1.
Acute physiological effects of pool swimming

HEALTHY CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS			
First Author	Methodology	Outcome Measures (Technique)	Findings
Atsumi 2008	**Population:** 17 healthy boys and girls **Study Design:** CT **Intervention:** Measurements took place before and after different activities: a) ingestion of beverage, b) swimming for 50 min (stroke not provided) (mean age: 11.9 years), c) dancing (mean age: 5.8 years), d) comfortable/ uncomfortable stimulation, e) smoking	• Free radical scavenging activity (antioxidant capacity assay method)	**Pre vs. post-swimming:** 1) Free radical scavenging activity decreased after swimming
Grace 1987	**Population:** 52 normal school children **Study Design:** CT **Intervention:** Participants were assessed pre and post-swimming on an average of four occasions. 29 children swam in high chlorine concentration and 23 in a low chlorine environment (swim stroke not provided)	• Middle ear pressure (tympanometry)	**Pre. vs. post-swimming between groups:** 1) No adverse effects on middle ear function
Morgan and Shenoi 1989	**Population:** 28 children between the ages of 4-8 (females, n=14) **Study Design:** RCT **Intervention:** One group was measured 30min post-swimming and the other group after 14 hours post-swimming (stroke not provided)	• Middle ear pressure (tympanometry)	**Pre vs. post-swimming between groups:** 1) No changes in tympanometry pre and post-swimming

HEALTHY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND ADULTS			
First Author	Methodology	Outcome Measures (Technique)	Findings
Boning 1988	**Population:** 10 untrained young adult males (24.4±1.5 years) **Study Design:** Single group **Intervention:** Participants were assessed: a) immersed in water for 1.5hrs, b) 1h swimming breaststroke at an intensity of 155b.min, c) for 2hrs post-exercise	• Whole blood: blood lactate and glucose (enzymatic method), osmolarity (osmometer), hemoglobin, haematocrit (microcentrifugion) • Plasma: chlorides (electrometric titration), sodium, potassium (both with ion sensitive electrodes), creatinine (color reaction with picric acid), anti-diuretic hormone (radio-immunoassay), aldosterone (RIA kit) • Urine: volume, density (aerometer), urea concentration (enzymatic method), osmolarity, sodium, potassium, chlorides and creatine (all as above) • Renal Function: parameters for renal function that were calculated from the above: GFR, creatinine clearance, osmolar clearance, free water clearance, fractional sodium excretion	**Pre vs. post-swimming:** 1) Whole blood: Significant ↑ in blood lactate, osmolarity, haematocrit, hemoglobin, sodium, creatinine and significant ↓ in glucose 2) Plasma: Significant ↑ in sodium and creatine but none of the other parameters 3) Urine: Significant ↓ in density, osmolarity, sodium and chlorides 4) Renal Function: no significant changes in any parameter
Dixon and Faulkner 1975	**Population:** 6 recreational swimmers (mean age: 25.8±3.9 years), and 6 trained swimmers (19.2±1.2 years) (only recreational swimmers included here) **Study Design:** CT with crossover **Intervention:** Tethered-swimming test (3-min swims with a 3-5-min rest period between each swim load). The work load started at 2.27 kg, and increased 1.14-kg increments until the swimmer could no longer support the weight during the 3-min swim. The treadmill-running test (5-min runs at 7 mph with a 10-min rest between each run). The test began at 0% grade, and increased until maximum voluntary physical work capacity was attained.	• Gas exchange variables (Douglas bags) • VE and respiratory rate (dry gas meter) • Cardiac output (CO_2 rebreathing method)	**Swimming vs. running:** 1) Swimming VO_2max was significantly ↓ compared to running VO_2max (25% lower; 2.66±0.52 vs. 3.58±1.03 L·min) 2) Swimming VEmax was significantly ↓ compared to running VEmax (15% lower; 93.8±18.5 vs. 110.8±23.8 L·min) 3) Swimming breathing frequency was not significantly ↓ compared to running breathing frequency (11% lower; 39±13.3 vs. 44±11.1 breaths/min) 4) Swimming CO max was significantly ↓ compared to running CO max (25% lower; 16.9±3.5 vs. 22.6±5.4 L·min) 5) Swimming change in arterial-venous oxygen difference was not significantly ↑ compared to running VO_2max (3% lower; 160±0.7 vs. 156±14.3 ml·L)

Galbo 1979	**Population:** 6 healthy males **Study Design:** Single group with crossover **Intervention:** Breaststroke swimming at 21°C, 27°C and 33°C for 1h at an intensity of 65% of VO_2peak.	• VO_2 (Douglas bags) • HR (ECG) • Blood lactate (enzymatic methods) • Catecholamines (double-isotope derivative assay) • Free-fatty acids, glucagon, insulin, growth hormone, cortisol (radioimmunoassays) • Rectal and core temperature (thermistor) and temperature of deltoid and vastus lateralis (needle thermocouples)	**Rest vs. 21°C vs. 27°C vs. 33°C** 1) Significantly ↓ VO_2 at 33°C 2) Significantly ↑ noradrenaline at 21°C and 33°C vs. 27°C 3) Significantly ↑ HR at all temperature during swimming vs. rest and was significantly ↑ at 33°C vs. 21°C and 27°C 4) Significantly ↓ oxygen pulse at 33°C vs. 21°C and 27°C 5) Significantly ↑ blood lactate at the 15th min of swimming at 21°C and 27°C vs. 33°C 6) Throughout swimming at 21°C and 33°C, blood lactate was significantly ↑ vs. rest 7) Significantly ↑ adrenaline at 21°C and 33°C vs. 27°C 8) 15 min post swimming at 21°C, catecholamines remained significantly elevated; at 27°C and 33°C they declined but were still higher vs. rest 9) More rapid ↑ cortisol at 33°C vs. 27°C within 30min of swimming 10) Significantly ↑ growth hormone at 27°C and 33°C but no changes in both growth hormone and cortisol at 21°C either during or post-swimming 11) Significantly ↓ glucagon at 27°C and 33°C (after both 15 and 30min of swimming) below resting values; no changes at 21°C 12) Significantly ↓ glucose only after swimming at 27°C 13) Significantly ↓ insulin during swimming vs. rest 14) Significantly ↑ insulin at all temperature but at after swimming 21°C only, remained significantly ↓ vs. rest 15) Significantly ↓ free-fatty acids and glycerol at the start of swimming at all temperatures but then significantly ↑ during swimming and remained significantly ↑ vs. rest 16) Rectal and muscle temperatures significantly ↑ at 27°C and 33°C; at 21°C rectal and deltoid only temperatures ↓

Holmer 1972	**Population:** 4 participants who were not swim trained (mean age: 28 years, range: 19-47 years, 2 male and 2 female). (Data from 2 elite and 3 swim trained and 12 elite school girls were not included here) **Study Design:** CT with crossover **Intervention:** Maximal work rates were compared during running (treadmill with 3° incline), cycling (ergometer at 50rpm), and swimming (in swimming flume, 2 participant used breaststroke, and 2 used backstroke), respectively.	• VO_2 (via Douglas bags) • HR (ECG), • Blood lactate concentrations (fingertip blood sample analysed via modified Barker-Summerson method)	**Swimming vs. running vs. cycling:** 1) Mean swimming VO_2max was 19.4% ↓ than running VO_2max and 10.3% lower than cycling VO_2max (3.03 vs. 3.76 vs. 3.03 L·min) 2) Mean VEmax was ↓ during swimming (108.4 L·min) compared to running (129.2 L·min) and cycling (114.1 L·min) 3) Mean HRmax was ↓ during swimming (18 bpm) compared to running (190 bpm) and cycling (181 bpm) 4) Maximal blood lactate response during swimming was ↑ in two participants, ↓ in one participant, and the same in one participant compared to running. 5) Maximal blood lactate response during swimming was ↑ in three participants and was ↓ in one participant, compared to cycling.
Holmer and Bergh 1974	**Population:** 2 untrained (aged 27 years) and 5 well trained swimmers (only untrained swimmers data included here) **Study Design:** CT with crossover **Intervention:** Maximal swimming test started at 0.5-0.8 m/s; water velocity was increased by 0.1 m/s every other min until the swimmer was completely exhausted (within 5-8 min). Running was performed on a treadmill, inclined 3° (5.25 %). The maximal running test was performed at a constant velocity (12-13 km/h) while the treadmill was further inclined 1.5° (2.6 %) after both 3 min and 6 min.	• VO_2max (via Douglas bags) • HR (ECG), • Blood lactate concentrations (fingertip blood sample analysed via modified Barker-Summerson method) • Oesophageal and muscle temperature (at the level of the heart via a thermocouple connected to a Honeywell recorder (Electronik 19)	**Note:** Only the untrained VO2max data was provided separate from trained, thus, only these data are included here). **Swimming vs. running:** 1) Swimming VO_2max was on average 20% ↓ than the running VO_2max
Lakin 2013	**Population:** 21 untrained (n=11) and triathletes (n = 10) (females, n=10) **Study Design:** CT with crossover **Intervention:** 30 min swimming (stroke not provided) or cycling at 60-70% of HRmax; assessments occurred at baseline, post exercise and in recovery post-exercise every 20 min intervals till the 95 min of recovery	• BP (photoplethysmography) • CO, SV and TPR (pulse contour analysis software) • Cardiac autonomic function (HRV) • Respiratory frequency (respiration module) • Skin and core temperature (hard-wired thermistors and tympanic ear temperature)	**Swimming vs. cycling responses in untrained participants:** 1) Similar HR responses in the two exercise modes 2) Significantly ↓ body mass only after swimming 3) Significantly ↑ 1min post-exercise SBP in cycling vs. swimming and significantly ↑ DBP at 1, 3 and 5min post-cycling exercise vs. swimming 4) Significantly ↓ SBP during both cycling (up to 50min) and swimming (up to 75min) recovery 5) Significantly ↓ DBP only during swimming recovery (up to 75min) 6) No significant differences in CO and TPR during recovery in any mode 7) Significant ↓ SV during all time points of recovery vs. cycling

			8) No significant differences detected between swimming vs. cycling in HRV 9) Significant ↓ in core temperature at 2, 4 and 6min immediately after swimming and throughout recovery vs. cycling
Ueda 1995	**Population:** 17 healthy physical education University students (females, n=10) **Study Design:** Single Group **Intervention:** Participants were assessed: a) at rest, b) after immersion and c) during breaststroke tethered swimming in a constant position at different speed/drags until exhaustion	• VO_2 (Douglas bags) • HR (ECG) • Blood lactate	**Responses during different speed/drags:** 1) Progressive ↑ VO_2, HR and blood lactate corresponding to the progressive increases in intensity for both male and females (significance not reported)
Viti 1989	**Population:** 8 young healthy untrained (females n=3) (mean age: 22.3±2.9 years) **Study Design:** Single group **Intervention:** Participants measured after: a) 20 min in a supine posture, b) 20 min of horizontal immersion and c) 20 min of backstroke swimming	• HR • Haematocrit (centrifugion) • Blood lactate and glucose (enzymatic methods) • Plasma proteins (biuret method) • Renin, aldosterone, arginine vasopressin, atrial natriuretic peptide (all with radioimmunoassays)	**Pre vs. post-swimming:** 1) Significant ↑ in HR, haematocrit and blood lactate post-swimming 2) Significant ↑ in atrial natriuretic peptide, plasma renin, aldosterone post-swimming 3) No significant changes in arginine vasopressin post-swimming
Weiss 1988	**Population:** 12 male University students (aged 22-25 years) adapted to swimming but not trained, trained at intensities around their anaerobic threshold for 2-3 weeks prior to tests **Study Design:** Single group with crossover **Intervention:** Participants swam whole breaststroke for 10min, and then after a pause of 4-5min they swam 150m at maximal speed. One and two weeks later the tests were repeated using only arms or only legs for 10 min at submaximal and 100m at maximal intensity. Recovery was assessed as 20 min post-exercise	• HR (counted manually) • BP (sphygmomanometer) • Blood lactate, and glucose (enzymatic methods), • Catecholamine (HPLCA) • Plasma renin activity, aldosterone, cortisol (all with RIA kits) • Electrolytes in plasma and urine (flame photometry) • Hematocrit (microcentrifuge technique) and total plasma protein (biuret method)	**Submaximal vs. maximal swimming:** 1) Progressive (significance not reported) ↑ in SBP (but not DBP) from rest to submaximal and maximal efforts 2) Significant progressive ↑ HR from rest to submaximal and maximal efforts and more pronounced increases in whole breast-stroke; HR did not reach pre-testing levels at 20 min recovery 3) 10 min swimming at submaximal intensity increased blood lactate near the anaerobic threshold only after leg swimming (significance not reported); at maximal intensity, higher blood lactate when swimming whole breast-stroke (significance not reported) 4) Significant progressive ↑ in norepinephrine from rest to submaximal and maximal efforts and more pronounced increases in whole breast-stroke; norepinephrine did not reach pre-testing levels at 20 min recovery 5) Progressive (significance not reported) ↑ in epinephrine at submaximal and maximal efforts; significantly ↓ epinephrine at submaximal arm swimming vs. whole stroke; returned to baseline levels post-swimming

			6) No changes in aldosterone an renin 7) Progressive (significance not reported) ↑ in ACTH; ↑ ACTH in submaximal and maximal whole body swimming 8) Progressive (significance not reported) ↑ in hematocrit and was higher after whole-body swimming 9) Cortisol significantly ↑ only with whole body maximal swimming 10) Significant ↑ in total protein under all conditions 11) Significant ↑ in sodium under all conditions except leg work 12) Significant ↓ in potassium swimming whole stroke

PREGNANCY

First Author	Methodology	Outcome Measures (Technique)	Findings
McMurray 1991 Also: Watson 1991	**Population:** 13 untrained healthy pregnant women **Study Design:** Single group with crossover **Intervention:** Women were assessed at 24-26 weeks and 33-36 weeks of their pregnancy as well as at 9-11 weeks postpartum for their maximal oxygen uptake during cycling and breaststroke tethered-swimming	• VO_2, VE, RER (gas analysis) • HR (electrocardiography) and fetal HR • BP and umbilical and uterine artery systolic diastolic ratios • Hemoglobin, haematocrit (centrifugion) • Total plasma protein (hand-held refractometer)	**Swimming vs. cycling at 25 and 35 weeks of gestation and postpartum:** 1) Significantly ↑ VO_2peak and VE with cycling vs. swimming at 25 and 35 weeks but similar VO_2peak at postpartum 2) Significantly ↓ VO_2peak with progression of pregnancy only in swimming 3) Significantly ↑ RER with cycling vs. swimming at 25 and 35 weeks gestation weeks and postpartum 4) Similar maternal HRmax and blood lactate responses between swimming and cycling at 25 and 35 weeks gestation weeks and postpartum 5) No significant differences in exercise-related fetal HR responses with cycling and swimming 6) Significant ↑ in haematocrit, haemoglobin and plasma protein with both swimming and cycling; all these were significantly ↓ during pregnancy vs. postpartum 7) After correction for fetal HR, no significant differences were detected in umbilical artery systolic/diastolic ratio after exercises, and no differences between cycling vs. swimming 8) Uterine artery systolic/diastolic ratio significantly ↓ post-exercise and was significantly ↓ post swimming vs. cycling

Spinnewijn 1996	**Population:** 11 sedentary or recreationally active pregnant women **Study Design:** Single group with crossover **Intervention:** Participants underwent different breaststroke tethered-swimming and cycling tests: a) for familiarization, b) at 30-34 weeks of the pregnancy and c) 8-12 weeks postpartum	• VO_2, VCO_2, VE, RER (all with gas analysis) • HR (Polar) • Blood lactate (oxidation method)	**Swimming vs. cycling during pregnancy (30-34 weeks gestation) vs. postpartum:** 1) VO_2peak during either swimming or cycling did not differ significantly between pregnancy vs. post-partum 2) Significantly ↓ VO_2peak and VE in swimming vs. cycling both during pregnancy and postpartum 3) VO_2 plateau was reached in 73% of the maximal tests 4) VCO_2 was significantly ↓ during pregnancy vs. postpartum for swimming (but not cycling) 5) No significant differences in HR between swimming and cycling either during pregnancy or postpartum 6) Significantly ↓ blood lactate during pregnancy vs. postpartum with swimming and cycling
Sasaki 1993	**Population:** 17 women with normal pregnancy at 35-38 weeks of gestation **Study Design:** Single Group **Intervention:** Fetal HR was measure before, during and after swimming (average time swimming for all participants: 33-41 min but swim stroke not provided)	• Fetal HR (ultrasound modified for underwater measurements)	**Pre vs. during vs. post-swimming:** 1) Fetal HR significantly increased during swimming vs. rest 2) No pathological deceleration in fetal HR was seen

INDIVIDUALS WITH CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

First Author	Methodology	Outcome Measures (Technique)	Findings
Bucking and Krey 1986	**Population:** 4 currently symptom-free males who have sustained a transmural infract 6-10 weeks previously. **Study Design:** Single group with cross-over **Intervention:** Participants assessed: a) after been immersed, b) 5 min swimming at 25m/min (stroke not provided), c) 5 min cycling at 100 W	• Pulmonary arterial and capillary pressures • Oxygen saturation	**Swimming vs. cycling:** 1) Significantly ↑ pulmonary capillary pressure and oxygen saturation in swimming vs. cycling 2) No cardiac arrhythmias reported in water

Fletcher 1979	**Population:** 22 untrained individuals post uncomplicated MI, at least 12-weeks post MI **Study Design:** Single group with crossover **Intervention:** On separate days participants: a) walked/jogged (5-7 mph for 5min, b) played volleyball (20min game) and c) swam (100 feet freestyle (mean time of 85 seconds in a pool heated to 30±10°C)	• VO_2 (Douglas bags for swimming and gas analysis for other activities, but the two methods were tested for variation and there were no differences) • Peak oxygen pulse • HR • Rate pressure product	**Swimming vs. walk/jog vs. volleyball in untrained:** 1) Higher VO_2 in swimming vs. both walk/jog and volleyball (significance not reported) 2) Higher peak oxygen pulse, HR and rate pressure product in swimming vs. both walk/jog and volleyball (significance not reported)
Heigenhausen 1977	**Population:** 6 males with previous MI (16 to 27 months) and 6 healthy inactive controls **Study Design:** CT with crossover **Intervention:** All participants performed both a cycling and a tethered swimming incremental test to exhaustion. Increments in intensity occurred every 3 minutes with 5 min rests after every increment (4 participants swam front crawl, 1 breaststroke and 1 sidestroke)	• Inspired gas (dry gas meter) and expired gas (Douglas bags) • CO (estimated via CO2 rebreathing) • HR (ECG) • Stroke volume (equation based on the data above) • Oxygen partial pressure (paramagnetic analyser)	**Swimming vs. cycling:** 1) Linear ↑ in VO_2, HR and CO in all participants with intensity during both swimming and cycling 2) No significant differences between cycling vs. swimming in any of the variables for controls 3) Significantly ↓ CO and significantly ↑ HR at any given VO_2 for patients (but not controls) during swimming vs. cycling 4) Significantly ↓ CO, SV, VO_2 and significantly ↑ ventilation equivalents in patients during swimming vs. cycling
Lehmann and Samek 1990	**Population:** 13 CAD patients with mild left ventricular cardiac damage (Group 1), 12 CAD patients with marked left-heart damage (Group 2) and 8 healthy controls **Study Design:** CT with crossover **Intervention:** Group 1 and controls swam breaststroke for 3 times x 3 min. Groups 2 and controls swam breaststroke for 3 times x 2 min	• Echocardiography (ECG) • BP (sphygmomanometer) • Blood lactate and glucose (enzymatic method) • Adrenaline and noradrenaline (radioenzymatic method)	**Group 1 vs. group 2 vs. controls:** 1) Group 1: No arrhythmias occurred during swimming and Group 2: arrhythmias occurred in 3 patients 2) Significantly ↑ BP and blood lactate in controls vs. both Groups 1 and 2 at 3min and 6min (but not at 9min of post-swimming) 3) No significant differences between groups in HR during or after swimming 4) Significantly ↑ blood lactate and noradrenaline in Group 1 and controls vs. Group 2 5) No significant differences between groups in glucose and adrenaline during or after swimming 6) Significantly ↓ noradrenaline in Group 2 vs. both Group 1 and controls only at 6th min of swimming
Madger 1981	**Population:** 8 males with a previous MI, and ST segment depression or angina at stress test. **Study Design:** Single group with crossover **Swim intervention:** All participants performed 2 cycling and 2 breaststroke swimming tests (swimming comfortably) at 25.5°C and 18°C.	• VO_2 (continuous gas analyses in cycling and Douglas bags in swimming), • VE (argon dilution method) • ECG (12 lead in cycling and telemetrically transmitted from one chest lead during swimming), HR (cardiotachometer)	**Swimming 25.5°C vs. 18°C:** 1) Similar VO_2 and HR responses while swimming in 25.5°C and 18°C 2) 81% and 83% of VO_2peak was required while swimming in 25.5°C and 18°C, respectively

			3) 5 participants did not report differences in RPE while swimming in 25.5°C and 18°C and three participants found it easier to swim in 18°C 4) 6 individuals had ST segment depression in both 25.5°C and 18°C, 2 had angina in 25.5°C, 1 in 18°C **Swimming vs. sitting and supine cycling:** 1) No significant differences in VO_2peak between swimming vs. sitting cycling 2) No significant differences in HRmax, VE and oxygen pulse between swimming vs. cycling tests 3) Significantly ↑ VO_2peak while swimming at 25.5°C vs. supine cycling 4) 4 participants had angina and ST segment depression during sitting cycling 5) 5 participants had angina and 6 ST segment depression in supine cycling; the same 6 participants had ST segment depression during both swims. 6) Only 2 participants had angina in warm water and 1 in cold water 7) ST segment depression occurred at the same HR during swimming and cycling
Meyer and Bucking 2004	**Population:** 98 individuals: 16 post moderate MI, 4 post severe MI, 18 with moderate heart failure, 5 with severe heart failure, 55 healthy individuals **Study Design:** CT with crossover **Intervention:** Participants assessed: a) at rest, b) after been immersed in water 32°C, c) 5min slow breaststroke swimming at a speed of 20–25 $m \cdot min^{-1}$, d) during supine cycling	• HR (ECG) • Mean pulmonary artery pressure • Mean pulmonary capillary pressure (both with oxymeter)	**Swimming vs. cycling:** 1) Similar HR responses during swimming and cycling ↑ mean pulmonary artery pressure during swimming vs. cycling 2) During swimming, there was a smaller decrease in mixed venous oxygen saturation vs. cycling ↑ in mean pulmonary capillary pressure but this increase was smaller compared to cycling 3) For both swimming and cycling, the mean pulmonary capillary pressure reached pathologic values, which were slightly higher for swimming
Schmid 2007	**Population:** 30 males: 10 with stable CHF, 10 with CAD and 10 healthy controls **Study Design:** CT with crossover **Intervention:** Participants assessed at: a) rest before getting into the pool, b) after immersion and c) after a "jumping-jack" exercise for 30sec and a 60sec swim (stroke not provided) along the edges of the pool	• VO_2 (gas analysis) • HR and BP • SV, cardiac index and systemic vascular resistance (infrared photoacoustic gas analyzer) • Oxygen saturation of haemoglobin	**Controls vs. CAD vs. CHF during swimming:** 1) Significant ↑ only between healthy vs. CHF but none of the other groups; VO_2 ↑ to 9.7, 12.4 and 13.9 ml/kg/min in CHF, CAD and controls, respectively ↑ HR in all groups vs. rest (significance not reported)

			2) Significantly ↑ SBP and DBP in CAD vs. healthy, but none of the other groups; SBP up to 122, 143 and 130 mmHg in healthy, CAD and CHF, respectively 3) Significantly ↑ SV healthy vs. both CHF and CAD, and significantly ↓ SV in CHF vs. CAD; SV ↑ by 47%, 30% and 35% in healthy, CAD and CHF, respectively 4) Significantly ↑ cardiac index in healthy vs. both CAD and CHF; significantly ↑ cardiac index in CAD vs. CHF 5) Significantly ↓ vascular resistance in healthy vs. both CAD and CHF; vascular resistance ↓ further by 33% in CAD and CHF patients, and 43% in controls
Abbreviations. CT: controlled trial, VO_2: oxygen uptake, VE: minute ventilation, RER: respiratory exchange ratio, VCO_2: carbon dioxide production, HR: heart rate, HRmax: maximum heart rate, BP: blood pressure, SBP: systolic blood pressure, DBP: diastolic blood pressure, GFR: glomerular filtration rate, MI: myocardial infarction, CO: cardiac output, SV: stroke volume, TPR: total peripheral resistance, HRV: heart rate variability, RPE: rate of perceived exertion, ECG: electrocardiography, CHF: chronic heart failure, CAD: coronary heart disease.			

Table 2.

Chronic physiological adaptations to pool swimming

HEALTHY CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS			
First Author	Methodology	Outcome Measures (Technique)	Findings
Bielec 2013	**Population:** 230 6th grade junior high school students (females, n=106) **Study Design:** CT **Duration:** 2 year **Swim Intervention:** 116 adolescents attended swimming (front crawl, backstroke, and breaststroke) classes once a week, for 45min within obligatory physical education **Comparison group:** 114 controls	• Body mass, BMI • Posture, shoulder and scapula asymmetry (clinical examination)	**Swimming vs. control:** 1) Body mass was significantly lower after 1 year in swimming vs. controls, but there was no significant difference between groups at 2 years 2) No differences in BMI and posture in swimming vs. controls 3) No improvement in scoliosis or scapula and shoulder asymmetry in swimming vs. controls **Male vs. female in swimming group** 1) Gains in body mass lower in swimming males vs. females

Gonenc 2000	**Population:** 12 untrained children **Study Design:** Single group **Duration:** 4 weeks **Swim Intervention:** basic swimming training 2 per week, and swimming technique education (stroke not provided)	• Superoxide dismutase, glutathione peroxidase, plasma thiobarbituric acid reactive substances (Randox test combination)	**Pre vs. post-swim training:** 1) Significant pre-post ↑ Superoxide dismutase 2) Significant pre-post ↓ malondialdehyde (responsible for changes in plasma thiobarbituric acid reactive substances) 3) No significant pre-post change in glutathione peroxidase
Obert 1996	**Population:** 14 pre-pubertal girls **Study Design:** CT **Duration:** 1 year **Swim Intervention:** 5 girls participated from a local youth swimming club and were followed for 1 year of swimming (breaststroke, training progressed from 10h/week training during the first 3 months, to 12h/week) **Comparison group:** 9 from a primary school acted as controls. They participated in other sports 1 to 4 h/week	• VO_2peak, RER, VE (swim bench test), HR (ECG continuously monitored during fitness test) • Body mass, body fat % and lean body mass (via Skinfold thickness) • Maturation (Tanner test)	Swimming vs. non-swimming active control: 1) Significant pre-post ↑ in VO_2 peak (L·min) in both groups 2) Significant pre-post ↑ in VO_2 peak (ml·min^{-1}·kg-1·mb), HRmax, VEmax (L·min), and maximal O_2 pulse in swim group only 3) No change pre-post in RER in both groups 4) Significant pre-post ↑ body mass and ↑ in lean body mass in both groups 5) No change pre-post in body fat % in swim group but significant ↑ in control group

HEALTHY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND ADULTS

First Author	Methodology	Outcome Measures (Technique)	Findings
Celik 2013 Also: Ozdemir 2010	**Population:** 48 healthy with 44 completed the study, sedentary, male university students **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 12 weeks **Swim Intervention:** n=11, front crawl swimming (40min per day, 3 times/week, 30min swimming with 10min warm-up / cool-down, at 60-70% of HRres) **Comparison groups:** running (n=11), cycling (n=11) , control (n=11) groups	• VO_2peak (gas analysis) • Serum cartilage oligomeric matrix protein (ELISA) • BMI, body composition (DEXA) • Muscular strength (isokinetic dynamometry)	**Pre-post swimming vs. running vs. cycling vs. control:** 1) Significant ↑ in VO_2peak in all exercise groups compared to control 2) Significant pre-post change in serum cartilage oligomeric matrix protein (COMP) in the swimming group vs. control, but post-intervention 30 min of walking exercise significantly ↑ serum-COMP levels of the swimming group 3) Significant ↓ in BMI in all exercise groups compared to control 4) No significant change in body fat % between groups 5) Relative isokinetic strength of the dominant leg during extension significantly ↑ only in the swimming group compared to control

Cox 2006 Also: Cox 2008 Cox 2010	**Population:** 116 women aged 50-70 **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 6 month **Swim Intervention:** n=56, 60-70% of predicted HRmax, 45min, including 15min warm-up and stretching; initially interval then more continuous swimming (front, backstroke, breaststroke, sidestroke) **Comparison group:** walking (n=60) Participants further randomized to behavioral intervention or usual care. The program continued unsupervised for another 6 months	• Predicted VO_2max and performance (12 min swim and 1.6km walking tests) • BP (automatic device) and HR • Lipids (commercial kits), glucose (automated analyzer), insulin (immunoassay) • Sodium and calcium excretion (urine sample) • Body mass, BMI, upper arm girth (tape), triceps skinfold (caliper), body fat distribution (circumference in various body parts) • Food intake (diary) and Physical activity (questionnaire)	**Swimming vs. walking:** 1) Significant pre-post 6 m ↑ in predicted VO_2max and supine and standing HR were observed in both groups. No between group differences were observed at 6 m. Significant pre-post ↓ in walk time in walk test in both groups (-3.8% vs. -6.5%), but significant pre-post ↑ distance swam in swim test in swimming group but not the walking group (29.3% vs. -1.0%) 2) Significant pre-post 6 m and between groups ↑ in supine and standing SBP in the swimming group vs. the walking group (adjusted for initial BP, age, hypertension treatment status and change in weight). (Increase in supine SBP of 4.4 mmHg, 95% CI 1.2 to 7.5, in swim group relative to walking group). No significant within groups or between groups changes in DBP were observed at 6 m 3) No pre-post or between group difference in urinary sodium and calcium excretion, total cholesterol, HDL-C, LDL-C, and triglycerides at 6 m; however, at 12 m follow-up, total cholesterol and LDL-C increased significantly in the walking versus swimming group. 4) No significant within or between group differences were observed for fasting glucose, glucose area under curve (AUC), fasting insulin, and HOMA-IR at 6 m and 12 m, except for a significant increase in insulin AUC at 6 m but not 12 m in walking versus swimming. 5) Significant pre-post ↓ in body mass and BMI in swimming group but not in walking group; whereas, no between group differences were observed at 6 m, but at 12 m follow-up, the walking group had significantly higher body mass and BMI compared to swimming group 6) Waist circumference was significant lower in the swim group vs. walk group at 6 m but not at 12 m follow-up, whereas, hip circumference was significantly lower in the swim group vs. walk group at both 6 m and 12 m 7) Significant pre-post ↓ in arm muscle girth in swimming group but not in walking group, but no significant pre-post changes in triceps skinfold in with groups and no between groups differences were observed at 6 m and 12 m for arm muscle girth. 8) Calf girth was significantly lower in the swim group vs. walk group at 6 m and 12 m follow-up, but no other between group differences observed in any other anthropometric measure (forearm, chest, gluteal thigh, and mid-thigh girth)

Fernandez-Luna 2013	**Population:** 39 heathy adults (female, n=5) **Study Design:** CT **Duration:** 3 months **Swim Interventions:** a) chlorinated indoor pool (n=13); b) ozone indoor pool (n=13). Swimming training consisted of 2–3 non- consecutive sessions/week, 50min ("swimming styles technique") **Comparison group:** controls (n=13)	• Lung function (spirometry), • Lung epithelial damage (serum proteins CC16 and SP-D) • Health survey about frequency of health complaints during training (questionnaire)	**Swimming in chlorinated pool vs. swimming in ozone pool vs. control:** 1) Significant pre-post ↑ in FVC and FEV1 in Ozone pool group, but only a significant pre-post ↑ in only FEV1 in chlorinated pool group. 2) Significant pre-post ↓ in FEF 25-75 in chlorinated pool only 3) No changes in pre-post forced expiratory volumes in the control group 4) Significant pre-post ↑ in Serum CC16 in chlorinated pool only but no significant pre-post change in SPP-D occurred in any of the groups 5) Perceived health problems were similar between swimming groups, but elf-reported eye irritation was significantly ↑ in chlorinated pool compared to ozone pool.
Lavin 2015	**Population:** 20 healthy adults (female, n=10), 18 completed the study **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 4 weeks (12 sessions, 3 sessions per week) **Swim Interventions:** a) n=8, front crawl swimming with controlled frequency breathing; and b) n=10, front crawl swimming with stroke-matched breathing. For both interventions, sessions were 3 x week, swimming 16 x 25-yard lengths in the prescribed breathing style, with 45-s to complete each length.	• VO_2peak and running economy (gas analysis) • Pulmonary function (spirometry), diffusing capacity (Roughton–Forster technique), maximum inspiratory and expiratory pressures of the mouth, and maximum voluntary ventilation • Swimming performance (150-yard front crawl time trial) • Body mass, BMI	**Controlled frequency breathing swimming vs. stroke-matched breathing swimming:** 1) No pre-post change in VO_2max and submaximal exercise variables (HR, RER, or RPE) in either group. 2) Running economy improved overall following training (CFB group = -15 ml·kg^{-1}·km^{-1} vs. stroke-matched group = -8 ml·kg^{-1}·km^{-1}) 3) A pre-post significant ↑ in FVC and ↓ in FEV1/FVC were apparent in the stroke-matched group, but not in the CFB group. 4) Maximum inspiratory pressure and voluntary ventilation were unaffected by training, however, when data were pooled from both groups, an overall beneficial ↑ in maximal expiratory pressure was evident after training. 5) No other changes in pulmonary function were observed, apart from a significant (but below the smallest meaningful change) ↓ in alveolar volume 6) No significant pre-post or between group difference in body mass and BMI in either group. 7) Both groups demonstrated an improvement in completion of the 150-yard time trial.
Magel 1975	**Population:** 30 male, college age, recreational swimmers **Study Design:** CT **Duration:** 10 weeks	• VO_2max, VEmax, RER (gas analysis) • HR and work time	**Pre vs. post-swimming intervention:** 1) Significantly ↑ VO_2max (380 ml/min, 11.2%), VEmax (14.9 L/min), and max swim time (4.0 min) evaluated by tethered swimming VO_2max test

	Swim Intervention: n=15, interval swim (front crawl) training procedures 1 h/day, 3 days/week Comparison groups: 15 control participants who did not participate in any form of training		2) Significantly ↓ HRmax (3.5 bpm) during swimming VO_2max test 3) No significant improvement in VO_2max (1.5%) when the same subjects were evaluated by the treadmill running test. 4) No significant changes in VO_2max and associated measures during running and swimming tests for control participants.
Soultanakis 2012	**Population:** 16 collegiate untrained swimmers (females, n=7), 13 completed the study **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 4 weeks **Swim Interventions:** a) n=6, high-intensity (sprint) swimming; or b) n=7, high-volume (sprint with additional endurance training) swimming. Both interventions 3 times/week and front crawl swimming	◆ Lactate threshold and performance trials, lactate threshold velocities, lactate concentrations at lactate threshold, peak lactate ◆ Swim sprint performance over 50-m	**Sprint swimming vs. sprint + endurance swimming:** 1) Significant pre-post ↑ in sprint performance of 50-m maximum time and peak velocity 2) Significant pre-post ↑ swimming velocity corresponding to lactate threshold only in the sprint + endurance group 3) Pre-post peak lactate and lactate concentrations at LT did not significantly change in either group.

PREGNANCY

First Author	Methodology	Outcome Measures (Technique)	Findings
Lynch 2007 Also: Lynch 2003	**Population:** 39 pregnant women **Study Design:** CT **Duration:** 12 weeks **Swim Intervention:** n=27, 3 times/week, 40min/session, <70% of HRmax) from 16 to 28 weeks of gestation. 9 women carried on swimming until 32 weeks of gestation and 7 up till the 36 week of gestation (swimming: front crawl/backstroke/breaststroke/skill drills) **Comparison group:** non-swimming pregnant controls (n=12)	◆ Physical work capacity and RPE (submaximal cycling test) at 16, 20, 24 and 28 weeks of gestation (and 32 and 36 of those women who continued), ◆ BP (sphygmomanometer), umbilical artery systolic/diastolic ratio ◆ Maternal and fetal HR ◆ Body mass ◆ Rectal temperature	**Swimming vs. non-swimming control:** 1) Significant ↑ physical work capacity of the swimming group but not controls. Significant ↑ physical work capacity at 20 weeks and at 24 weeks of gestation (13.8% improvement over 8 weeks) but no further improvement from 24-28 weeks of gestation 2) No significant changes in relative physical work capacity were identified in either group over the 12-week training period, despite body mass increasing by approx. 6 kg in each group. 3) No significant changes in pre-exercise or exercise HR were observed over the study period. 4) Significant ↓ RPE after 4 weeks of training (20 weeks of gestation) of swimming but no changes thereafter 5) No differences in rectal temperature pre-post swim intervention 6) No difference in body mass gain to 28 weeks gestation between groups 7) No adverse responses to exercise were identified in any individuals

			Pre vs. post-swimming: 1) Significant ↓ in HR 5 min post-swimming at all gestational weeks 2) Mean resting HR significantly ↓ advancing gestation age, but no change was observed in exercising and post-exercise rates 3) Significant ↓ in resting and post-swimming fetal HR with advancing gestation, but no effect on the pre- and post-exercise fetal HR differences with advancing gestational age 4) Significant ↑ in fetal HR during and 5 min post-swimming 5) Resting SBP and DBP remained unchanged over gestation 6) No significant accelerations in fetal HR were detected or signs of hypoxia and no significant changes in umbilical artery systolic/diastolic ratio, pre-post swim intervention

INDIVIDUALS WITH ASTHMA AND CYSTIC FIBROSIS

First Author	Methodology	Outcome Measures (Technique)	Findings
Arandelovic 2007	**Population:** 65 adults with persistent asthma (female, n=49) **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 6 months **Swim Intervention:** n=45, 1h swim (stroke not reported), 2 times/week (non-chlorinated pool), asthma education **Comparison group:** controls treated with inhaled corticosteroids and short acting -2 agonist salbutamol (n=20)	• Lung function (spirometry), • Bronchoprovocative test (dosimeter device) • Skin tests (skin prick test)	**Swimming vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) Significant ↑ FEV1, FVC, PEF in the swimming group vs. controls 2) Significant better responses in the bronchoprovocative test in both groups 3) Significant ↓ in the bronchoprovocative test for atopic and atopic individuals in both groups 4) At the end of the study, hyper-responsiveness was significantly ↓ in the swim group compared to the control group **Pre-post swimming in swim group only:** 1) Significant pre-post ↑ in FEV1, FVC, and PEF
Bemanian 2009	**Population:** 96 girls who took part in swimming class **Study Design:** CT **Duration:** 2 months **Swim Intervention:** 3 days per week. Girls were divided into a) asthmatic patients, b) allergic rhinitis, c) atopic dermatitis, d) healthy (swim stroke not provided)	• Spirometry at beginning, one hour after swimming and two months later	**Pre vs. post-swim training:** 1) Overall, significant ↑ in PEF rate more than 20% of personal best was seen in 21 girls after one hour swimming as well as at 2 months 2) Significant ↑ in PEF rate at 2m in healthy individuals, asthmatic patients and girls who were obese, but was not significant in patients with allergic rhinitis or eczema

Fitch 1976	**Population:** 56 schoolchildren **Study Design:** CT **Duration:** 5 months **Swim Intervention:** n=46 asthmatic schoolchildren started from 3 days/week, progressed to 5 days/week, with subsequent increases in intensity. Post intervention the children were divided based on the total distance they swam: a) <50km (n=14), b) 50-100km (n=16) and c) >100km (n-16) (swim stroke not reported) **Comparison group:** n=10 children without asthma history that started a similar swimming program	• Fitness (submaximal 9 min treadmill test with 3 min stages to achieve HR of 180-190 bpm at the end of the test) • Lung function (spirometry) at baseline and 5min intervals • Anthropometric assessments including chest circumference and diameter, fat mass (caliper) • Posture	**Asthma swimming group vs. non-asthma swimming group:** 1) Significant ↑ fitness in all groups but more pronounced increases in both groups that swam 50-100km and >100km vs. <50km 2) No significant changes in FEV1, FVC and exercise-induced asthma as a result of swimming intervention **Pre vs. post-swim training in asthmatic children:** 1) Significant ↓ in asthma disability, medication, posture and body fat
Huang 1989	**Population:** 90 children with asthma **Study Design:** CT **Duration:** 1 year **Swim Intervention:** n=45 asthmatic children (females, n=12) underwent swimming training (stroke not reported) of 1h/session, 3 times/week after school hours **Comparison group:** n=45 non-participant children matched for age, gender and severity of illness	• Physical examination • Lung function (peak flow meter) • Clinical progress (via school absenteeism, emergency room visits, hospitalization, days requiring daily medication, days of wheezing)	**Pre vs. post-swimming in swimming group:** 1) Significantly ↑ lung function (PEF) by 65% and 63% at 6 m and 12 m, respectively (21% and 25% at 6 and 12 m in the control group) 2) Significantly ↓ asthma attacks, wheezing, days requiring medication, emergency hospital visits, hospitalization, absence from school **Swimming vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) Compared to controls, significantly better improvements were seen in asthma attacks, lung function, wheezing, days requiring medication, hospitalization, emergency visits and absence from school
Matsumoto 1999	**Population:** 16 children with severe asthma **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 6 weeks **Swim Intervention:** n=8, front crawl swimming in heated pool at 30°C, 30min with 10min rest after 15min, 6 days/week **Comparison group:** non-swimming controls (n=8)	• Aerobic capacity and HR (cycling and crawl tethered-swimming tests) • Exercise-induced bronchoconstriction (via the mean fall in FEV1 from pre-exercise value) • Blood lactate (lactate analyzer) • Histamine challenge test	**Swimming vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) Significantly ↑ mean workload at the lactate threshold on both the swimming and cycling ergometers in the swimming group vs. controls 2) No changes in mean maximal % fall in FEV1 by absolute load at either 100% or 175% of the lactate threshold 3) No changes in histamine test **Pre vs. post-swimming training in the swimming group:** 1) Swimming and cycling ergometers: Significantly ↓ mean maximal % fall in FEV1 in swimming ergometer at 175% of the lactate threshold on the relative load 2) Cycling ergometer: Absolute load significantly ↑ at both 100% and 175% of the lactate threshold

Varray 1991	**Population:** 14 atopic children with asthma **Study Design:** RCT Duration: 6 months **Swim Intervention:** n=7 (male: 6, female: 1, age: 11.4±1.5 years), Aerobic training: 3 months- participants swam for 10 minutes at 3 times of their own ventilatory threshold velocity. A session ran for an hour and there were two different sessions per week. High intensity training 3-6 months- consists of a series of 25 m crawls performed at maximal speed, repeated 6 times in one series, with 1 minute break in between. A session consisted of 2 series for a total of 12 25m crawls. 2 sessions per week. **Comparison group:** Not specified, assumed treatment as per normal with no further interventions (n=7, male: 6, female: 1, age: 11.4±1.8 years)	• VO_2max • Ventilatory threshold • HRmax • Lung function: FEV1, FVC, FEF25%-75% in litres and as % predicted	**Swimming vs. controls:** 1) Significant ↑ in VO_2max in the swim group vs. control. 2) Significant ↑ in ventilatory threshold in the swim group vs. control. 3) No significant difference in any measure of lung function between groups. 4) Parents reporting participants in the swimming group did not have any decrease in frequency of wheezing attacks or use of regular asthma medication.
Varray 1995	**Population:** 18 asthmatic children **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 3 months **Swim Intervention:** n=9 (male: 7, female: 2) age: 10.3±1.3 years), 2 supervised swimming sessions per week for a period of 3 months. Each session lasted 1 hour within which the children swam at least 3 times at their own ventilatory threshold velocity for 10 minutes. **Comparison group:** n=9, non-swimming usual care (male: 7, female: 2, age: 11.7±0.5 years)	• VO_2max • Ventilatory threshold • Resting pulmonary function, Rate of perceived dyspnoea	**Swimming vs. controls:** 1) Significant ↑ in VO_2max in the swim group vs. control. 2) Significant ↑ in ventilatory threshold in the swim group vs. control. 3) No significant difference in any measure of lung function between groups. 4) Rate of perceived dyspnoea ↓ after swim training
Wang and Hung 2009	**Population:** 30 children with mild, moderate, or severe persistent asthma **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 6 weeks **Swim Intervention:** n=15, swimming (front crawl/ backstroke) 3 x 50min sessions / week, 65% of HRmax, in a non-chlorinated pool **Comparison group:** non-swimming controls (n=15)	• Lung function (spirometry) • Clinical progress (peak expiratory flow and daily assessment of asthma severity)	**Pre vs. post-swimming training in the swimming group:** 1) Significantly improvement in FEV1, FEF50, FEF25-75 at 6 weeks **Swimming vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) No differences in FEV1, FEF50, FEF25-75 at 6 weeks 2) Significant ↑ PEF in swimming both at 3 and 6 weeks vs. controls 3) Significant improvement in asthma severity after the intervention only in the swimming group

Weisgerber 2003	**Population:** 8 children with moderate persistent asthma **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 5-6 weeks **Swim Intervention:** n=5, 2 times/week, 45min/session (front crawl/backstroke swimming) **Comparison group:** non-swimming controls (n=3)	• Pulmonary function (spirometry) • Asthma symptoms (questionnaire)	**Swimming vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) No changes in pulmonary function (i.e., PEF, FVC, FEV1, or FEF25-75) or asthma symptoms
Weisgerber 2008 Also: Weisgerber 2009	**Population:** 61 children with mild, moderate, or severe persistent asthma **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 9 weeks **Swim Intervention:** high-intensity swimming programme with 27 x 1 hour sessions. 30 mins standardised swimming instruction and 30 min of vigorous swimming consisting of 4 phases: interval training (12-15 min periods swim 20-80s full-speed drills of flutter-kicking, water jumping, introductory front crawl, introductory back stroke, then rest for 20–80s), endurance training, relay races, and water games. (n=35 age: 10.7±1.9 years) **Comparison group:** moderate-intensity activity golf programme 27 x 1-hr sessions.(n=26, age: 9.9±1.8 years)	• Fitness (VO_2max, Coopers 12 min walk/run test, exercise time, peak HR) • FEV1 % • Symptoms (questionnaires) • Urgent asthma visits	**Swimming vs. golf:** 1) VO_2max improved by 5% in the golf group vs -3.1% in the swim group, but this was not a statistically significant difference. 2) FEV1 % predicted was significantly greater in the swimming group vs. golf group. 3) No significant difference in the Coopers 12-minute walk-run test between swimming training and golf groups 4) No significant difference was found for symptoms between swimming and golf exercise groups 5) Five symptom exacerbations occurred during 700 person-sessions of the swimming programme (7.1 per 1000 sessions) and one symptom exacerbation occurred during 425 person-sessions of golf (2.4 per 1000 sessions) 6) No significant difference in urgent asthma physician visits between the swimming training and golf groups
Wicher 2010	**Population:** 71 children and adolescents with moderate asthma **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 12 weeks **Swim Intervention:** 60 minutes session x twice weekly classes. 2 levels swimming training according to previous experience: Level I (n = 26): adaptation to the water, breathing with full immersion, floating, swimming and basic diving, Level II (n = 4): children who had the skills described plus learning front and back crawl. (n=30, age: 10.4±3.1 years) **Comparison group:** non-swimming controls (n=31, age: 10.9±2.6 years)	• Spirometric assessment: FVC, FEV1, FEF 25-75% • Methacholine challenge test: provocative concentration of methacholine causing a 20% fall in FEV1 (PC20)	**Pre vs. post-swimming vs. control:** 1) Significant pre-post ↑ in PC20, maximal inspiratory pressure, and maximal expiratory pressure were found in the swimming group, with significant between group's changes in PC20. 2) No significant change in FVC, FEV1, FEF 25-75% for swimming training compared with control. 3) No participant was admitted to hospital for asthma attacks during in the "run in" or during the training period in either the swimming or control group.

Edlund 1986	**Population:** 23 boys and girls (females, n=9) **Study Design:** CT **Duration:** 12 weeks **Swim Intervention:** Swimming pool of 32°C to 35°C, 60min, 3 days / week, with intensities of 60-75% of HRmax in the first 5 weeks, progressively building up to 70-85% during the last 4 weeks (n =13) (swim stroke not provided) **Comparison group:** n=10 non-swimming controls	• VO_2peak, VE, VCO_2 and RER directly measured only in 12 participants (gas analysis); in 8 it was predicted (equation) • HR (ECG) • Pulmonary function (respirometer) • Clinical Analysis of the disease status	**Swimming vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) No significant differences in directly measured VO_2peak, VE any pulmonary function parameters 2) VO_2peak predicted from equations significantly ↑ in the swimmers but not controls 3) No significant differences in body mass 4) Significant improvements in clinical disease status only in the swimming group

INDIVIDUALS WITH HYPERTENSION

First Author	Methodology	Outcome Measures (Technique)	Findings
Chen 2010	**Population:** 23 participants, 7 of which with mild hypertension and 16 normotensive **Study Design:** Single group **Duration:** 1 year **Swim Intervention:** training (no swim stroke provided) started for all participants at the start of the 1st year of college and continued for one year (distance increased from 0 to 7km per session)	• BP (sphygmomanometer) • Glucose (method of glucose oxidase) and insulin (ELISA) • Anthropometric assessments	**Pre vs. post-swimming in total sample:** 1) Significant ↓ in fasting plasma glucose 2) No significant changes in DBP, BMI, body mass and insulin resistance **Normotensives vs. hypertensives post-intervention:** 1) Significant ↑ SBP in normotensives 2) Significant ↓ SBP and insulin resistance only in hypertensives 3) No significant changes in DBP and BMI
Mohr 2014 Also: Mohr 2015 Connoly 2016 Nordsborg 2015	**Population:** 83 premenopausal obese mildly hypertensive women **Study Design:** Quasi-RCT **Duration:** 15 weeks **Swim Interventions:** a) n=21, moderate-intensity swimming group with continuous front crawl for 1h with participants encouraged to swim as far as possible, b) n=21, high-intensity swimming group doing 6–10 30sec bouts of all-out front crawl swimming interspersed by 2 min of passive recovery **Comparison groups:** soccer (n=20) and controls (n=20)	• Performance via a 10min swimming test and a repeated sprint test and Yo-Yo fitness test, • HR (monitor) and SBP, DBP, MAP (automatic monitor) • OGTT, insulin, glucose and lipids (enzymatic kit), sICAM-1 and sVCAM-1 (ELISA) • Muscle samples from the medial part of the vastus lateralis muscle and the posterior (90% of samples) or anterior (10% of samples) part of the deltoideus muscle (biopsy), muscle glycogen, citrate synthase, 3-Hydroxyacyl-CoA dehydrogenase, complex i-v, phosphofructokinase protein expression	**High vs. moderate-intensity swimming vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) Significant ↑ in Yo-Yo fitness test in both swimming groups but not controls 2) Significant ↓ SBP in both swimming groups but not controls 3) No differences in HR, MAP and DBP 4) No differences in fasting plasma glucose and lipids 5) Significantly ↓ fasting plasma insulin, insulin sensitivity and sVCAM-1 only with high-intensity but not moderate-intensity or controls

		• Body composition (DEXA), waist-to-hip ratio and waist circumference; • BMC and BMD (DEXA), bone turnover markers (biomarkers)	6) Significantly ↓ sICAM-1 with high-intensity and controls but not moderate-intensity 7) Significantly ↑ citrate synthase in both muscle groups after both high and moderate intensity swimming, and after high intensity swimming was higher in deltoideus than in vastus lateralis 8) Significantly ↑ 3-Hydroxyacyl-CoA dehydrogenase in deltoideus after high and moderate intensity training, while in the vastus lateralis it increased only with high-intensity 9) Significantly ↑ complex I-V in deltoideus muscle after high and moderate intensity swimming but significantly ↑ muscle glycogen only after high-intensity swimming 10) Significant ↓ body mass, waist circumference, total fat mass and body fat in both swimming groups but not controls 11) Significantly ↓ hip circumference with moderate intensity but not high-intensity or controls **High vs. moderate-intensity swimming vs. soccer vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) Significantly ↑ total leg BMC, femoral shaft and trochanter BMD, and bone turnover biomarkers in soccer but none of the other groups 2) No changes in total leg BMD, total body BCM and BDM or pelvic and arm BCM and BDM
Silva 2009	**Population:** 46 individuals with mild and moderate hypertension **Study Design:** CT **Duration:** 10 weeks **Swim Intervention:** n=23, 3 weekly 50min front crawl swim sessions, stating at an intensity of 40% HRmax) **Comparison group:** non-swimming controls (n=23)	• BP every week for 10 weeks (automated monitor) • Body mass	**Pre vs. post-intervention in swimming group:** 1) Significant ↑ SBP (4.89 mmHg) and DBP (6.52 mmHg) **Swimming vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) No changes in body mass and BMI
Nualnim 2012	**Population:** 43 individuals with prehypertension and stage 1 hypertension (females, n=11) **Study Design:** Quasi-RCT (randomization was eliminated for those strongly objecting their allocation) **Duration:** 12 weeks	• VO_2peak (gas analysis) • Bilateral brachial and ankle BP (automated device) and carotid and femoral pulse-wave velocities (tonometry), 24h BP (ambulatory monitor),	**Swimming vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) No significant changes detected in VO_2peak 2) Significantly ↓ resting SBP, daytime SBP and carotid systolic pressure in swimming group only 3) Significantly ↑ carotid artery compliance, FMD, cardiovagal baroreflex sensitivity in swimming group only

	Swim Intervention: n=24, supervised 15-20 minutes/day, 3-4 days/week at 60-75% of HRmax) (swim stroke not provided) **Comparison group:** relaxation (n=19)	• SV, CO and FMD (ultrasound), carotid arterial compliance, cardiovagal baroreflex sensitivity (beat-to-beat BP) • Body composition (DEXA)	4) No significant changes in any other blood pressure and hemodynamic assessments 5) No significant changes detected in glucose, hemoglobin, cytokines, lipids and body composition 6) SV and CO data not reported
Tanaka 1997a Also: Tanaka 1997b	**Population:** 18 (female n=8) hypertensive patients with uncomplicated stage 1 or 2 hypertension **Study Design:** CT **Duration:** 10 weeks **Swim Intervention:** n=12, supervised swimming (front crawl), 60min/sessions, 3 days per week on alternate days at 60% of HRmax) **Comparison group:** non-swimming controls (n=6)	• Resting HR, BP, MAP • Casual forearm vascular resistance (plethysmography) resistance (plethysmography) • Lactate and RPE • Plasma and blood volume (Evans dilution method) • Glucose (hexokinase/glucose 6 phosphate dehydrogenase method), insulin (radioimmunoassay), lipids (enzymatic method) • Plasma epinephrine and norepinephrine (radioenzymatic technique), • Body composition (hydrostatic weighing), BMI, waist to hip ratio and circumference	**Swimming vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) Significant ↓ in resting and supine SBP in swimming group 2) No changes in resting DBP, supine DBP and casual forearm vascular resistance 3) Significant ↓ resting HR, RPE and blood lactate in swimming group 4) No changes in plasma and blood volume, catecholamines, glucose, insulin and lipids 5) No changes in body mass, lean body mass and body fat

INDIVIDUALS WITH OTHER CONDITIONS

First Author	Methodology	Outcome Measures (Technique)	Findings
Alkatan 2016a Also: Alkatan 2016b	**Population:** 48 sedentary middle-aged and older adults with OA, 40 completed the study **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 12 weeks **Swim Intervention:** n=20, front crawl/breaststroke swimming from 20min progressively up to 40-45min/day, 3 days/week, from 40-50% progressively up to 60-70% HRmax **Comparison group:** cycling (n=20)	• Fitness (6min walking test) • Heart rate • Brachial and ankle BP • Carotid-femoral pulse wave velocity (all the 3 above with automated vascular testing device) • Central systolic BP, pulse pressure • FMD and carotid arterial diameter (ultrasound) • Lipids, inflammatory and metabolic biomarkers • Body mass and composition (DEXA and circumferences) • Strength (isokinetic dynamometry)	**Swimming vs. cycling post-intervention:** 1) Significant ↑ in 6-min walking test and carotid artery compliance in both groups 2) Significantly ↑ FMD only in the swimming group 3) Significantly ↑ glycated hemoglobin and interleukin 6 in both groups 4) Significantly ↓ carotid-femoral pulse wave velocity, carotid artery stiffness index, carotid artery distensibility, body mass, waist and hip circumferences, visceral adiposity in both groups 5) Significantly ↑ left and right grip strength, isokinetic knee peak torque at 60° and 120° in both groups 6) No significant changes in BP, SBP, DBP, pulse pressure, HR, carotid intima media thickness, BMI lipids, glucose, and other cytokines, body fat % and lean body mass in either group

Casey and Emes 2011	**Population:** 28 adolescents with Down-syndrome (females, n=12) **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 12 weeks **Swim Intervention:** n=14, front crawl swimming, 3 times/ week, 1 hour/session **Comparison group:** non-swimming controls (n=14)	• Maximum phonation duration, initiation volume, mean expired airflow (all with a speech respiratory test)	**Swimming vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) No significant changes in any of the speech respiratory variables
Stephen 2013	**Population:** 89 Aboriginal children with tympanic membrane perforation **Study Design:** RCT **Duration:** 4 weeks **Swim Intervention:** n=41, 5 days/week, 45 min/session in a chlorinated pool (swim stroke not provided) **Comparison group:** non-swimming controls (n=48)	• Otoscopic signs of ear discharge in the canal/middle ear space (tympanometry, otoscopy and video otoscopy) • Respiratory bacteria (swab collection and microbiology)	**Swimming vs. controls post-intervention:** 1) 24 of 41 swimmers had ear discharge at 4 weeks compared with 32 of 48 non-swimmers 2) No significant changes in the microbiology of the nasopharynx or middle ear in swimmers or non-swimmers

Abbreviations. RCT: randomized controlled trial, HR: heart rate, HRmax: maximum heart rate, HRres: heart rate reserve, BP: blood pressure, SBP: systolic blood pressure, DBP: diastolic blood pressure, MAP: mean arterial pressure, BMI: body mass index, RPE: rate of perceived exertion, FEV1: forced expiratory volume in during the first second of forced breath, FVC: forced vital capacity, FEF50: forced expiratory flow at 50% of the forced vital capacity, FEF25-75: average forced expiratory flow during the mid (25 - 75%) portion of the forced vital capacity, PEF: peak expiratory flow, DEXA: dual energy x-ray absorptiometry, VO_2: oxygen uptake, LDL: low density lipoprotein, MRI: magnetic resonance imaging, CC16: Clara cell secretory protein, SP-D: surfactant protein D, RER: respiratory exchange ratio, RPE: rate of perceived exertion, ECG: electrocardiogram, FMD: flow mediate dilation, SV: stroke volume, CO: cardiac output, FMD: flow mediated dilation, BMC: bone mineral content, BMD: bone mineral density, OGTT: oral glucose tolerance test, sICAM-1: soluble intracellular adhesion molecule 1, sVCAM-1: soluble vascular cell adhesion molecule 1, VE: Minute ventilation.

Table 3.
The acute and chronic effects of cold water swimming

ACUTE PHYSIOLOGICAL RESPONSES TO COLD WATER SWIMMING			
First Author	Methodology	Outcome Measures (Technique)	Findings
Lombardi 2011	**Population:** 15 participants (females, n=2) never exposed previously to winter swimming **Study Design:** Single group **Intervention:** Non-competitively 150m swimming (stroke not provided) in water temperature of 6°C	• Haemoglobin and haematocrit, • Red blood cell count, white blood cell count and platelet count • Relative and absolute number of leucocyte subpopulations • Mean corpuscular haemoglobin • Mean corpuscular volume • Mean corpuscular haemoglobin concentration • All with an automated hematology system	**Day before swimming vs. post swimming:** 1) Significant ↑ in hemoglobin and hematocrit after swimming 2) Significant ↑ in both red and white cell count as well as platelet count 3) From relative number of leucocytes, only eosinophils ↑ significantly 4) From absolute number of leucocyte subpopulations: significant ↑ in absolute number of neutrophil granulocytes, lymphocytes and monocytes 5) 2.54% ↓ plasma volume (significance not reported) 6) No differences in mean corpuscular hemoglobin, volume or hemoglobin concentration
Siems and Brenke1992 Also: Siems 1994	**Population:** 10 healthy participants accustomed to winter swimming (1-11 years, mean age 40.5±12.3 years) and **Study Design:** CT **Intervention:** Participants assessed pre, during and post ~5-min cold water swimming (stroke not provided) **Comparison group:** 10 healthy controls with no winter swimming experience (mean age: 35.6±8.8 years)	• Erythrocytic level of oxidized glutathione • Erythrocytic level of oxidized glutathione / total glutathione ratio • Uric acid (determined as described by Bergmeyer method)	**Pre vs. post-swimming:** 1) Significant ↑ in both the erythrocytic level of oxidized glutathione and the erythrocytic level of oxidized glutathione / total glutathione ratio in during and post cold-water swimming only in swimmers 2) 1-h following the whole body cold stimulus, the uric acid levels were approx. half of the initial values, 141±69 μM (The uric acid level decreased within 1 h after cold exposure from 0.31 to 0.14 mmol/L. However, 24 h after the winter swimming, the plasma uric acid levels were back to the initial values. 3) The haematocrit values did not show significant differences between controls (40.8±2.7%) and winter swimmers (41.9±4.5%).

Siems 1999	**Population:** 36 healthy participants (23 male, 13 women) accustomed to winter swimming (2-11 years, mean age 36.1±11.8 years) **Study Design:** CT **Intervention:** Participants assessed pre, during and post ~5-min cold water swimming (stroke not provided). Water temperature 1-4°C, air temperature 1-5°C. **Comparison group:** 40 healthy controls (28 male, 12 women) with no winter swimming experience (mean age: 36.3±10.4 years)	• Reduced glutathione • Erythrocytic level of oxidized glutathione • Superoxide dismutase • Glutathione peroxidase • Catalase • Uric acid, glucose, potassium ions, plasma protein concentration, creatine kinase, γ-glutamyl transaferase, alkaline phosphatase, and aspartase aminotransferase measured before and after ice-bathing in winter swimmers (data not eligible here).	**Swimmers vs. non-swimmers:** 1) Baseline concentrations of reduced glutathione, and activities of erythrocyte superoxide dismutase and catalase higher in winter swimmers compared to non-swimming controls.
Tipton 1999	**Population:** 10 young healthy competent swimmers (females, n=1), just above average fitness levels but never exposed to winter swimming **Study Design:** Single group with crossover **Intervention:** Self-paced breaststroke while wearing swim wear at: a) 25°C, b) 18°C and c) 10°C in a variable speed swimming flume according to the request of swimmers	• VO_2 and VCO_2 (mass spectrometer) • HR (ECG) • Expiratory volume (mass flow regulator) • Respiratory frequency, inspiratory volume, tidal volume (ventilatory module) • Hand grip strength • Rectal temperature (thermistor)	**Swimming in 25°C vs. 18°C vs. 10°C:** 1) Significant progressive ↑ in mean VO_2 and HR with decreasing water temperature 2) Significant progressive ↑ in inspiratory volume and respiratory frequency with decreasing water temperature 3) Hyperventilation with lower water temperature 4) Swimming efficiency significantly ↓ at 10°C 5) Grip strength significantly ↓ at 18°C and 10°C but not 25°C 6) Rectal temperature significantly ↓ at 10°C vs. both 25°C vs. 18°C
Zenner 1980	**Population:** 27 members of a cold-swimming club **Study Design:** Single group **Intervention:** Participants assessed: a) indoors prior to swimming, b) after 10sec been immersed in cold water, c) after 60sec vigorous swim in cold water (stroke not provided)	• HR (ECG) • Blood pressure	**Pre vs. post-swimming:** 1) No significant rhythm and cardiac disturbances were detected 2) ↑ Blood pressure post-swimming vs. baseline (SBP: from 132±4 to 181±6, and DBP: from 80±2 to 86±4 mmHg, significance not reported) 3) ↓ Blood pressure 4min post-swimming vs. immediately post-swimming (SBP 4min post-swimming: 151±5, and DBP4min post-swimming: 84±4 mmHg, significance not reported).

CHRONIC PHYSIOLOGICAL ADAPTATIONS TO COLD WATER SWIMMING

First Author	Methodology	Outcome Measures (Technique)	Findings
Hirvonen 2002	**Population:** 25 regular winter swimmers (18 females and 7 males, mean age: 55.1 years) **Study design:** CT **Intervention:** Cold water swim took on average 5-6 times a week during one winter swimming season (October-May) **Comparison group:** control group of 11 non-swimmers (8 females and 3 males, mean age: 53.8 years)	• Serum catecholamines, serotonin and their metabolites as well as β-endorphin • SBP and DBP	**Pre vs. post-winter swimming season vs. controls:** 1) During the winter the mean epinephrine and norepinephrine concentration in plasma dropped in winter swimmers and control groups, with no statistically significant between group differences. 2) Dopamine was found in only three plasma samples. Its metabolite homovanillic acid did not vary during the winter and no between group differences. 3) β-endorphin plasma concentrations stayed on the same level throughout the season and did not show any differences between the groups 4) Plasma serotonin were not significantly different between both groups (~50% decrease in both groups during winter) 5) Significant ↓ Mean SBP in winter swimmers, no significant change in controls. But no significant between group differences in SBP or within and between group changes in DBP.
Hermanussen 1995	**Population:** 11 healthy students, five females and six males, age 24 to 29 years, and their teachers. **Study Design:** CT **Intervention:** regular winter swimming for almost 3 months. Water temperature ranging from 6.8°C to 2°C and 2 to 10min but these varied quite considerable amongst individuals and were performed according to their mood in every session (stroke not provided) **Comparison group:** non-swimming controls	• Insulin (radioimmunoassay) • Glucose (hexokinase method) • Endocrine hormones (commercial kits) • Cortisol and GH (radioimmunoassays), Luteinizing hormone, follicle stimulating hormone, TSH and prolactine serum levels (automated method)	**Pre vs. post-swimming responses at baseline and post intervention:** 1) Insulin significantly ↓ throughout the swimming session post intervention (but not at baseline) 2) Glucose significantly ↑ throughout the swimming session only at baseline (but not post intervention) 3) Post intervention (but not at baseline) cortisol significantly ↑ during the first 30min of swimming and then significant ↓ from the 30th to the 60th min of swimming 4) Both at baseline and post intervention TSH significantly ↑ during the first 30min of swimming and then significant ↓ from the 30th to the 60th min of swimming 5) Prolactin significantly ↓ throughout the total length of swimming only at baseline

			6) No changes in GH, luteinizing hormone, follicle stimulating hormone were detected neither at 30min or 60min of swimming both at baseline or post intervention **Pre vs. post-intervention in swimmers vs. controls:** 1) Significantly ↑ in insulin, prolactin and follicle stimulating hormone as a result of winter swimming only in swimmers
Huttunen 2001	**Population:** Healthy winter swimmers **Study Design:** Single group **Intervention:** Acute cold water immersion in healthy winter swimmers at the beginning of the winter swimming period in the autumn and after regular swimming for 1-3 months (stroke not provided).. River water temperature was 10°C at the beginning and 4°C after one and three months.	• Plasma catecholamine levels (epinephrine and norepinephrine	**Pre vs. post-winter swimming season:** 1) Epinephrine and norepinephrine levels determined before ~36 a cold water immersion test ↓ with the winter swimming period for 1 month 2) The test immersion significantly ↑ norepinephrine levels. Plasma epinephrine and serum cortisol levels were increased or decreased by the immersion. 3) After 1 month's swimming the test immersion to 4°C ↑ noradrenaline to a similar level than the immersion to 10°C at the beginning. 4) Regularly practiced winter swimming for three months led to ↓ catecholamine levels measured immediately after the test immersion
Lubkowska 2013	**Population:** 15 healthy men, aged 23±1.47 years, with normal bodyweight (BMI 23.8±2.92 kg/m^2), **Study Design:** Single group **Swimming intervention:** participants swam in a lake, on average 2-3 times a week for a prolonged period of 5 months, from November to March. Each immersion in water took from 2-5 min, covered the whole body, excluding the head. The mean water temperature ranged from 12-15°C to 0-7°C from the beginning to the end of the study.	• Red blood cells, haemoglobin; haematocrit, mean corpuscular • Volume, mean corpuscular haemoglobin, mean corpuscular haemoglobin concentration, red blood cell distribution width, white blood cells, lymphocytes, monocytes, granulocytes, thrombocytes; • SBP and DBP, diastolic blood pressure • 8-isoprostane in plasma, reduced glutathione, erythrocytic level of oxidized glutathione, total oxidant status, and total antioxidant status • Components of the antioxidant system: superoxide dismutase, catalase, glutathione peroxidase, glutathione reductase, and glutathione S-transferase. • Body mass, BMI, body composition (via bioelectrical impedance)	**Pre vs. post-winter swimming season:** 1) Significant pre-post-winter season ↓ haemoglobin concentration (19% drop), the number of red blood cells (13% drop), the haematocrit index (20%) and mean corpuscular volume of red blood cell, and the percentage of monocytes. 2) Significant pre-post-winter season ↑ and the percentage of granulocytes. 3) Significantly ↑ SBP, but not DBP before and after winter training season. 4) Post-winter swimming season, significant ↓ in resting levels of 8-isoprostane in plasma and oxidized glutathione, with resulting ↓ in glutathione total, oxidized glutathione: reduced glutathione ratio ↑ two times. Significant ↑ in superoxide dismutase, catalase, and glutathione reductase activity at the end of the season. 5) There was a significant ↓ in the activity of glutathione peroxidase. 6) There were no changes in glutathione S-transferase activity.

			7) Responses to whole body cryostimulation was lower after the winter swimming season, with no changes in 8-8-isoprostane in plasma concentration, superoxide dismutase, and glutathione S-transferase, and a lower total antioxidant status reduction compared to significant changes in these stress markers to whole body cryostimualtion before winter swimming season. 8) No significant changes in anthropometric characteristics or body composition of the participants over the winter season.
Gibas-Dorna 2016	**Population:** 30 members (females, n=14) of a winter swimming club training with at least 2 years of outdoor swimming and 11 controls **Study Design:** CT **Intervention:** 7 months swimming (stroke not provided) in cold water (range: 1°C to 9.5°C) at least twice a week for up to 15min without any protection **Comparison Group:** non-swimming group with participants never participated in any type of cold exposure	◆ Body composition (bioelectrical impedance) ◆ Glucose (Reflotron system) ◆ Insulin (radioimmunoassay) and Insulin sensitivity	**Pre vs. post intervention in swimmers:** 1) No differences in any body composition parameter in swimmers 2) Significant ↑ in insulin sensitivity in the middle of the training period vs. baseline 3) Significant ↓ in insulin secretion and resistance in the middle of the training period vs. baseline **Pre vs. post-intervention in male vs. female swimmers:** 1) Significant ↓ in fat-free mass, total body water and muscle mass in women but not men

APPENDIX A

Eligibility criteria, methodology, search strategy

Criteria for considering studies for this review

Inclusion Criteria

1. Study design: randomised controlled trials, quasi-randomised controlled trials, and controlled trials.
2. Types of participants: we included studies only in humans and specifically pregnant women, infants, children and adolescents, as well as adults of any age. We included both healthy participants as well as those with long-term conditions.
3. Studies that investigated either the acute physiological responses or chronic physiological adaptations of swimming, or outcome measures that concerned any physiological or health-related parameters.
4. We included only full publications and did not exclude based on language.

Exclusion Criteria

Studies were excluded if they investigated:

1. Elite, competitive and trained swimmers (professional, national and international, varsity and college, or if the authors defined the population included as elite) or triathletes or a mixed athletic population where the effects of swimming on physiological outcomes could not be separated.
2. Non physiological-related variables (e.g. stroke rate, speed, mood, etc.).
3. Utilised water-based physical activities (e.g. water-based aerobic activities, cycling on a cycling ergometer while immersed, water polo) or hydrotherapy or aquatic interventions where the effects of swimming could not be studied separately.
4. A swimming intervention combined with a drug or dietary or other physical activities intervention, where the effects of swimming could not be separated.
5. Scuba-diving, breath-holding and water-immersion activities.
6. Animal studies.

Data sources to be searched: We searched the following databases to identify eligible studies: PubMed, EMBASE, and Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL) (via the Cochrane Library, Issue 2, 2015). We also screened references in relevant reviews and in published eligible studies.

Search strategy: A search algorithm was developed for Pubmed (see below) and was modified for CENTRAL and EMBASE.

Pubmed search strategy

Search	Query	Items found
27	Search (25 NOT 26)	5935
26	Search (animals[MeSH Terms]) NOT humans[MeSH Terms]	4301329
25	Search (8 AND 25)	15025
24	Search (9 OR 10 OR 11 OR 12 OR 13 OR 14 OR 15 OR 16 OR 17 OR 18 OR 19 OR 20 OR 21 OR 22 OR 23)	1815961
23	Search physiolog* benefit*[Title/Abstract]	65154

22	Search long-term adaptation*[Title/Abstract]	845
21	Search long-term effect*[Title/Abstract]	32949
20	Search long-term response*[Title/Abstract]	1828
19	Search short-term effect*[Title/Abstract]	7730
18	Search short-term response*[Title/Abstract]	973
17	Search acute response*[Title/Abstract]	2261
16	Search acute effect*[Title/Abstract]	13413
15	Search chronic adaptation*[Title/Abstract]	184
14	Search physiolog* effect*[Title/Abstract]	1315641
13	Search chronic response*[Title/Abstract]	339
12	Search chronic effect*[Title/Abstract]	4658
11	Search physiolog* response*[Title/Abstract]	713668
10	Search physiolog* adaptation*[Title/Abstract]	75601
9	Search training effects[Title/Abstract]	1592
8	Search (1 OR 2 OR 5 OR 6 OR 7)	47344
7	Search aquatic sport*[Title/Abstract]	56
6	Search aquatic exercise*[Title/Abstract]	247
5	Search (3 AND 4)	6286
4	Search exercise*[Title/Abstract]	239936
3	Search (water*[Title/Abstract]) OR aquatic*[Title/Abstract]	672775
2	Search swim*[Title/Abstract]	32301
1	Search swimming[MeSH Terms]	21270

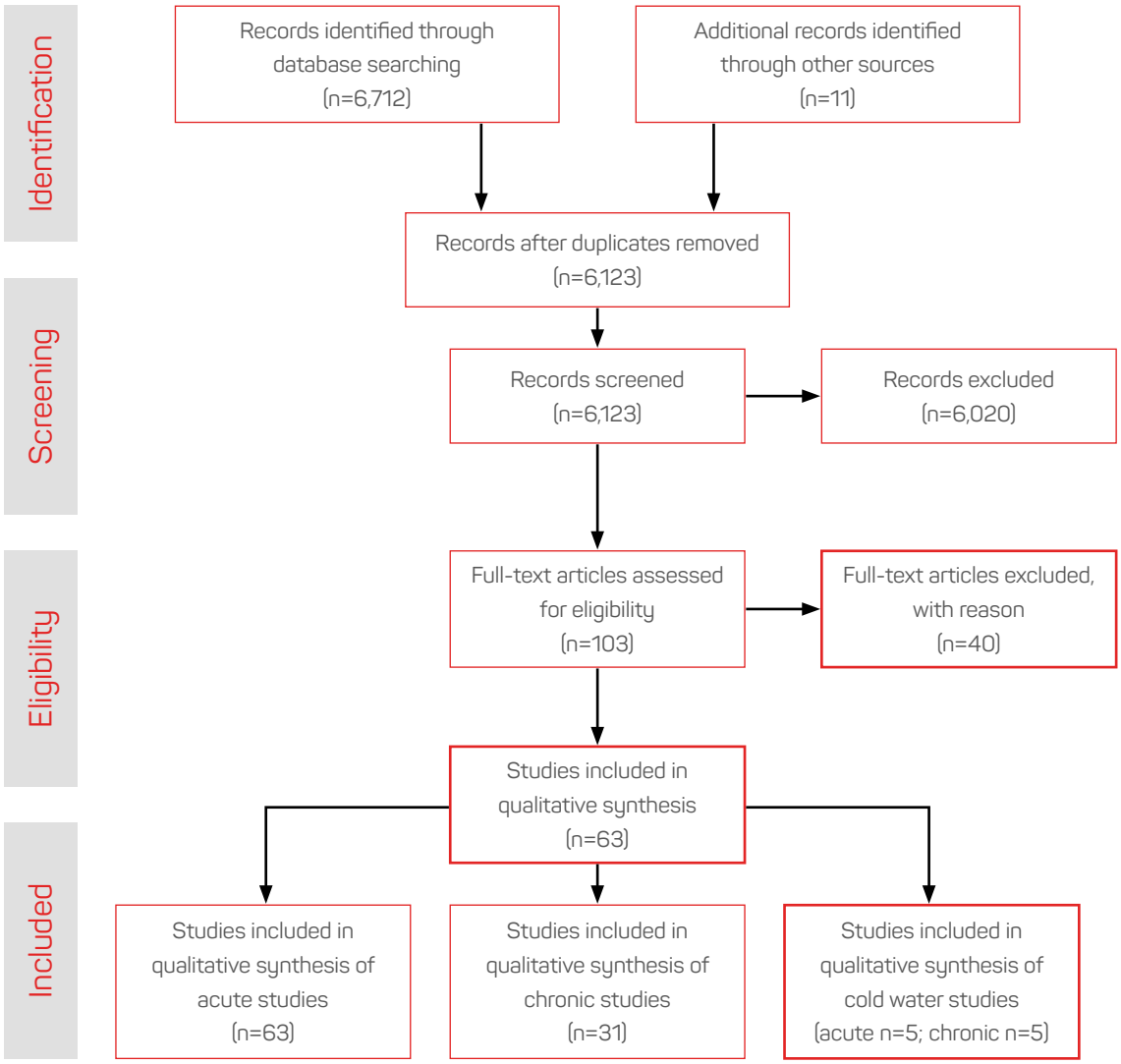
Study selection: The results from the searches described above were merged and duplicate records of the same report were removed. The titles and abstracts were examined to remove obviously irrelevant reports. Two authors independently screened and assessed the records for eligibility. Disagreements on study eligibility were resolved through consensus. Full-text articles of potentially relevant reports were retrieved and multiple reports of the same study were linked together. Full-text reports were examined for compliance of studies with the eligibility criteria. A list of studies that were close to inclusion but after further inspection did not meet the criteria were recorded in the 'Reasons for exclusion of studies' table. Non-English language trials were included and these trials were translated, where necessary, so that eligibility could be assessed and subsequently data extracted.

Data extraction: A checklist of items was developed to include the source of report; confirmation of eligibility or reason for exclusion; methods such as study design, total duration, sequence generation, allocation sequence concealment, blinding, and other sources of bias; participant information such as total numbers, demographic information; and date of study; intervention details; for each outcome of interest the definition, unit of measurement and scales, time points of assessments, results including number of participants allocated to groups, sample size, missing data, summary of data for each group, and key conclusions. Two authors (IL, GM) independently extracted the data and any conflicts not due to extractor error were resolved through consensus. Multiple publications for the same trial were collated and the most complete report (that is the one with the outcomes most relevant to the review or the most recwent outcomes) was used as the primary reference. We summarised the data collected from the reports in the characteristics of studies tables (Table 1, 2, and 3).

Risk of bias assessment of articles: The Cochrane Collaboration's 'risk of bias' tool was used to assess possible sources of bias in the included reports (Higgins 2011). The assessment of risk of bias included an investigation of biases in domains such as sequence generation, allocation concealment, blinding, incomplete outcome data, selective reporting bias, and 'other issues'. Two authors (IL, GM) assessed the risk of bias, and conflicts not due to assessor error were resolved by consensus. If there was evidence of a large risk of bias the findings will be interpreted cautiously. The assessment of risk of bias was displayed in a 'risk of bias' graphs (Figures 3 and 4, and Appendix D and E.

APPENDIX B

PRISMA Flow of studies



From: Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG, The PRISMA Group (2009). Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses: The PRISMA Statement. PLoS Med 6(7): e1000097.

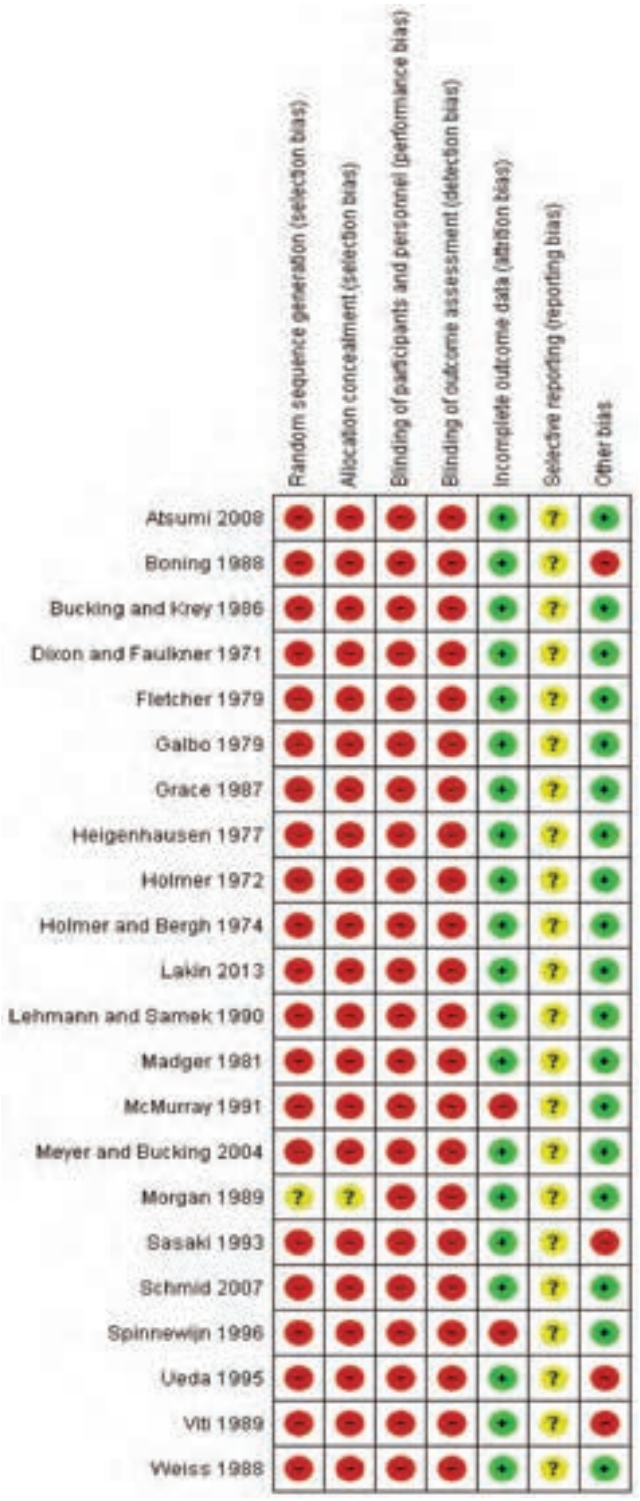
APPENDIX C

Reasons for exclusion of studies table

Excluded study	Reason for exclusion
Altintas 2003	Available in abstract form only
Dugue et al. 1998	Available in abstract form only
Niedoszytko 2009	Available in abstract form only
Wang and Hart 2005	Did not include physiological variables
Dias et al. 2013	Did not include physiological variables
Garcia et al. 2011	Did not include physiological variables
Rushall et al.2012	Did not include physiological variables
Martin et al. 1987	Effects of swimming could not be isolated
Cade et al. 1991	Effects of swimming could not be isolated (dietary intervention)
Lamb et al. 1990	Effects of swimming could not be isolated (dietary intervention)
Dugue et al. 2000	Effects of swimming could not be isolated (from sauna)
Svenonius 1983	Effects of swimming could not be isolated (swimming + other exercise)
Noland et al. 2001	Included collegiate swimmers
Valentine and Evans 2001	Included collegiate swimmers
Greenwood et al. 2008	Included collegiate swimmers
Fitts et al. 1989	Included collegiate swimmers
Skorski et al. 2012	Included competitive swimmers
Rodríguez et al. 2016	Included competitive swimmers
Pelarigo et al. 2016	Included elite swimmers
Deligiannis et al. 1993	Included elite swimmers
Houston et al. 1981	Included elite swimmers
Mougios et al. 1993	Included elite swimmers
Arnett et al. 2002	Included elite swimmers
Fu et al. 2002	Included elite swimmers
Bilberg et al. 2005	It did not investigate effects of swimming (aqua exercise)
Tomas-Carus et al. 2008	It did not investigate effects of swimming (aqua exercise)
Teleglow et al. 2016	It did not investigate effects of swimming (bathing)
McMurray et al. 1994	It did not investigate effects of swimming (cycling underwater)
McMurray et al. 1993	It did not investigate effects of swimming (cycling underwater)
Bermingham et al. 2004	It did not investigate effects of swimming (cycling underwater)
Paulev et al. 1990	It did not investigate effects of swimming (diving)
Dugue and Leppanen 2005	It did not investigate effects of swimming (immersion)
Smolander et al. 2009	It did not investigate effects of swimming (immersion)
Sutkowy et al. 2015	It did not investigate effects of swimming (immersion)
Fujimoto et al. 2016	It did not investigate effects of swimming (immersion)
Herstgard et al 1992	It did not investigate effects of swimming (play)
Huttunen et al.2004	Winter swimming improves general wellbeing
Aggeloussi et al. 2012	Wrong study design, cross-sectional study
Ozer et al. 2007	Wrong study design, cross-sectional study
Lotgering et al. 1996	Wrong study design, review

APPENDIX D

Risk of bias summary for acute studies: review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item for each included study.



APPENDIX E

Risk of bias summary for chronic studies: review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item for each included study.

Chapter 4

The wellbeing benefits of swimming to communities: a literature review

Dr Fiona Moffatt, The University of Nottingham

Key words:

swimming
aquatic exercise
community
wellbeing

Introduction

It is acknowledged that a critical strategy in the fight to improve population health and wellbeing is to focus on communities (Edwards, 2015). This is of particular relevance when considering social determinants of health and community health disparities (Marmot and Bell, 2012; WHO, 2017). Indeed, the complex and multi-faceted nature of community wellbeing has been implicated in the relative under-performance of individual-oriented strategies in reducing health inequalities (Edwards, 2015). The contention here is that many traditional health promotion approaches have been overly reductionist in nature, focussing upon the development of replicable programmes, aimed at individual outcomes across (notionally) homogenous populations, thereby obfuscating the representativeness of the community setting (Glasgow et al., 1999). As an alternative, approaches that operate at the community level capitalising upon, or further developing, the pre-existing social and human capital of a community, as well as its immanent organisational resources, may be used as leverage to identify and solve collective problems, and ameliorate wellbeing (Wendel et al., 2009).

Central to this proposition is the notion of community capacity (Laverack, 2006). In general terms, community capacity is defined as the *"activities, resources and support that strengthen the skills, abilities and confidence of people and community groups to take effective action and leading roles in the development of communities"* (Skinner, 2017). Labonte and Laverack (2001, p. 112) further conceptualise it as a space which circumscribes *"elements of peoples' day-to-day relationships, conditioned and constrained by economic and political practices, that are important determinants of the quality of their lives, and of communities' healthy functioning"*. As such, it is both an antecedent requirement for supporting community health and wellbeing, and the end-product of community-level interventions (Edwards, 2015; Wendel et al., 2009).

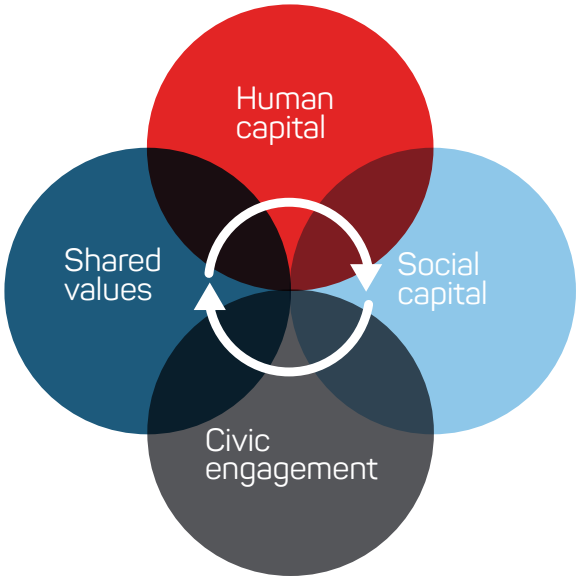
The role of sport as a vehicle for the promotion of physical, mental and social health within communities is increasingly advocated (Donaldson and Finch, 2012). Development through sport utilises sporting participation as a means of facilitating individual and societal progress (Berg et al., 2016). Indeed, sport, as a critical constituent of community and social development programmes, has been demonstrated to strengthen education, improve public health, address community safety, promote inter-cultural exchange and augment social cohesion/inclusion (Edwards, 2015). The intent of this chapter therefore is to consider the efficacy of swimming, as a community based sport, in contributing to community capacity.

Community Capacity

The concept of community capacity has been of interest across a diverse range of disciplines, it is not the sole remit of health and wellbeing. Nonetheless, Wendel et al. (2009) note that community capacity is intimately linked to The World Health Organisation's (WHO) expanded definition of health that acknowledges the criticality of controlling health determinants, and incorporates social and personal resources in addition to physical capacities.

As an evolving construct, there has been significant research endeavour aiming to develop or define the key characteristics or criteria of community capacity. This chapter will use the work of Wendel et al. (2009), who have described a number of dimensions of community capacity that represent the greatest degree of consensus across researchers. These dimensions have been used to inform the theoretical framework for this chapter (Figure 1), and will be reflected on in turn, specifically considering how swimming may influence each one.

Figure 1:
Key dimensions of community capacity (based on Wendel et al., 2009)



1. Human Capital

Human capital refers to the range of knowledge, resources, skills and experiences possessed by an individual or a community that is of inherent value. Swimming offers the community opportunity to develop significant human capital; perhaps most important is the ability to swim unaided, and be safe around pools, floods and open water. The Royal Life Saving Society (2017) notes that one person drowns every 20 hours in the UK, and many more experience significant morbidity as a result of near-drowning. Globally, drowning is the third leading cause of unintentional death, with an estimated 372,000 deaths worldwide (WHO, 2014). Whilst the incidence of drowning is much greater in low and middle income countries, it still remains a key public concern for developed countries, especially given the widespread promotion of aquatic based recreational activities and the increasing number of immigrants who originate from countries without a water safety culture (Berg et al., 2016). In the United States (US) there is racial disparity apparent in drowning rates, with significantly higher incidence amongst black children than white children of the same age range (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2012). Berg et al. (2016) suggest that long-standing discriminatory practices have created a cultural norm within certain ethnic communities that water is treacherous and is to be avoided at all costs.

Research suggests that approximately 85% of morbidity and mortality associated with drowning could be prevented if better preventative measures, such as lifeguard availability and teaching children to swim, were instituted (Branche and Stewart, 2001; WHO, 2014). Consequently, The World Health Organisation have acknowledged the imperative to teach school-age children basic swimming, water safety and rescue skills, and to train bystanders in safe rescue and resuscitation (WHO, 2014). In the UK, this is acknowledged within the Scottish Swimming levels and the National Curriculum key stage requirements, with the ability to swim 25 metres unaided by the end of Key Stage 2 a governmental Key Performance Indicator (Bullough et al., 2015). Swimming organisations make a considerable contribution to community safety via their 'learn to swim' programmes (Tower et al., 2014). The value that community members place on such skills (and access to training and facilities) is evident from research. Specifically, swimming is conceptualised not just as a tool to promote physical activity, but also an essential life-skill: *"Swimming is not an option for my kids. They will swim, they will take lessons, they will know how to swim. And you know, ballet is an option, and soccer is an option, but swimming you must do..."* (DeLuca, 2016, p.267).

DeLuca (2016) notes that this parental mandate for children to learn to swim is a characteristic common amongst the upper-middle-class, and illustrates the pervasive structural regimes of power and privilege that persist within certain communities, and which facilitate some children to better develop swimming and life-saving competencies. As such, there is increasing interest in designing community swim programmes targeted at disadvantaged or under-represented sectors of local populations (Berg et al., 2016). Sustainable community programmes are best delivered via multi-agential collaborations in order to accommodate complex socio-political and socio-cultural contexts, as illustrated in Case Study 1.

Case Study 1

A multi-agential community sport development case study of swimming and drowning (Berg et al., 2016)

(The following case study describes one proposal for 'Memphis Swims Now', a community based programme designed in response to the fatal drowning of two Black youths in municipal pools)

The focus of the programme was not on elite or competitive swimming, rather swimming as a basic life skill, and as an opportunity to interact with other young people in a safe and sociable environment. The programme was to be delivered in a centrally-located pool to minimise travel constraints. A local children's hospital volunteered additional transportation. The Parks and Recreation department employed Black swimming instructors to ensure that coaches shared the same ethnic background as the majority of the participants. A local faith-based organisation offered to support the marketing of the programme. Whilst word-of-mouth promotion was felt to be a particularly effective way of disseminating information, it was also believed that parents and guardians would be more open to the programme given their pre-established trust in the faith organisation. The programme designers recognised the critical role that parents/guardians would play in the youths' willingness to try swimming as a new activity.

Social support and interaction were the key features of the programme intended to ensure retention of the participants. The coaches would offer personalised instruction to each swimmer based upon an initial assessment. Attendance and application would be awarded in an informal ceremony involving food and music at the mid-way and endpoint of the programme. Family and friends would be invited to celebrate the successes, with the intention that this would constitute further social reinforcement. Journalists would also be invited to profile 'Memphis Swims Now' in the hope of transforming the cultural associations Black residents had previously formed with regards open water and swimming. A monthly newsletter would also be created detailing the programme's history, the benefits of swimming etcetera.

A final element of the programme was to ensure that there was a dedicated time for unstructured play. This component was deemed essential in avoiding boredom with swimming drills, but also an opportunity to practice swimming skills in a fun and sociable way, fostering stronger friendships with other participants.

Human capital also refers to the knowledge, skills, attitudes and competence requisite for citizenship and work-related activities (Lawson, 2005). Swimming is implicated in improving youth development and enabling educational success, thereby contributing to human capital development (Hendrickx et al., 2016). These contributions may be especially salient for marginalised or disenfranchised groups (Lawson, 2005). In a systematic review of evidence that swimming pool attendance could improve health and wellbeing in remote Aboriginal communities in Australia, Hendrickx et al. (2016) also explored the wider community benefits such as school attendance. Of the nine studies included, a number involved community swimming pools that operated a 'no-school-no-pool' policy. One study demonstrated a statistically significant improvement in school attendance rates, but only in one of the two community pools studied (Lehmann et al., 2003). The other studies presented anecdotal reports that 'no-school-no-pool' policies could be effective, but did not provide significant data (Hendrickx et al., 2016).

Studies have also demonstrated that membership of a swim club offers opportunities that extend far beyond the acquisition of technical skills and improving cardiovascular fitness; membership can promote children's social learning and enculturation (Light, 2010; Light et al., 2013). Given that swimming is the most popular mass participation sport in the United Kingdom (UK) - 2.52 million now swim once a week, and nearly 164,000 are members of swimming clubs – the potential to shape the development of future community citizens is significant (Sport England, 2016). Light (2010) conducted a three month ethnographic study within a swimming club in Australia, focusing on the social, personal and cultural development of 9-12 year old members. Results demonstrated that the social connections and friendships formed as a consequence of swim club membership were significant contributors to enjoyment and retention, and were likely to be more important and more intimate than friendships formed elsewhere. Interviews of parents and coaches described the value of swim club membership in terms of developing values and traits necessary for life in the adult world, including personal discipline, goal-setting, social skills, a healthy level of self-esteem and an emergent sense of personal identity. Indeed, the authors acknowledge the children's experiences of enculturation into the language, customs, values and beliefs of the swimming club parallels the ways in which they learn to become adult members of the community.

In the UK, the aquatic industry is characterised by a number of delivery models including private enterprises, charitable organisations, community swim clubs and local authorities (Melville, 2010). For individuals involved within these industries, whether employed or on a volunteer basis, there is opportunity to develop wide-ranging skills that may also be a valuable, transferable, capacity-enhancing asset within the community (Wendel et al., 2009). For example, Swim England offers safeguarding, management, leadership and positive behaviour training, as well as conventional coaching (ASA, 2017). Such training is of value in terms of 'giving back' to the club and wider community, but also for gaining new skills and qualifications on an individual basis. Burgham and Downward (2005) suggest that linking skill acquisition to broader, recognised qualifications (potentially via collaboration with local further education colleges) may be a productive way to increase volunteering. In a study of 23 different community sports clubs (including swimming), the core competencies of volunteer members were identified as extending well beyond the cognitive, to include emotional intelligence and social intelligence (Balduck et al., 2010). Such traits, the authors note, are associated with charismatic leadership that potentially inspires motivation, commitment and a positive attitude to development.

Summary statement: Community capacity is enhanced by the development of human capital in terms of aquatic skills, a culture of water safety and, potentially, a range of transferable life-skills that are associated with swimming participation. These skills are highly valued by community stakeholders. Such human capital however, is highly influenced by a number of demographic factors, not least of all ethnicity and race. Programmes aiming to engender this form of human capital should be attentive to the socio-cultural and socio-political characteristics of the community.

2. Social Capital

The concept of social capital is generally believed to be a productive lens through which to observe how the social networks developed through communities might become catalysts for more positive identities and lifestyles (Skinner, 2006). Historically, public swimming pools have provided an important space where community members have attended for recreation, socialisation and participation in the public life of that community (Wiltse, 2007). Wiltse (2013) describes the community swimming pool as a barometer of community commitment to civic life. For example, he states that construction of new pools and high attendance rates are indicative of flourishing civic life, whilst pool closures and dwindling attendance represent the converse. The intimacy of the aquatic environment promotes a form of social interaction that has the potential to engender highly personal and social bonds. These networks of relationships may subsequently confer certain benefits on individuals, communities and societies (Edwards, 2015).

The term 'social capital' was first used by Hanifan to describe *"those tangible assets that count for most in the daily lives of people, namely goodwill, fellowship, sympathy and social intercourse among the individuals and families who make up a social unit"* (Hanifan, 1916 cited by Putnam, 2001, p.19). Numerous conceptualisations of social capital have subsequently been proposed, but for the purposes of this chapter the following definition, which attends to social capital as an attribute of the individual and the collective (Villalonga-Olives and Kawachi, 2015), and an opportunity to improve wellbeing, empowerment, trust, reciprocity, solidarity and community connectedness, will be used:

"... a quantity and/or quality of resource that an actor (individual or group or community) can access; or a resource that is located in social networks. The former emphasises the utility of social resources and the latter emphasises the utility of network characteristics. Implicit in definitions of social capital is its ability to **generate positive outcomes** *through shared* **trust, norms and values, benefits secured by membership in social networks;** *and the desirability of* **collective understanding and action***"* (Meikle-Law, 2006, p.55, emphasis added).

Social capital is significant as communities demonstrating high levels are more likely to be healthier, happier, safer, more resilient and have higher levels of employment (Delaney and Keaney, 2005; Skinner et al., 2008). Social capital is of particular importance in economically deprived communities as it may offer opportunities to solve problems in a more cost-effective fashion, or even without recourse to expenditure (Delaney and Keaney, 2005). Sport is believed to play an important part in the generation of social capital – it is invariably a social activity that creates networks that extend beyond the participants themselves, for example parents, volunteers and supporters (Putnam, 2001).

The following will consider how swimming may foster social capital within communities.

Tower et al. (2014) used a mixed-methods approach to explore the community benefits of community based aquatic centres in Australia. The research was focused on six individual case studies which encompassed metropolitan and regional sites, with a broad cross-section of demographic characteristics. Of particular interest in the study was the extent to which the aquatic centres created a sense of community connectedness. A questionnaire involving 1373 service users utilised five social capital constructs to elucidate this: Safety, Trust, Acceptance/Reciprocity, Friends and Volunteer/Involved. The authors noted that in general, Safety, Trust and Acceptance/Reciprocity constructs were rated highly by participants, however Friends and Volunteer/Involved constructs were rated low. This suggests that, in these case study sites, the centres were not seen as a space to make friends or be involved as a volunteer. Clearly, this impacts on the ability of the aquatic centres to contribute to the community's social capital. There were however a group of individuals who had higher ratings of all social capital constructs. These were respondents who participated in group activities such as fitness or exercise classes, or swim club/squad training. These activities offered opportunities for participants to make meaningful connections that would generate social capital outcomes (see also Case Study 2). These authors' findings reflect, in part, the positive correlation between membership of/participation in sports groups and the development of social capital described by others. For example Delaney and Keane (2005), utilising existing UK statistical data, concluded that participation in sports groups was associated with higher levels of social trust and trust in institutions, and a greater likelihood of expressing views that immigration was a positive enrichment of cultural life.

Case Study 2

Jean's Story

(Personal communication to author)

Jean, 80, is a full time carer for her elderly husband who is confined to a wheelchair. Jean attends the weekly ladies' swim session at her local community pool – she enjoys meeting the other swimmers who come from very diverse backgrounds, and chats whilst they are in the pool and on poolside. Most weeks, she will stay and have coffee with a number of the other swimmers after the session. She values these informal 'friendships' and claims that it is this stimulating social contact which allows her to cope with the care-giver burden that she increasingly experiences.

Jean recently had to undergo surgery – as a consequence she missed six weeks of swimming. On the second week, the swimmers and pool staff noted Jean's absence and became concerned. Using membership records they traced a telephone number for one of Jean's family and made contact in order to check on Jean's wellbeing.

This case highlights how Jean accesses the social capital of the swimming community as a resource to improve her wellbeing and deal with the challenges of her daily life. The swim group has permitted her to cultivate new friendships and associations across class and ethnic barriers. Furthermore, the social network in which Jean is involved (by virtue of her swim participation) generates a valuable community 'connectedness', thereby extending the framework of support for an elderly community-dwelling lady.

Summary statement: Whilst swimming might be conceptualised as an individual sport, pool-based activities such as swimming clubs and exercise classes have been demonstrated to develop meaningful social networks (for participants and others) that have the potential to generate social capital and thereby bolster community capacity. The research base specific to social capital and swimming/aquatic exercise is however limited. Future empirical work should consider how swimming organisations can best promote social interaction in their facilities and programmes, for example greater use of group activities, unstructured components in training sessions, parallel social activities or the role for social media.

3. Civic Engagement

Intimately related to the idea of social capital is the notion of civic engagement – the manner in which citizens participate in community life in order to ameliorate conditions for others, or to influence the community's future (Adler and Goggin, 2005). Jarvie (2003) suggests that sport is a critical contributor to civil society – occupying a liminal space between the state and the individual – and promoting a communitarian philosophy based upon

mutuality and obligations rather than individualism. In many communities, sports clubs have been a key instigator of civic participation whether that be as a club member, a parent, a spectator or a volunteer (Edwards, 2015). It is suggested that there are 30,000 volunteers involved in UK swimming, with an estimated value of £30 million per annum (Burgham and Downward, 2005).

There are in fact, numerous examples of swimming as a catalyst for civic engagement (Amateur Swimming Association/Asset Transfer Unit (ASA/ATU), undated; Griffiths et al., 2014; Jarvie, 2003; Save Victoria Baths! Campaign, Undated). Many of these examples pertain to the desire of local community groups to preserve pools that are viewed as valuable community assets, or "*our pool*" (Griffiths et al., 2014:295). Down (2006, p.96) claims that prevailing neo-liberal logic dictates that "*the market should be the organising principle for all political, social and economic decisions... [involving]... trade and financial liberalisation, deregulation, [and] the selling off of state corporations*". Griffiths et al. (2014) illustrate how this type of neo-liberal discourse is frequently implemented to justify closure of government-funded swimming pools, and how counter-discourses are mobilised from community campaign groups using social justice logic, for example increased travel costs, and reduced accessibility. In many instances, the collective action is focused upon not only preserving the pool, but also instigating local community involvement in its on-going management (Jarvie, 2003). In particular, an increasing number of UK pools are now owned by community enterprises, abetted by the recent publication of a number of significant reports and policy interventions (ASA/ATU, undated). The management of these community enterprise pools is invariably based on Principles of democracy and volunteerism.

Case Study 3

Save Victoria Baths!

(Case content derived from Save Victoria Baths! Campaign (Undated).

Victoria Baths are the oldest swimming pools in Nottingham, providing community facilities to local residents from 1850 as a direct result of the appalling slum conditions. Nottingham's Corporation Surveyor noted in 1852: "The building is of brick and one storey high; the interior is commodious and well-fitted up. There are baths both for males and females, and the charges are exceedingly moderate. They are open on Sundays as well as on week-days, and the wash-houses are open on the week-days from eight o'clock a.m. to eight o'clock p.m. In the latter department there is suitable drying apparatus, and this has been of much benefit among the humbler classes of the community, whose homes do not furnish the requisite convenience for washing. Altogether the admirable situation is calculated to elevate both the physical and moral nature of the inhabitants".

On Friday 8th February 2008, following Nottingham City Council's announcement of their intention to close the 150 year old facility, the 'Save Victoria Baths!' campaign was launched. The campaign team (formed from a collective of local residents, swimmers and heritage groups) orchestrated an overwhelming response including 1300 emails and letters, and numerous petitions. The campaign group were tireless in their efforts creating a 'pop-up-shop' in the market place to canvas local opinion, organising free community fun days, operationalising an active social media presence, and creating art work to publicise their cause.

As a result of the concerted collective action, three members of the campaign group were co-opted to work alongside the city council and other organisations. The campaign ran for a total of 3 years and resulted in the opening of a new £9 million leisure centre built on the site of Victoria Baths, and preserving many of its original features.

The collective action of the campaign group ensured that the plans to move leisure and swimming facilities to a different part of the city in a purpose built 'McLeisure Centre' were stymied. As such, the civic action preserved not only valuable recreational facilities for local residents, but also an important aspect of their community cultural heritage.

Summary statement: Civic engagement is a critical dimension of community capacity because it defines the extent to which community members will engage with issues of public concern, and therefore is indicative of the potential leverage for health and community wellbeing improvement (Wendel et al., 2009). Swimming facilities, as valued community assets, have incited significant civic participation, especially when they have come under the threat of neo-liberal policy. A paradigm shift whereby community collectives become not just the campaigners but subsequently the 'owners' of community pools is apparent. Future empirical work should be attentive to the ability of such social enterprises to influence community capacity.

4. Shared Values

Efforts to develop community capacity should be aligned to a well-defined set of shared community values (Wendel et al., 2009). Edwards (2015) states that, to this end, community sport should be motivated by inclusivity and social justice and cultural enrichment. Skinner et al. (2008, p.22) assert that sport can serve as *"an excellent 'hook' for engaging people who may be suffering from disadvantage and providing a supportive environment to encourage and assist those individuals in their social development, learning and connection through related programmes and services".*

There are a number of studies that indicate how swimming may provide the alleged 'hook' for improving social inclusion within a community. Dagkas et al. (2011) describe how, in Muslim communities, the role of women as wives and mothers is highly honoured, to the potential detriment of their participation in sport, which is considered 'playful', immodest or lacking in worth. Their mixed-methods study involving teachers, young Muslim people and their parents explored the experiences and concerns regarding the inclusion of young Muslim women in physical education. Swimming was particularly problematic for parents, predominantly because of the presence of males in the aquatic environment. In these instances, parental permission was invariably not granted. Where such an impasse arose, successful resolutions were possible when pool managers were able to provide single-sex swimming, and where schools negotiated agreement on mutually acceptable clothing. The authors note that the schools who were most successful in social inclusion engaged the pupils in decision-making with regards appropriate clothing and requirements for participation. Such an approach engendered ownership and empowerment, and greater enthusiasm for swimming and other physical education activities. The authors conclude that social inclusion is best achieved by collaboration between multiple stakeholders, including the local authority, schools, pupils, parents, community members and faith groups.

In their evaluation of the ability of community pools to help develop community connections and promote inclusivity, Tower et al. (2014) revealed a wicked problem. Whilst the mission statements of the aquatic facilities aspired to inclusivity (an aspiration mirrored by the staff interviewed in the study), the financial analysis indicated that minimal resources were allocated to community development programmes. Managers insisted that they intended to pursue goals of social inclusion, but acknowledged the obligation to "*juggle between community and commerce*" (Tower et al., 2014, p.8). Conversely, Bullough et al. (2015) demonstrated that even when community development programmes were fully funded, participation did not necessarily increase. Their evaluation of a free, locally funded swimming initiative targeted at under-19 year olds in a deprived and culturally diverse community concluded that, due to low recruitment of new participants, the cost per swim of the community investment was almost six times more per head than a central government funded scheme. Fifty-one percent of the eligible population applied for a free swim membership, but only 33% of the eligible population activated it. The majority of the cardholders (72%) were already regular swimmers, and they accounted for the greatest proportion of attendances over the programme. The authors note that recruitment could have been adversely affected by the fact that the programme did not teach the requisite swim skills, and therefore may have inadvertently excluded non-swimmers. This is significant as evidence suggests that one in three children in the UK leave primary school unable to swim (ASA, 2012). Bullough et al.'s research highlights that cost is not the only barrier to community swim participation, rather a range of complex factors including facility location, opening hours and programming, public transport, body image and competing demands on free time are likely to be influential.

Aquatic leisure activity is the second most popular physical activity for individuals aged 50 or over in the UK, however participation rates have been in steep decline since 2002 (Evans and Sleap, 2015). In a qualitative study exploring the experiences of leisure time physical activity in 14 individuals aged 55 and over, Evans and Sleap (2015) concluded that the socio-historical embodied experiences of swimming significantly defined individuals' current perceptions. They suggest that to improve participation amongst older adults, (mis)conceptions regarding safety, hygiene and poor facilities should be addressed. The benefits to the community of engaging older adults swimming and other aquatic activity have been alluded to by Pike (2012). Using interview data from swimmers aged 60 years and over, Pike suggests that swim participation has the potential to challenge the construct that older people are dependent and burdensome to societal resources, and instead facilitate a more socially acceptable identity that redresses the stigmatisation of ageing.

Individuals with physical or intellectual disability often do not have the same opportunities to participate in sporting activities alongside nondisabled peers (Oriel et al., 2012). In children in particular, this can lead to social isolation and rejection, with implications for social, emotional and intellectual development (Siperstein et al., 2009). Oriel et al. (2012) investigated the psychosocial effects of an inclusive, eight week, community-based aquatic exercise programme for 23 children with and without disability. At pre-test, the children with disabilities were less accepted by their nondisabled peers, as indicated by a higher number of negative nominations using the Peer Sociometric Nomination Assessment. At post-test however, children with disabilities were more accepted by both groups of peers, indicating improved social acceptance.

Summary statement: Research suggests that swimming has the potential to promote opportunities for social inclusion and cultural enrichment within community settings, however economic and socio-cultural factors are likely to influence the relative effectiveness and efficiency of swim participation programmes. Organisations should be cognisant of this complex array of influences in the design of such programmes. Co-production of social inclusion programmes may be a promising method for improving swim participation.

Conclusion

This chapter has sought to demonstrate the efficacy of swimming in contributing to community capacity. Utilising a theoretical framework predicated on the constructs of human capital, social capital, civic engagement and shared values, and supported with data from empirical research, it is evident that there is the potential for a positive association between swimming/aquatic leisure participation and community wellbeing. What remains unclear however, are the specific processes that produce social change, and the contexts in which these might occur.

It is worthy of note that there is a relative dearth of evidence in this particular field. Consequently this chapter has made a number of recommendations for future research exploring swimming and communitarianism. Future studies should endeavour to utilise systematic and robust evaluation of programmes, and consider the capture of longitudinal evidence.

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Chapter 5

The public health benefits of swimming: a systematic review

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Key words:

swimming
public health
physical activity
drowning

Introduction

What is Public Health and why is it important?

There is now widespread recognition that our health and wellbeing is determined by more than simply our genetic makeup or access to healthcare (Marmot 2015, Marmot 2016, Marmot and Bell 2016). Importantly, lifestyle behaviours (for example physical activity and nutrition) in addition to the social determinants of health, including our physical, social and economic circumstances in the location we are born and live, have a considerable impact on both the length and quality of our lives (Marmot 2015, Marmot 2015, Stringhini, Carmeli et al. 2017). Gross inequalities exist in society, which are largely attributed to variations in social determinants and lifestyle behaviours, accounting for a considerable portion of the disturbing variation in life expectancy of approximately 48 years between twenty countries (Marmot 2005, Marmot and Allen 2014, Marmot 2015). Addressing such inequality is the heartbeat of public health interventions. The World Health Organisation (WHO) influential Acheson report defined public health as *"the art and science of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through the organized efforts of society"* (Acheson 1988).

The importance of Physical Activity for Public Health

There is now irrefutable evidence that leisure activities, physical activity, sport and exercise are good for the health and wellbeing of individuals across the lifespan and consequently promoting physical activity is a key public health priority (Nelson, Rejeski et al. 2007, Biddle and Asare 2011, Biddle, Brehm et al. 2012, Naci and Ioannidis 2013).

Specifically, in children and adolescents, higher levels of physical activity, particularly moderate to vigorous physical activity (MVPA), are associated with better physical (for example improved cardiometabolic markers, lower obesity levels), cognitive (for example neuropsychological performance, academic performance), emotional and mental health benefits (for example lower risk of developing depression, increased resilience) (Jackson, Davis et al. 2016, Lubans, Richards et al. 2016, Stoner, Rowlands et al. 2016, Korczak, Madigan et al. 2017). Similar public health and wellbeing benefits of physical activity and exercise have been reported in adults of working age (Biddle, Brehm et al. 2012, Reiner, Niermann et al. 2013, Oja, Titze et al. 2015, Schuch, Vancampfort et al. 2016, Schuch, Vancampfort et al. 2016). Moreover, physical activity and exercise can improve a plethora of health outcomes in older age (Nelson, Rejeski et al. 2007, Sun, Norman et al. 2013) and may play an important role in addressing age specific public health priorities such as preventing falls (Stubbs, Brefka et al. 2015).

In addition to the aforementioned benefits, physical inactivity is estimated to be a leading modifiable risk factor associated with premature mortality ((WHO) 2014) and potentially associated with a similar number of premature deaths as smoking (Public Health England 2014). There is evidence of a dose response relationship between physical activity and mortality, with higher levels of total, leisure, activities of daily living, occupational activity and all intensities of physical activity/exercise being associated with a reduced risk of premature mortality compared to the lowest activity levels (Samitz, Egger et al. 2011). A similar relationship is evident in older adults (Hupin, Roche et al. 2015), with the authors of a recent meta-analysis suggesting that swimming could play a key role in helping older adults reduce mortality (although they found no direct data investigating the relationship between swimming and mortality in older adults). However, there is promising evidence that replacing sedentary behaviour with moderate physical activity (of about 60-75 minutes per day) can eliminate the risk of death from high amount of sitting time (Ekelund, Steene-Johannessen et al. 2016).

Public health initiatives and potential for swimming to play a central role

Given the plethora of evidence for physical activity and sport on health and wellbeing, numerous International ((WHO) 2014) and national initiatives have been developed (Public Health England 2014) stressing the important of promoting physical activity. Many of these guidelines make specific recommendations regarding the amount and intensity of physical activity that different populations should seek to achieve. For instance, in their initiative *"Everybody Active Everyday"*, Public Health England recommends that adults participate in 150 minutes of physical activity respectively per week (Public Health England 2014). Swimming may be uniquely placed and have a pivotal role to help everybody to be active every day from the cradle to the grave. Specifically, swimming is an activity that

people can participate in regardless of age, ethnicity, gender and culture and may offer a unique strategy for people to engage in a meaningful activity (Thomson, Kearns et al. 2003, Oh and Lee 2015). In addition, a recent large study among 80,306 British adults, the authors found that any amount of swimming participation compared to those who engaged in none, was associated with a 28% and 41% reduction in all cause and cardiovascular disease cause mortality respectively (Oja, Kelly et al. 2016). Thus, there is promising evidence that swimming may help reduce premature deaths due to inactivity. Another core public health concern is the prevention and management of obesity (Aune, Sen et al. 2016). Given that physical activity is central to addressing the obesity epidemic (George, Kristi et al. 2016, Garcia-Hermoso, Ceballos-Ceballos et al. 2017) and swimming is a robust form of energy expenditure (Trappe, Gastaldelli et al. 1997), the potential for swimming to address this public health priority is considerable.

Swimming participation

Swimming may also be uniquely placed to provide public health benefits given the fact it remains a popular form of physical activity. A recent meta-analysis of worldwide global sport and leisure activities (Hulteen, Smith et al. 2017) demonstrated that swimming was consistently rated in the top five leisure participated physical activities in children and adolescents across Africa, Eastern Mediterranean, Western Pacific, Americas and Europe. However, in adulthood, the same meta-analysis found that swimming was only in the top five commonly participated physical activities in the Eastern Mediterranean and Western Pacific. Swimming remains very popular in England, with national data in England from the Active People Survey by Sport England (Sport England 2016) demonstrating that between October 2015 and September 2016, 2,516,700 people aged 16 years or older reported swimming (including all swimming and diving (indoor and outdoor), water polo, deep water swimming, open water swimming, deep water diving) at least once a week. However, the same report found that numbers engaging in swimming are just over 750,000 fewer than ten years earlier, which is clearly a concern. Taken together, it appears that swimming is universally popular in adolescence and childhood, but that participation numbers are declining, with the transition from childhood to adulthood a critical window. The precise reasons for this relationship are unclear and warrant investigation as a matter of priority to inform interventions to prevent this potential missed opportunity.

Swimming may also play a key role in addressing another important public health concern, drowning, which remains the leading cause of death in the United States in children and adolescents and disproportionately affects those who are non-Caucasian (Weiss 2010). The numbers of people drowning in the United Kingdom (UK) has declined over the last 20 years with 381 deaths in 2013 (The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents 2016). Swimming ability may reflect drowning disparities (Stempski, Liu et al. 2015). Thus, having adequate opportunities to learn to swim and have positive experiences in early life, particularly among those from disadvantaged backgrounds, may be an important to tackle this leading cause of avoidable and tragic death.

Given the potential for swimming to play a key role to help people from the cradle to the grave meet physical activity targets, tackle obesity and experience public health benefits, there is a need to synthesis the literature on the potential public health benefits across the lifespan. The current chapter comprises a synthesis of results following a comprehensive literature search over four electronic databases and screening of 1662 articles in addition to citation chasing across the Google Scholar database and reference checking of the identified articles. The specific questions of this systematic review chapter are:

1. What are the public health benefits of swimming for the individual and communities across the lifespan from cradle to the end of life?
2. What are the public health risks (for example asthma, reduced bone mineral density) and are these based on evidence?
3. What are the risks of drowning and how can leaning to swim negate this risk?

The final summary section of the chapter summarises the gaps within the literature and makes recommendations for future research initiatives.

Public health considerations of swimming in children and adolescents

There is irrefutable evidence that physical activity is good for children's health (Biddle and Asare 2011, Lubans, Richards et al. 2016). As illustrated above, childhood is a time when swimming is universally popular and participation levels seem to drop once adulthood is reached (Hulteen, Smith et al. 2017). Whilst there is no clear evidence illustrating why this observation occurs, it is known that water trauma or negative swimming experiences in earlier childhood may have a negative impact on later participation and lead to a fear of water and swimming in adulthood (Poulton, Menzies et al. 1999). This suggests the need to ensure that earlier childhood experiences of swimming are accessible and that opportunities are available for people who may have had negative experiences can enter the water before they enter adulthood.

There is a paucity of evidence investigating the direct public health benefits of swimming among children and adolescents. One small intervention study investigated the potential benefits of swimming three times a week for 60 minutes at 50-75% maximal heart rate over 12 weeks among 10 obese primary school age children versus a control condition (n=10) (Lee and Oh 2014). The study found some provisional evidence that weight, body fat percentage and fat free mass significantly decreased from baseline to follow up among the swimming group. However, the small sample size, and lack of randomisation precludes any firm conclusions to be drawn from this study on the potential benefits of swimming on obese young children. Another study (Ganciu 2015), suggested that swimming three times a week (aiming for a total of 100 minutes per week) over a 6 month period with a combined regimented dietary program resulted in weight loss, reduced waist circumference and obesity risk among 25 University students compared to a control condition. However, the study is of remarkable poor quality and no firm conclusions can be made based on this study. Apart from these studies, there is a virtual absence of studies specifically investigating swimming and tackling the obesity epidemic in young people. **Future research is urgently required to consider how swimming can play a role in addressing the obesity epidemic in children and young people.**

There have been some concerns expressed about the potential deleterious consequences of swimming pool attendance and participation in childhood, including concerns regarding bone health and respiratory conditions (Gomez-Bruton, Gonzalez-Aguero et al. 2013, Dick, Friend et al. 2014). These concerns are not founded on convincing science at this moment in time. A recent large meta-analysis of 14 studies compared bone mineral density levels at various skeletal sites (including the lumbar spine, femoral neck and whole body) and found that children and adolescents who engaged in regular swimming had comparable levels of bone mineral density compared to sedentary controls (Gomez-Bruton, Montero-Marin et al. 2016). However, the authors found that compared to children who engaged in other forms of osteogenic sports (for instance weight bearing land based exercises), children that swam had reduced lumbar spine (Hedge's G=0.65, $p<0.001$), femoral neck (Hedges G = -1.09, $p<0.001$) but no difference was observed in whole body bone mineral density. The authors suggest that (Gomez-Bruton, Montero-Marin et al. 2016) children who frequently swim, may wish to complement their training with additional weight bearing exercises to improve their bone mineral density at the femoral neck and lumbar spine.

Of equal concern is that swimming pool attendance has been associated with asthma and adverse respiratory consequences, with several studies suggesting a link, whilst others have found no evidence of a relationship. Given this, a recent meta-analysis (Valeriani, Protano et al. 2016) including seven studies and 5851 children found that swimming pool attendance was not associated with an increased odds of having asthma compared to controls (OR, 1.084; 95% CI: 0.89-1.31). Perhaps the most robust evidence derives from a prospective cohort study in England, which followed 5,738 children over 81 months (Font-Ribera, Villanueva et al. 2011). The authors found that swimming was actually associated with lower levels of asthma and other lung conditions. In addition they found that among children aged 4-7 who engaged in higher levels of swimming versus children of similar age who neve swam, had improvements in lung function, specifically better forced vital capacity and forced expiratory volumes were noted. Moreover, a study among 2,205 babies found that attending swimming pool in their first year was not associated with an increased odds of lower respiratory tract infection, wheezing, persistent cough, eczema or otitis (Font-Ribera, Villanueva et al. 2013). Thus, there does not appear to be adequate evidence to suggest that swimming is associated with asthma or respiratory conditions in childhood in children and is actually associated with better lung function.

In addition to the aforementioned, providing swimming may be a cost effective method of physical activity. A recent study considering physical activity among young people in the community levels before and after a number of

physical activity interventions, ranked swimming as 3rd at a cost of £200 per quality adjusted life year (QALY) with a National Health Service (NHS) saving of £2,111 per completer (Pringle, Cooke et al. 2010). Little evidence of the QALY of swimming is available beyond this study and such research should be a priority in the future. Moreover, future research is required to consider the potential impact of swimming on general physical activity levels, since data on this is sparse.

Free swimming initiatives: an important public health opportunity to address social disadvantages

There is an increasing body of evidence that poor socioeconomic status and deprivation is associated with worse health outcomes such as higher levels of obesity, diabetes and ultimately earlier death (Goldblatt 2016, Marmot and Bell 2016, Stringhini, Carmeli et al. 2017). Yet, there is optimism that such social disadvantages are amenable to change (Marmot and Bell 2016). Consequently, there is considerable potential for physical activity and swimming to play a role in addressing such inequalities (Grzywacz and Marks 2001). Social patterns are evident among swimming participation, with children from lower socioeconomic class less likely than those from higher socioeconomic class to engage in swimming (Audrey, Wheeler et al. 2012). However, this is the socioeconomic class with the widest disparity in terms of health, wellbeing and outcomes and thus addressing this gap is a priority in terms of health outcomes (Audrey, Wheeler et al. 2012, Marmot and Bell 2016). In 2009 as part of a broader plan to secure a legacy after the London 2012 Olympic Games, a two year initiative began in England in which participating local authorities gave free swimming lessons to children <16 years and adults >60 years (Audrey, Wheeler et al. 2012). One study (Audrey, Wheeler et al. 2012) evaluated the available data in Bristol among children (<16 years of age), and contrary to their hypothesis, they found that children from most deprived areas were just as likely to take up the free swimming as those in the most affluent areas. However, the authors found that having a swimming pool close by in the deprived areas was important, since lower rates of swimming were noted in the most deprived when the pool was further away and during the winter ($p<0.001$). Of interest, the authors noted that young girls were more likely to take up the free swimming compared to boys ($p=0.004$), which may be important given the reported low levels of physical activity among young girls (van Sluijs, McMinn et al. 2007, Nooijen, Galanti et al. 2017). Unfortunately, the free swimming initiative was stopped by the government in 2010 due to budgetary constraints (British Broadcasting Company, 2010), and it may have removed an opportunity to promote physical activity equally across the social gradient (Audrey, Wheeler et al. 2012).

A recent study in a large city in England investigated the impact of the local authority providing free swimming passes to 1,011 young disadvantaged children in order to evaluate if this scheme could improve physical activity levels and wellbeing (Pringle, Zwolinsky et al. 2014). Referrals were made by healthcare practitioners (for example General Practitioners, nurses), teachers and community workers or self-referrals. The initiative specifically targeted children who may be disadvantaged, in terms of geographical location, economic circumstances, education, family background, health profile, black and ethnic minority groups or any other reason deemed reasonable. The free swimming passes included unrestricted access to public swimming sessions in the evenings, weekends, school holidays in addition to more structured swimming activities led by the local authority program coordinators and support staff including diving, lifesaving, water polo, inflatable fun sessions and water based youth clubs. The initiative demonstrated that much greater improvements in self-report physical activity were seen in young girls than boys. However, 77% and 87% of females and males respectively, who were sedentary at baseline increased their physical activity and half of participants not meeting recommended PA guidelines increased their physical activity after the intervention. However, the authors noted that males were much more likely than females to be sufficiently active at baseline. Thus, importantly, the authors of this study (Pringle, Zwolinsky et al. 2014) conclude, like another study (Audrey, Wheeler et al. 2012), that providing free swimming appears to be particularly effective among young girls, who typically have lower levels of physical activity and may benefit most. This has significant implications for Swim England implementation strategies in addressing the inactivity epidemic predominantly in young girls.

In another examination of the free swimming program (FSP) in the South of England (Kokolakakis, Pappous et al. 2015), evidence was found of an increase in the access of swimming among children (11-16 years). However, this did not translate to an actual increase in participation of achieving more than 30 minutes of swimming per week.

Of interest, the authors found results suggesting that providing free swimming pool access increased swimming participation (defined as swimming for 30 minutes or more per week) among those with lower education (odds ratio 1.9, p=0.05). An observational study in two deprived neighbourhoods in Glasgow interviewed 81 people who used the swimming pools (Thomson, Kearns et al. 2003). The participants all reported that the swimming was important to their health and wellbeing and emphasised that it was an important means of increasing their physical activity and improving social contact with others in the community (Thomson, Kearns et al. 2003).

Thus taken together, there is some tentative evidence that providing free swimming appears to increase swimming uptake, particularly among young girls and those across the social class spectrum. Such initiatives may be an important strategy to increase participation among hard to reach groups. However, the evaluation of such initiatives is methodologically poor and it appears there has been a missed opportunity to collect public health information at the time of such initiatives. Going forwards, it is important that more robust research methods are used to capture changes in physical activity and other important public health constructs, such as maintenance of a healthy weight, obesity, wellbeing and mental health.

General adults

A recent systematic review (Oja, Titze et al. 2015) considered the health benefits of a range of sport disciplines and the authors identified nine studies considering swimming in adults. The authors (Oja, Titze et al. 2015) reported across three prospective cohort studies, swimming was not associated with weight change or altered risk in cardiovascular disease, however one study noted a significant reduction in all-cause mortality (Chase, Sui et al. 2008). Specifically, (Chase, Sui et al. 2008) investigated 40,547 men age 20-90 years who completed a health examination during 1971 – 2003 and analysed the influence of swimming on mortality versus walking and running. The authors found that after adjustment for age, body-mass index, smoking status, alcohol intake, and family history of cardiovascular disease, swimmers had a 53%, 50%, and 49% lower all-cause mortality risks than men who were sedentary, walkers, or runners, respectively ($p<0.05$ for each). The results suggest that swimmers had a lower risk of early death versus men who were sedentary, engaged in walking or running only. In one randomised control trial (Carrasco, M et al. 2012), a significant but small decrease in body mass index among swimmers versus the control group was noted among post-menopausal women. Beyond this systematic review and the articles contained within, there is a paucity of evidence investigating the public health benefits of swimming in the general adult population. There is also a notable dearth of research considering the influence of swimming on physical activity levels in adults. Although, a systematic review considering the impact of fatherhood on physical activity and sports participation, suggested that swimming among older men, is a popular means to acquire health benefits since it does not contain a game element (Pot and Keizer 2016).

Moving forwards, it is essential the research is conducted to investigate the influence of swimming on public health outcomes in the general adult population.

Pregnancy

There have been some concerns that some of the disinfectants used to sterilise swimming pools may be harmful to expectant mothers, fetal growth and birth outcomes (Juhl, Kogevinas et al. 2010). A Danish birth cohort study investigated the self-report swimming behaviour, prospectively with 78,486 women followed up through and after pregnancy. The authors found that compared to women who did not swim, women who swam in early/mid-term had a slightly reduced risk of giving birth pre-term (hazard ratio (HR) 0.80, 95% CI 0.72-0.88) or giving a birth to a child with congenital malformations (HR 0.89, 95% CI 0.80-0.98). Thus, the authors suggest that swimming does appear to be safe for pregnant mothers to the end point they considered.

There is a paucity of scientific research considering the public health benefits of swimming during pregnancy.

Older adults

Engaging in physical activity in older age is essential for healthy ageing (Windle, Hughes et al. 2010). Specifically, higher level of physical activity promote cognitive health (Hamer, de Oliveira et al. 2014, Hamer, Lavoie et al. 2014, Stubbs, Chen et al. 2017), mental health (Schuch, Vancampfort et al. 2016), physical function and reduce falls risk (Stubbs, Brefka et al. 2015). Thus, the potential for swimming to have a central role in addressing public health in older age is considerable.

Data directly investigating the public health benefits of swimming in older age is sparse. However, a study found that regular older swimmers (n=16) who swam between two and five times a week over a period on average of 2.5 years, had significantly better executive function on three tasks, compared to sedentary older adults of similar age and gender (Abou-Dest, Albinet et al. 2012). Interestingly, the authors observed that the better improvements in executive function among swimmers was not attributed to cardiorespiratory fitness. However, the small sample size and lack of intervention study design preclude any form conclusions being drawn from this study.

One of the biggest public health concerns in older age is falls, which are a leading cause of disability, mortality and admission to long term care facilities (Lamb, Jørstad-Stein et al. 2005, Gates, Smith et al. 2008, Gillespie, Robertson et al. 2012). In the general population, a previous umbrella review of all the top tier of evidence (for instance systematic reviews of meta-analyses of randomised control trials) demonstrated that exercise was the most consistent beneficial intervention on preventing falls in older age (Stubbs, Brefka et al. 2015). Little information is available on the influence of swimming on falls. However, one study (Merom, Stanaway et al. 2014) considered the relationship between swimming, golf, calisthenics, lawn bowls and aerobic exercise machines on future falls among 1,667 older people followed up on average over 43.1 months. The authors found that only swimming significantly reduced the risk of future falls (incidence rate ratio 0.69, 95% CI 0.45-1.0, fully adjusted model) whilst none of the other sports influenced the rate of falls. The possible reasons for the reduced falls in the swimmers, might be explained by the significantly lower (better) postural sway, which is a strong predictor of future falls (Deandrea, Lucenteforte et al. 2010). The potential benefits of water activities on falls risk was illustrated in another intervention study (Arnold and Faulkner 2010). The authors evaluated seventy-nine adults (65 years and older) with hip osteoarthritis and randomised them to one of three groups 1) water aquatics and education (aquatic exercise twice a week with once-a-week group education), aquatics only (twice a week aquatic exercise) and control (usual activity). The authors found that aquatic exercise significantly reduced fear of falling and improved functional performance compared to control conditions.

Taken together, there is promising evidence that in older people, swimming could play an important role in preventing falls. However, going forwards, appropriately designed research is required to consider in a robust way if swimming and aquatic exercise can help improve balance and falls in the older population.

Vulnerable populations

In certain populations who may have low levels of physical activity, swimming may be a particularly valuable means to help people achieve PA and acquire the associated public health benefits. For example, in a recent study among young adults with cerebral palsy (n=54), swimming was the third most popular form of activity, with 53.7% reporting that they swam on at least one occasion in the previous three months (Usuba, Oddson et al. 2015). In addition, a recent systematic review found that swimming has several benefits on motor skills among children with cerebral palsy (Roostaei, Baharlouei et al. 2016). Another intervention study found that swimming resulted in an actual increase in self-reported physical activity among those with cerebral palsy (Lai, Liu et al. 2015).

Addressing public health priorities

One example of swimming being utilised to address two public health priorities, namely obesity and drowning, is the "Everyone swims" program in Washington, the United States (Stempski, Liu et al. 2015). The program was a

partnership between 21 community health clinics, 28 swimming pools, 9 beaches and 2 rowing houses which was designed to promote policy and systems change to make swimming safe and create access for low income and diverse families. Whilst the authors did not record access to swimming pool, changes in swimming behaviours or any public health measures, the authors found through stakeholder interviews that higher numbers of swimmers were noted by using standardised screening for swim ability, referring patients from clinics to water organisations, using improved scholarship form and processes and developing special swim programs. The authors propose a socioecological model of factors based on (Sallis, Cervero et al. 2006) model which influence swimming and water recreation including:

Individual factors- ability to swim, personal cultural beliefs about swimming/water, comfort with water, familiarity with pools.

Family factors - ability to swim, beliefs about swimming, comfort with water, familiarity with swimming pools.

Community/ institution factors – Water program information readily available (including non-English), pool scholarships, scholarships for low income families/children, availability of single sex sessions, health clinics and pools working together.

Policy factors – Pools allowing diverse swim wear, single sex swimming time allocations.

Whilst of interest, no formal evaluation of this model, or the program to tackle obesity and drowning is available. **Future UK based research might wish to consider combining robust evaluations of swimming to tackle public health priorities such as obesity, increasing physical activity, wellbeing and reducing the risk of drowning.**

Drowning and swimming

Drowning kills approximately 4,000 people in the United States and more than 300,000 people across the world each year (Mott and Latimer 2016). In Europe, drowning accounts for approximately 6500 deaths (or 5%) of unintentional deaths per year (Moufatti and Petridou 2014). The latest figures from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents suggest that 381 people died from drowning in the UK in 2013 (The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, 2016).

Worldwide, it is estimated that 1.3 million disability-adjusted life years (DALYs) were lost due to death or disability due to drowning in 2004 (Martyn 2014). Whilst in some high income countries such as the United States, there had been a decline in drowning deaths, large numbers (5,800) are treated in emergency departments and/ or require hospitilisation (Bowman, Aitken et al. 2012). In addition, long term adverse neurological disabilities such as quadriplegia or persistent vegetative state occur between 5-10% of drowning victims (Weiss 2010). There are marked discrepancies between drowning rates in high income countries compared to Low and Middle income countries in drowning rates, with higher rates noted in the latter. Drowning is associated with inequality, with a recent study in the United States demonstrating those from poor backgrounds disproportionately affected (Quan, Pilkey et al. 2011). Another large study in the United States investigating 19,403 emergency department attendances over 5 years due to drowning, found that children from racial/ ethnic minorities were more likely to experience non-fatal drowning (Felton, Myers et al. 2015). Disparities among fatal drowning appear greatest in swimming pool settings, with a recent study analysing death certificate data over 12 years in the United States finding that black Americans were 5.5 times more likely to die from drowning than whites in these settings (Gilchrist and Parker 2014). Little research has been conducted in the UK on drowning and none is available on the potential social gradient and drowning risk. One old study among children under 15 years investigated 306 drowning incidents (Kemp and Sibert 1992) and found that 149 died and 157 survived after near drowning. The authors reported the death from drowning was lowest in public pools 6% and highest in rivers, canals, and lakes (78%) with most of the children (263, 83%) being unsupervised at the time of the incident.

There is a diverse range of definitions of drowning, with a previous systematic review identifying 33 differing definitions (Papa, Hoelle et al. 2005). Consequently, the World Health Organisation agreed on the following definition *"Drowning is the process of experiencing respiratory impairment from submersion/immersion in liquid"* (van Beeck, Branche et al. 2005). Drowning is rarely caused by a single factor and prevention efforts should

therefore be reflective of the multifactorial nature of drowning (Mott and Latimer 2016). Drowning in children is not always associated with a lack of adult supervision, but often a lapse in concentration of the supervising adults (Weiss 2010). Alcohol consumption can impair judgement, performance in addition to having adverse physiological effects for example lack of orientation, altering perception to temperature (Thompson, Oram et al. 2016)) (Weiss 2010). Swimming ability is another key risk factor for drowning which can potentially be amenable and improved with appropriate swimming training interventions. Despite a suggested link, the relatively recent American Academy of Paediatrics review on the topic stated that *"there is no clear evidence that drowning rates are higher in poor swimmers"* (page 256) (Weiss 2010). However, there are a few retrospective studies that have suggested that swimming lessons may be associated with a reduced risk of drowning in small children. A study in China demonstrated that children who drowned were less likely to have had swimming lessons (6.8%) than children that did not drown (12%) (Yang, Nong et al. 2007). Another small study investigating 61 drowning deaths in children aged 1-4 years of age and 27 5- 18 year olds found that formal swimming lessons were associated with approximately a 88% decreased odds of drowning (odds ratio 0.12, 95% 0.01-0.97) (Brenner, Taneja et al. 2009). However, swimming lessons or swimming ability does not ensure that a person is not at risk of drowning (Weiss 2010). For instance, a study of children aged less than five found that 17% of those that drowned had received swimming lessons previously (Hassall 1989).

There is no consistent evidence of the best method to prevent drowning to date (Weiss 2010). Some interventions that have worked include pool fencing with an odds ratio of 0.27 (95% CI 0.16-0.47) indicating that pooling fencing is associated with a 73% decreased odds of drowning compared to no fencing (Thompson and Rivara 2000). In a review and grading of the available evidence key recommendations for preventing drowning in practice revolved around three area (Mott and Latimer 2016), although the authors stressed there is a lack of high quality evidence. First, alcohol greatly increases drowning risk and should not be given when participating in water activities (Consensus, evidence based expert opinion). Second, in drowning victims, the order of resuscitation efforts should be airway, breathing and compressions (ABC) (Consensus, evidence based expert opinion). Third, educational programs about the dangers of drowning, swimming and water safety lessons and pool fencing may be effective in preventing childhood drowning (evidence rated as inconsistent or limited quality orientated evidence) (Mott and Latimer 2016).

Specifically, with adequate swimming supervision, swimming instruction and public education measures, it is estimated that approximately 85% of drownings may be preventable (Mott and Latimer 2016). At the time of writing, the American Academy of Paediatrics report state there was no scientific study investigating if lifeguard presence is associated with a reduction in drowning incidents (Weiss 2010). However, there is some evidence from South Africa that substandard lifeguard performance (for example being inattentive) delayed the resuscitation and retrieval process of drowning victims (Modell 2010).

Most recently, a systematic review found seven articles (two randomised control trials, one trial without a control group, three case control studies and one evaluation) and explored the evidence of drowning prevention efforts in children and adolescents (Wallis, Watt et al. 2015). Three of the included studies investigated the potential benefits of education and only one considered an objective measure on drowning fatalities (Bennett, Cummings et al. 1999), although the numbers were too small to establish any difference. The authors (Wallis, Watt et al. 2015) identified two studies investigating water and swimming safety lessons however noted there were considerable limitations in the quality of the studies, thus precluding any definitive conclusions. One study suggested that swimming skills improved swimming ability in children aged 2-3 but no data on drowning was provided and there was no control group (Asher, Rivara et al. 1995). In the second study as described above the authors found retrospective evidence suggesting a protective effect of swimming lessons on drowning (Brenner, Taneja et al. 2009). Finally, this systematic review found two studies (one American and one Australian) providing mixed evidence on the benefits of pool fencing.

Clearly, more robust research is required before any firm conclusions can be made about addressing the public health priority of reducing the incidence of drowning.

Summary and recommendations

Despite the popularity of swimming, there is a notable paucity of evidence investigating the public health benefits.

Overall, the evidence base for the public health benefits of swimming is very limited and the evidence that is available is of remarkably poor quality, precluding any firm conclusions being made.

Specifically, in key public health priorities such as addressing the obesity epidemic, increasing physical activity or preventing drowning, there is limited evidence of the benefits of swimming. However, there is insufficient evidence to suggest that swimming in childhood is associated with worse respiratory health (for example asthma) or poor bone health (in later life). There is some tentative evidence that providing free swimming pool access may increase swimming participation, particularly among those from disadvantaged backgrounds. There is also some tentative evidence that swimming may potentially reduce the risk of earlier death compared to people who are more sedentary or men who engage in walking or running.

Recommendations

- Investment is required for research to consider how swimming initiatives, such as free swimming, can help increase physical activity participation and help address social determinants of health. Such initiatives should specifically consider and target key groups, such as increasing physical activity among young females and swimming participation among those from lower socioeconomic status or black and ethnic minority groups.
- Future research is urgently required to consider how swimming can play a role in public health priorities, such as addressing the obesity epidemic in youth and across the lifespan.
- Future research is required to more broadly capture the public health benefits of swimming – including key areas such as increasing physical activity, wellbeing, mental health and reducing the risk of drowning.
- Future research in older age may wish to consider how swimming and aquatic exercise may help improve balance and reduce falls risk.

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Appendix

Methods

The current systematic review was conducted in accordance with best practice, namely the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses Statement (PRISMA)1. A pre-specified but unpublished protocol was adhered to as set out below.

Eligibility Criteria

Studies were considered eligible if they met the following criteria:

Population – People of any age, gender and ethnicity were eligible.

Intervention – Studies considering any type of swimming or aquatic activity (structured or unstructured) in a swimming pool or natural waters (e.g. lake, sea) were considered. This review also included non-quantitative (e.g. qualitative) studies considering people's experience of swimming and wellbeing. Policy studies considering swimming were also considered eligible.

Comparator – Studies investigating the public health benefits or considerations of swimming with and without any comparison group are eligible.

Outcomes – Any quantitative or qualitative study reporting any public health outcome were included including physical activity, obesity, and addition to the social determinants of health. In addition, studies reporting public health considerations associated with swimming such as drowning were included. Policy papers considering public health outcomes were also included.

Study Design – A wide range of study designs were eligible including intervention studies (Randomised controlled trials (RCT), nonrandomised controlled trials, pre and post-test intervention studies), observational studies (including case control, cohort or survey data) and qualitative studies (including focus groups, individual interviews). In addition, previous systematic reviews, syntheses or policy papers were also eligible.

Search Strategy

In order to inform this systematic review, the following search procedures were undertaken. First, an electronic database search of Embase (1974 to 2017 Week 07), PsycINFO (1806 to February Week 2 2017), Social Policy and Practice (inception to 18.2.2017) and Ovid MEDLINE (Inception to 18.2017) was undertaken. The electronic database search was undertaken using the following key word search terms (swim* or swimming pool or aquatic therapy) and (public health or benefits or social determinants or inequality). Second, the database Google Scholar was searched on 18.2.2017 using various combinations of key search terms to identify specific articles potentially meeting the inclusion criteria. Third, combinations of key search terms were used in the main Google search database to identify nonacademic literature of potential relevance (e.g. policies). Finally, the reference lists of included articles was undertaken to identify articles that meet the inclusion criteria.

Study Selection

All 'hits' from the searches were exported into an excel file. One author (BS) reviewed the abstracts and titles of all hits and then developed a list of potentially eligible articles that were considered at the full text review. At the full text review, the eligibility criteria were applied and a final list of included studies was considered to inform the review.

Data extraction

Data or qualitative quotations were extracted on a predetermined database.

Synthesis of results

Due to the anticipated heterogeneity in terms of study deign, populations and outcomes, a quantitative synthesis (e.g. meta-analysis) was not deemed appropriate. Therefore, a best evidence synthesis was undertaken to address the questions of the review.

Search results

The initial database search resulted in 2,395 potentially eligible articles being identified, which was subsequently reduced to 1,662 after deduplication.

Chapter 6

Swimming as a sport – the health and wellbeing benefits: a systematic review

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Introduction

This chapter is about the health and wellbeing benefits of swimming as a sport. It is important to distinguish between physical activity and sport. Eleven per cent of adults in England reported taking part in the physical activity of swimming in 2015-2016 (Sport England, 2016a). The number of people taking part in swimming competitions increased by over five per cent in 2015-2016 to almost 70,000 (Amateur Swimming Association, 2016). In the section, Methods, we define physical activity, exercise and sport. We explain that sport is a form of physical activity that involves competition. Subsequently, we describe the systematic review we conducted. We explain that best practice was followed in conducting the review. We then explain how evidence statements were produced with regard to the type and strength of evidence. In this section, Results, we summarise the evidence that was found and we provide evidence statements. We state that there is no experimental evidence of the health and wellbeing benefits of swimming as a sport. We also state that there is moderately strong observational evidence that chronic disease risk factors, like blood pressure, are better in masters swimmers than the general population. Low physical fitness is one of the strongest predictors of mortality and we state that there is moderately strong evidence that physical fitness is high in masters swimmers. In the section, Discussion, we offer our interpretation of the evidence. Then, we discuss what the sport of swimming might learn from the sport of football; and we discuss the role of technology. We explain that high training loads may increase the risks of injury and illness in swimmers and other competitive athletes. Next, we discuss the limited impact of London 2012 on swimming participation. Finally, we offer recommendations for future research and policy making.

Methods

Defining physical activity, exercise and sport

In the broadest sense, any volitional movement of skeletal muscle that results in energy expenditure is regarded as physical activity (Caspersen, Powell, & Christenson, 1985). Exercise is a form of leisure-time physical activity that is planned, structured, and repetitive. Exercise training is purposeful and is performed with specific external goals, including the improvement or maintenance of physical fitness, physical performance or health (Bouchard & Shephard, 1994; Caspersen et al., 1985). Sport is a form of physical activity that includes rules and is usually competitive. The true sense of sport is broad: "Sport means all forms of physical activity, which, through casual or organised participation, aim at expressing or improving physical fitness and mental wellbeing, forming social relationships or obtaining results in competition at all levels" (Council of Europe, 1993). The UK government recognises that sport is part of our national identity and that the power of sport should be harnessed for the good of our whole society (HM Government, 2015). Swimming is a relatively popular physical activity (Sport England, 2016a); however, it is unclear whether or not competition is important to swimmers (Sport England, 2012b).

Defining health and disease

Health has been defined as, "A state of physical, mental, and psychological wellbeing, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity" (World Health Organisation, 1948). The definition of health is the subject of debate (Saracci, 1997), but most assessments of health-related quality of life include physical and psychological components. For example, the widely used and highly regarded 36-Item Short-Form Health Survey (SF-36) includes questions on physical functioning, social functioning, role limitations due to physical problems, role limitations due to emotional problems, mental health, energy/vitality, pain, and general health perception (Jenkinson, Stewart-Brown, Petersen, & Paice, 1999). Disease refers to the temporary or permanent impairment of physical or mental function. The definitions of health and disease had no bearing on the present review because the search strategy we used was designed to capture relevant studies.

The systematic review

This systematic review was conducted in accordance with best practice, namely the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) (Moher, Liberati, Tetzlaff, & Altman, 2009). We searched PubMed, Scopus, and Web of Science using the following search terms: swimming (MeSH term), swimming pools (MeSH terms), water sport (title/abstract), aquatics (title/abstract), competitive swimming (title/abstract), health (MeSH term), wellbeing (title/abstract), disability (title/abstract), cognition (title/abstract) [MeSH is Medical Subject Headings and MeSH terms are used to search electronic databases (U S National Library of Medicine, 2015)]. The populations in the search included able-bodied and disabled people of any age, gender and ethnicity. The interventions in the search included any type of swimming where competition was clearly involved. The outcomes in the search included any health-related measure. The study designs in the search included all experimental and observational designs and reviews. Due to the anticipated heterogeneity in terms of study design, populations and outcomes, a quantitative synthesis (meta-analysis) was not deemed appropriate.

What is and is not included in this review

Sport England recognises swimming as a sport, including the disciplines of diving, long distance swimming, open water swimming, synchronised swimming, and water polo (Sport England, 2016d). Sport England does not distinguish between swimming as a sport and swimming as a disability sport (Sport England, 2016d). Evidence of the benefits of swimming and its disciplines was included in this review if competition was clearly involved. Competition is an integral component of sport (Council of Europe, 1993) and evidence was not included if competition was not clearly involved. Swimming is exercise when it does not involve competition (Bouchard & Shephard, 1994; Caspersen et al., 1985).

Defining the type and strength of evidence

Evidence statements were produced on the health and wellbeing benefits of swimming as a sport. We specified the type (A to D) and strength (1 to 3) of evidence in support of each statement using widely recognised definitions (Table 1) (National Cholesterol Education Program, 2002). Research studies can be divided into experimental and observational designs. Experimental studies offer the most compelling evidence. The randomised, controlled trial (RCT) is considered to be the strongest design. In a RCT, participants are randomly assigned to intervention or control groups and each group is monitored. The nature of the RCT is such that differences between the groups at the end of the study can be directly attributed to the intervention.

Table 1.
Categories of evidence type and strength

Category	
Type of evidence	
A	Major RCTs
B	Smaller RCTs and meta-analyses of other clinical trials
C	Observational and metabolic studies
D	Clinical experience
Strength of evidence	
1	Very strong evidence
2	Moderately strong evidence
3	Strong trend

*From the US National Cholesterol Education Program (National Cholesterol Education Program, 2002). RCT is randomised, controlled trial. Some definitions include a fifth category, anecdotal and testimonial evidence. Such evidence is not reliable, however.

Results

Summary of the evidence

The figure shows the selection of the 73 studies included in the present review. In agreement with a previous review of the evidence published from 2003 until the end of April 2013, we found no experimental evidence of the health and wellbeing benefits of swimming as a sport (Oja et al., 2015). The benefits of swimming were investigated in adolescent females with intellectual disabilities (Ninot, Bilard, & Delignieres, 2005); however, a true experimental design was not used. We found four cross-sectional studies in which chronic disease risk factors were better in swimmers than others (Climstein et al., 2016; Guthrie, Erickson, & Lau, 2013; Smith, Mendez, Druckenmiller, & Kris-Etherton, 1982; Walsh et al., 2013). It is noteworthy that, compared with the general population, body mass index was lower in 527 masters swimmers (Walsh et al., 2013), the prevalence of high blood pressure was lower in 1,346 masters swimmers (Guthrie et al., 2013), and cholesterol concentrations were better in 1,435 masters swimmers (Climstein et al., 2016). We also found one observational study (Rubin, Lin, Curtis, Auerbach, & Win, 2013) and one review of observational studies (Rubin & Rahe, 2010) about the performance of masters swimmers. Physical fitness, or the ability to perform physical activity, was high in the masters swimmers. Low physical fitness is one of the strongest predictors of mortality (Ross et al., 2016). We found no evidence that the risk of injury was different in swimming than other sports, though the main purpose of the review was not to investigate risk of injury.

Evidence statements

We offer three evidence statements. First, there is no experimental evidence of the health and wellbeing benefits of swimming as a sport. Second, there is observational evidence that chronic disease risk factors are better in masters swimmers than the general population (evidence type: C; evidence strength: 2). Third, there is observational evidence that physical fitness, or the ability to perform physical activity, is high in masters swimmers (evidence type: C; evidence strength: 2).

Discussion

Interpretation of the evidence

Experimental studies offer the most compelling evidence and the RCT is considered the strongest study design. We found no RCTs in this review. We did find four cross-sectional studies in which blood pressure and other chronic disease risk factors were better in masters swimmers than the general population. We also found one observational study and one review of observational studies in which physical fitness, or the ability to perform physical activity, was high in masters swimmers. This is an important finding because low physical fitness may be a stronger predictor of mortality than smoking, high blood pressure, and other traditional risk factors (Ross et al., 2016). More RCTs and more observational studies are needed to support the notion that swimming as a sport is beneficial to health and wellbeing.

Lessons from football

Competition is an integral component of football, whether it is casual or organised football. Therefore, there is no danger of misclassifying football as exercise. In a review of the evidence published from 2003 until the end of April 2013, 18 studies about football were found and it was calculated that the sport improved aerobic fitness, resting heart rate, and body fat (Oja et al., 2015). Eight studies about swimming were found, but there was insufficient data to calculate the benefits (Oja et al., 2015). Furthermore, it was unclear whether swimming was a sport (involving competition) or an exercise (not involving competition). Data from more than 80,000 adults in the Health Survey for England and the Scottish Health Survey suggest that, compared with those who reported participating in no sport and exercise, cardiovascular disease mortality risk was 41% lower in those who reported participating in swimming (data were collected in 1994, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2003, 2004, 2006 and 2008 in England and in 1995, 1998 and 2003 in Scotland) (Oja et al., 2016); however, it was again unclear whether swimming was a sport or an exercise.

The Football Fans in Training programme shows how football and football clubs can offer health benefits. Best practice was followed in developing the programme (Gray et al., 2013). Then, a RCT was conducted to evaluate the programme (Hunt et al., 2014). Some 750 overweight football fans aged 35 to 65 years took part in the trial. Half of them took part in a 12-week weight management and physical activity programme that was delivered by club community coaches in 13 Scottish professional football clubs. The physical activity programme included walking and small-sided football games. After 12 months, it was found that those in the programme lost around five kilograms more in weight than those not in the programme (Hunt et al., 2014). Such weight loss is sufficient to halve the risk of type 2 diabetes (Knowler et al., 2002). The Football Fans in Training programme was such a success that it is being evaluated in 1,000 men in four countries (van Nassau et al., 2016).

The success of the Football Fans in Training programme begs the question, is it possible to develop and evaluate an intervention to engage physically inactive swimming fans in lifestyle change? Football fans are a passionate group (Bunn, Wyke, Gray, Maclean, & Hunt, 2016) and the idea behind the programme was that men's loyalty to their football team would encourage them to sign up. There are 40 swimming club networks in England and a further 46 networks are being developed (The ASA, 2016). New events have been added to the calendar and more than 15,000 spectator tickets were sold in 2015 (The ASA, 2016). There are also guidelines for designing and evaluating novel interventions (Craig et al., 2008). Therefore, it should be possible to develop and evaluate an intervention to engage physically inactive swimming fans in lifestyle change. It is for Swim England (formerly the Amateur Swimming Association) and other stakeholders to take up the challenge of turning the Football Fans in Training Programme into the Swimming Fans in Training Programme. The delivery and evaluation of the postulated Swimming Fans in Training Programme would give Swim England an opportunity to demonstrate the health benefits of swimming as a sport, which is now the basis of government policy on sports funding (HM Government, 2015; Sport England, 2016e). Interestingly, the Football Fans in Training programme is currently being adapted to hockey (Gill et al., 2016).

The role of technology

Millions of physical activity monitors, or fitness trackers, are sold each year (The Guardian, 2015a); And, millions of health and fitness apps are downloaded each year (The Guardian, 2015b). In the UK government report, Sporting Future, it is suggested that, "Wearable technology encourages people to be more physically active through quantifying their activity or competition" (HM Government, 2015). There is little experimental evidence of the health benefits of wearable technology (Jakicic et al., 2016). Nonetheless, the Amateur Swimming Association has acknowledged that swimming "has fallen behind when incorporating technology into the experience" (The ASA, 2016). Some activity monitors measure swimming, but most do not. There are some swimming apps, but many more running and cycling apps. Individuals and teams can readily compete in virtual runs and virtual bike rides, but there are few virtual swimming challenges.

The incorporation of wearable technology into swimming would allow the quantification of swimming performance for health and would facilitate goal setting and self-monitoring of swimming performance. Such variables may previously have been captured using manual methods such as a stopwatch held by a coach; however, such methods may be prone to human error and may not be available to non-elite swimmers. Common metrics provided by swimming sensors include stroke counting, speed calculation and SWOLF (strokes per length – a measure of efficiency) (de Magalhaes, Vannozzi, Gatta, & Fantozzi, 2015). The ability to automatically capture these metrics allows the swimmer or their coach to self-monitor performance and therefore provides a potent feedback loop to improve performance. The incorporation of wearable technology in this way may also drive technological innovation, including improved form factors, increased battery life, and greater functionality. Such innovations may lead to greater adoption of wearable technology for recreational and competitive swimming. Similar to the wider wearable technology sector, many swimming sensors are wrist based; although, several are available which can be worn in a swimming cap (Mooney et al., 2015).

Novel and emerging technology

The limited research to date indicates that these sensors are more suited to competitive swimmers than recreational swimmers (Mooney et al., 2017). This is due to the algorithms used to process the acceleration data into useful metrics; these algorithms are susceptible to variations in swimming technique and may therefore be more robust with the more optimal technique found in competitive swimmers (Mooney et al., 2017). Disruptive innovations in wearable technology for swimming include the use of artificial intelligence; selected novel and emerging

technologies in the swimming sector is are shown in Table 2. The selection is shown to illustrate the type of new technologies that are beginning to emerge around the world and the range of metrics they provide. Many of these technologies are novel and have not undergone rigorous, scientific testing. Therefore, we are unable to comment on validity and reliability. We would expect these developments to improve the utility of swimming sensors in the coming years. Given the constant innovation in wearable technology, we would expect the technologies outlined here to be improved upon or supplanted within 18-24 months.

Table 2.

Novel and emerging technologies in swimming*

Device	Wear site	Metrics
Tritonwear™	Swim cap	Stroke type, time underwater, distance per stroke, speed, push off force, efficiency, pace time, splits, breath count, stroke rate, stroke count, turn time
XMetrics™	Swim cap	Total time, split time, target time, total laps, split laps, pacer, pause counter, pause duration, restart time, calories burned, rest time, total distance, average pace, interval detection, time per lap, pace per lap, strokes per lap, stroke frequency, distance per stroke
Misfit Shine 2 Swimmer's Edition™	Wrist	Swim laps, steps, calories burnt, distance, sleep patterns, quality and duration
Avidasports™	Head, wrist and ankle	Tempo, stroke count, breakout, distance per stroke, average speed, split times, kick count, kick tempo.
Swimovate poolmate™	Wrist	Total time, total lengths, total metrics, total calories, average strokes, time per set, lengths per set, metres per set, average strokes, average speed, average efficiency
Garmin Forerunner 920XT™	Wrist	Lengths, distance, pace, stroke count, stroke rate, calories, stroke recognition, pool lap recognition, swim workouts, stroke efficiency, automatic intervals, rest timer, open water swim distance.
Finis Swimsense™	Wrist	Total laps, time intervals, pace, distance per stroke, calories, SWOLF, intervals, distance per stroke.
Polar V800™	Wrist	Swimming style, distance, pace, strokes, rest time, SWOLF.

*This table was not produced in a systematic fashion, but is illustrative of the current state of the art. The authors do not endorse any particular company or device. SWOLF is strokes per length, a measure of efficiency.

In addition to the use of wearable technology to provide swimming metrics, another important avenue relates to the use of virtual challenges. A virtual challenge might include an online platform and community to bring together swimmers and swimming enthusiasts for a swimming competition, even when they are in different places. Swimmers might 'race' by trying to complete a challenge, such as swimming a certain distance in the fastest time. Swimmers' scores are then compared and the race is won by the participant with the fastest time. Virtual challenges are designed to be completed anywhere and anytime. Such challenges offer the potential to introduce a competitive element and thereby move swimming from an exercise to a sport. These challenges are currently more prevalent for running and cycling, but offer the potential for swimmers to compete against fellow swimmers in a simple and convenient way. Wearable technology could also be incorporated into virtual swimming competitions, by providing an objective measurement of swimming length and time to completion; the alternative being manual entry of swimming length and time by the swimmer. This objective, automatically uploaded information would give the confidence that the competitor was not trying to cheat the system. This information might also provide another powerful market opportunity for wearable technology manufacturers and, as previously described, drive innovation in the sector.

Injury and illness

It is hard to estimate the rate of injury in a given sport because a large number of participants have to be followed for a long period of time. It is harder still to compare the rate of injury in different sports. The evidence suggests that high training loads increase the risks of injury and illness in swimmers and other competitive athletes (here, injury and illness refer to impairments in performance, including reports of soreness in a joint, reports of injuries by qualified medical practitioners, reports of injuries by unqualified medical practitioners, and reports of time lost from training or competition) (Drew & Finch, 2016). The female athlete is also susceptible to the female athlete triad, a medical condition consisting of three components: low energy availability with or without disordered eating; menstrual dysfunction; and, low bone mineral density (De Souza et al., 2014). In a study of 323 collegiate athletes from 16 sports, the sports with the highest proportions of athletes classified with moderate risk or high risk of the triad were gymnastics (56%), lacrosse (50%), cross-country running (49%), swimming and diving (43%), sailing (33%), and volleyball (33%) (Tenforde et al., 2017). It is recommended that athletes' training and competition loads are routinely monitored and that athletes' injuries and illnesses are accurately recorded to better understand the relationships between sports participation and injury and illness (Drew & Finch, 2016). It is also recommended that athletes with elevated risk of the female athlete triad receive medical treatment, including assessments of nutrient intake and menstrual function (De Souza et al., 2014). Swimming per se is advocated because it is a low-impact physical activity (Just Swim, 2016). Low-impact activity might be appropriate in the rehabilitation of injury, but, contrary to popular opinion, weight-bearing exercise is beneficial to bone health (Francis, Letuchy, Levy, & Janz, 2014; Julian-Almarcegui et al., 2015; Shephard, Park, Park, & Aoyagi, 2016).

The impact of London 2012 on swimming participation

There is conflicting evidence of the impact of major events on sports participation (Sport England, 2012a; The Guardian, 2017b). On the one hand, for example, 70% of those who attended a major sporting event aged 25 or under felt inspired to participate or participate more often. On the other hand, for example, only 7-15% of adults in the UK were inspired by the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games to actually play more sport. There was a small increase in swimming participation between October 2007-October 2008 and October 2011-October 2012 (Department for Culture, Media & Sport, 2013); however, there was no lasting impact on participation in the general population (Sport England, 2016b). The games improved attitudes towards disabled people and there was an increase in sports participation, at least in the short term (Department for Culture, Media & Sport, 2013). Although swimming is the most popular sport among adults with a disability (Sport England, 2016c), some 50% of those with three or more impairments were inactive compared with 21% of those without a disability in 2015-2016 (Sport England, 2016a).

It is hardly surprising that the 'win at all costs' approach has been questioned (The Guardian, 2017a). The UK government could have invested in large-scale physical activity interventions that work (Reis et al., 2016). The government could also have made the facilities freely available after the games. For example, the city of Medellín in Colombia hosted the South American Games and the FIFA U-20 World Cup and anyone can now use the swimming pool and the rest of the Atanasio Girardot Sports Complex free-of-charge. This strategy of 'recycling and re-purposing' major sporting facilities into major community facilities warrants serious consideration elsewhere because it leaves a legacy of physical activity and health.

Recommendations for future research and sport policy

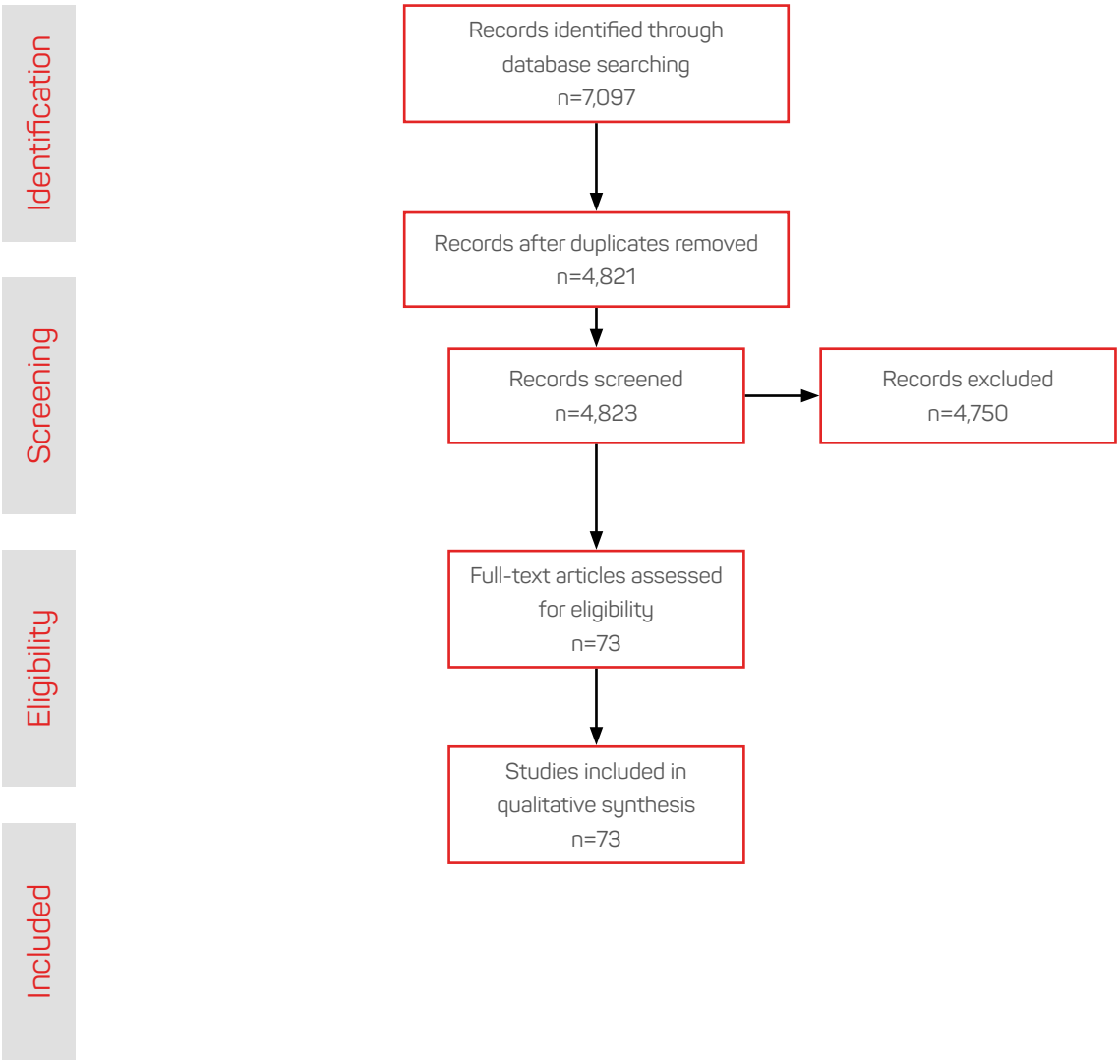
Almost 70,000 people take part in swimming competitions in England (The ASA, 2016). However, the UK government has said that it will change the way sport is funded, so that, "It is no longer merely about how many people take part, but rather how sport can have a meaningful and measurable impact on improving people's lives" (HM Government, 2015). Therefore, it is imperative that the health and wellbeing benefits of swimming as a sport are investigated without delay. We would recommend that Swim England and the academic community consult with swimmers, swimming clubs, schools, local government, national government and other stakeholders to identify important research questions. Randomised, controlled trials provide the strongest evidence and we would recommend that best practice were used in designing and evaluating any interventions (Craig et al., 2008; Schulz, Altman, & Moher, 2010). When best practice in designing and evaluating interventions is not followed, the resulting evidence is of such poor quality that is suggests that exercise training offers no health benefits (Pavey et al., 2011). It would also be helpful if investigators were to publish their methods. For example, it would be helpful if Sport England were to

publish the methods used to design and evaluate the female sport intervention, This Girl Can. Similarly, it would be helpful if Swim England were to publish the methods used to design and evaluate the disability sport intervention, Let's Go Swimming. Surveys also provide a valuable source of evidence and, to avoid misclassification, we would recommend that researchers were to distinguish between swimming as a sport and swimming as an exercise. Evidence gathered from RCTs and surveys should be used to demonstrate the health benefits of swimming as a sport and, thus, to justify investment in swimming as a sport.

Summary and conclusions

There is little evidence of the health and wellbeing benefits of swimming as a sport. Swimming is a popular sport; however, the government has made it clear that its funding is in jeopardy if it cannot be shown that it improves people's lives. Randomised, controlled trials provide the strongest evidence and should be conducted. Surveys provide valuable information and researchers should distinguish between swimming as a sport and swimming as an exercise.

Figure.
The selection of studies included in the review



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Chapter 7

Swimming for health and wellbeing: the economic case

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Key words:

swim
physical activity
cost
effectiveness
cost-effectiveness
cost effectiveness

Introduction

As previous chapters have shown; swimming is a healthy, non-weight bearing physical activity (PA) that can be undertaken by almost anyone.

Indeed, despite a dramatic decline in popularity since 2005, in the year to September 2016 some 2.5 million people aged 16 and over (5.67%) reported swimming once a week for at least 30 minutes (Sport England, 2016). This chapter presents an economic case for swimming and aims to (a) demonstrate the potential of swimming in contributing to meeting physical activity recommendations, and (b) outline the evidence of interventions designed to increase swimming participation and their value for money.

Uptake of swimming in England and elsewhere

Noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) or long term health conditions including cardiovascular diseases are estimated to consume some 70% of the National Health Service budget (NHS, 2014). Meeting the United Kingdom (UK) Chief Medical Officers' (CMO) guidelines of at least 150 minutes of moderate activity per week (or 75 minutes of vigorous activity) reduces the incidence of almost all of these diseases by 20-40%. Further recommendations are made relating to muscle strengthening, balance and reducing time being sedentary (Department of Health, 2011). Perhaps the most notable effect of PA is the estimated reduction in type 2 diabetes of 30 – 40%; itself a health condition that costs the NHS 10% of its annual budget - £1.5 million per hour (Diabetes UK, 2017). The Health Survey for England (2012), timed to coincide with the 2012 London Olympic Games, found that 34% of males and 44% of females aged 19 and over did not meet recommended activity levels (Craig and Mindell, 2014). In addition, 64.8% of those aged 16+ in England are either overweight or obese (Public Health England, 2015). Obesity is frequently associated with musculoskeletal disorders often precluding and/or contra-indicating weight-bearing physical activity. Swimming may therefore offer an avenue to PA where other PA options and opportunities prove inaccessible (Gappmaier et al., 2006).

Despite this evidence and local opportunities to swim, swimming participation is low (about 11% based on Active People Survey (2012-13) and varies by gender, age, ethnicity, socio-economic status, parent /guardianship and English region. Females are more likely to report having swum in the previous four weeks than males (12.8% v 8.3%), participation almost halves in those aged 55+, those self-identifying as Chinese are almost twice as likely to swim than Asians, and swimming is more common in those of a higher socio-economic status and more common in those with children. Participation is slightly higher in the South and London than other English regions (Table 1).

Table 1.
Swimming participation by demographic and socio-economic characteristics.

Characteristics of swimming population in England	Number (% of population)
Gender	
Male	5,548 (8.29)
Female	12,539 (12.77)
All	18,087 (10.95)
Age	
16 – 34	3,684 (14.34)
35 – 54	7,847 (14.59)
55+	6,292 (7.52)
Missing	264 (12.62)
Ethnicity	
White	16,872 (11.25)
Mixed	172 (10.69)
Asian	339 (7.16)
Black	187 (5.44)
Other	88 (11.76)
Chinese	26 (13.13)
Missing	403 (9.02)

Characteristics of swimming population in England	Number (% of population)
Socio-economic status	
NS SEC 1 – 4	11,896 (12.80)
NS SEC 5 – 8	4,095 (7.87)
NS SEC 9	1,832 (10.09)
Missing	264 (12.62)
Number of children in household	
None	10,761 (9.03)
One or more	6,567 (17.03)
Don't know / missing / refusal	759 (10.20)
Region	
North East	627 (10.31)
North West	2,177 (10.73)
Yorkshire	1,081 (10.12)
West Midlands	1,595 (10.48)
East Midlands	2,057 (10.11)
East	2,538 (10.62)
South West	2,157 (11.77)
South East	3,946 (11.61)
London	1,909 (11.67)

Source: Analysis of Active People Survey (2012-13)

Making international comparisons is difficult as physical activity questionnaires will vary by design, sample size, age and sports included (Gratton, Rowe and Veal, 2011). It should also be noted that for many swimming is not only a sport or means of recreation but a potentially life-saving skill; drowning is the 3rd leading cause of death from unintentional injury worldwide accounting for 7% (320,000) of all injury-related deaths. Even this is likely to be an under-estimate as it does not include drownings through flooding (World Health Organisation, 2016). There is a considerable literature estimating the Value of a Statistical Life (VSL). For example,the cost that might be attributed to reducing the risk of one statistical death (Andersson and Treich, 2011). However, it is conservatively estimated that the global cost of drowning is some $146.9 billion a year (Frontier Economics, 2015). The World Health Organisation therefore recommends learning to swim as a public health measure (World Health Organisation, 2014).

As a sport, swimming is one of the top 10 activities undertaken during free time in Africa, the Americas, the Eastern Mediterranean, Europe, Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific. In adolescents (aged 13 – 17) it is one of the top five activities in Africa, the Americas, the Eastern Mediterranean, Europe, and the Western Pacific and one of the top 5 activities for children (aged 5 – 12) in the Americas, Europe and the Western Pacific (Hulteen et al., 2017). A lack of studies precludes more detailed rankings. Similarly, data issues including survey methodology, representativeness and only being available at province or for particular ages makes robust conclusions difficult but it is apparent that swimming participation declines with increasing age, with highest participation rates in adults in Europe, in Eastern Mediterranean, in adolescents, and in the Western Pacific in children (Table 2).

Table 2.

Adult, adolescent and child swimming participation rates by WHO region

	Adult (aged 18+)	Adolescent (aged 13 – 17)	Child (aged 5 – 12)
Europe	7.8 (4.8 – 12.4)	9.0 (4.8 – 16.2)	10.3 (2.3 – 35.)
Americas	4.5 (2.0 – 9.8)	14.9 (6.6 – 30.1)	15.7 (3.4 – 49.9)
Eastern Mediterranean	6.4 (0.8 – 35.0)	32.0 (23.3 – 42.1)	No data
Africa	1.7 (0.6 – 4.9)	6.2 (0.4 – 52.7)	No data
South-east Asia	0.6 (0.0 – 40.0)	No data	No data
Western Pacific	4.4 (2.1 – 9.1)	17.7 (4.7 – 48.3)	33.9 (5.4 – 82.1)

Source: Global Participation in sport and leisure-time physical activities: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Ryan M. Hulteen, Jordan J. Smith, Philip J. Morgan, Lisa M. Barnett, Pedro C. Hallal, Kim Colyvas, David R. Lubans. Preventative Medicine 95 (2017) 14-25

Link between swimming and physical activity

Several studies have attempted to understand the effect of swimming on levels of PA. This research was extremely heterogeneous: varying by study design (survey analysis, intervention studies including a randomised control trial (RCT)), recruitment (national surveys, community advertising, referral by healthcare / education professionals, self-referral), population (age, weight, country, inclusion of parents / guardians or carers), measurement (self-report, commercial data, number of swims, Metabolic equivalent (MET) minutes / week) and outcome measures (PA, Body Mass Index (BMI), waist circumference).

Swimming appears to be an effective means of increasing PA in children. In Belgium, pupils aged 8-12 years engaged more in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity (MVPA) during swimming classes (51% ± 9.9) than during non-swimming physical education (PE classes (40% ± 17) ($p< 0.01$). However, it also found that due to travel and changing times only 38% of the allocated PE time was spent actually swimming compared to 72% of non-swimming PE time (Cardon et al., 2004).

The Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do-it (MEND) programme was introduced to combat childhood obesity through targeting families with a programme that included 18 two-hour education and PA sessions followed by a 12 week free swimming pass. RCT evidence showed that waist circumference reduced by 4.1 cm and BMI by 1.2 kg/m^2. However, only 32% of families used the free swimming pass and at a low frequency making it difficult to attribute the effect to swimming alone (Sacher et al., 2010).

In Bucharest, Romania, swimming three times a week for 40 minutes combined with a low-calorie diet among students aged 18-25 years was compared to swimming only once a week for seven months. Whilst reductions in BMI were observed, it is unclear whether this was attributable to diet, swimming or a combination of the two (Ganciu, 2015). The highly specific population also makes it difficult to generalise this study to other populations. Further, it is adherence to either the programme or diet in control and intervention groups is unclear as well as is any effect of PA undertaken outside the programme making conclusions difficult.

In Guadeloupe, 160 people with 'moderately incapacitating chronic diseases aged 50+ and categorised as of low PA together with 39 care-givers were recruited to 10 weeks of professionally supervised swimming lessons. Pre- and post-intervention data indicated a significant improvement in PA category in the 77 patients who provided data at all time points (Antoine-Jonville et al., 2013).

The 2012 – 2013 Active People Survey (APS) has been used to quantify the contribution of utility cycling to the probability of meeting physical activity guidelines (Stewart, Anokye and Pokhrel, 2015). Applying the same methodology showed that individuals who swim are 2.8 times more likely to meet physical activity guidelines than those that do not. However, swimming is undertaken in a medium that is denser than the surrounding environment and can therefore require more physical effort than land-based activity e.g. it is more likely to become vigorous rather than moderate activity. Applying the same methodology as Stewart et al. (2015) and following Chief Medical Officer guidance that vigorous PA 'counts double' towards meeting PA guidelines (Department of Health, 2011), we estimate that those who swim for recreational or competitive purposes are eight times more likely to meet PA guidelines.

Increasing participation

Swimming pools require considerable investment and include plant operations that operate continuously 24 hours / day for 365 days / year (Sport England, 2013). Given the above health and economic benefits it would seem sensible to maximise swimming wherever possible. However, the pool entrance charges could be a barrier (Steenhuis et al., 2009). Modelling of those who had undertaken physical activity in the Health Survey for England (HSE) 2008 found that participation in PA was negatively associated with cost and travel time with the greatest effect found for swimming. Here a 10% increase in entrance fee was associated with a 29% drop in occasions of swimming but that a 10% higher monthly price was associated with 1% fewer occasions of swimming (Anokye, Pokhrel and Fox-Rushby, 2014).

In 2007 in the run-up to the 2012 London Olympic Games the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) committed to making the UK a 'world-leading sporting nation' with 'improved access to more, better quality sports and leisure facilities at the heart of every community to make leading a healthier, more active lifestyle easier' DCMS, 2008). In 2008, the Free Swimming Programme (FSP) was launched, funded by £140m from five Government departments, to encourage Local Authorities (LA's) to offer free admission to publicly owned swimming pools for people aged 60 and over and 16 and under. In the first year of the programme, 197 LA's offered free swimming to both those aged 60+ and those aged 16 and under whilst 64 only offered free swimming to those aged 60+ (PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, 2010).

The FSP has been evaluated at both a national (PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, 2010) and local level (Kokolakakis, Pappous and Meadows, 2015; Pringle et al., 2014; Audrey et al., 2012). Nationally the FSP was evaluated through an online survey, analysis of monthly monitoring data submitted by participating Local Authorities and where possible through the Active People Survey (APS), which did not include those aged under 16 until 2012. Analysis accounted for a number of effects including extra participation by those aged 17-59 years accompanying the targeted age groups ('additionality'), those who would have swum without the introduction of the FSP (deadweight), swimmers in the target groups 'crowding out' other age-groups (displacement), national trends and additional swimming replacing other forms of PA (substitution).

Consequently, it is estimated that there were an additional 5.52 million swims in those aged 16 and under and an additional 1.49 million swims in those aged 60 and over. 81.6% of those aged 16 and under reported that swimming had not resulted in less time being spent in other forms of PA compared to 85.6% of those aged 60 and over. Similarly, the free swim initiative in Wales was found to increase participation in the same targeted groups (Bolton et al., 2008).

Evaluation of FSPs at a local level found more nuanced effects; in young people receiving a 'free swim' pass in a 'city in the South West of England' participants were categorised into four categories of levels of PA with pre-post data collected from 245 participants. No change in PA category was found because of the programme (Pringle et al., 2014). In a 'local community in the south-east of England data was collected from four leisure centres and the APS used to assess the effect of the FSP programme on the population as a whole. Here it was found that whilst the impact of free swimming was positive for those aged under 11 and over 60 it declined in those aged 11 – 16 and 'adults' (17 – 59 years). 27,896 people registered for the scheme, (51% of the eligible population), 18,054 activated their card (used only once) with 72% of cardholders indicating that they were existing participants (Bullough, Davies and Barrett, 2015).

Equally, pricing policies therefore do not seem to be wholly effective in generating swimming participation; indeed, in Wales it was found that although free swimming had a positive impact on 'hard to reach groups' other factors such as location, times of availability, a desire to avoid over-crowded pools and a dislike of swimming were also important (Bolton et al., 2008). Similarly, in Bristol, the major determinants of uptake of a free swimming initiative offered to all young people aged 0 – 15 were age, gender, proximity to a swimming pool and warmer season (Audrey et al., 2012). Beyond the FSPs however there appears to be little research into what might increase swimming participation.

In summary, swimming is an activity that can be undertaken by almost anyone including those for who other forms of PA may be medically contra-indicated. PA itself is associated with a reduction in NCDs of between 20-40%. NCDs are costing the NHS some 70% of its budget. Despite this, approximately a third of the population does not meet PA guidelines and the past decade has seen swimming decline in popularity. Globally swimming uptake is not only a recreational activity but a recommendation of WHO as a means of preventing drowning, itself the 3rd greatest cause of unintentional injury. Aside from the human cost this is estimated to have an economic cost of $147 billion a year. Recreationally or as a sport swimming is extremely popular ranking as one of the top five activities undertaken during free-time in most regions across the globe. Data issues make robust conclusions difficult but it is apparent that participation declines with age. Nationally uptake is greater in females, those of higher socio-economic status, declines with age and has relatively little uptake in those of either Asian or Black ethnicity. There is greater uptake by those who have children in the household. Tentative conclusion may be drawn from studies indicating that amongst those who swim it is effective in increasing PA. This may relate to water being a denser medium than air thereby requiring more vigorous activity. However, initiatives to increase swimming participation through free swimming have had mixed results with some evidence of increased participation but relatively little success in encouraging new swimming participants.

Are UK swimming programmes good value for money?

To inform decision making, policy-makers will want to know the cost-effectiveness of swimming interventions. Few studies to date have examined the costs and benefits of swimming interventions and more specifically around the health and wellbeing benefits of swimming.

A cost-effectiveness analysis of free swimming programmes was undertaken prior to the inception of the FSP (Fordham and Barton, 2008). The authors compared walking buses, dance classes, a community sports scheme and swimming and found that free swimming programme was associated with a cost per Quality Adjusted Life Year (QALY) of £40,462. The cost/QALY was £4008 for walking buses, £27,571 for dance classes, £40,462 for free swimming and £71,456 for community sport e.g. only walking buses were found to below the £20,000 / QALY assumed to be the (then) acceptable threshold for the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE). However, the authors acknowledge high levels of uncertainty having needed to make a number of unverified assumptions including the cost of the activity, numbers participating, changes in PA, the relationship between PA and the quality of life in children and what benefits might accrue to different populations and therefore caution against making exact cost-effective conclusions (Fordham and Barton, 2008).

A study analysing the cost effectiveness of nine interventions to increase PA in adults and children and young people (aged 10 – 17 years) not meeting the PA guidelines found that swimming cost a mean of £563 for one "completer". The cost per QALY of free swimming activities for young people in the community was £103 and for all nine interventions ranged from £47 (motivational interviewing) to £509 (exercise referral) far below the NHS acceptability threshold of £20,000 making the interventions cost-effective (Pringle et al., 2010).

An economic analysis of the national FSP programme estimated the effects of the programme on costs to the NHS and loss of productive days and found a benefit cost ratio (BCR) of 0.53:1 for those aged 60 and over and 0.82:1 for those aged 16 and under, for year one of the programme (PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, 2010). Although these data showed the programme was not cost-effective in the short term (i.e. in one year), it is unclear however whether the long-term effects of swimming would have led to positive economic returns. In addition, this study includes several limitations including the self-reported nature of PA data from the previous year, potential for recall bias and an assumption of an attrition rate of approximately 10%. It also assumes an annual cost to the NHS of diabetes of £5.2 billion, approximately a third of the estimate of Diabetes UK of £13.7 billion (Diabetes UK, 2017).

In summary, few studies have assessed the cost-effectiveness of swimming interventions. Assumptions about the number of participants, effectiveness measure, longer-term effects have been key challenges / limitations in those analyses. As a result, findings from cost-effectiveness studies vary widely from being extremely cost-effective to ineffective. Therefore, assessing the cost-effectiveness of swimming programmes needs methodological improvements and further good quality research is needed for robust conclusions to be made.

Discussion

Physical activity is essential for health; the World Health Organisation (WHO) together with at least 20 countries have issued guidelines intended to address the 'pandemic' of physical inactivity; the fourth leading cause of death worldwide (Kohl et al., 2012).

Swimming would seem to be one means by which levels of PA can be raised; it is the most popular sport in England practised weekly by some 2.5 million people (Sport England, 2017) but also that with the highest 'latent demand' of people saying that they would like to swim, or swim more often (PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, 2010). It is a non-weight bearing form of PA and it can be accessible to many with health conditions including obesity and musculoskeletal issues that may preclude other forms of PA. In 2015, there were approximately 5,060 separate swimming pool sites in England that did not require private membership, an increase of 564 since 2006. Despite this, participation fell by almost a quarter between 2005 and 2015. This may reflect a growth in 'wild swimming' (e.g. in lakes, rivers etc.), a greater reluctance to encourage swimming in schools, cuts to Local Authority budgets or even longer working hours but nonetheless this fall was seen in every English region (Rhodes, 2016).

FSPs seem to have increased swimming in both the Under 16 and Over 60 age-groups with over 80% of participants indicating that this extra swimming had not replaced other forms of PA. This may be a valuable approach to maintaining participation amongst existing swimmers but seems to be of limited value in attracting new participants. Indeed, evidence from targeting FSPs at or in deprived communities is that it does not seem to have resulted in dramatically increased uptake (Audrey et al., 2012). The overall effect of free swimming on PA rather than swimming is similarly ambivalent, at least in young people. In young people aged under 16 girls reported increased PA as a result of free swimming whereas no change was found for boys (Pringle et al., 2014) whereas in a population aged under 19 64% of participants reported more PA (Bullough, Davies and Barrett, 2015). Equally, in an obese population that might be expected to have most to gain from free swimming programmes uptake was limited (Sacher et al., 2010). The gains of PA are greatest in those who are most inactive (Department of Health, 2011) who are frequently those most disadvantaged in society (Gidlow et al., 2006). Free swimming targeted at deprived communities or obese populations does not seem to have resulted in large increases in PA, however. Beyond the FSPs there appears to be very little research into what interventions would either maintain or increase current levels of swimming participation at a population level, much less their cost-effectiveness. Given that once a week swimming participation in those aged 16 and over has fallen by 2.4% since 2005 (750,000 people) (Sport England, 2017) reasons for and to address this would seem to be an obvious gap in the academic literature as well as strategic community sport and leisure plans.

Summary and recommendations

Swimming is in many ways an ideal form of PA, accessible to many for whom other forms of PA are contra-indicated. It is also one of the few sports where female participation is greater than that of males. However, even in the face of Government support and an increase in provision; the health and economic benefits of swimming are not being realised. Once-a-week participation in those aged 16 and over has actually fallen by three-quarters of a million in the past decade.

Reasons for this are unclear; there is evidence that entrance pricing may maintain and / or increase participation in some populations but it is evident that the swimming 'offer' is failing to resonate with an increasing proportion of the population. If the Swim England vision of 'more people learning to swim, more people swimming regularly and more medals on the world stage' is to be realised then further work is needed to understand how to ensure that swimming continues to be the nation's most popular sport. Indeed, there is a notable lack of research into swimming uptake, maintenance and drop out across all populations including those that might benefit most. This includes those aged 17 – 59 i.e. those who might be expected to comprise the majority of the swimming population. There is little evidence of learning from international best practice or indeed other sports such as athletics which has increased participation by 50% since 2005.

Given the large capital costs of building the 5000 pools in England and very limited cost-effectiveness evidence on swimming interventions, more economic analyses on the costs and benefits of swimming are required. Future cost-effectiveness studies therefore will help decision makers to justify such investment and, more importantly, encourage further resource allocation in this ideal form of PA. Learning from existing economic analyses, it is important that future cost-effectiveness analyses should consider incorporating: (a) long-term health effects and healthcare costs; (b) wider outcomes, e.g. productivity benefits and benefits seen in other sports when used as a diversion from crime; and (c) adverse effects. These analyses should consider a trajectory that would allow explicit consideration of changes in activity levels over time. Future pragmatic/clinical trials and other types of studies evaluating swimming interventions should include economic analyses. The focus of such studies should be to establish what works (type of interventions), in which populations, in addition to demonstrating the short, medium and long-term value for money of various swimming interventions.

Legend

BMI – Body Mass Index. BMI is calculated by dividing an adults weight in kilograms by their height in metres squared (kg/m^2). BMI is categorised as the following:

Classification	BMI (kg/m^2)	
	Principal cut-off points	Additional cut-off points
Underweight	<18.50	<18.50
Severe thinness	<16.00	<16.00
Moderate thinness	16.00 - 16.99	16.00 - 16.99
Mild thinness	17.00 - 18.49	17.00 - 18.49
Normal range	18.50 - 24.99	18.50 - 22.99
		23.00 - 24.99
Overweight	≥25.00	≥25.00
Pre-obese	25.00 - 29.99	25.00 - 27.49
		27.50 - 29.99
Obese	≥30.00	≥30.00
Obese class I	30.00 - 34.99	30.00 - 32.49
		32.50 - 34.99
Obese class II	35.00 - 39.99	35.00 - 37.49
		37.50 - 39.99
Obese class III	≥40.00	≥40.00

Source: http://apps.who.int/bmi/index.jsp?introPage=intro_3.html Site accessed 4th March 2017

Metabolic Equivalents (MET). Physical activity is measured in METs e.g. the energy it takes to sit quietly. For the average adult, this is about one calorie per kilogram of body weight per hour. Moderate intensity activity is those that used 3 – 6 METS and vigorous activities more than 6 METs.

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Sources of further information and support

Swim England
www.swimming.org/swimengland

Swim England Strategy 2017-2021
www.swimming.org/swimengland/swim-england-strategy

UK physical activity guidelines for all ages
www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-physical-activity-guidelines

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Chapter 1: The individual physical health benefits of swimming: a literature review. Dr Fiona Moffatt, University of Nottingham.

Chapter 2: The wellbeing benefits of swimming: a systematic review. Dr Brendon Stubbs, Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience, Kings College London and Professor Ian Cumming, Chair of Swim England Commission.

Chapter 3: The physiological effects of swimming: a systematic review. Dr Ian Lahart and Professor George Metsios, The University of Wolverhampton.

Chapter 4: The wellbeing benefits of swimming to communities: a literature review. Dr Fiona Moffatt, The University of Nottingham.

Chapter 5: The public health benefits of swimming: a systemic review. Dr Brendon Stubbs. Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience, Kings College London.

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Swimming for health and wellbeing.

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June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Tanya Murphy and I am writing as a parent and community member to express my strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy. A modern aquatic sportsplex would help Burlington become a true regional hub for aquatic programming and sport hosting.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Tanya Murphy

GHAC Parent and Community Member

[redacted]

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Harwant Garland, and I am writing in support of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As a parent, I have seen firsthand how important well-designed aquatic facilities are. Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide appropriate warm-up and cool-down space, which is essential for safe and effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs. It would also bring visitors into Burlington, supporting hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Harwant Garland

Burlington

Member of Ignite Swim Club

[redacted]

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Courtney Searle and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Courtney Searle

Hamilton

Ignite Artistic Swimming Club

[redacted]

6/5/2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Cory Side, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Cory Side

Burlington

Member of Ignite Artistic Swimming

[redacted]

[redacted]

June 5 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is David Cai, and I am writing to support the development of a new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes who are trying to develop in sports that require proper long course training environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

David Cai

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for a Regional Multi-Use Aquatic Sportsplex in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Neil Lumsden,

On behalf of Ignite Artistic Swimming, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

A modern aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would serve a wide range of users, including competitive swimming, artistic swimming, water polo, lifesaving sport, para sport, learn-to-swim, schools, community recreation, and aquatic leadership development.

The current lack of regional aquatic capacity limits training access, competition hosting, club growth, and community programming. A properly designed facility would help relieve pressure on existing pools while creating a shared regional asset that supports multiple aquatic organizations and user groups.

This project would provide long-term benefits for athletes, families, clubs, coaches, officials, volunteers, and community members across Burlington, Halton, and the broader region.

We strongly support efforts to advance this project and encourage all levels of government to work together to make this important infrastructure a reality.

Sincerely,

Kelly Wadsworth

Director of Finance

Ignite Artistic Swimming Club

Burlington

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Navdeep Vohra, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Navdeep Vohra

Burlington

Ignite Artistic Swimming Club

[redacted]

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support Inclusive Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jennifer Dear and my 16 year old daughter participates in the Athletes with Unique Abilities program through Ignite Artistic Swimming. I am writing in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington. Currently the options are extremely limited with the city for Adapted programs especially swimming.

A modern aquatic sportsplex has the potential to serve people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. Burlington needs a facility that is designed with accessibility and inclusion in mind from the beginning.

Aquatic spaces are vital for para sport, adaptive programming, rehabilitation-style activity, senior fitness, learn-to-swim, and community recreation. However, many existing facilities are limited by age, design, space constraints, water temperature, and accessibility challenges.

The proposed model of a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool is important because it can serve multiple needs at once. The warmer pool would be especially valuable for younger swimmers, adaptive programming, community use, and those who benefit from warmer water. The 50-metre pool would provide the regional competition and training capacity that Burlington and region currently lacks.

This project would support inclusion, community health, water safety, and equitable access to aquatic programming across the region.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important project and helping secure the partnerships necessary to build it.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dear

Burlington

Parent of a child in Athletes with Unique Abilities (AUA) Ignite Artistic Swimming

June-5-2026

MP Adam van Koeverden

MPP Neil Lumsden

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sharon Sun, and I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the type of training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would help support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport. It would also create more opportunities for coaches, officials, volunteers, and community leaders to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Sharon Sun

YMCA Hamilton | Burlington | Brantford

Delegation to Burlington City Council

Community Facilities Opportunity at 1200 King Road

Report No. CAO-01-26

Committee of the Whole

June 8, 2026

Presenter:
Manny Figueiredo
President & CEO

Attending:
Nicki Glowacki, Chief Operating Officer
Shawn McKillop, Senior Vice President, Communications & Digital Transformation

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Good morning, Mayor Meed Ward, Members of Council and City staff.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today.

My name is Manny Figueiredo, and I am President and CEO of YMCA Hamilton | Burlington | Brantford.

I would also like to acknowledge City staff, the applicant and the many organizations, community partners and stakeholders who have contributed to the vision being considered today.

I am here to express our support for Council proceeding with the next phase of due diligence regarding the community facilities opportunity at 1200 King Road, and to offer the YMCA's perspective as a long-standing community partner committed to Burlington's future.

Our History in Burlington

The YMCA's connection to Burlington spans generations.

When the Burlington Family YMCA opened in 1970, it became home to Burlington's first indoor swimming pool. That facility, later named the Ron Edwards Family YMCA, has served as a gathering

place for generations of Burlington residents and remains an important part of the community today.

This year, YMCA Hamilton | Burlington | Brantford celebrates its 170th Annual General Meeting, marking 170 years of strengthening communities across our region.

As Burlington has grown and changed, so has the YMCA. Today, along with our Health, Fitness and Aquatics programs, we provide child care and employment services, as well as prevention and intervention programs delivered with community partners.

Together, these programs support young people and seniors, help people build skills, find meaningful work and strengthen their connection to the community.

This conversation is not new to the YMCA. Over the years, we have participated in community discussions and worked alongside partners to explore how community infrastructure can support growing communities. That work has included visits with City representatives to municipal partnership facilities in Calgary, Alberta, where recreation, wellness and community services are integrated to deliver long-term public benefit. Those experiences have reinforced the importance of thoughtful planning, partnership and a shared commitment to community outcomes.

Through decades of service in Burlington, we have seen firsthand how community infrastructure strengthens lives and communities. That experience shapes the perspective we bring to this discussion and why we believe growth and community infrastructure should evolve together.

A Vision for Burlington's Future

The report before Council describes 1200 King Road as one of the last significant development opportunities within Burlington's urban boundary and envisions a complete community that integrates housing, employment, recreation, culture and transit connectivity.

That vision aligns closely with Burlington's Horizon 2050 and its focus on building complete communities where people can thrive at every stage of life.

As Burlington grows, the opportunity is not only to create new housing, but to reimagine how growth is supported by the infrastructure, services and community spaces that help people connect, belong and thrive — creating the conditions for healthy, resilient communities.

The recommendation before Council creates an opportunity to think beyond buildings alone. It invites a broader conversation about the kind of community Burlington wants to create as it grows, and how recreation, child care, community spaces and opportunities for connection can be part of that future. We believe that is a thoughtful and responsible step forward.

Growth and Community Infrastructure

At the YMCA, we often talk about creating spaces to belong. We know that communities are strengthened when people have places to gather, learn, play and connect.

Housing, transportation and employment are certainly essential. But thriving communities also require social infrastructure. Access to recreation, aquatics, sport and community space supports physical and mental well-being, social connection and healthy aging. These benefits extend far beyond the facilities themselves.

The report contemplates a development that could include approximately 8,800 residential units alongside employment, institutional and commercial uses. As Burlington plans for that future growth, it is important that recreation, wellness and community infrastructure be considered alongside housing, transit, employment and open space.

The City's own Live and Play Plan identifies that there is currently no City-operated gymnasium on the west side of Burlington. This creates a unique opportunity to address existing community needs while planning for future growth, ensuring that community infrastructure keeps pace with the city it serves.

A complete community is shaped by the opportunities people have to participate, connect and belong.

This is a rare opportunity to explore how public, private and community partners can work together to ensure that growth is supported by the recreation, wellness and community infrastructure residents will need from day one.

Planning for Families

As this project evolves, we encourage Council to keep the needs of families front and centre.

A development of this scale will bring increased demand for licensed child care, before- and after-school programs, youth services, recreation opportunities and community gathering spaces. As Council explores future facility options and partnership opportunities, we encourage consideration of how child care, youth services, recreation and community spaces can be integrated to support families and strengthen neighbourhoods.

Through our work with children and families across Burlington, we see firsthand how these supports contribute to children's development, help families participate in the workforce and strengthen the broader community for the long term.

These are essential elements of a complete community and important investments in the well-being of families and neighbourhoods.

Community Outcomes Matter

As discussions continue regarding capital costs, operating models and partnership opportunities, we believe it is equally important to consider the community outcomes these investments can create.

Last year, more than 95,000 people accessed YMCA programs and services across our region, including more than 56,000 children and young people. More than one-third participated through free, subsidized or funded opportunities that helped remove financial barriers and expand access. Behind those numbers are healthier children, stronger families, greater resilience, increased social connection and a deeper sense of belonging.

These are the kinds of outcomes that community infrastructure can help create when it is planned alongside growth.

As Burlington considers future opportunities at 1200 King Road, those outcomes should remain part of the conversation.

Partnership and Community Benefit

Burlington has a strong history of partnership, and the YMCA has been proud to be part of that story. The Ron Edwards Family YMCA demonstrates how municipalities and community organizations can work together to create shared assets that deliver long-term community benefit.

Our purpose today is to express our support for the process being proposed and our belief that community well-being, belonging and opportunities for connection should remain important considerations as that work continues.

Closing

This week, the YMCA will gather here in Burlington for our annual Community Impact Event to celebrate the people, partnerships and investments that continue to strengthen this community. It is a reminder that thoughtful community-building creates impact across generations.

Opportunities of this scale are uncommon. They provide a chance to think not only about how a city grows, but about how a community grows alongside it.

That is why we support Council proceeding with the proposed due diligence phase and continuing the work necessary to better understand what may be possible at 1200 King Road.

As that work continues, we encourage ongoing consideration of the community spaces, family-serving infrastructure, health and wellness opportunities and places of belonging that help communities thrive.

Thank you for your time, your leadership and your commitment to Burlington's future.

I would be pleased to answer any questions.

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

Burlington's longest-serving competitive swim club

A year-round, non-profit, parent-run club developing swimmers from their first strokes through provincial, national, and university-level competition.

40+
years serving Burlington families

Non-profit
volunteer- and parent-run

Every level
from learn-to-train to elite international

250 letters of support, and counting

250+

letters of support submitted to Council: an unusually **focused, unified message** .

WHO WROTE IN

19%

wrote in from beyond Burlington; Oakville, Hamilton, Milton and further. Regional demand, not just local.

9–79

the age range of supporting swimmers. Aquatics serves every age, not only kids.

79%

centred on three themes: long-course access, athlete development, and general support.

THE FACILITY

What a 50m + warmer 25m pool delivers

Burlington and Halton have **no indoor 50m long-course pool…** athletes and families drive out of the region to train and race.

COMPETITION

10-lane 50m pool

Training · Competition · Event hosting

COMMUNITY

Warmer 25m pool

Learn-to-swim · Water safety · Para sport · Seniors · Recreation

1 : 48,500

residents per indoor pool today; the city's target only **maintains** that ratio as Burlington grows.

+8,800

new homes coming at **1200 King Road** alone.

Two pools relieve pressure on aging existing facilities, and **hosting brings visiting teams, officials and families** into Burlington's hotels, restaurants and shops.

THE ASK

ITEM 8.2 · CAO-01-26 · JUNE 8

Keep aquatics in scope and prioritized

1

Endorse the 50m + leisure pool as a prioritized component of the 1200 King Road scope, and not a secondary one, so it advances through the Q2 2027 due-diligence and funding work.

2

Direct staff to actively pursue provincial, federal, and partnership funding for the aquatics component specifically.

3

Count on BAD: a 40+ year aquatic community ready to fill the lanes, host the events, and activate this facility from day one.

Burlington has a once-in-a-generation chance to build the region's aquatic hub. Let's make sure the pool is in it.

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Blanca Pichardo Valverde, and I am writing as a Parent of a swimmer of BAD in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Blanca Pichardo Valverde
Burlington
Parent of a swimmer of BAD
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Lilia Smol, and I am writing as a Parent of competitive swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Lilia Smol
Burlington On
Parent of competitive swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is David Colman, and I am writing as a coach with [Club Name] in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington. As coaches, we see firsthand how facility access directly impacts athlete development, program growth, and long-term participation in sport.

Having been involved with BAD for almost 20 years as a parent and now a coach I have seen, through many discussions with other parents and coaches, the benefits that other communities have experienced with the building and use of facilities with 50 meter pools.

Across Burlington, Halton, and the surrounding region, aquatic programs are limited by aging facilities, restricted pool availability, and a lack of access to an indoor 50m long course training environment.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, including a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would be a significant asset for athletes, coaches, families, officials, and the broader community. It would provide more appropriate training space, better racing opportunities, improved warm-up and cool-down capacity, and a facility capable of supporting regional and provincial events.

This project would benefit far beyond one club or one municipality. It would strengthen aquatic sport across the Golden Horseshoe and Halton Region and provide the infrastructure needed to support the next generation of athletes.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important project.
Sincerely,

David Colman
Coach
[Club Name]
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Andy Newman, and I am writing as a Parwnt of 2 swimmers at Burlington devilrays in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughters drive 45 minutes to be able to train at a proper 50m facility for their long course season.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Andy Newman
Burlington
Parwnt of 2 swimmers at Burlington devilrays
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Ekaterina Korotkov, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

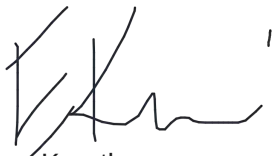
This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,



Ekaterina Korotkov
Oakville
Parent of swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Karen Wright, and I am writing as a Parent of two swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide the warm-up and cool-down space essential for safe, effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs, while bringing visitors into Burlington to support hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Karen Wright
Burlington
Parent of two swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Aly Abdelgawad, and I am writing as a Parent of a swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son needs a 50 m pool at a drivable location. This would increase his readiness for competitions.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Aly Abdelgawad
Oakville, ON
Parent of a swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Dmytro Korotkov, and I am writing as a Parent of competitive swimmer in Burlington (BAD) in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

It is an absolute discrace that Halton region, one of the wealthiest in GTA has no indoor 50m facility and swimmers from Burlington and Oakville are forced to drive to Hamilton or etobicoke to get access to a long pool facility.

It adds time and money (gas is expensive) and is risky (snowy winter roads)

There should be a 50m pool in Halton! Taxpayers of the region will appreciate this capital expenditure that can be exclusive to Burlington or be shared between Burl, Oak and Milton aquatic clubs.

Thanks.
Parent and taxpayer.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Dmytro Korotkov
Burlington
Parent of competitive swimmer in Burlington (BAD)
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sabina Stabryla, and I am writing as a Parent of two swimmers at bad in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My boys train 8 times a week and we have to go to 3 different pools as there's not enough in the area.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Sabina Stabryla
Burlington
Parent of two swimmers at bad
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Heather Drewett, and I am writing as a Parent of a competitive swimmer and 2 lifeguard/swim instructors in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

The addition of a 2 more pools, including an indoor 50 m pool, would be beneficial to everyone in Burlington!

Current pool infrastructure is aging and there is not enough time for everyone who wants to use the facilities. A new pool would allow more aquatic sports to thrive in Burlington!

In addition, our swim team currently travels to Etobicoke, Markham, and St Catharine's for big long course meets. These facilities are rented by swim teams from many surrounding cities that do not have facilities of their own. Having a facility in Burlington, particularly one with adequate spectator seating, would mean rental income for the city for meets and tourism dollars coming to our city. A win for all of us!!

We are so excited for a new pool in Burlington!

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today’s growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Heather Drewett
Burlington, ON

Parent of a competitive swimmer and 2 lifeguard/swim instructors in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Tanya Angevaare, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Tanya Angevaare
Burlington
Parent of swimmer
t[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Aiden Khan, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Aiden Khan
Age 10 · Grade 5
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Lena D, and I am writing as a Parent of a swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

There is not enough swimming pool in Burlington for kids who love swimming.

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing community and region. Many existing pools were not designed for modern aquatic programming, large-scale competitions, accessible use, or the volume of demand now placed on them.

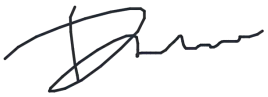
Families are experiencing limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive aquatic groups are also limited by facilities lacking adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex would help solve these challenges. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would provide space for training and hosting, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim, community and para programming, therapy-style use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington needs for the future. It would serve families, athletes, seniors, schools, clubs, officials, volunteers, and the broader community.

I respectfully ask that you support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal investment needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,



Lena D
Burlington
Parent of a swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is AMITH ANAND, and I am writing in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

AMITH ANAND
Burlington
[Connection to Aquatics / Club / Community]
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Mithun Subramanya, and I am writing as a Parent of BAD in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter trains in intermediate level in BAD

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Mithun Subramanya
Burlington ON
Parent of BAD
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support a Regional Aquatic Sportsplex in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Blair Gunby, and I am writing as a Parent of a swimmer living in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

A 50-metre aquatic facility is not simply a local recreation project. It is regional infrastructure. It would serve Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, Peel, Niagara, and the broader Golden Horseshoe, supporting athletes, families, schools, clubs, community users, para sport, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, officials, volunteers, and spectators.

The challenge is that facilities of this size are difficult for municipalities to fund alone. They require partnership between municipal, provincial, and federal governments, along with community and sport-sector support.

Burlington has a clear opportunity to help address a major aquatic infrastructure gap. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool, paired with a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool, would provide both regional hosting capacity and meaningful community access.

This facility would improve access to aquatic programming, reduce pressure on existing pools, support athlete development, create sport tourism opportunities, and contribute to the local economy.

I urge you to support this project and advocate for senior government investment in regionally significant aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Sincerely,

Blair Gunby
Burlington
Parent of a swimmer living in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sasha Devers, and I am writing as a Parent of 3 competitive swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My children do not have the opportunity to train in a 50-metre pool, placing them at a disadvantage compared to many swimmers in the Toronto and Windsor regions who have regular access to 50-metre training facilities.

Competitive swimming is a sport in which Canada consistently produces world-class athletes and competes successfully on the international stage. To maintain that tradition of excellence, young swimmers across all communities need access to the facilities and resources required to reach their full potential.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Sasha Devers
Burlington
Parent of 3 competitive swimmers in Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Laura Pastor, and I am writing as a Parent of competitive swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter is a dedicated competitive swimmer, and a new 50-metre competition pool would have a tremendous impact on her development. Training in a full-length pool helps swimmers build endurance, refine their skills, and prepare for higher-level competitions. Currently, many athletes must travel outside the community to access suitable facilities. A 50-metre pool would provide local swimmers with more opportunities to train, compete, and achieve their goals while strengthening the aquatic community for future generations.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Laura Pastor
Burlington
Parent of competitive swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sergei Soloukhin, and I am writing as a coach with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Many of the pools our programs depend on were not designed for modern aquatic training, large competitions, accessible use, or today's level of demand. Aging facilities and restricted availability limit what we can offer athletes and families.

From a coaching perspective, this means crowded schedules, limited practice options, and pressure on existing community pools that are already heavily used.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a warmer 10-lane 25m pool would relieve that pressure. It would provide proper training and hosting space while protecting community access for lessons, recreation, and para programming.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington and the region need for the future, serving athletes, coaches, families, schools, officials, and volunteers for decades to come.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important project.

Sincerely,

Sergei Soloukhin
Swimming Director / Head Coach
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Arthur Hilson, and I am writing as a Parent of three swimmers in Burlington and my wife is a master swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My three children swim between two and six times per week and my wife also swims. Can you please have our community facilitate the process for financial support from our family as we want to invest in the capital cost of more swimming infrastructure!

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing community and region. Many existing pools were not designed for modern aquatic programming, large-scale competitions, accessible use, or the volume of demand now placed on them.

Families are experiencing limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive aquatic groups are also limited by facilities lacking adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex would help solve these challenges. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would provide space for training and hosting, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim, community and para programming, therapy-style use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington needs for the future. It would serve families, athletes, seniors, schools, clubs, officials, volunteers, and the broader community.

I respectfully ask that you support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal investment needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Arthur Hilson
Burlington
Parent of three swimmers in Burlington and my wife is a master swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Samantha Ricci, and I am writing as a Parent of a Swimmer of the Burlington Aquatuc Devilrays for 4 years now in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son trains 4 days a week in Burlington. For the past 6 months he has had to train at the YMCA which is not even a full 25m pool and has no diving blocks. His training has been stalled since BAD has had been time cut many of his longtime team mates and friends have left.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Samantha Ricci
Waterdown
Parent of a Swimmer of the Burlington Aquatuc Devilrays for 4 years now
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Alex Angevaare, and I am writing as a Parent / Uncle of 3 Halton swimmers! in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

How we have a velodrome and no indoor 50m pool is beyond me and a seemingly a misuse of Halton tax payer dollars.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Alex Angevaare
Burlington
Parent / Uncle of 3 Halton swimmers!
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Natalie Henderson, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Lacking a 50 meter pool to practice in significantly impairs the ability to compete

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Natalie Henderson
Waterdown
Parent of swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Vickram Agarwal, and I am writing as a Close family friend of daily swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Vickram Agarwal
Burlington, Ontario
Close family friend of daily swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Natalee Strain, and I am writing as a Parent to a swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Natalee Strain
Burlington
Parent to a swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Severine Blondeau, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmers in BAD Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son trains 5 times a week and we have to drive far to go to the competitions.

Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide the warm-up and cool-down space essential for safe, effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs, while bringing visitors into Burlington to support hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Severine Blondeau
Burlington
Parent of swimmers in BAD Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Aimee Hilson, and I am writing as a Parent of three swimmers with the Burlington Aquatic Devilrays and I am a masters swimmer with the Burlington Masters Swim Club! in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As a family in the Burlington community we live at the pool! My children and I swim 2 - 6 times each week. Therefore, we want to invest our personal money into swimming infrastructure.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Aimee Hilson
Burlington
Parent of three swimmers with the Burlington Aquatic Devilrays and I am a masters swimmer with the Burlington Masters Swim Club!
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Brian Drewett, and I am writing as a Parent of a BAD swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Brian Drewett
Burlington, ON
Parent of a BAD swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs More Aquatic Space for Families and Community Programming

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Teagan Drewett, and I am writing as a coach with Atlantis School of Swim in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the biggest challenges facing aquatic programs is access to enough appropriate pool space. Demand for swimming lessons, competitive training, para programming, community use, and aquatic sport continues to grow, but available facilities have not kept pace.

From a coaching perspective, this limits what programs can offer. It restricts how many athletes can participate, limits practice options, creates scheduling challenges, and places unnecessary pressure on existing community pools.

A facility with both a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would help. It would allow multiple programs to run at the same time, support different water-temperature needs, and create space for both high-performance training and community-based programming.

This is the kind of forward-thinking infrastructure Burlington and the region need. It would support athletes, coaches, families, schools, officials, volunteers, and the broader community for decades to come.

I strongly encourage your support for this project.
Sincerely,

Teagan Drewett
Program Manager
Atlantis School of Swim
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is John Marzo, and I am writing in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing community and region. Many existing pools were not designed for modern aquatic programming, large-scale competitions, accessible use, or the volume of demand now placed on them.

Families are experiencing limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive aquatic groups are also limited by facilities lacking adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex would help solve these challenges. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would provide space for training and hosting, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim, community and para programming, therapy-style use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington needs for the future. It would serve families, athletes, seniors, schools, clubs, officials, volunteers, and the broader community.

I respectfully ask that you support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal investment needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

John Marzo
Kitchener
[Connection to Aquatics / Club / Community]
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Madelein Meissner-Roloff, and I am writing as a Parent of 4 swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My children train 6 days a week and to make the pool times work for 4 kids can be quite a hassle when I have to travel between facilities and pools with lessons starting at the same times. Our lives revolve around swimming. Pool hours are often limited or at harsh times for littles. With a larger facility that could cater to more needs and more swimmers the current burden on adequate pool time will be substantially alleviated. Our region has outdoor 50m pools that are often too cold for the little swimmers to train in at the start of the summer season and the swimming season is so short in Summer that our swimmers don't have alternative options close by to properly train for long course events.

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing community and region. Many existing pools were not designed for modern aquatic programming, large-scale competitions, accessible use, or the volume of demand now placed on them.

Families are experiencing limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive aquatic groups are also limited by facilities lacking adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex would help solve these challenges. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would provide space for training and hosting, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim, community and para programming, therapy-style use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington needs for the future. It would serve families, athletes, seniors, schools, clubs, officials, volunteers, and the broader community.

I respectfully ask that you support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal investment needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Madelein Meissner-Roloff
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Caden Drewett, and I am writing as a Older sibling of a swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Caden Drewett
Burlington
Older sibling of a swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Joseph Ricci, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays.
I have swam with BAD for 4 years now. I wake up at 5am 4 times a week in order to train at the pools available to us. I think a 50m is 100% needed. Half our season is Long Coarse (50m) races and we get 0 practice in 50m pools. I would love to go to a meet confident in my pacing and goals, but instead I have no idea if my practice in a 25m pool will translate into a 50m pool. Please help us. We are putting in the time and effort, now you can help us succeed!

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.
Sincerely,

Joseph Ricci
Age 13 · Grade 8
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
Hamilton

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Adrienne Ogilvie, and I am writing as a Parent of 4 swimmers in Burlington, 1 competitive swimmer, and a lifeguard in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing community and region. Many existing pools were not designed for modern aquatic programming, large-scale competitions, accessible use, or the volume of demand now placed on them.

Families are experiencing limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive aquatic groups are also limited by facilities lacking adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex would help solve these challenges. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would provide space for training and hosting, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim, community and para programming, therapy-style use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington needs for the future. It would serve families, athletes, seniors, schools, clubs, officials, volunteers, and the broader community.

I respectfully ask that you support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal investment needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Adrienne Ogilvie
Burlington
Parent of 4 swimmers in Burlington, 1 competitive swimmer, and a lifeguard
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jill Scarrow, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Jill Scarrow
Burlington
Parent of swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Would Benefit Burlington's Economy

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is abbey donegan, and I am writing as a parent of 2 swimmers in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

A modern aquatic facility would provide significant benefits to families, athletes, and community users, but it would also be an important economic development opportunity for Burlington.

Competition-ready 50-metre pools attract events. These events bring families, teams, coaches, officials, and spectators into the community, who stay in hotels, eat at local restaurants, and shop locally. Burlington is well-positioned geographically to serve as a regional aquatic hub for Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, Toronto, and the broader Golden Horseshoe.

At the same time, a secondary warmer 25-metre pool would ensure the facility is not only for competitions. It would support lessons, recreation, community use, accessibility, and para programming year-round.

This project is an opportunity to invest in health, sport, tourism, economic development, and community infrastructure all at once.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this project and helping secure provincial and federal funding partnerships.

Sincerely,

abbey donegan
burlington
parent of 2 swimmers
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Anastasia Strunsky, and I am writing as a Parent of a competitive swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Anastasia Strunsky
Burlington
Parent of a competitive swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support a Regional Aquatic Sportsplex in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Heidi Angevaare, and I am writing as a Grandmother of a very dedicated young competitive swimmer. in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

On occasion I have driven my grandson to his practises but can never stay to watch because the facilities are so small and do not have spectator facilities. Very disheartening.

A 50-metre aquatic facility is not simply a local recreation project. It is regional infrastructure. It would serve Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, Peel, Niagara, and the broader Golden Horseshoe, supporting athletes, families, schools, clubs, community users, para sport, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, officials, volunteers, and spectators.

The challenge is that facilities of this size are difficult for municipalities to fund alone. They require partnership between municipal, provincial, and federal governments, along with community and sport-sector support.

Burlington has a clear opportunity to help address a major aquatic infrastructure gap. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool, paired with a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool, would provide both regional hosting capacity and meaningful community access.

This facility would improve access to aquatic programming, reduce pressure on existing pools, support athlete development, create sport tourism opportunities, and contribute to the local economy.

I urge you to support this project and advocate for senior government investment in regionally significant aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Sincerely,

Heidi Angevaare
Oakville, Ont.
Grandmother of a very dedicated young competitive swimmer.
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sonal Ghosh, and I am writing as a Parent of BAD swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Sonal Ghosh
Burlington
Parent of BAD swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Siobhan Lemus, and I am writing as a coach with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I swam for 10 years for BAD and we never had an indoor 50m pool to practice in during long course season. I always felt underprepared and not developed enough to keep up with other cities with 50m pools.

For athletes to develop fully, they need a complete pathway — from grassroots programming through to high-performance training. A central piece of that pathway in aquatic sport is access to an indoor 50m long course pool, which Burlington and Halton currently lack.

Without it, coaches are limited in how they prepare athletes for long course competition, and clubs struggle to support athletes at different stages of development within the same system.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would let us run multiple programs at once, serve different age and ability groups, and support both high-performance training and development swimming under one roof.

This project would strengthen athlete pathways across multiple aquatic sports and help more athletes progress from grassroots programming to provincial, national, university, and international levels.

I strongly encourage your support for this project.
Sincerely,

Siobhan Lemus
Splash Rays Coach
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Christina Haberkorn, and I am writing as a Swimmer parent in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Christina Haberkorn
Burlington
Swimmer parent
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Will Evans, and I am writing as a member of community in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Swimming is an essential part of this community where many children and teenagers that I know can develop and grow as swimmers and as fundamental parts of our community.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Will Evans
burlington
member of community
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Alex Wong, and I am writing as a Parent of two swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son trains 6 days a week at Burlington Aquatic Devilrays and my daughter 2 days. Halton does not have any indoor 50m long course facility that allows swimmers to practice during long course season. Adding a 50m indoor pool will allow for this type of training.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Alex Wong
Burlington, Ontario
Parent of two swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is adrian fallow, and I am writing as a parent of competitive swimmer in burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

adrian fallow
Burlington
parent of competitive swimmer in burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Lesley Clayden, and I am writing as a parent of 2 swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter swims competitively 6 days a week, but due to a lack of pool time they are swimming in a small 25 yard pool with no diving blocks 4/6 practices 9 months of the year. This is not adequately preparing her for short course swim meets (25 m) let alone long course meets (50 m).

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Lesley Clayden
Burlington, ON
parent of 2 swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Mohamed Ibrahim, and I am writing as a Parent of 2 swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son is a competitive swimmer in BAD and my daughter is a beginner

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Mohamed Ibrahim
Oakville, ON
Parent of 2 swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Neve Stockwell, and I am writing as a member of the community in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My sister and best friend swam all throughout childhood and the swimming lifestyle was a big part of my life. I also swam in high school and understand how pertinent a new swimming facility is to young and old swimmers alike.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Neve Stockwell
Burlington
member of the community
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sonia Manchisi, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer Burlington aquatic devilrays in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Sonia Manchisi
Burlington,on
Parent of swimmer Burlington aquatic devilrays
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Lauren Wright, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devil rays. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

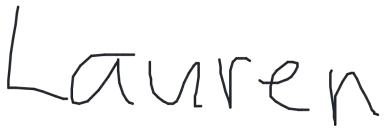
For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,



Lauren Wright
Age 12 · Grade 6
Burlington Aquatic Devil rays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Victoria Wright, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Victoria Wright
Age 9 · Grade 4
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
Burlington ON

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Vikas Munjal, and I am writing as a Parent of youth swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Vikas Munjal
Burlington
Parent of youth swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Itzel Lopez, and I am writing as a Family member of a swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Aiden works so hard and loved it but takes a tol on other aspectos of his life because of the travel.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Itzel Lopez
Burlington on
Family member of a swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Heather Mills, and I am writing as a Parent of a competitive swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

We have joined Burlington Aquatic Devils and my son swims 3 days a week in Burlington, at two different pools. Overall there is such a massive investment in hockey rinks and associated facilities across Halton. It would be really wonderful to see that diversified across other sports like swimming.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Heather Mills
Oakville
Parent of a competitive swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

On behalf of [Club Name], I am writing to express our strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Our club understands firsthand the growing demand for appropriate aquatic space. Across the region, aquatic organizations are working within limited pool availability, aging facilities, and venues that often lack the deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition infrastructure required to properly support athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

A regional, multi-use aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, including a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would be a significant asset for the entire aquatic community. It would provide increased access to training, expanded racing and competition opportunities, and much-needed capacity for learn-to-swim, para programming, community use, warm-up/cool-down, and event hosting.

This type of facility would benefit not only Burlington, but also clubs, athletes, and families across Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, and the broader Golden Horseshoe.

We respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important project and in helping secure the provincial and federal partnerships needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Pepper Parr
[Title]
[Club Name]
Carlisle,

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jordan Vipond, and I am writing as a Parent of two swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Jordan Vipond
Burlington, ON
Parent of two swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Elizabeth Cizek, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Families in our region regularly travel outside Burlington and Halton for aquatic training and competitions. This creates added costs, long drives, lost family time, and barriers for children who want to participate and develop in aquatic sport.

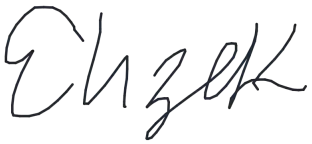
For families with multiple children, working parents, or limited transportation options, the lack of local access to appropriate aquatic infrastructure can be especially difficult. It can determine whether a child is able to participate fully or not.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help change that. A 10-lane, 50-metre pool would provide proper long course training and competition capacity, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support lessons, community use, para programming, and warm-up/cool-down space.

This project would reduce the burden on families, improve access, and help ensure that children in our region have the same opportunities as athletes in communities with better aquatic infrastructure.

I respectfully ask you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to build it.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Cizek
Burlington
Parent of swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Shawna Karas, and I am writing as a Parent of Burlington swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I am writing to respectfully request that the you consider including a 50-metre competitive swimming pool in future recreation facility planning and development. Currently, competitive swimmers in our community must travel to facilities in Markham, Etobicoke, and other municipalities multiple times each month for swim meets to compete in a 50-metre pool. This travel places a significant burden on athletes and families in terms of time, transportation costs, and scheduling. In addition to the lack of a local 50-metre facility, pool availability at our existing city facilities is becoming increasingly limited. Many swim clubs from outside our region are booking substantial amounts of pool time, making it difficult for local swimmers and clubs to access the training space they need. As competitive swimming continues to grow, the demand for pool time is exceeding the available capacity. A 50-metre pool would provide numerous benefits to our community, including: Supporting the development of local competitive swimmers. Reducing the need for families to travel long distances for training and competitions. Increasing access to aquatic programming for residents. Allowing to host swim meets and regional competitions, generating economic benefits for local businesses. Creating additional recreational and fitness opportunities for residents of all ages. Our community has many dedicated swimmers and families who would greatly benefit from a modern aquatic facility designed to meet competitive standards. Investing in a 50-metre pool would demonstrate your commitment to supporting youth development, healthy lifestyles, and high-performance sport. I encourage you to evaluate the current and future demand for aquatic facilities and consider a 50-metre pool as part of the your long-term recreation infrastructure plans. Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your commitment to enhancing recreational opportunities for residents and look forward to seeing this important need addressed.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today’s growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Shawna Karas
Burlington
Parent of Burlington swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Lauren Wootton, and I am writing as a Parent to 3 swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Our club isn't able to host big meets due to the poor quality seating and size of our currently pools in Burlington. In addition they practice in a 25 yard pool at the YMCA instead of 25 or 50 meter which is how they compete .

Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide the warm-up and cool-down space essential for safe, effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs, while bringing visitors into Burlington to support hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Lauren Wootton
Burlington ON
Parent to 3 swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Youness Dafif, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My 6 years old daughter is training at BAD, and we can’t have more a slot for her training because the club is full.

Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide the warm-up and cool-down space essential for safe, effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs, while bringing visitors into Burlington to support hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Youness Dafif
Burlington
Parent of swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Ella Markowsky, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Ella Markowsky
Age 15 · Grade 10
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Karen Markowsky, and I am writing as a Parent of a swimmer at BAD in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington is home to exceptional swimmers, yet our city's most competitive swimmers are being left behind. Currently, Burlington lacks an indoor 50-meter Olympic-sized facility, leaving local athletes with zero access to a long-course training environment during the fall, winter, and spring seasons. To remain competitive at the provincial and national levels, our athlete outside of Burlington for standard training, or face a severe competitive disadvantage. Building a 50m indoor pool is not a luxury; it is an essential investment required to keep Burlington's premier athletes training in their home community, support their athletic dreams, and establish Burlington as a true hub for aquatic excellence.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Karen Markowsky

Burlington, ON
Parent of a swimmer at BAD in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

On behalf of Burlington Masters Swim Club, I am writing in support of the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

I have personally witnessed the benefit of growing up with a 50m pool in my home town and believe strongly that a 50m pool is for everyone, competitors and recreational swimmers alike.

Access to proper aquatic training space is one of the greatest challenges facing clubs across our region. Athletes require consistent, appropriate facilities to develop safely and effectively, yet many communities do not have access to indoor 50m long course training. This creates barriers for athlete development and often forces clubs and families to travel outside their communities to access suitable training environments.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington would help address this gap by providing a regional training hub for aquatic athletes. Paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, the facility would also support younger athletes, introductory programming, para and adaptive opportunities, community use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This project would strengthen athlete pathways across multiple aquatic sports and create more opportunities for swimmers and aquatic athletes to progress from grassroots programming to provincial, national, university, and international levels.

We strongly support this project and encourage provincial and federal support for this important regional infrastructure investment.

Sincerely,

Petra Haneberry
Club President
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Liz Le Sueur, and I am writing as a Aunt of a current BAD member in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I swam competitively with the Burlington Aquatic Devilrays about 20 years ago. I now get to watch my niece enjoy the water as much as I did. Having a newer aquatic centre will definitely benefit current swimmers and increase the amount of newer swimmers. Burlington to have a 50m pool would be an exceptional pool to train in. Highly support this!

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Liz Le Sueur
Burlington
Aunt of a current BAD member
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Pradeep Hooda, and I am writing as a Parent of 2 swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Pradeep Hooda
Burlington Ontario
Parent of 2 swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Gamy Silverio, and I am writing as a Parent 2 swimmers im Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Gamy Silverio
Burlington
Parent 2 swimmers im Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Ashley Smith, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son swims 4 days a week and we'd love to see this type of pool as part of his training!

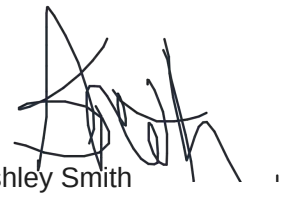
Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,



Ashley Smith
Burlington ON
Parent of swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Brock Clayden, and I am writing as a Swimmer and parent of swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

We do not have a good pool to host meets and practice long course events.

Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide the warm-up and cool-down space essential for safe, effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs, while bringing visitors into Burlington to support hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Brock Clayden
Burlington, on
Swimmer and parent of swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Naya Silverio, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Naya Silverio
Age 10 · Grade 5
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Hazel and Bruce Carlin, and I am writing as a Grandparents to a competitive swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

With limited pool space and swim times during work hours, we step up as grandparents to help get our granddaughter to her swim practices to help lessen the burden on her working parents. Other families are not as fortunate to have help. Increased capacity for evenings and weekends would help us all. We also like to attend our granddaughters swim meets to support her, but can't always do so due to limited building capacities, such as Centennial Pool.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Hazel and Bruce Carlin
Burlington
Grandparents to a competitive swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Yuriy Bespalov, and I am writing as a coach with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Many of the pools our programs depend on were not designed for modern aquatic training, large competitions, accessible use, or today's level of demand. Aging facilities and restricted availability limit what we can offer athletes and families.

From a coaching perspective, this means crowded schedules, limited practice options, and pressure on existing community pools that are already heavily used.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a warmer 10-lane 25m pool would relieve that pressure. It would provide proper training and hosting space while protecting community access for lessons, recreation, and para programming.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington and the region need for the future, serving athletes, coaches, families, schools, officials, and volunteers for decades to come.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important project.

Sincerely,

Yuriy Bespalov
Head Coach Assistant
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Brenda Barr, and I am writing as a Grandmother of a high performance competitive swimmer swimmer from Burlington Aquatic Devilrays in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

When local facilities fail to meet standard competitive requirements, the burden falls directly on families. Right now, dedicated local swimmers—including my own granddaughter—cannot train properly in their hometown during the school year. Because Burlington lacks an indoor 50-meter pool, families are forced to commute out of the municipality to Etobicoke or McMaster University just to get essential long-course pool time. Expecting student-athletes to balance rigorous schooling with exhausting out-of-town travel just to access a standard training environment is unacceptable. Burlington must bridge this gap and invest in a 50m indoor facility to support our own.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Brenda Barr

Burlington

Grandmother of a high performance competitive swimmer swimmer from Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is John Barr, and I am writing as a Grandfather of high performance competitive swimmer for Burlington Aquatic Devil Rays in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As a grandparent, I see firsthand the unfair burden our city places on its youth. To train at an Olympic-standard indoor pool during the school year, my granddaughter is forced to travel to Etobicoke or McMaster University. These are the two closest indoor 50-meter facilities available, and neither is in our community. Burlington falls short.

Because of this gap, our dedicated local athletes are forced into a terr
Burlington training in a short 25-meter pool and risk falling behind during the critical long-course competitive season, or consider leaving their home community entirely to switch to clubs in Etobicoke or Hamilton just to have access to a 50m pool. Our elite young athletes shouldn't have to spend their crucial study, rest, and family hours commuting on the highway, nor should they have to abandon their hometown clubs. We need an indoor 50m pool in Burlington so our kids can train and stay where they live.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

John Barr
Burlington
Grandfather of high performance competitive swimmer for Burlington Aquatic Devil Rays
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Timothy Babcock, and I am writing as a Parent of HP Swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter is currently the top swimmer for Burlington Aquatic DevilRays. She only has summer seasonal access to train at a 50 m pool in Burlington and it is outdoors, affected by temperature, weather and limited availability. Having a year round facility in the city would help future swimmers to achieve their goals by providing access year round to an indoor, conditioned facility.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Timothy Babcock
Burlington
Parent of HP Swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Kathy Smyth, and I am writing as a parent of two swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My kids swim 6 days a week with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays. During long course season, we have to travel farther for meets because Burlington does not have a 50m pool. Having the ability to train regularly in a 50m pool locally would also really help with stamina and endurance.

If the city is going to build something like this, it should be done properly, similar to the Etobicoke Olympium. A facility like that could support much more than competitive swimming. It could allow for diving programs, synchronized swimming, water polo, scuba/PADI lessons, and more swim lesson capacity through additional pool space and rentals.

A 50m pool would also let competitive swimmers train long course more often while still allowing leisure swims and aqua fitness programs to run at the same time. If the facility included a large viewing area, it could also attract swim competitions from clubs across the region.

With the right design and enough space, this type of facility could become a major community hub and generate strong revenue for the city as well.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Kathy Smyth
Burlington
parent of two swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

On behalf of Burlington Masters Swim Club Inc., I am writing to express our strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My kids swam competitively with BAD when they were younger and my wife and I swim with Burlington Masters. Both clubs have a long history in Burlington each upwards of 40 years. I now sit on the Board for BMSC and actually wrote a letter in February 2025 to Angelo Bentivegna our Deputy Mayor for Recreation on this specific subject. It is clear that pool time is a bottle neck in Burlington. With no high quality aquatic centre with a 50 metre pool between Mississauga and essentially Brantford to the west this densley populated area can afford a large facility. It will suport athlete development, general citizen fitness, support the opportunity to bring world class competeitions to the area and the resulting economic benefit. Personally I feel King Road is too far west. A more central location like Burloak and Upper Middle would seem more entrl to the Region. Unfortunatley our club was not made aware of the city looking into this despite our having sent a letter to the Deputy Mayor reposnsible. Had we known, we too would have delegated.

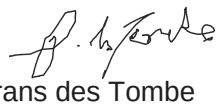
Our club understands firsthand the growing demand for appropriate aquatic space. Across the region, aquatic organizations are working within limited pool availability, aging facilities, and venues that often lack the deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition infrastructure required to properly support athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

A regional, multi-use aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, including a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would be a significant asset for the entire aquatic community. It would provide increased access to training, expanded racing and competition opportunities, and much-needed capacity for learn-to-swim, para programming, community use, warm-up/cool-down, and event hosting.

This type of facility would benefit not only Burlington, but also clubs, athletes, and families across Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, and the broader Golden Horseshoe.

We respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important project and in helping secure the provincial and federal partnerships needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,



Frans des Tombe
Club Secretary
Burlington Masters Swim Club Inc.

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Phil Damecour, and I am writing as a Parent of 2 swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Phil Damecour
Burlington, on
Parent of 2 swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Andrea Gill, and I am writing as a Parent of BAD swimming in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter trains at four different pools 6 days a week but not all are competitive pools. Particularly like facilities in Hamilton, Mississauga, Milton and Oakville.

Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide the warm-up and cool-down space essential for safe, effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs, while bringing visitors into Burlington to support hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Andrea Gill
Burlington
Parent of BAD swimming
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Petra Haneberry, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club.
I am a lifetime competitor, attending Masters PanAms in the fall (a longcourse competition) and do not have an accessible pool to prepare properly. I grew up with a 50 m pool in my home town and know first had the benefit this type of pool brings to the community

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.
Sincerely,

Petra Haneberry
Age 51
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jeremiah Burns, and I am writing as a Parent of a BAD swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son trains at various locations across Burlington 6 times a week with each location having pros and cons. We need a fully functional competition level pool in Burlington so our athletes can train at the highest level closer to home with the equipment and amenities needed to support their development as athletes and young leaders in our community. Burlington is a growing city with an increased demand on our recreational facilities with swimming being at the forefront of this. Let's give everyone a chance to learn this life skill and ensure that those kids who want to continue on and compete have the best facilities possible!

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah Burns
Burlington
Parent of a BAD swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Chelsea Knowles, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I personally train 3-5 times a week. The traffic in the GTA area has become so heavy that I often miss practices. A 50m pool within Burlington would help tremendously.

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Knowles
Age 37
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sylvia Keppel, and I am writing as a I'm a parent of two swimmmers (5&8) in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Our two children have three trainings daily and a 50m pool would benefit their future.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Keppel
Burlington, ON
I'm a parent of two swimmmers (5&8) in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Annamay Oldershaw, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmers and current swimmer myself in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Annamay Oldershaw
Burlington
Parent of swimmers and current swimmer myself
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Alexandra Burns, and I am a swimmer with Burlington masters. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Burns
[Age / Grade]
Burlington masters
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Lina Paulionis, and I am a swimmer with BMSC.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.

Sincerely,

Lina Paulionis
Age 50
BMSC
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Connie Soave, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

After 25 + years out of competitive swimming, I joined the Burlington Masters Swim Club and I also have two children who swim as part of GHAC in Burlington. We love this city and deserve a world class 50 m indoor pool to support swimmers of all ages achieve their goals and lead a healthy life. Swimming is for everyone. Let's create a space that matches the world class city we live in.

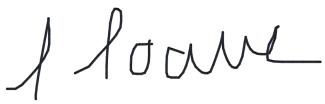
For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,



Connie Soave
Age 41 · Grade 00
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Chelsea Knowles, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I have been a competitive swimmer most of my life. I train 3-5 times a week. I have always loved long course swimming and we do not have an indoor facility to train in year round in the Burlington area.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Knowles
Age 37
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Stephane Lalonde, and I am a swimmer with TCOB. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Stephane Lalonde
Age 51
TCOB
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support a Regional Aquatic Sportsplex in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Derek Streefkerk, and I am writing as a Parent of a swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As a volunteer member of the BAD swim club's executive, I see the clear need for more facilities to enable our competitive swimmers able to train often enough to reach their full potential.

A 50-metre aquatic facility is not simply a local recreation project. It is regional infrastructure. It would serve Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, Peel, Niagara, and the broader Golden Horseshoe, supporting athletes, families, schools, clubs, community users, para sport, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, officials, volunteers, and spectators.

The challenge is that facilities of this size are difficult for municipalities to fund alone. They require partnership between municipal, provincial, and federal governments, along with community and sport-sector support.

Burlington has a clear opportunity to help address a major aquatic infrastructure gap. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool, paired with a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool, would provide both regional hosting capacity and meaningful community access.

This facility would improve access to aquatic programming, reduce pressure on existing pools, support athlete development, create sport tourism opportunities, and contribute to the local economy.

I urge you to support this project and advocate for senior government investment in regionally significant aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Sincerely,

Derek Streefkerk
Burlington, Ontario
Parent of a swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Ritu Kumar, and I am writing as a Family friend / teacher of competitive swimmers in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Ritu Kumar
Burlington
Family friend / teacher of competitive swimmers
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Krista Barnett, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in BAD in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Families like ours are already feeling the strain of Burlington's limited pool space. Our swim club does not have a true home pool with proper competitive equipment, the Y is too warm for serious training, and swimmers are spread across three different pools just to get enough time in the water. That means 6 a.m. practices before school and work, 4 p.m. practices that are nearly impossible for working parents to manage, and a constant scramble to get kids where they need to be. For our younger child, we have largely given up on public swimming lessons because spaces are so hard to get and classes are packed, so we pay extra for private lessons instead. For a growing city like Burlington, this should not be the reality for families trying to keep their kids active and involved.

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing community and region. Many existing pools were not designed for modern aquatic programming, large-scale competitions, accessible use, or the volume of demand now placed on them.

Families are experiencing limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive aquatic groups are also limited by facilities lacking adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex would help solve these challenges. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would provide space for training and hosting, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim, community and para programming, therapy-style use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington needs for the future. It would serve families, athletes, seniors, schools, clubs, officials, volunteers, and the broader community.

I respectfully ask that you support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal investment needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Krista Barnett
Burlington
Parent of swimmer in BAD

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Alicia Belluz, and I am writing as a Master swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Halton area/Hamilton area really need a useable 50 meter pool. I an am a master swimmer and hope to continue as I age. My daughter swam with Burlington and also would love a 50 meter pool to compete in and train. It's a much needed centre!!!

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Alicia Belluz
Waterdown
Master swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

On behalf of Burlington Masters Swim Club, I am writing to express our strong support for the development of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Swimming has been a fundamental part of my life for decades. I have swam competitively for 15 years through local club swimming, university varsity and presently in the Masters swimming community with Burlington Masters Swim Club where I also am an active Board Member.

Our club understands firsthand the growing demand for appropriate aquatic space. Across the region, aquatic organizations are working within limited pool availability, aging facilities, and venues that often lack the deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition infrastructure required to properly support athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

A regional, multi-use aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, including a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would be a significant asset for the entire aquatic community. It would provide increased access to training, expanded racing and competition opportunities, and much-needed capacity for learn-to-swim, para programming, community use, warm-up/cool-down, and event hosting.

This type of facility would benefit not only Burlington, but also clubs, athletes, and families across Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, and the broader Golden Horseshoe.

We respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important project and in helping secure the provincial and federal partnerships needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Natalie Tong
BMSC Board Member
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington, Ontario

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

On behalf of Triathlon Club of Burlington, I am writing in support of the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

As the president of a nonprofit organization, it is extremely difficult to get members together for swim lessons or community group workout. Pool time is so sacred. We have struggled with this for years. Having a competition pool for athletes to train all year round would not only improve the community but also the performance when we race globally representing Burlington/Canada. It is the most versatile activity because the young old and middle-age can all swim as it is easy on the joints and a very healthy workout. The nearest indoor 50 m pool that I am aware of for lane time is in Toronto or the Pan Am Center. If Halton built this infrastructure, it would also be adding the ability to host events.
It would be nice for all of the teams and clubs in the Halton region to be able to secure lane time all year round and not have to feel like a fight.

Access to proper aquatic training space is one of the greatest challenges facing clubs across our region. Athletes require consistent, appropriate facilities to develop safely and effectively, yet many communities do not have access to indoor 50m long course training. This creates barriers for athlete development and often forces clubs and families to travel outside their communities to access suitable training environments.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington would help address this gap by providing a regional training hub for aquatic athletes. Paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, the facility would also support younger athletes, introductory programming, para and adaptive opportunities, community use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This project would strengthen athlete pathways across multiple aquatic sports and create more opportunities for swimmers and aquatic athletes to progress from grassroots programming to provincial, national, university, and international levels.

We strongly support this project and encourage provincial and federal support for this important regional infrastructure investment.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Park

Club President
Triathlon Club of Burlington
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Zhipeng Hu, and I am writing as a Parent of one swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Zhipeng Hu
Burlington, ON
Parent of one swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Patrick Brundage, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swimming Club.
I am a lifelong competitive swimmer, having now competed for over 50 years. In my youth and through university, I trained and competed at a national level ... but my competitive drive is still there as I approach 60. As a Masters swimmer for almost thirty years, I have set national records, won national championship titles in three countries (USA, Canada and UK), been a part of a World Record relay, and have been ranked #1 in the world in my primary event. I still take my sport very seriously and intend to continue taking it seriously as long as I am able to.

I see this facility as being far more than just about youth athletes, though it will serve them amply. This is also about creating a facility that will allow swimmers across the entire age spectrum a world-class facility to hone their skills.

But, as the "available water" in Burlington is quite limited for the population, this will also create more opportunities for learn-to-swim programs, including Adult learn-to-swim. As a city built around the water, we need to create more year-round water access to ensure our citizenry can stay fit and then safe come the summer beach-going months.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.
Sincerely,

Patrick Brundage
Age 59

Burlington Masters Swimming Club
Burlington, ON

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Rishika Manjunath, and I am writing as a Parents of swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide the warm-up and cool-down space essential for safe, effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs, while bringing visitors into Burlington to support hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Rishika Manjunath
Burlington
Parents of swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

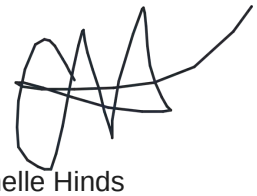
My name is Chanelle Hinds, and I am a swimmer with BMSC.
I grew up learning to swim in Burlington at a young age, continued to grow as a swimmer with BAD and even moved onto lifeguarding with the city. Now, I am a proud member of BMSC where we only have the opportunity to swim long distance is during the summer season in an overcrowded pool. Something we've always lacked not just in the city, but in the Halton region is a good 50 m pool. I remember during competitions I was scared of swimming at Etobicoke pool as it was so large and intimidating. Having a 50 m pool to train in will help to strengthen swimmers of all ages and improve confidence.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.
Sincerely,



Chanelle Hinds
[Age / Grade]
BMSC
Burlington, ON

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Ken Lam, and I am a swimmer with BMSC. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Ken Lam
Age 75
BMSC
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Carol Li, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Carol Li
Burlington
Parent of swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Rhiannon Mangialardo, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club.
I have come back to swimming after being a competitive swimmer as a child. My love for the sport has never wavered. Having access to an indoor 50m pool benefits young athletes as well as those 18+. It keeps the community exercising, builds friendships, and brings in tourists. My daughter is disabled and having a top tier facility for her to use and share would be life changing.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.
Sincerely,

Rhiannon Mangialardo
Age 45
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs More Aquatic Space for Families and Community Programming

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Natalie Macaulay, and I am writing as a Parent of 2 kid swimmers in burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Access to swimming is about much more than sport. It is about water safety, health, confidence, recreation, accessibility, and community well-being. Families need reliable access to learn-to-swim programs, public swim, lane swim, aquatic fitness, and safe spaces for children to develop life-saving skills.

Unfortunately, existing aquatic facilities in Burlington and the surrounding region are under significant pressure. Demand is high, schedules are crowded, and there is not enough water space to meet community needs.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with both a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help. The 50-metre pool would support training, competitions, and large events, while the warmer 25-metre pool would protect and expand access for lessons, younger swimmers, community programming, para sport, and recreational users.

This two-pool model is important because it allows different users to be served properly instead of competing for the same limited space.

I urge you to support this important investment in Burlington’s future.

Sincerely,

Natalie Macaulay
Burlington
Parent of 2 kid swimmers in burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Would Benefit Burlington's Economy

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

On behalf of BMSC and TCoB, I am writing to express our support for the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

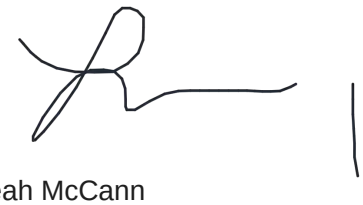
Aquatic facilities of this scale are regional assets. A 10-lane 50m competition pool, supported by a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would serve far beyond one municipality. It would support athletes and families from Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, and the broader Golden Horseshoe.

This facility would improve access to training and competition, expand opportunities for local and regional clubs, and allow more events to be hosted close to home. Major aquatic events also generate meaningful economic activity through hotel stays, restaurants, retail, and local services.

Just as importantly, the facility would support year-round community use, lessons, water safety, adaptive programming, para sport, and recreational access.

We believe this project represents a strong investment in sport, health, tourism, community development, and regional infrastructure, and we respectfully ask for your support in helping move it forward.

Sincerely,



Leah McCann
Masters swimmer and triathlete
BMSC and TCoB
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support Inclusive Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Mike Mangialardo, and I am writing as a Parent of two, husband to a Masters swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Both of my daughters love the water and would benefit greatly from a local multi level facility. My youngest is disabled and would thrive in a warmer pool that is fully accessible. She loves swimming and we would love to see the special Olympic community benefit from such a facility locally. My wife swim for BMSC and having the ability to train long course in our region would help her and her teammates.

A modern aquatic sportsplex has the potential to serve people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. Burlington needs a facility designed with accessibility and inclusion in mind from the beginning.

Aquatic spaces are vital for para sport, adaptive programming, rehabilitation-style activity, senior fitness, learn-to-swim, and community recreation. Yet many existing facilities are limited by age, design, space constraints, water temperature, and accessibility challenges.

The proposed model of a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool can serve multiple needs at once. The warmer pool would be especially valuable for younger swimmers, adaptive programming, and those who benefit from warmer water, while the 50-metre pool would provide the regional competition and training capacity the region currently lacks.

This project would support inclusion, community health, water safety, and equitable access to aquatic programming across the region.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important project and helping secure the partnerships necessary to build it.

Sincerely,

Mike Mangialardo
Burlington
Parent of two, husband to a Masters swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Genevieve Vessio, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

As a competitive swimmer growing up, and now a coach to Halton students, I have experienced firsthand the benefits of reliable access to swimming infrastructure. Swimming is a life skill, a lifelong opportunity to remain physically active and offers countless benefits for physical and mental health. Having access to modern infrastructure, including a 50 meter pool, would make Burlington a leader in aquatics and sport development. The project would also bring jobs and stimulate Burlington's economy. The time is now to invest in aquatic infrastructure to ensure our youth don't fall behind and keep having access to impactful aquatic experiences.

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Genevieve Vessio
Age 34
Burlington Masters
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Dave Kelly, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daugher is getting to the age where more competitive swimming is something she wants to do. More pools and availability will make this easier for her and others to do, opening more spots on teams.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Dave Kelly
Burlington
Parent of swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Greg Oulton, and I am a swimmer with Burlington masters swim club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

Burlington Masters train at a 25m pool which works for training but we must travel out of the region for any of the larger swim meets - Etobicoke, Markham, Scarborough, or Windsor. Having a world class facility would draw competition to Burlington and help get youth into swimming, making it more accessible to compete and train

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Greg Oulton
Age 33
Burlington masters swim club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Raheleh Givehchi, and I am writing in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Our kids deserve a best facility

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Raheleh Givehchi
Oakville
[Connection to Aquatics / Club / Community]
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Renny Wheable, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

We would bring much needed space to the growing swimming community. And would attract meets other events which would be revenue generating for clubs and the city

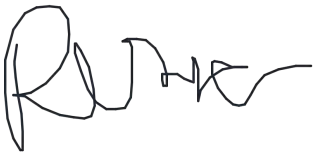
For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,



Renny Wheable
Age 44 · Grade 0
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington, ON

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Helen Brook, and I am writing as a parent of a swimmer that travels to Hamilton in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter trains 6x a week in Hamilton because BAD did not get enough pool time to sustain their swimmers.

Families in our region regularly travel outside Burlington and Halton for aquatic training and competitions. This creates added costs, long drives, lost family time, and barriers for children who want to participate and develop in aquatic sport.

For families with multiple children, working parents, or limited transportation options, the lack of local access to appropriate aquatic infrastructure can be especially difficult. It can determine whether a child is able to participate fully or not.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help change that. A 10-lane, 50-metre pool would provide proper long course training and competition capacity, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support lessons, community use, para programming, and warm-up/cool-down space.

This project would reduce the burden on families, improve access, and help ensure that children in our region have the same opportunities as athletes in communities with better aquatic infrastructure.

I respectfully ask you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to build it.

Sincerely,

Helen Brook
Burlington
parent of a swimmer that travels to Hamilton
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Andreas Grunewald, and I am writing as a Parent if two swimmers in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Closest 50m Indoor pool is in Etobicoke or at Mc Masters. The commute for 9 practices a week is a huge burden for our and a lot of other families

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

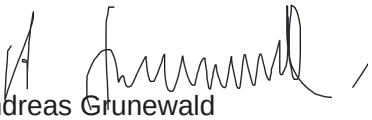
This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,



Andreas Grunewald
Halton
Parent if two swimmers
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Erin Ziegler, and I am writing as a Parent of a swimmer who trains in Hamilton 6x a week in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

We need a local club with appropriate pool time and an appropriate facility

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

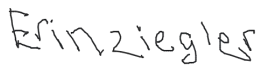
A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,



Erin Ziegler
Burlington
Parent of a swimmer who trains in Hamilton 6x a week
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Kim Leah, and I am writing as a Parents of a swimmer in burlington. in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington has a high-quality swimming team and system. However, the only downside is that it lacks a competition-standard swimming pool.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Kim Leah
Burlington, ON
Parents of a swimmer in burlington.
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Kiaan Chandy, and I am a swimmer with [Club Name]. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

My son trains with BAD. To train in 50 meter pool improves stamina and endurance and also help complete with other swimming groups from another city who already practice in 50 meter pools. Also during long course season all we do is travel far to compete to other cities.

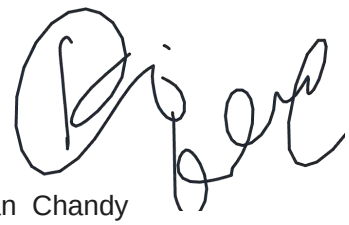
For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,



Kiaan Chandy
Age 11 · Grade 6
[Club Name]
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Better Pool Access Would Help Student-Athletes

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Eloise Ziegler, and I am a swimmer with Hamilton Aquatic club. I am a student-athlete, and I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I moved to swim for HAC when BAD lost their pool time because they could not support my level of training. I spend at least 5-6 hours a week driving back and forth to practice and this cuts into my study time. Another pool would mean more time for everyone and an appropriate pool to train in.

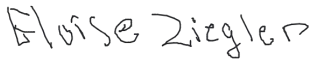
Swimming requires a lot of commitment. Many swimmers train early in the morning, after school, in the evening, and on weekends. Because pool space is limited, training times are not always ideal — sometimes practices are very early, very late, or at pools that require extra travel.

This can make it harder to balance swimming with school, homework, sleep, family time, and other responsibilities. Better aquatic infrastructure in Burlington would help create more reasonable training opportunities for swimmers and other aquatic athletes.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would provide more space for training, competitions, lessons, and community use, and help reduce pressure on existing pools.

As a young athlete, I believe this facility would help swimmers develop while also supporting healthier schedules and better access for families. Thank you for considering support for this project.

Sincerely,



Eloise Ziegler
Age 13 · Grade 7
Hamilton Aquatic club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Samaneh Shadmehr, and I am writing as a Parent of 1 swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

S. Shadmehr

Samaneh Shadmehr
Oakville
Parent of 1 swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Rob Grande, and I am writing as a Parent of child swimmer for Burlington Aquatic Devilrays in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son is just starting out as a competitive swimmer. Age 7. At the moment, his needs are met. However, I have heard several parents comment on the pool situation in Burlington not being adequate for competitive swimming/competitions etc. I am in support of improving the local facilities…and hopefully better pool facilities will be multipurpose to serve the community.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Rob Grande
Burlington
Parent of child swimmer for Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Behrooz Golzarpoor, and I am writing as a Parent of 1 swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Golzarpoor

Behrooz Golzarpoor
Burlington
Parent of 1 swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Ryan Devers, and I am writing as a Parent of three swimmers in Burlington with BAD in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Ryan Devers
Oakville
Parent of three swimmers in Burlington with BAD
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

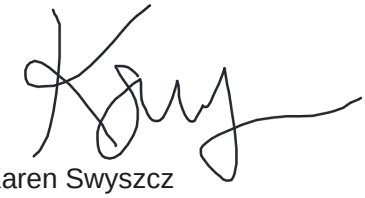
Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Karen Swyszcz, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Master's Swim Club.
Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.
Sincerely,



Karen Swyszcz
[Age / Grade]
Burlington Master's Swim Club
Oakville

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Kimberley Lenos, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to support the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

I'd like to compete but having to drive out to the Pan Am Center is too much for me for a whole weekend, especially with having a young child at home. I would love for my family to be able to watch me swim

As a swimmer, I spend a lot of time training, competing, and travelling to pools. Because Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool, swimmers often have to travel outside the region for long course training and competitions.

For me and my family, this can mean early mornings, late nights, long drives, and extra time away from school, homework, rest, and other activities. Sometimes the travel is harder than the swimming itself.

Having a 50m pool in Burlington would help swimmers train closer to home and have more chances to race in a high-quality facility. A secondary warmer 25m pool would also help support younger swimmers, lessons, warm-up and cool-down, and community programs.

This facility would help swimmers, families, clubs, and the whole community. I hope you will support this important project.

Sincerely,

Kimberley Lenos
Age 31
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Would Benefit Burlington's Economy

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Alyssa Bain, and I am writing as a Parent of a Burlington swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

A modern aquatic facility would provide significant benefits to families, athletes, and community users, but it would also be an important economic development opportunity for Burlington.

Competition-ready 50-metre pools attract events. These events bring families, teams, coaches, officials, and spectators into the community, who stay in hotels, eat at local restaurants, and shop locally. Burlington is well-positioned geographically to serve as a regional aquatic hub for Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, Toronto, and the broader Golden Horseshoe.

At the same time, a secondary warmer 25-metre pool would ensure the facility is not only for competitions. It would support lessons, recreation, community use, accessibility, and para programming year-round.

This project is an opportunity to invest in health, sport, tourism, economic development, and community infrastructure all at once.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this project and helping secure provincial and federal funding partnerships.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Bain
Burlington
Parent of a Burlington swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Ira Davidov, and I am writing as a Parent of a swimmer at BAD in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter swims with BAD for couple of years now, the lack of a 50 meters pools really makes a difference at swim meats where they compete against clubs who have 50 meters swim pools at their area.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Ira Davidov
Burlington, Ontario
Parent of a swimmer at BAD
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs More Aquatic Space for Families and Community Programming

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Josiah Lenos, and I am writing as a Parent in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Water safety is very for our family. We've been signing up for the city's swim programs since she was 1, since it's the most affordable. Having more pools in Burlington would mean more swim times for my family and more swim programs.

Access to swimming is about much more than sport. It is about water safety, health, confidence, recreation, accessibility, and community well-being. Families need reliable access to learn-to-swim programs, public swim, lane swim, aquatic fitness, and safe spaces for children to develop life-saving skills.

Unfortunately, existing aquatic facilities in Burlington and the surrounding region are under significant pressure. Demand is high, schedules are crowded, and there is not enough water space to meet community needs.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with both a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help. The 50-metre pool would support training, competitions, and large events, while the warmer 25-metre pool would protect and expand access for lessons, younger swimmers, community programming, para sport, and recreational users.

This two-pool model is important because it allows different users to be served properly instead of competing for the same limited space.

I urge you to support this important investment in Burlington's future.

Sincerely,

JL

Josiah Lenos
Burlington
Parent
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Rahil Minocha, and I am writing as a A Burlington Dad in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Rahil Minocha
Burlington
A Burlington Dad
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Karen des Tombe, and I am a swimmer with Burlington masters swim club BMSC. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

Would be fantastic to have a 50 metre swimming pool that could be used all year round. Demand for swimming is there. Adults usually get late swim time options and newer pool would be nice for hopefully better times and proper swim pool distances.

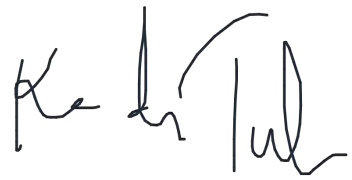
For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,



Karen des Tombe
Age 65
Burlington masters swim club BMSC
Burlington, ON

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Christina Zhang, and I am writing as a Parent of two swimmer in BAD in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

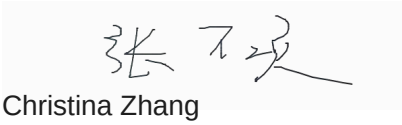
This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,



Christina Zhang
Burlington
Parent of two swimmer in BAD
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Alan Coyne, and I am writing as a Parent of 2 swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

We travel to multiple pools on a weekly basis due to lack of facilities and city planning

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Alan Coyne
Burlington ON
Parent of 2 swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Maksym Hrytskiv, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrace. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I don’t feel prepared enough for any long course meet because we never get to practice in one.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Maksym Hrytskiv
Age 15 · Grade 10
Burlington Aquatic Devilrace
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Nirav Mehta, and I am writing as a Parent of Swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Nirav Mehta
Ontario
Parent of Swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Meghan Hamilton, and I am writing as a Parent of 2 swimmers, one competitive level in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter swims 4 days a week and it would be amazing to have a long course pool for practices and also hosting meets.

Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide the warm-up and cool-down space essential for safe, effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs, while bringing visitors into Burlington to support hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Meghan Hamilton
Burlington
Parent of 2 swimmers, one competitive level
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Leah Morrison, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club.

I have been swimming with BMSC for the past 10 years. It is important that there is a pool that we are able to continuously train in for preparation of competitions.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.

Sincerely,

Leah Morrison
Age 41
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jade Mcneely, and I am a swimmer with TCOB. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

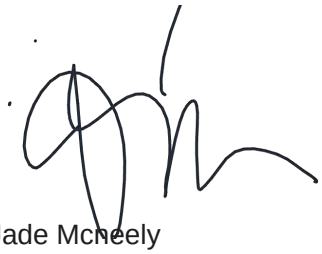
Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,



Jade Mcneely
Age 40
TCOB
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Tom Parker, and I am a swimmer with [Club Name]. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

Former competitive swimmer when I was high school age, I continue to swim and do triathlons recreationally.
Competitive swimming gave me confidence as a teen and helped form my identity as I developed, building team spirit with my peers.
Burlington is long overdue to have this kind of facility so our youth and adult competitive swimmers aren't going off to other municipalities to grow in the sport.

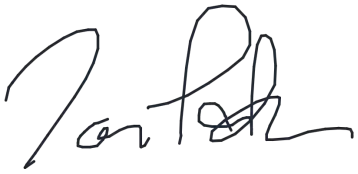
Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,



Tom Parker
Age 53
[Club Name]
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Mila Kallion, and I am writing as a Parent of a young swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Mila Kallion
Burlington
Parent of a young swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jeff Ball, and I am a swimmer with Bmsc. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Jeff Ball
Age 63
Bmsc
Hamulton

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is John Strang, and I am writing as a Physician in Burlington. in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As an active swimmer, I see the benefits of keeping physically fit. We need to encourage an active healthy population and having access to facilities is vital!

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

John Strang
Burlington
Physician in Burlington.
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Dave Holloway, and I am writing as a Certified lifeguard and lane swimmer, parent of 2 who both swim as well in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

3 of my family enjoy lap swimming and two of us are lifeguards. Having a 50m pool will open up more pool time throughout Burlington, while allowing the athletes to train in an appropriate pool.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Dave Holloway
Burlington
Certified lifeguard and lane swimmer, parent of 2 who both swim as well
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Mark MacVittie, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Team. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

This would significantly improve the health and wellbeing of the community!

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Mark MacVittie
Age 54
Burlington Masters Swim Team
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Alexandra Martchenko, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer at BAD in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son trains at BAD, he just started competing but would be incredible for him and other swimmers in the area to have a 50m pool to grow and thrive in.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Martchenko
Waterdown
Parent of swimmer at BAD
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 4, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support a Regional Aquatic Sportsplex in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Garratt Wootton, and I am writing as a Swimmer, Water Polo Player, Parent of 3 swimmers in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Having the right infrastructure helps ensure clubs and cultural centers can deliver the necessary programming to remain accessible and financially sustainable. 50M long-course indoor pool would be a huge leap not just for Burlington but for all of Halton.

A 50-metre aquatic facility is not simply a local recreation project. It is regional infrastructure. It would serve Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, Peel, Niagara, and the broader Golden Horseshoe, supporting athletes, families, schools, clubs, community users, para sport, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, officials, volunteers, and spectators.

The challenge is that facilities of this size are difficult for municipalities to fund alone. They require partnership between municipal, provincial, and federal governments, along with community and sport-sector support.

Burlington has a clear opportunity to help address a major aquatic infrastructure gap. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool, paired with a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool, would provide both regional hosting capacity and meaningful community access.

This facility would improve access to aquatic programming, reduce pressure on existing pools, support athlete development, create sport tourism opportunities, and contribute to the local economy.

I urge you to support this project and advocate for senior government investment in regionally significant aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Sincerely,

Garratt Wootton
Burlington
Swimmer, Water Polo Player, Parent of 3 swimmers
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Hershell Thompson, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Master Swim Club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

To Whom it May Concern,
I am writing to express my strong support for the development of a new indoor 50-metre aquatic training and competition centre in our community. As a local swimmer how attends lap swims at all of the Burlington pools and also swims nights with the Burlington Masters Swim Club, I have experienced firsthand the limitations of our current facilities. During the winter months, local swim clubs and athletes primarily train in 25-metre pools, often during late evening hours. Access to a 50-metre pool is limited to the summer season when the outdoor pool is open. As a result, swimmers have fewer opportunities to train in the same environment used for major competitions.
A dedicated indoor 50-metre facility would provide year-round access to high-quality training, helping local swimmers of all ages and abilities develop their skills and reach their full potential. It would also strengthen local swim programs, support athlete development and create opportunities to host regional, provincial and national competitions. These events would bring visitors to our community and gerate economic benefits for local businesses.
Beyond competitive swimming, the facility would expand access to aquatic programming for the broader public, promoting health, fitness, water safety and community engagement.
Investing in an indoor 50-metre aquatic centre is an investment in our athletes, our community and our future. I strongly encourage support for this important project.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Hershell Thompson
Age 63
Burlington Master Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Nic Freeman, and I am writing as a Parent of a swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

We go to Milton due to the lack of pool time available - my daughter previously swam with BAD

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Nic Freeman
Waterdown
Parent of a swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Harry Hersh, and I am writing as a Citizen in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

H Hersh

Harry Hersh
Burlington, ON
Citizen
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Hung Cuong Nguyen, and I am writing as a Parent of one swimmer at Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter trains six days a week, and I hope Burlington will have a 50-meter pool so she can further develop her swimming skills

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Hung Cuong Nguyen
Oakville, ON
Parent of one swimmer at Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Giovanni de Sousa Rocha, and I am writing as a Two daughters como swimming in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Giovanni de Sousa Rocha
Burlington, ON
Two daughters como swimming in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sara Jacquemart, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I train 18h a week and a 50m indoor pool can benifit me and my group so much more than just a 25m pool. Not only our club but the city would profit from this so much attracting other clubs, jobs, and creating new opportunities

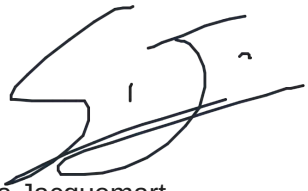
For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,



Sara Jacquemart
Age 15 · Grade 10
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Geraldine Guenot, and I am writing as a Parents of 2 swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My kids swim every day (sometimes twice a day) and are training for regional and provincial without access to 50 m pool close by. This is affecting their endurance and progress when comparing with other kids who have this advantage

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Geraldine Guenot
Burlington
Parents of 2 swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

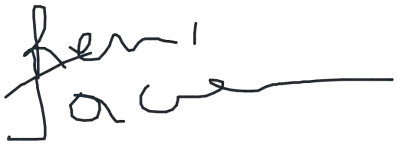
My name is Remi Jacquemart, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays.
I'm a swimmer with BAD and having a 50m pool will help me tremendously to practice and reach provincial time standards without having to travel far to access one. I'll be less tired and it will be more efficient for my mom who is driving me around

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.
Sincerely,



Remi Jacquemart
Age 11 · Grade 6
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Allan Mansoor, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Allan Mansoor
Age 55
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlingtin

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Andre Cunha, and I am writing as a Parent of a swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Families in our region regularly travel outside Burlington and Halton for aquatic training and competitions. This creates added costs, long drives, lost family time, and barriers for children who want to participate and develop in aquatic sport.

For families with multiple children, working parents, or limited transportation options, the lack of local access to appropriate aquatic infrastructure can be especially difficult. It can determine whether a child is able to participate fully or not.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help change that. A 10-lane, 50-metre pool would provide proper long course training and competition capacity, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support lessons, community use, para programming, and warm-up/cool-down space.

This project would reduce the burden on families, improve access, and help ensure that children in our region have the same opportunities as athletes in communities with better aquatic infrastructure.

I respectfully ask you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to build it.

Sincerely,

Andre Cunha
Burlington
Parent of a swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Gerald Kelly, and I am a swimmer with BMSC. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

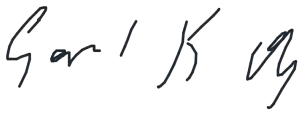
Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,



Gerald Kelly
Age 69
BMSC
Oakville

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Is Needed to Support Program Growth

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Stephanie Judd, and I am writing as a coach with [Club Name] in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I have been coaching for BAD for over 15 years -- the impact this has had on swimmers continues to grow. Without enough space to make this happen many will lose out on the opportunity. As a former swimmer I can say swimming changed my life in many ways beyond the pool. Competetive swimming has taught me disipline and reduced stress.

One of the biggest challenges facing aquatic programs is access to enough appropriate pool space. Demand for swimming lessons, competitive training, para programming, community use, and aquatic sport continues to grow, but available facilities have not kept pace.

From a coaching perspective, this limits what programs can offer. It restricts the number of athletes who can participate, limits practice options, creates scheduling challenges, and places unnecessary pressure on existing community pools. It also makes it difficult to support athletes at different stages of development in the same system.

A facility with both a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would help solve these issues. It would allow multiple programs to run at the same time, support different water temperature needs, and create space for both high-performance training and community-based programming.

This is the kind of forward-thinking infrastructure Burlington and the region need. It would support athletes, coaches, families, schools, officials, volunteers, and the broader community for decades to come.

I strongly encourage your support for this project.
Sincerely,

Stephanie Judd
Assistant Coach
[Club Name]
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Tyler Shane, and I am writing as a Retired swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I swam for OAK for many years and still swim for fitness today. I would love access to a 50 m indoor pool. I use mountainside in the summer months but struggle in the winter to find long course close by

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Tyler Shane
Burlington
Retired swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Rae Reist, and I am writing as a Parent of a swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Rae Reist
Burlington
Parent of a swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Teresa Aybar Medrano, and I am writing as a Parent of a competitive swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son trains 6 times a week, we live in Oakville but we travel to Etobicoke for his training. Right now with two other boys the commute is at the border of not manageable, access to this pool can
Change a lot for families and athletes. Children could start learning to swim at a younger age, they can train in appropriate level pool, and the commute for Halton residents decreases. Also, access to sports helps teens stay away from negative behaviour and has a positive impact in mental wellbeing.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Teresa Aybar Medrano
Oakville
Parent of a competitive swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Raylene DAmore, and I am writing as a Parent of a BAD swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Raylene DAmore
Burlington
Parent of a BAD swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Better Pool Access Would Help Student-Athletes

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Raul Garcia Aybar, and I am a swimmer with Etobicoke Swim Club. I am a student-athlete, and I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I live in Oakville but I train in Etobicoke. I love swimming but sometimes I am really tired because I have to leave the house to drive to the pool with my mom at 4:30am and if my practice is afterschool I need to rush to get there and there is to much traffic. I do not like being late. I do like training in my club because we also have a pool that changes from 25m to 50m in the two seasons. Having a new pool closer to home means I can maybe train there and more pool time could also mean better training hours.

Swimming requires a lot of commitment. Many swimmers train early in the morning, after school, in the evening, and on weekends. Because pool space is limited, training times are not always ideal — sometimes practices are very early, very late, or at pools that require extra travel.

This can make it harder to balance swimming with school, homework, sleep, family time, and other responsibilities. Better aquatic infrastructure in Burlington would help create more reasonable training opportunities for swimmers and other aquatic athletes.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would provide more space for training, competitions, lessons, and community use, and help reduce pressure on existing pools.

As a young athlete, I believe this facility would help swimmers develop while also supporting healthier schedules and better access for families. Thank you for considering support for this project.

Sincerely,

Raul Garcia Aybar
Age 12 · Grade 6
Etobicoke Swim Club
Oakville

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Catherine Evans, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Master club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Catherine Evans
Age 45
Burlington Master club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs More Aquatic Space for Families and Community Programming

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sophie Hotchkiss, and I am writing as a coach with Endura performance in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Community and local groups don't have access to booking any pool time in Burlington. we are lucky to have so many great pools with plenty of lane swim times. But we are not able to reserve any pool time as teams to work together with coaches on deck.

One of the biggest challenges facing aquatic programs is access to enough appropriate pool space. Demand for swimming lessons, competitive training, para programming, community use, and aquatic sport continues to grow, but available facilities have not kept pace.

From a coaching perspective, this limits what programs can offer. It restricts how many athletes can participate, limits practice options, creates scheduling challenges, and places unnecessary pressure on existing community pools.

A facility with both a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would help. It would allow multiple programs to run at the same time, support different water-temperature needs, and create space for both high-performance training and community-based programming.

This is the kind of forward-thinking infrastructure Burlington and the region need. It would support athletes, coaches, families, schools, officials, volunteers, and the broader community for decades to come.

I strongly encourage your support for this project.
Sincerely,

Sophie Hotchkiss
Coach
Endura performance
Burlington

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is LEA Harper, and I am writing as a grandparent in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

such an important project.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

LEA Harper
Burlington
grandparent
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is John McBrien, and I am a swimmer with BMSC. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

The facility at McMaster is aged.

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

John McBrien
Age 62
BMSC
Hamilton

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Stephen Burns, and I am writing as a Grandparent of Three Swimmers in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Stephen Burns
Norwalk
Grandparent of Three Swimmers
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Amie Peddle, and I am writing as a coach with Burlington Masters Swim Club in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

The Halton Region desperately needs an indoor 50m pool. Residents of Halton do not have access to proper training and racing facilities. This takes away from access to pool time and space, competition, and overall water safety. Halton residents should not always have to travel so far to access 50m pools that are aging and do not prioritize Halton residents.

For athletes to develop fully, they need a complete pathway — from grassroots programming through to high-performance training. A central piece of that pathway in aquatic sport is access to an indoor 50m long course pool, which Burlington and Halton currently lack.

Without it, coaches are limited in how they prepare athletes for long course competition, and clubs struggle to support athletes at different stages of development within the same system.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would let us run multiple programs at once, serve different age and ability groups, and support both high-performance training and development swimming under one roof.

This project would strengthen athlete pathways across multiple aquatic sports and help more athletes progress from grassroots programming to provincial, national, university, and international levels.

I strongly encourage your support for this project.
Sincerely,

Amie Peddle
Coach
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington, ON

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Matt Walker, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in Halton, and Masters swimmer. in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter and I swim 4-6x every week, and we constantly travel to disparate undersized pools in the region that are not anywhere near competition level. Pool access is limited in the region resulting in awkward and difficult training times. The facility being considered is needed and in high demand.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Matt Walker
Halton
Parent of swimmer in Halton, and Masters swimmer.
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jennifer Fishee, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

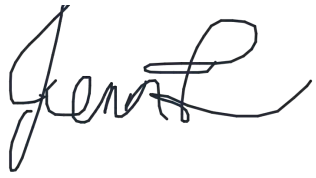
Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Fishee
Age 61
Burlington Masters Swim Club
City of Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs Modern Aquatic Infrastructure

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Beverly MacCulloch, and I am writing as a Masters swimmer and public length swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

We haven't built a pool since Tansley Woods opened in about 1996 when our population was closer to130000. A proper aquatic facility would provide the economic benefits of major athletic events. Perhaps more importantly, the rest of the time it would provide a place for enjoyable physical activity and entice an aging, increasingly sedentary, and stressed out local population to keep moving

Burlington's current aquatic facilities are not sufficient to meet the needs of a growing community and region. Many existing pools were not designed for modern aquatic programming, large-scale competitions, accessible use, or the volume of demand now placed on them.

Families are experiencing limited program availability, waitlists, and difficulty accessing pool time for lessons, training, recreation, and community use. Competitive aquatic groups are also limited by facilities lacking adequate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, and competition-ready design.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex would help solve these challenges. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would provide space for training and hosting, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support learn-to-swim, community and para programming, therapy-style use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This is the kind of infrastructure Burlington needs for the future. It would serve families, athletes, seniors, schools, clubs, officials, volunteers, and the broader community.

I respectfully ask that you support this important project and advocate for the provincial and federal investment needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Bev MacCulloch

Beverly MacCulloch
Burlington ON
Masters swimmer and public length swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Youssef Ibrahim, and I am a swimmer with Burlington aquatic devil rays. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I train 8 times a week for the Burlington aquatic devil rays and in the summer waking up those cold mornings and having to go to the Nelson pool outdoors would be a pain so having a pool indoors would help so many swimmers just like me and make Burlington look like a great place to enroll in

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Youssef Ibrahim
Age 16 · Grade 10
Burlington aquatic devil rays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Paulene Marchong, and I am writing as a Parent of 3 swimmers in burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

All 3 of my sons were competitive swimmers. My husband swims and has been a swimmer all his life. This activity is life changing and should be supported.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Paulene Marchong
Burlington ontario
Parent of 3 swimmers in burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sara Pasqualone, and I am writing as a Friend of swimmer family in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

We need more pools in Halton region for all residents! Halton is growing, but our recreation facilities need to grow as well!

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Sara Pasqualone
Burlington, Ontario
Friend of swimmer family
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Craig McGregor, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club.
As a former and current competitive swimmer the addition of a quality 50 meter indoor pool would be of significant benefit to both local swimmers (obvious) and the city by being able to host provincial and national events bringing additional tourism revenue. If you build it, they will come!

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.
Sincerely,

Craig McGregor
Age 63
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Chloe Bryars, and I am a swimmer with Burlington aquatic club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I swam with BAD for over 8 year's and I quit last summer and I want to support everyone and the club as much as possible.

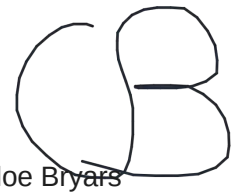
For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,



Chloe Bryars
Age 16 · Grade 11
Burlington aquatic club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Natalia McKellar, and I am writing as a parent of 3 swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Hi, all my kids train with BAD team. They love swimming for the sport but more for the camaraderie with their teammates. We are very proud of our team and our city.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Natalia McKellar
Burlington
parent of 3 swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Nancy Bothwell, and I am writing as a grandparent of a competitive swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I have lived in Burlington most of my life, as well as raised my family here. I consider swimming a basic life skill. The more pool facilities available year round will help lay a healthy foundation for all Halton residents.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Nancy Bothwell
Burlington
grandparent of a competitive swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Bonnie Gill, and I am writing as a Grandmother in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Because of the difficulties created by the cancellation of the BAD pool access last summer, our grandchild is in the pool at 5am several mornings every week instead of having the opportunity of the restorative sleep enjoyed by her school peers. Her grandfather drives her to and fro because of parents' shift work and employment responsibilities. We're all weary but completely committed to our granddaughter's competitive abilities in the pool.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Gill
Burlington
Grandmother
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jeremy McKellar, and I am writing as a Parent of 3 swimmers in Burlington with BAD in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Our children would love to have a purpose built pool and training space. They would be so proud of to host other teams in a beautiful space.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Jeremy McKellar
Burlington
Parent of 3 swimmers in Burlington with BAD
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Hugo McKellar, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays.

I woud love to have a competitive pool to train at in Burlington. I love the sport and my teammates.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.

Sincerely,

Hugo McKellar
Age 12 · Grade 7
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
BURLINGTON

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Vanessa McKellar, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays.
Hi, I really enjoy swimming with BAD and I would love a brand new pool to train and host other teams.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.
Sincerely,

Vanessa McKellar
Age 10 · Grade 5
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
BURLINGTON

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Brittany Bawks, and I am writing as a Community member and former competitive swimmer in another region in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I grew up competitive swimming in another region and hope to have my 3 young children in competitive swimming in the next few years.

Having a 50m pool is essential for developing top tier competitive swimmers, and with busy lifestyles and jobs, my family wouldn't be able to drive the necessary 45min each way, each day, to train elsewhere

Please consider a 50m pool in Burlington!

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Brittany Bawks
Burlington
Community member and former competitive swimmer in another region

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Ryan Dack, and I am writing as a Athlete/parent in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Life long swimmer/triathlete/Burlington resident

Families in our region regularly travel outside Burlington and Halton for aquatic training and competitions. This creates added costs, long drives, lost family time, and barriers for children who want to participate and develop in aquatic sport.

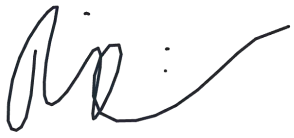
For families with multiple children, working parents, or limited transportation options, the lack of local access to appropriate aquatic infrastructure can be especially difficult. It can determine whether a child is able to participate fully or not.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help change that. A 10-lane, 50-metre pool would provide proper long course training and competition capacity, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support lessons, community use, para programming, and warm-up/cool-down space.

This project would reduce the burden on families, improve access, and help ensure that children in our region have the same opportunities as athletes in communities with better aquatic infrastructure.

I respectfully ask you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to build it.

Sincerely,



Ryan Dack
Burlington On
Athlete/parent
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Reed Aubin, and I am writing as a Parent of 1 swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

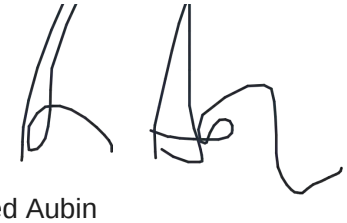
When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide the warm-up and cool-down space essential for safe, effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs, while bringing visitors into Burlington to support hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,



Reed Aubin
Burlington
Parent of 1 swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Var Tan, and I am writing as a Parent of two swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Families in our region regularly travel outside Burlington and Halton for aquatic training and competitions. This creates added costs, long drives, lost family time, and barriers for children who want to participate and develop in aquatic sport.

For families with multiple children, working parents, or limited transportation options, the lack of local access to appropriate aquatic infrastructure can be especially difficult. It can determine whether a child is able to participate fully or not.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help change that. A 10-lane, 50-metre pool would provide proper long course training and competition capacity, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support lessons, community use, para programming, and warm-up/cool-down space.

This project would reduce the burden on families, improve access, and help ensure that children in our region have the same opportunities as athletes in communities with better aquatic infrastructure.

I respectfully ask you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to build it.

Sincerely,

Var Tan
Burlington
Parent of two swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Anthony Gutkowski, and I am a swimmer with [Club Name].
I train plenty of times, and burlington doesn't have good competition pools, or facilities that can host swimmers regardless.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.
Sincerely,

Anthony Gutkowski
Age 21
[Club Name]
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Pam and Tom Pitz, and I am writing as a Grandparents and Taxpayers. in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

At one time we had for grandchildren in competitive swimming with the 40 year old club, the Burlington Aquatic Devirays (BAD) until the city allocated time to a regional club and the costs went up. This was, in my opinion done unfairly and to the detriment of Burlington and its swim families. We now have only the oldest grandchild in BAD as she has been swimming competitively for 10 years. We want affordability and availability back so the younger grandkids can swim competitively and we want a local community club to be the primary opportunity for Burlington and Halton - not an outside regional club. First and foremost we need a new facility like other communities have in Ontario. I have written many letters to the Mayor and councillors about this.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Pam and Tom Pitz
Burlington
Grandparents and Taxpayers.

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Scott Clark, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I am a masters swimmer that trains in Burlington with BMSC and competes in Ontario

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Scott Clark
Age 55
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Nick Brown, and I am a swimmer with BMSC. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

A training and competition pool for children, students, adults and seniors would be extremely beneficial to the region, increasing economic activity to Burlington and the surrounding area.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Nick Brown
Age 55 · Grade 13
BMSC
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Matt Mansoor, and I am a swimmer with [Club Name]. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I use to swim competitively for the BAD. We would have greatly benefited from an indoor 50m pool and I would like kids to have the opportunity that I didn't.

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Matt Mansoor
Age 18 · Grade 12
[Club Name]
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Mark Mansoor, and I am writing as a Ex swimmer and son of a current swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide the warm-up and cool-down space essential for safe, effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs, while bringing visitors into Burlington to support hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Mark Mansoor
Burlington
Ex swimmer and son of a current swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jackie Chan, and I am a swimmer with the Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I have swum masters for the last 4 years and it is a great way for me to stay in shape. I love the community and the structure of the programming. For youth, it would be great to have a racing facility in the community to support the upcoming age group swimmers and the opportunity to stay fit and healthy in the long term.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Jackie Chan
Age 32
the Burlington Masters Swim Club
Hamilton

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Janna Lindsay, and I am writing as a Parent of competitive swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My 9 yr old enjoys everything about competitive swimming and has big dreams of pursuing it at high levels. She was very happy in her first club but was forced to change clubs due to pool scheduling in Burlington. While the change of clubs made it possible to continue with competitive swimming, the limited schedule makes it difficult to get enough hours in each week. Most club swim meets take place at the aging McMaster pool, which can be a challenge to get to due to traffic, and literally has pieces of ceiling falling down into the viewing area. Due to it being an older venue and the easy access to adults that are in the building for other reasons, safely of the children is also a major concern for many parents.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Janna Lindsay
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Richard Tse, and I am writing as a coach with Milton Marlin Swim Team in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

For athletes to reach their potential, they need consistent access to appropriate training environments. In aquatic sport, access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of athlete development, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have this type of facility.

This lack of access creates a real limitation. It impacts preparation for long course competitions, limits training options, increases travel demands, and makes it more difficult to deliver a complete development pathway from grassroots programming to higher levels of performance.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington would help address this gap. Paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, the facility would also support younger athletes, learn-to-swim, para and adaptive programming, community use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This project would create more equitable access to high-quality training and help athletes in Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, and the broader region develop closer to home.

I strongly support this project and encourage all levels of government to work together to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Richard Tse
Head Coach
Milton Marlin Swim Team
Milton

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs More Aquatic Space for Families and Community Programming

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sarah Neeb, and I am writing as a Teacher of athletes in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Many of my students drive far and miss class to compete for swinming

Access to swimming is about much more than sport. It is about water safety, health, confidence, recreation, accessibility, and community well-being. Families need reliable access to learn-to-swim programs, public swim, lane swim, aquatic fitness, and safe spaces for children to develop life-saving skills.

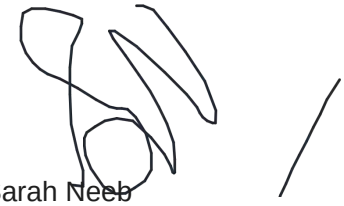
Unfortunately, existing aquatic facilities in Burlington and the surrounding region are under significant pressure. Demand is high, schedules are crowded, and there is not enough water space to meet community needs.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with both a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help. The 50-metre pool would support training, competitions, and large events, while the warmer 25-metre pool would protect and expand access for lessons, younger swimmers, community programming, para sport, and recreational users.

This two-pool model is important because it allows different users to be served properly instead of competing for the same limited space.

I urge you to support this important investment in Burlington’s future.

Sincerely,



Sarah Neeb
Burlington
Teacher of athletes
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

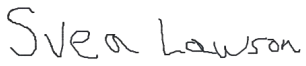
My name is Svea Lawson, and I am a swimmer with [Club Name].
Thank you for reading my letter. I am a 9 year old competitive swimmer who has swam with both BAD and GHAC. You are likely aware of the fiasco that took place last summer in relation to the pool times for the clubs I swim with. The spots on these teams are limited mainly due to the availability of pools. Just to make a team I had tryouts where 1/3 might make it. I was lucky enough that my parents have had in a pool 'practicing' since I was 6 months old so I made it. Now I find myself having to swim at 5 AM before school two days a week due to a lack of pool space in our city during the week. I am exhausted but determined to not give up. Please, help us with a 50 meter pool.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.
Sincerely,



Svea Lawson
Age 9 · Grade 4
[Club Name]
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Suzanne Ruginis, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I am a member of a very active masters swim club in Burlington. Our club could expand more and offer Masters swimming to more swimmers if we were able to secure more pool time. A 50m pool would also allow us to host larger swim meets (Provincials and Nationals) which would bring swimmers from across Canada to Burlington.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Ruginis
Age 63 · Grade 0
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington,

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Nicolas Haneberry, and I am writing as a Son of Swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

50m pools are foundational in athletes training. To be the best, athletes need the best.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Nicolas Haneberry
Oakville On
Son of Swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Lois Brafield-Pettersson, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.

Sincerely,

Lois Brafield-Pettersson
Age 60 · Grade 0
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is John Gayford, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim club. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

Swimming keeps me out of the health system

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

John Gayford
Age 79
Burlington Masters Swim club
Oakville

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

On behalf of Burlington Masters Swim Club, I am writing in support of the proposed regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington.

Growing up with a 50m pool in my community I have seen first hand how beneficial for the whole community can be. Burlington Masters is one of the top clubs in Canada, offering programming for all levels of ability, from fitness and rehabilitation to elite Masters competitors. A larger public pool would enable us to expand to offer more to the community and ensure our members have the same access as other top clubs in the country.

Access to proper aquatic training space is one of the greatest challenges facing clubs across our region. Athletes require consistent, appropriate facilities to develop safely and effectively, yet many communities do not have access to indoor 50m long course training. This creates barriers for athlete development and often forces clubs and families to travel outside their communities to access suitable training environments.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington would help address this gap by providing a regional training hub for aquatic athletes. Paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, the facility would also support younger athletes, introductory programming, para and adaptive opportunities, community use, and warm-up/cool-down during competitions.

This project would strengthen athlete pathways across multiple aquatic sports and create more opportunities for swimmers and aquatic athletes to progress from grassroots programming to provincial, national, university, and international levels.

We strongly support this project and encourage provincial and federal support for this important regional infrastructure investment.

Sincerely,

Petra Haneberry
Club President
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Daniel Ruginis, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

The lack of a 50m pool prevents Burlington from attracting and hosting provincial and national level swimming events that attract 500+ swimmers.

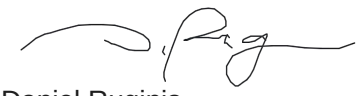
For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,



Daniel Ruginis
Age 66
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington, ON

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Angela Yan, and I am writing in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Angela Yan
Burlington
[Connection to Aquatics / Club / Community]
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Blair Halchuk, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter trains 12 hours a week. One of the sessions is at McMaster because of the pool shortage in Burlington. We have to travel for regional meets monthly. Typically to the Waterloo or Markham regions.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Blair Halchuk
Burlington, ON
Parent of swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Melanie Price, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

L8M 3G2

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Melanie Price
Age 53 · Grade 53
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Hamilton

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jocelyn Fraser, and I am a swimmer with [Club Name]. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

Halton needs facilities to build growth of our youth athletes. Making Halton a destination for competitions, and providing training facilities will attract growth in an area we are lacking.

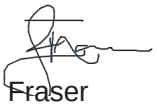
For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,



Jocelyn Fraser
Age 52
[Club Name]
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Michael Mansoor, and I am writing as a Former swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I used to train 6 days a week, and would have to leave burlington to train in a competition sized pool

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Michael Mansoor
Burlington
Former swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sandra Judd, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

As a masters athlete, working full time with 2 busy teenagers, getting to the pool is difficult on any given day. We need access to long course facilities for training for the highest levels of competition as well as being able to host meets for people from all over Southern Ontario. Having reasonable access to a 50m pool for practice and meets will allow Burlington to recruit more talented athletes and will increase the number of hosted meets which will affect tourism and the local economy. The addition of a 50m pool will lower the constant competition for weekly pool time for all aquatic groups as the pool can be split into 2 x 25m 10 lane facilities and have multiple users at once. A highly populated area like Halton needs a long course facility to keep up with the rest of the country.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Sandra Judd
Age 50
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington, ON

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Lesley Simpson, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swimming. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I have been swimming in the City pools for over 15 years now jumping from the Y to the City Pools and always wait for the 50 M outdoor pools to open so I can train and increase my fitness every year in a long pool. A 50M pool could also increase Burlington/Haltons opportunity to host Swim meeets in Ontario and attract visitors and tourists.

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Lesley Simpson
Age 71
Burlington Masters Swimming
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support a Regional Aquatic Sportsplex in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

On behalf of Burlington Masters Swim Club (BMSC), I am writing to express our strong support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington, Halton, and the surrounding region.

As Treasurer for BMSC, I have seen the difficulties of the RFP process in Burlington and having our club at capacity (unable to grow) because of no further pool time. We did accept morning pool time this year at 5:30-6:30am at a pool too warm and too narrow for proper competitive training. So we have very late sessions 8-10pm or very early. For our hosted swim meet we were also at capacity because of deck space and the 25m pool limiting the number of people in warm-up. The infrastructure is not available to accommodate the users in the region.

A 50-metre aquatic facility of this scale is regional infrastructure, not simply a local recreation project. It would serve Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, Peel, Niagara, and the broader Golden Horseshoe, supporting athletes, families, schools, clubs, community users, para sport, lifesaving, artistic swimming, and water polo.

Facilities of this size and importance are difficult for municipalities to fund alone. They require partnership between municipal, provincial, and federal governments, along with community and sport-sector support.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would provide both regional hosting capacity and meaningful community access — improving training and competition access, relieving pressure on existing pools, and supporting athlete development and sport tourism.

We respectfully ask for your support in advancing this important project and in helping secure the provincial and federal partnerships needed to make it a reality.

Sincerely,

Melanie Price
Treasurer
Burlington Masters Swim Club (BMSC)
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Melanie Price, and I am writing as a coach with Burlington Masters Swim Club in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington. As coaches, we see firsthand how facility access directly impacts athlete development, program growth, and long-term participation in sport.

As a coach at BMSC and a past coach at Hamilton Aquatic Club, we have been talking about the need for more pools for many years. We were just in Windsor for Nationals (and in the past have been there for Regionals) 700+ swimmers were at Nationals, what it would be to be able to host meets like that here. Not to mention training at them! It is time! The need is great!

Across Burlington, Halton, and the surrounding region, aquatic programs are limited by aging facilities, restricted pool availability, and a lack of access to an indoor 50m long course training environment.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, including a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would be a significant asset for athletes, coaches, families, officials, and the broader community. It would provide more appropriate training space, better racing opportunities, improved warm-up and cool-down capacity, and a facility capable of supporting regional and provincial events.

This project would benefit far beyond one club or one municipality. It would strengthen aquatic sport across the Golden Horseshoe and Halton Region and provide the infrastructure needed to support the next generation of athletes.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important project.
Sincerely,

Melanie Price
Coach
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Rahul Dayma, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in Halton in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter trains 7 days a week and needsto go to either Hamilton or Toronto (40 kms each way) to access a 50 m pool. The travel time is longer than the training time.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

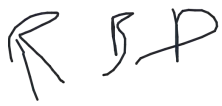
This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,



Rahul Dayma
Oakville, ON
Parent of swimmer in Halton
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Renaud Jacquemart, and I am writing as a Dad of 2 swimmers in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Help to bring money and economics to our city and the different clubs

Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide the warm-up and cool-down space essential for safe, effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs, while bringing visitors into Burlington to support hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Renaud Jacquemart
Burlington
Dad of 2 swimmers
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Pritha Lahiri, and I am writing as a Parent of competitive swimmer in Halton region in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As a competitive swimmer from Milton, my daughter faces the same challenge as many athletes in Halton—limited access to a 50-metre pool. A local long-course pool would be a transformative investment for the entire aquatic community, supporting athlete development, improving training quality, and strengthening the region's presence in competitive swimming.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Pritha Lahiri
Milton
Parent of competitive swimmer in Halton region
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Faizan Jamal, and I am writing as a Parent of the Swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son trains 6 days a week in a SCM pool with no access to an LCM pool. The nearest pools are in Etobicoke and Hamilton and both are at least 45-60 min drive away. It's not sustainable and hundreds of Halton athletes will benefit from an LCM pool in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Faizan Jamal
Milton / Halton
Parent of the Swimmer
[redacted]

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Swati Bagchi, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in Oakville in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son trains 6 days a week but does not have access to any 50m pool un the region. We have to travel to Hamilton or Etobicoke. Even those facilities are aging and need to be renovated. The state of the art Long. Ourse competition grade pools are in Markham and Scarborough. Travelling to these pools for competitions take 2 hours due to traffic.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

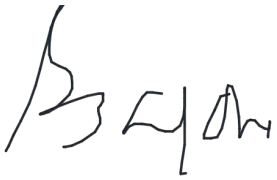
This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,



Swati Bagchi
Oakville, ON
Parent of swimmer in Oakville
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Heather So, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

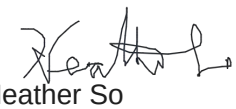
For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,



Heather So
Age 43
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Iain Johnston, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters.
I am here today both as a swimmer and as a coach. I believe this initiative would create valuable opportunities for swimmers of all ages, whether they participate for competition, fitness, or overall wellness. It would also provide an excellent opportunity to encourage non-swimmers to become involved in the sport and to promote healthier lifestyles, as swimming is one of the most beneficial forms of exercise. I am delighted to see this recognized and supported, and I believe it will be a worthwhile investment that will benefit many people throughout the Halton community.

Like many young swimmers, I have goals in the sport. I want to keep improving, race faster, represent my club, and see how far swimming can take me. To do that, swimmers need access to proper facilities.

Right now, Burlington and Halton do not have an indoor 50m long course pool. This makes it harder for swimmers to train for long course competitions and prepare for higher levels of the sport. Athletes in our region should have access to the same type of training opportunities as swimmers in other communities.

A new regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help support swimmers from their first races to provincial, national, university, and even international-level goals. It would also support lessons, water safety, para sport, and community programming.

This project would help the next generation of aquatic athletes. I hope you will support it.
Sincerely,

Iain Johnston
Age 48
Burlington Masters
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Candace Atherton, and I am writing as a Parent of 3 synchronized swimmers in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

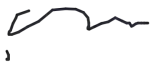
This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,



Candace Atherton
Oakville
Parent of 3 synchronized swimmers
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Kimberly Calderbank, and I am writing as a Parent of two swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

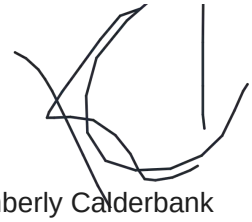
A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,



Kimberly Calderbank
Burlington
Parent of two swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Better Pool Access Would Help Student-Athletes

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Parker Clayden, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays. I am a student-athlete, and I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Right now I have to leave school early 2 times a week to make it to practice because of the lack of pool time. Having access to a 50 meter pool all year round would mean practices don't have to start right after school.

Swimming requires a lot of commitment. Many swimmers train early in the morning, after school, in the evening, and on weekends. Because pool space is limited, training times are not always ideal — sometimes practices are very early, very late, or at pools that require extra travel.

This can make it harder to balance swimming with school, homework, sleep, family time, and other responsibilities. Better aquatic infrastructure in Burlington would help create more reasonable training opportunities for swimmers and other aquatic athletes.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would provide more space for training, competitions, lessons, and community use, and help reduce pressure on existing pools.

As a young athlete, I believe this facility would help swimmers develop while also supporting healthier schedules and better access for families. Thank you for considering support for this project.

Sincerely,

Parker Clayden
Age 9 · Grade 4
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Thi Thuy Duong Vu, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer In Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

As a parent of a daughter who just started competitive swimming, I see how crucial adequate training facilities are. Expanding access to more pools for our team members will directly translate to better athletic results. This investment will not only elevate the performance of our athletes but also boost the prestige of our club and our city on a wider scale.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Thi Thuy Duong Vu
Burlington
Parent of swimmer In Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jeff Laanep, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Team. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

Investing in a state-of-the-art, fully accessible 10-lane 50-meter competition pool and aquatic facility is an opportunity for our city to address critical recreational gaps while driving economic growth and community well-being. Currently, local families face severe traffic congestion, enduring grueling 45-minute commutes one way just to access the nearest year-round Olympic-sized facility. By building an accessible 50-meter competition pool and aquatic facility locally, the City will support a major influx of competitive age-group, masters, and para-athletes. This will position the City to host lucrative local, regional, national, and international events across Para Swimming, Competitive Swimming, Adaptive Artistic Swimming, Artistic Swimming, Para Diving, and Diving. This prestigious sports tourism traffic will fill local hotels and restaurants, generating a powerful, recurring economic return. Furthermore, the footprint of a 10-lane 50-meter pool combined with a 10-lane 25-meter wellness and teaching pool provides unparalleled scheduling flexibility. This allows the city to anchor high-performance championships while simultaneously expanding inclusive, vital Canadian learn-to-swim programs and public recreation, establishing our municipality as a premier destination for athletic excellence, accessibility, and community health.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Jeff Laanep
Age 51 · Grade 0

Burlington Masters Swim Team
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Alma Lambio, and I am writing as a Parent of a competitive swimmer in Halton in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

A 50 meter pool will be highly beneficial to the development and training of young swimmers in the Halton region.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Alma Lambio
Georgetown
Parent of a competitive swimmer in Halton
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Is Needed to Support Program Growth

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Michael Wagner, and I am writing as a coach with MMST in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I have two kids who train a combined 18 times per week and have to travel to Etobicoke, Windsor, Scarborough and Newmarket for competitions where on competition weekends they have morning prelims separated by a 5 hour gap and then finals at night!. Having a 50m competition pool in Burlington (or Milton by the Velodrome) would serve the community very well - and decrease travel time!

One of the biggest challenges facing aquatic programs is access to enough appropriate pool space. Demand for swimming lessons, competitive training, para programming, community use, and aquatic sport continues to grow, but available facilities have not kept pace.

From a coaching perspective, this limits what programs can offer. It restricts the number of athletes who can participate, limits practice options, creates scheduling challenges, and places unnecessary pressure on existing community pools. It also makes it difficult to support athletes at different stages of development in the same system.

A facility with both a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would help solve these issues. It would allow multiple programs to run at the same time, support different water temperature needs, and create space for both high-performance training and community-based programming.

This is the kind of forward-thinking infrastructure Burlington and the region need. It would support athletes, coaches, families, schools, officials, volunteers, and the broader community for decades to come.

I strongly encourage your support for this project.

Sincerely,

Michael Wagner
Coach
MMST
Milton

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Fiona Lowden, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I believe that a healthy community places less burden on other services(health, social etc) and that having appropriate facilities to encourage healthy lifestyles is crucial to that end. I train4-5 times a week in the pool and am physically active outside the pool(running cycling and personal trainer) . I also believe that keeping your senior population healthy is the basis for setting a good example for the younger generations to develop active lifestyles.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Fiona Lowden
Age 65
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Surejini Tharmaradinam, and I am writing as a Parent of two swimmers in BAD in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My sons train 4 to 5 days a week and they have to go to 3 different pools per week to be able to do this. It would be nice for them to have a place to practice consistently

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Surejini Tharmaradinam
Burlington
Parent of two swimmers in BAD
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jenny Forget, and I am writing as a Parent of competitive swimmer in Halton Region in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

In order to develop our athletes for international competition we need local access to an international sized 50m pool. Training in the smaller 25m will not do it. If nothing changes, more and more local swingers we leave for other regions that have the 50m pool. Thanks for your consideration. We're long overdue.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Jenny Forget
Burlington
Parent of competitive swimmer in Halton Region
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Michael Cudmore, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

As the committee evaluates the design of a new 50 m pool facility, I would encourage careful consideration of two features that will have a significant impact on long-term pool utilization, scheduling flexibility, and operating efficiency.

1. Pool Width and Multi-User Capacity

A 50 m pool that is also 25 m wide provides exceptional flexibility. With appropriate lane configurations, multiple user groups can operate simultaneously within the same pool. For example, younger competitive swimmers, senior swimmers, masters swimmers, open-water training groups, and public lane users can each have dedicated space at the same time.

This flexibility reduces scheduling conflicts, increases the number of users the facility can accommodate, and maximizes the value of the investment by keeping the pool fully utilized throughout the day.

2. Avoiding Dependence on a Moveable Bulkhead

Many 50 m pools rely on a moveable bulkhead to switch between 50 m and 25 m configurations. While this appears flexible on paper, it introduces a practical operational challenge. Moving a bulkhead requires specialized staff training, dedicated time, and operational coordination. As a result, facilities often avoid changing configurations frequently, creating a tendency for the pool to remain in a single setup—most commonly 25 m.

This operational friction can significantly reduce the practical usefulness of a 50 m pool.

A design that allows the pool to be reconfigured simply by moving lane ropes provides much greater flexibility. Lane-rope changes can be completed quickly by regular staff without specialized training, making it far easier to adapt the pool to changing user needs throughout the day.

These two design considerations—a full 25 m width and minimizing reliance on a moveable bulkhead—would substantially improve the facility's versatility, accessibility, and long-term value to the community. Because these decisions are difficult and costly to change after construction, they deserve careful consideration during the design phase.

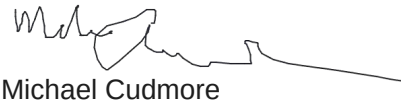
Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,



Michael Cudmore
Age 69
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support a Regional Aquatic Sportsplex in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Arathi Gude, and I am writing as a Parent of two swimmers and a Masters swimmer with MMST in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My twin girls train 6 days a week at a 25 m pool in Milton ON. The nearest 50 m pool is in Etobicoke with very poor infrastructure and capacity to accommodate large meets. Every year the time standard for divisional meets are raised to weed out hard working children to meet their poor capacity. The city is in dire need for better facilities and a 50m pool for our growing sport.

A 50-metre aquatic facility is not simply a local recreation project. It is regional infrastructure. It would serve Burlington, Halton, Hamilton, Peel, Niagara, and the broader Golden Horseshoe, supporting athletes, families, schools, clubs, community users, para sport, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, officials, volunteers, and spectators.

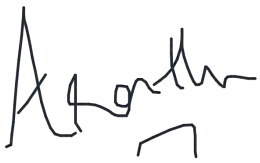
The challenge is that facilities of this size are difficult for municipalities to fund alone. They require partnership between municipal, provincial, and federal governments, along with community and sport-sector support.

Burlington has a clear opportunity to help address a major aquatic infrastructure gap. A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool, paired with a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool, would provide both regional hosting capacity and meaningful community access.

This facility would improve access to aquatic programming, reduce pressure on existing pools, support athlete development, create sport tourism opportunities, and contribute to the local economy.

I urge you to support this project and advocate for senior government investment in regionally significant aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Sincerely,



Arathi Gude
Milton On
Parent of two swimmers and a Masters swimmer with MMST
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Joaquim Carvalho, and I am writing as a coach with Burlington Aquatic Devilrays in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington. As coaches, we see firsthand how facility access directly impacts athlete development, program growth, and long-term participation in sport.

Across Burlington, Halton, and the surrounding region, aquatic programs are limited by aging facilities, restricted pool availability, and a lack of access to an indoor 50m long course training environment.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington, including a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would be a significant asset for athletes, coaches, families, officials, and the broader community. It would provide more appropriate training space, better racing opportunities, improved warm-up and cool-down capacity, and a facility capable of supporting regional and provincial events.

This project would benefit far beyond one club or one municipality. It would strengthen aquatic sport across the Golden Horseshoe and Halton Region and provide the infrastructure needed to support the next generation of athletes.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important project.
Sincerely,

Joaquim Carvalho
Splash Rays coach
Burlington Aquatic Devilrays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Pavla Van Zyl, and I am writing as a Previous competitive swimmer and family member of current competitive swimmers in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

A 50-metre indoor pool is more than a recreational amenity. It is critical community infrastructure. It creates a complete pathway for swimmers, from early lessons and water safety education through to competitive and high-performance sport, without requiring families to leave the region to train.
Access to quality sport facilities helps develop discipline, resilience, teamwork, leadership, and healthy lifestyles in young people. The benefits extend well beyond athletic achievement. Many elite athletes go on to become community leaders, professionals, coaches, volunteers, and mentors who contribute positively to society.
A 50-metre pool would also support lifesaving and aquatic leadership programs, improve access to fitness and rehabilitation opportunities for residents of all ages, and help attract regional competitions and events that bring economic and community benefits to Halton.
As the community continues to grow, investing in a facility that serves children, families, seniors, recreational users, and aspiring athletes alike is an investment in the long-term health, development, and success of our residents.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today’s needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Pavla Van Zyl
Burlington
Previous competitive swimmer and family member of current competitive swimmers
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Jessey Elf, and I am writing as a coach with Burlington Masters Swim Club in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

We need a Long Course 50m Pool. Burlington is growing. Needs a larger facility. 25m pools are everywhere.... 50m pool will draw people from all Over to use it!

For athletes to develop fully, they need a complete pathway — from grassroots programming through to high-performance training. A central piece of that pathway in aquatic sport is access to an indoor 50m long course pool, which Burlington and Halton currently lack.

Without it, coaches are limited in how they prepare athletes for long course competition, and clubs struggle to support athletes at different stages of development within the same system.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would let us run multiple programs at once, serve different age and ability groups, and support both high-performance training and development swimming under one roof.

This project would strengthen athlete pathways across multiple aquatic sports and help more athletes progress from grassroots programming to provincial, national, university, and international levels.

I strongly encourage your support for this project.
Sincerely,

Jessey Elf
Coach & Athlete of Burlington Masters
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Hamilton

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Stacey Bradbury, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in Georgetown in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

It is very difficult for my swimmer's club to find time to practice in long course pools. It would be beneficial to Halton to provide this option here.

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Stacey Bradbury
Georgetown
Parent of swimmer in Georgetown
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Families Should Not Have to Travel So Far for Aquatic Training and Competition

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Lindsay Troutman, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in Milton in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter trains 6 days a week with Milton swimteam . The long hauls to meets are tiring and costly. These meets all generate revenue and we are outgrowing our current 50 m pools in the GTA . Meets have to be divided by age groups to ensure all get to participate leaving some children attending meets without their favourite peers and who they feel are their biggest cheerleaders. A long course pool will also challenge our youth and prepare them for meets locally . The next big swimmer could be here living in Halton and with the right environment could really be set up for success .

Families in our region regularly travel outside Burlington and Halton for aquatic training and competitions. This creates added costs, long drives, lost family time, and barriers for children who want to participate and develop in aquatic sport.

For families with multiple children, working parents, or limited transportation options, the lack of local access to appropriate aquatic infrastructure can be especially difficult. It can determine whether a child is able to participate fully or not.

A regional aquatic sportsplex in Burlington would help change that. A 10-lane, 50-metre pool would provide proper long course training and competition capacity, while a warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support lessons, community use, para programming, and warm-up/cool-down space.

This project would reduce the burden on families, improve access, and help ensure that children in our region have the same opportunities as athletes in communities with better aquatic infrastructure.

I respectfully ask you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to build it.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Troutman
Burlington
Parent of swimmer in Milton
[redacted]

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Tom Adams, and I am writing as a Grandparent of swimmers in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I have 6 grandchildren who need access to a multipurpose aquatic facility including a 50 metro pool and a teaching pool. As the community grows and ages, Burlington, and the Greater Hamilton area, needs such a facility

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Tom Adams
Hamilton
Grandparent of swimmers
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Better Pool Access Would Help Student-Athletes

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Gia Li, and I am a swimmer with Ramac aquatic club. I am a student-athlete, and I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Swimming requires a lot of commitment. Many swimmers train early in the morning, after school, in the evening, and on weekends. Because pool space is limited, training times are not always ideal — sometimes practices are very early, very late, or at pools that require extra travel.

This can make it harder to balance swimming with school, homework, sleep, family time, and other responsibilities. Better aquatic infrastructure in Burlington would help create more reasonable training opportunities for swimmers and other aquatic athletes.

A regional aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would provide more space for training, competitions, lessons, and community use, and help reduce pressure on existing pools.

As a young athlete, I believe this facility would help swimmers develop while also supporting healthier schedules and better access for families. Thank you for considering support for this project.

Sincerely,

Gia Li
Age 11 · Grade 6
Ramac aquatic club
Burlington, Ontario

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Competition-Ready Aquatic Facility

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Kathy Toris, and I am writing as a Swimmer parent to a MMST in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

I petition a 59m pool for Milton

Burlington and the surrounding region lack a modern competition-ready aquatic venue with appropriate deck space, spectator seating, warm-up capacity, accessibility, and support areas for athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families.

When facilities do not have enough deck space or seating, competitions become difficult to host and uncomfortable for participants and spectators. This limits the ability of local clubs to host events and forces families to travel to other communities for competitions that could otherwise take place in Burlington.

A 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool with a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would allow Burlington to host regional, provincial, university, para, lifesaving, artistic swimming, water polo, and community aquatic events. It would also provide the warm-up and cool-down space essential for safe, effective competition hosting.

This project would create a facility that serves both sport and community needs, while bringing visitors into Burlington to support hotels, restaurants, small businesses, and the local economy.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the funding and partnerships needed to move it forward.

Sincerely,

Kathy Toris
Milton
Swimmer parent to a MMST
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Adrijana Horvat, and I am writing as a Parent perent of the swimmer at Milton marlins in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My son trains 6 days a week and there is no 50 meter pool in our Area

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Adrijana Horvat
Milton
Parent perent of the swimmer at Milton marlins
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: New Aquatic Infrastructure Would Benefit Burlington's Economy

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Patti Everingham, and I am writing as a Spouse of competitive swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

We travel extensively to other municipalities for competitions. It would be great if that money could be spent within our own community.

A modern aquatic facility would provide significant benefits to families, athletes, and community users, but it would also be an important economic development opportunity for Burlington.

Competition-ready 50-metre pools attract events. These events bring families, teams, coaches, officials, and spectators into the community, who stay in hotels, eat at local restaurants, and shop locally. Burlington is well-positioned geographically to serve as a regional aquatic hub for Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Peel, Toronto, and the broader Golden Horseshoe.

At the same time, a secondary warmer 25-metre pool would ensure the facility is not only for competitions. It would support lessons, recreation, community use, accessibility, and para programming year-round.

This project is an opportunity to invest in health, sport, tourism, economic development, and community infrastructure all at once.

I respectfully ask for your support in advancing this project and helping secure provincial and federal funding partnerships.

Sincerely,

Patti Everingham
Oakville
Spouse of competitive swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Ryleigh Vervoorn, and I am a swimmer with Milton marlins swim team. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Ryleigh Vervoorn
Age 16 · Grade 11
Milton marlins swim team
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Sase Janki, and I am writing as a Grand parent of 3 swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Sase Janki
Mississauga
Grand parent of 3 swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Ryan Crawford, and I am a swimmer with [Club Name]. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I swim, and this would be a fanatic addition to the community and for my kids.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Ryan Crawford
Age 36
[Club Name]
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Rhys Drewett, and I am a swimmer with Burlington aquatic devilrays. I am writing to support new aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

There is no indoor or sheltered 50 M pool in Burlington.

For swimmers to reach their potential, we need consistent access to the right training environment. Access to an indoor 50m long course pool is a critical part of that, yet Burlington and Halton do not currently have one.

This makes it harder to prepare for long course competitions and forces swimmers and families to travel outside the region just to train properly. The extra travel takes time away from school, rest, and recovery.

A 10-lane 50m competition pool in Burlington, paired with a warmer 10-lane 25m pool, would help close this gap. The warmer pool would also support younger swimmers, lessons, and warm-up and cool-down during meets.

I hope you will support this project so swimmers in our region can train closer to home and have the same opportunities as athletes in other communities.

Sincerely,

Rhys Drewett
Age 11 · Grade 6
Burlington aquatic devilrays
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Chris Troutman, and I am writing as a Parent of competitive swimmer in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Daughter swims 6 times a week in Milton because there's not enough pools in burlington

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Chris Troutman
Burlington
Parent of competitive swimmer
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is John Hache, and I am a swimmer with Burlington Masters Swim Club. I am writing to ask for your support for new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington and Halton.

I swim with the Burlington Masters Swim Club. I swim to preserve my fitness as I age. Swimming is a lot easier on my joints than running, and is something that I can do year round.

Swimming is a big part of my life. It has taught me discipline, teamwork, confidence, resilience, and how to set goals. But one of the biggest challenges for swimmers in Burlington and Halton is that we do not have access to an indoor 50m long course pool in our region.

This makes it harder to train properly for long course competitions, and it means swimmers and families often have to drive long distances for training or racing. Those drives are tiring and take away from schoolwork, rest, family time, and recovery.

A new aquatic sportsplex in Burlington with a 10-lane 50m competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane 25m pool would make a big difference for athletes like me. It would give swimmers better access to training, more racing opportunities, and a facility that could host competitions closer to home.

I hope you will support this project and help bring better aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

John Hache
Age 65
Burlington Masters Swim Club
Burlington

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Halton Needs Access to Indoor Long Course Aquatic Training

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Michelle Wilson, and I am writing as a Bads parent in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My daughter swims for burlington aquatics and we need a 50 m pool for these kids to train and be proud to host meets. It is an amazing sport and we need a better facility. We are currently across 3 pools 4-5 times a week to make things work. This would be an amazing opportunity for burlington !

One of the most significant gaps in our region is the lack of access to an indoor 50-metre long course pool. For young athletes and aquatic users in Burlington, Hamilton, Oakville, Milton, Halton Hills, and the surrounding area, this creates a major barrier. Families must travel to other regions to access appropriate training and competition facilities.

This is especially difficult for youth athletes trying to develop in sports that require proper long course environments. A 25-metre pool is important for community programming, but it cannot fully replace access to a 50-metre competition-ready facility.

A Burlington-based aquatic sportsplex with a 10-lane, 50-metre pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would help close this regional gap. It would allow athletes to train properly, clubs to grow responsibly, and families to access programming closer to home.

This project is not simply about sport. It is about equitable access, youth development, water safety, community health, and regional infrastructure planning.

I urge you to support this project and help advocate for the funding partnerships needed to bring modern aquatic infrastructure to Burlington and the Halton region.

Sincerely,

Michelle Wilson
Burlington
Bads parent
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is David Linardi, and I am writing as a Parent and Uncle of two swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

David Linardi
Toronto, ON
Parent and Uncle of two swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Burlington Needs a Facility That Supports Athlete Development

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Erika McCarthy, and I am writing as a Friend of two swimmers in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

Athletes in Burlington and the surrounding region need access to facilities that allow them to train, develop, and compete at their full potential. For many aquatic sports, access to a 50-metre pool is essential. Without it, athletes are limited in their preparation and must travel elsewhere to access the training environment required at higher levels.

A modern 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool would support swimming, para swimming, lifesaving sport, artistic swimming, water polo, and other aquatic disciplines. The secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool would support development pathways, learn-to-swim, warm-up/cool-down, accessibility, and community programming.

This facility would help build a stronger aquatic pathway from first lessons to provincial, national, university, and international-level sport, while creating more opportunities for coaches, officials, and volunteers to develop.

Burlington has the opportunity to build infrastructure that serves both today's needs and the next generation of athletes and families.

I strongly encourage you to support this project and advocate for the investment needed to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Erika McCarthy
Hamilton
Friend of two swimmers in Burlington
[redacted]

Burlington Aquatic Devilrays

June 5, 2026

MP Adam van Koeverden
MPP Neil Lumsden
Mayor Marianne Meed Ward
Members of Burlington City Council

Re: Support for New Regional Aquatic Infrastructure in Burlington

Dear MP Adam van Koeverden and MPP Lumsden,

My name is Boris Latkovic, and I am writing as a Parent of swimmer in Burlington in support of new regional aquatic infrastructure in Burlington.

My sons trains 6x per week and most of that time is in a 25m indoor pool. When he goes to competitions with a 50m pool he Significantly does worse due to lack of training and familiarity in a 50m pool. Daughter had the same problem. We are a big community and we need top facilities to develop and attract top athletes

Burlington and the surrounding Halton region are in urgent need of a modern, multi-use aquatic facility that includes a 10-lane, 50-metre competition pool and a secondary warmer 10-lane, 25-metre pool. This type of facility would support competitive swimming, learn-to-swim, lifesaving, para sport, artistic swimming, water polo, community recreation, and regional event hosting.

At present, families in our region face limited access to appropriate aquatic space. There is no indoor long course training facility in Halton, and existing facilities are stretched, aging, and not designed to meet the needs of today's growing population. Families often travel outside the region for training and competitions, adding financial, time, and transportation barriers.

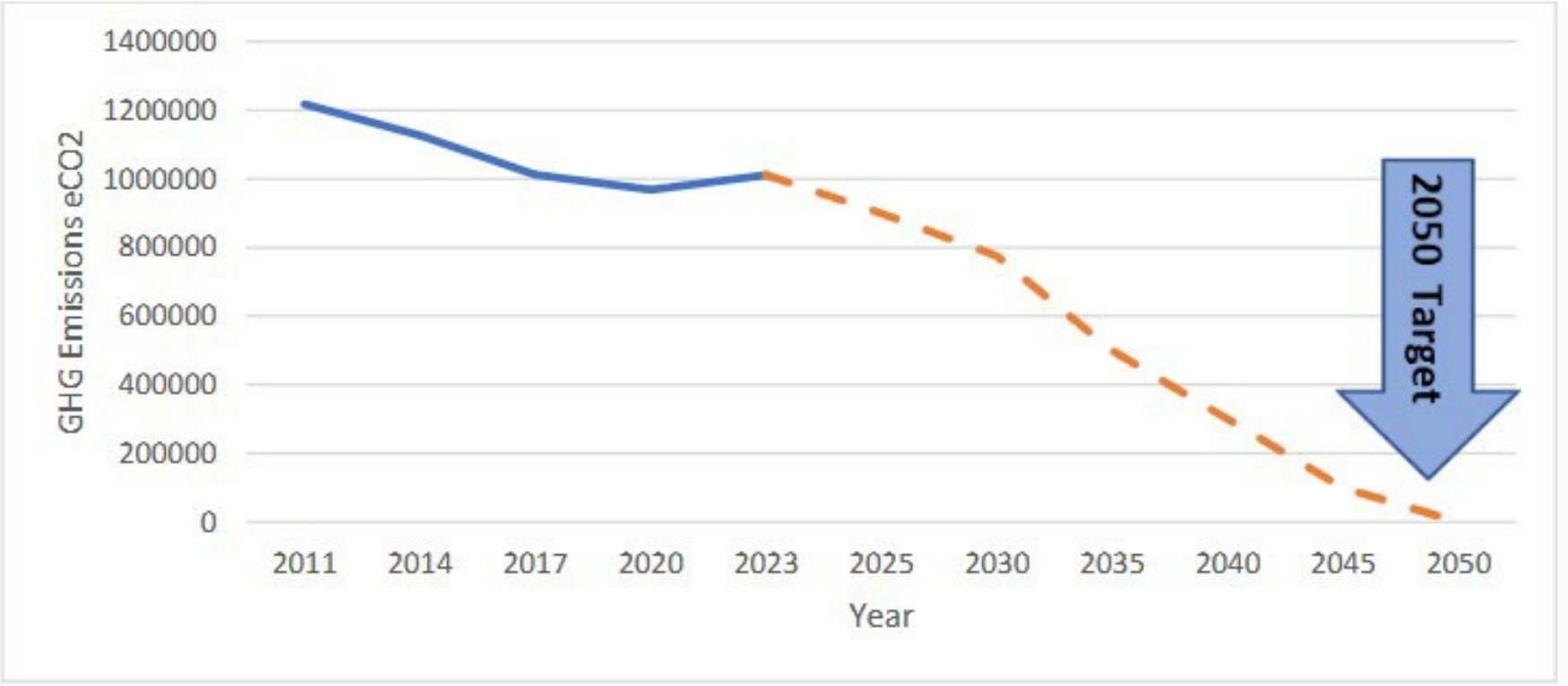
This project would benefit far more than competitive swimmers. It would support water safety, youth development, community health, accessibility, tourism, and the local economy.

I respectfully ask for your support in helping advance this important infrastructure project and in advocating for provincial and federal funding partnerships to make it possible.

Sincerely,

Boris Latkovic
Burlington
Parent of swimmer in Burlington
[redacted]

Figure 2: Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Year Showing 2050 Target



Act Locally
NOW
THERE IS
NO
PLANET B

Figure 1: Community Emissions Targets

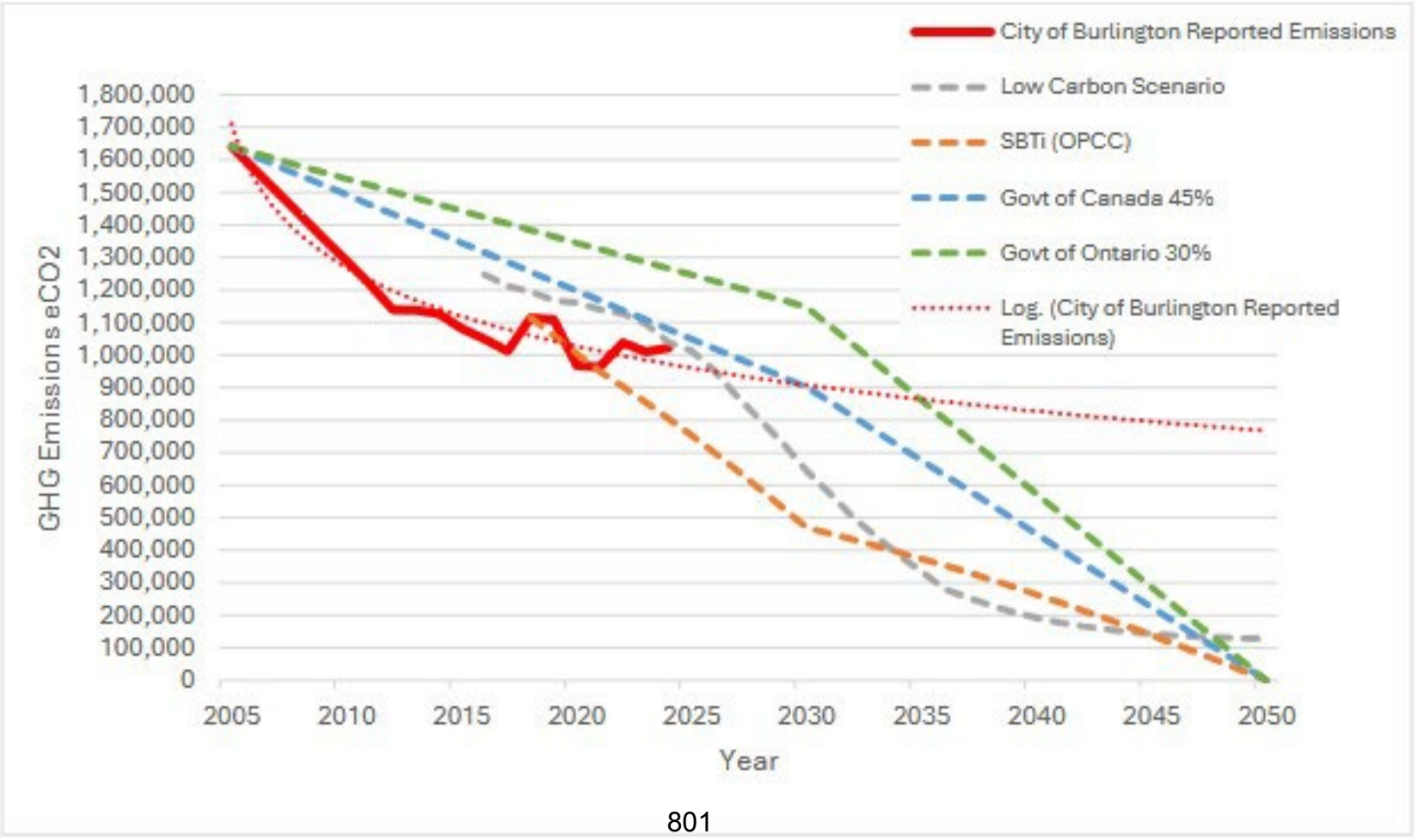


Figure 3: Emissions Reductions by Actions Under the Low Carbon Scenario from the 2020 Climate Action Plan

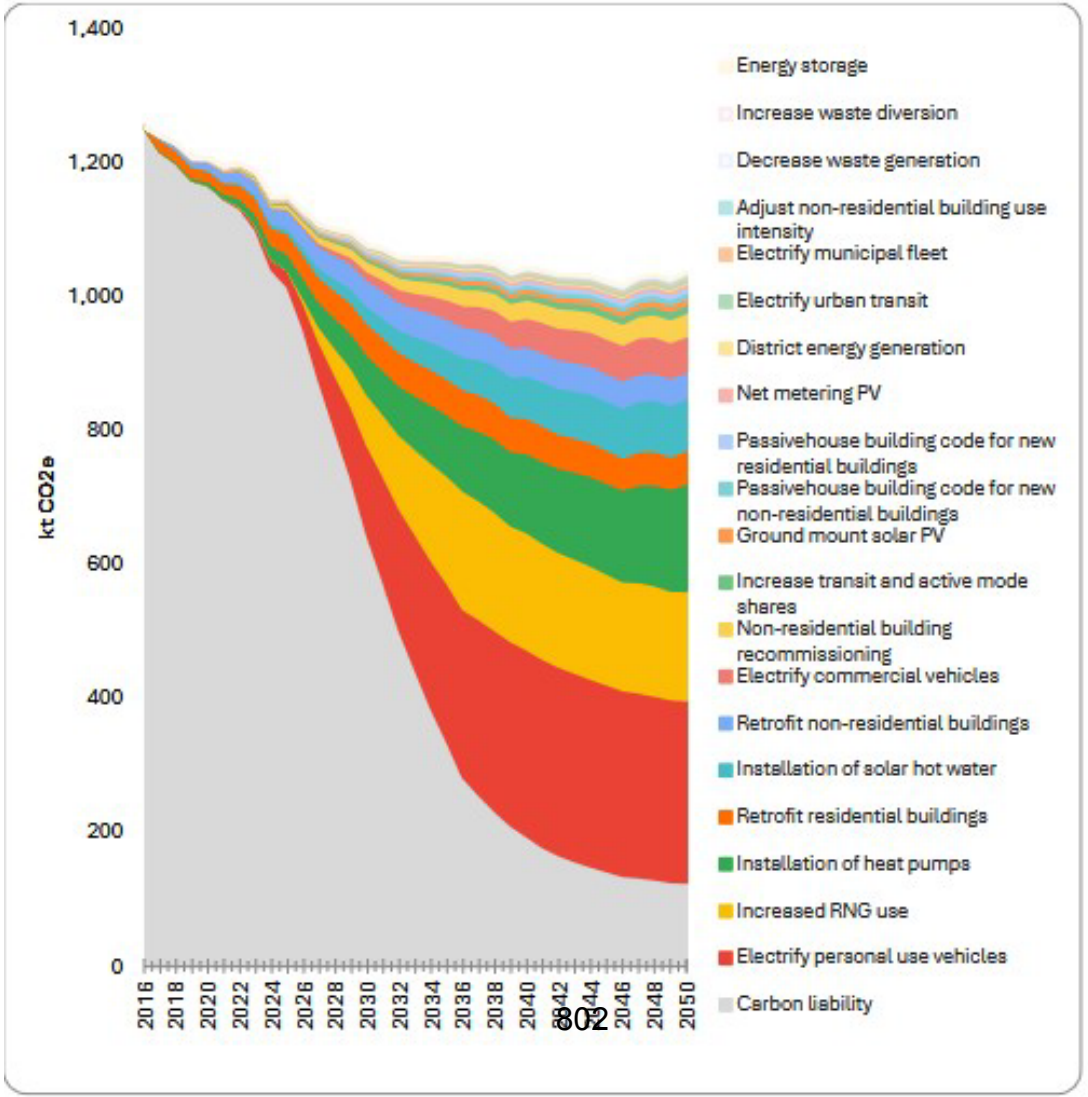
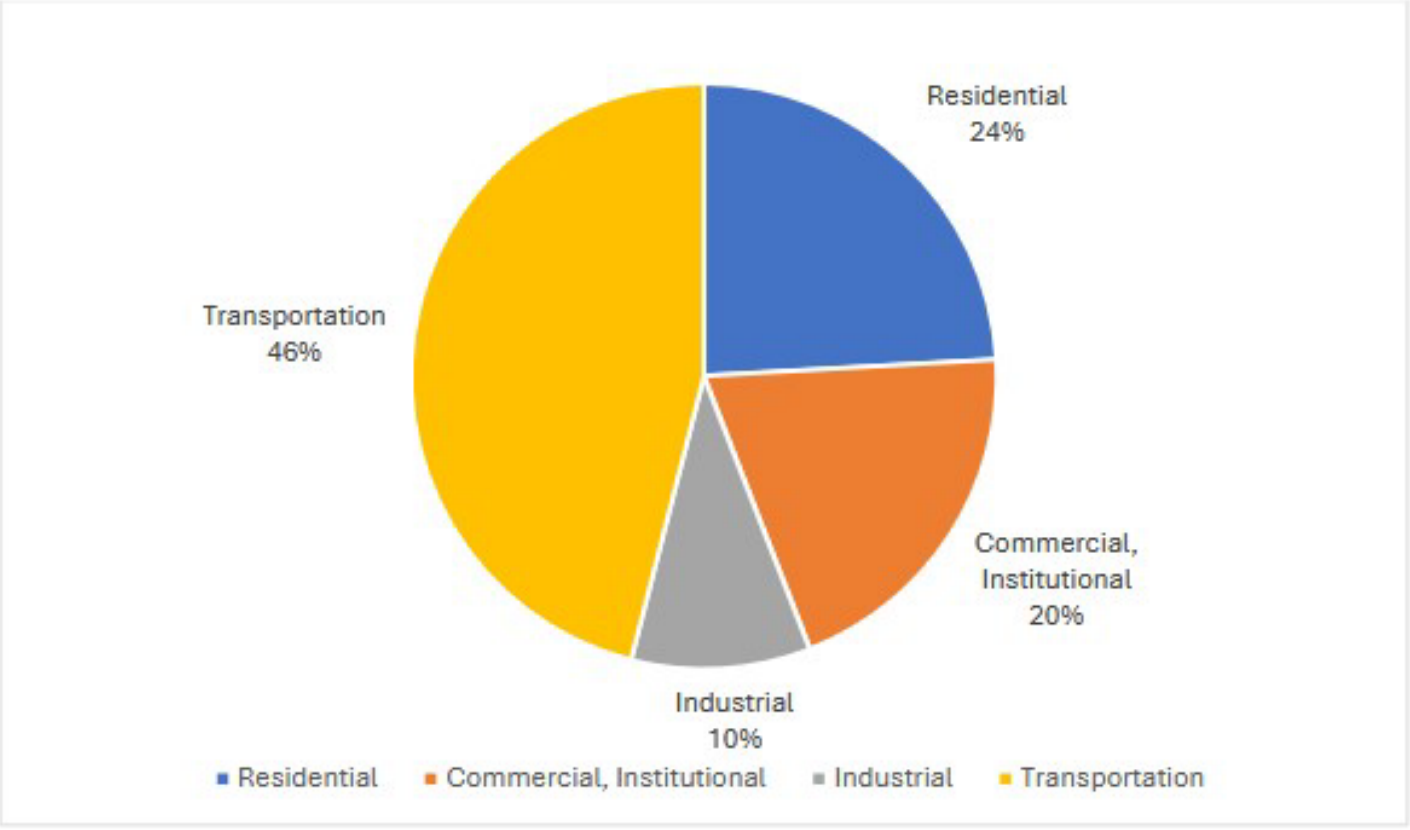


Figure 7: Community Emissions by Sector



The community emissions inventory is updated annually to meet reporting requirements, such as the Carbon Disclosure Project, and will be shared publicly and presented to Council through annual updates on the Burlington Climate Plan.

Burlington Climate Action Plan –

I'm back, with much the same message I had six months ago to this same committee – Burlington has not done enough to address climate change.

Maybe I should just re-read my delegation because I have the feeling that what I said went in one ear and out the other.

Before we go further, let's talk about what I call the blame game. The federal government has all but abandoned climate change. The provincial government has thumbed its nose any anything to do with environmentalism. I remind Committee that 70% of all GHG emissions come from cities. So, yes, we have a role to play.

I have to ask myself, does the City of Burlington, and specifically this Council take climate action seriously? After all, Burlington's Climate Action Plan Update was supposed to be presented in February. Here we are four months later, when Council is about to become a 'lame duck' entity and unable or afraid to make any serious motions to get us closer to net-zero.

But, no doubt, each and every one of you will tout your climate actions in the brochures and flyers that you leave behind during the election campaign.

You'll point to various claims in this Climate Action Plan as proof that Council is fighting the good fight on behalf of our citizens.

Instead, since February you have spent hours discussing Economic Development and Tourism; Parking; the elimination of Development Charges; Councilor pensions; strong mayors powers; use of corporate powers during an election; and spending $160,000 to put up a screen in Spencer Smith Park to watch a FIFA soccer match.

I feel sorry for the understaffed and under resourced Environmental Stewardship team that had to come up with this report to try to prove that the City of Burlington has taken steps to give future generations a cleaner, better environment.

Meanwhile, the reality is that our greenhouse gas emissions have been going up when they should, and could, have been going down.

FIRST SLIDE PLEASE

Does anybody in this room really think we're going to reach this target?

SECOND SLIDE PLEASE

I find it ironic that this picture is used in the report. It's a picture of about 100 people who five months after you all declared a Climate Emergency, were protesting that City Hall has not done enough on the climate change front.

THIRD SLIDE PLEASE
I just threw this in to show how far off base the Feds and Doug Ford is.

Let’s talk about City Climate Action Plan Commitments

In 2002 the City joined Partners for Climate Protection. By 2017 Burlington had met all five milestones to guide municipalities to take action on climate change.

Five steps – to think about a plan, to talk about a plan, to plan to have a plan, to set at date to have a plan, can someone please write up something that looks like a plan.

In 2020 the City joined the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy program, with commitments to meet requirements for the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions. Please note the word – commitments. Words are easy. Actions are what is needed.

The Burlington Climate Plan: Taking Action to Reduce Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions is one of many plans providing strategic direction on climate action initiatives. As noted above, the City’s Strategic Plan, Vision 2040, recognizes that climate change is a significant issue.

Well good for you. In 2019 it was a Climate Emergency! And here we are in 2026 still talking about making plans.

Oh we’re good at making plans. We’ve got the Integrated Mobility Plan (that’s the one were we are supposed to decrease personal vehicle traffic by 15% in favour of transit, walking and cycling); The Official Plan (is it 100% yet?); the Green Fleet Strategy; Burlington’s Urban Forest Master Plan; Sustainable Building and Development Guidelines (voluntary); Asset Management Plan; Corporate Energy and Sustainable Building Policy; and the Electric Mobility Strategy (but only on Centennial Pathway).

Where’s the Transit Plan?

Corporate Energy Management Plan – started out with 65 actions, got whittled down to 28 actions with some completed like – we ‘adopted Natural Resources software to allow easy reporting’.

Out of 60 city owned facilities, we’ve conducted Deep Energy Retrofits STUDIES on Appleby Ice Centre, Brant Hills Community Centre, Fire Stations 2 and 7, Burlington Seniors Centre, Sims Square, Tansley Woods Community Centre, Nelson Recreation Centre, and the Burlington Animal Shelter.

I note that solar panels have been installed on two locations – City View Park (a very small building) and Fire Station 5 in Kilbride.

But despite the Corporate Energy and Sustainable Building Policy adopted in 2024, the conversion of the Robert Bateman Community Centre is underway to make it low carbon. How’s that going?

As for the Green Fleet Strategy – a three-phase approach to gradually convert city vehicles from fossil fuels to hybrid or electric vehicles. You do understand that hybrids still burn fossil fuels. And Council has killed any notion of city buses ever becoming all electric. Because of Infrastructure.

I almost laughed when I read that “Several trees and seedlings were planted by Forestry staff and with community partners in 2024. Community volunteers and corporate groups yes. Forestry staff, not so much. And I may not know much about trees but I do think you have to do more than just plant them at the side of the road and let them fend for themselves.

FOURTH SLIDE PLEASE

You will notice in this report - Emissions Reductions by Actions Under the Low Carbon Scenario from the 2020 Climate Action Plan.

Let's focus on the bottom three sections – the ones with the biggest impact.

- Installation of heat pumps 17 loans given out to homeowners.
- Increased RNG use – does anyone here know what RNG stands for? Renewable Natural Gas.
- Electrify personal use vehicles – I see a number of Teslas driving around town but not enough to reduce 200 tonnes of GHG. And what did the city do to promote that change?

FIFTH SLIDE PLEASE

Community Emissions – the blame game part 2

Fine print at the bottom – The community emissions inventory is updated annually to meet reporting requirements, such as the Carbon Disclosure Project, and will be shared publicly and presented to Council through annual updates on the Burlington Climate Plan. So were is this data?

What we need to do as a society is to shift our systemic approach to climate change. Stop waiting for upper levels of government to wave a magic wand and make it all go away. Stop looking at hopeful projections. Stop using the metrics of GHG Intensity levels. If nothing else, look out the window.

Addressing climate change should be apparent and front of mind for every department in this municipal corporation. Staff need to be guided by you, or perhaps the next set of council members. Climate mitigation and adaptation have to be baked into every action, purchase and activity the City undertakes.

I repeat my four suggestions for Council

- Engage and involve the public and local industry in climate action strategies.

- Create a dashboard, similar to the one you have for housing starts, to show the community our progress on climate change and who is doing what.

- Allocate one per cent of the city's budget to climate change mitigation and adaptation and show that as a separate budget line item.

- Think long-term and create a robust education program to help support the community in its efforts to truly become net-carbon neutral by 2050.

From: Denise Gray

Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 11:00 AM
To: Gosse, Roxanne <Roxanne.Gosse@burlington.ca>
Subject: Re: Delegation Request

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thanks so much Roxanne for the quick response. I understand and I would still like to attend on the 8th. Please see more of what I'd like to share:

1. Existing residents need practical guidance now

- The strategy identifies significant risks such as flooding, extreme heat, power outages, and severe storms.
- Many homeowners do not know what actions they should take to prepare.
- There is no highly visible, centralized homeowner resilience program that helps residents understand their property's risks and recommended actions.
- Climate resilience should not be something residents discover after experiencing a flood or major storm.

2. Homeowners are carrying increasing financial risk

- Residents are facing rising insurance costs, potential property damage, and increasing costs associated with flood prevention and home resilience.
- The strategy references grants, subsidies, and retrofit programs, but many residents are unaware they exist.
- The City should prioritize making supports easier to find, easier to access, and easier to understand.

3. Communication and education need to be stronger

- Burlington has produced a thoughtful strategy, but many residents have likely never read it.
- The City should focus on translating technical plans into practical homeowner guidance.
- Residents need clear information on:
    - flood risk,
    - emergency preparedness,
    - power outage readiness,
    - tree management,
    - stormwater management,
    - available grants and rebates.

4. Resilience should be measured at the household level

- Infrastructure improvements are important, but resilience ultimately starts at home.
- Success should not only be measured by studies completed or plans developed.
- The City should also measure:

    - homeowner participation in resilience programs,
    - uptake of flood prevention measures,
    - awareness of emergency preparedness resources,
    - participation in community resilience initiatives.

5. Climate resilience must benefit today's residents

- Much of the strategy focuses on 2032, 2040, and beyond.
- Existing residents need to see tangible benefits and support in the near term.
- Residents are already experiencing more intense storms, flooding concerns, and extended power outages.

Thanks,

Denise

My name is Cynthia Shanahan — a lifelong Burlingtonian and Executive with the residential group Millcroft Against Bad Development. My husband and I have been residents of Millcroft for 30 years. I am here today representing not only my family, but the 10,000 residents MAD supports across Millcroft and the 20,000 residents across Burlington.

We purchased our home in Millcroft because of the properties, the green space, the trees, and its well-designed community — including a golf course. Over the past six years, we have all witnessed the consequences: the cutting of more than 425 trees, each over 40 years old; the loss of valuable green space; construction on stormwater management lands; and the destruction of a 40-year-old community.

I am not here to speak to those issues today. I am here to support the motion to review and report back on the process and considerations needed to regulate construction and its impacts on residents.

The City currently allows construction Monday through Saturday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., with no construction on Sundays or Statutory Holidays. But where there is construction, there is noise, heavy equipment, increased traffic, and dust. Many streets will have construction on both sides simultaneously. There is simply no escaping it. We might as well all move out for the duration.

The mental health of our residents has taken a real toll. We know the well-documented health benefits of green space — and that green space is now gone. Residents who landscaped their properties to enjoy the outdoors are now left wide open to dust, noise, and the relentless disruptions of construction.

We are asking you to support this motion and to consider limiting construction hours to Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. — with no construction on Saturdays, Sundays, or Statutory Holidays.

I'll share a personal example. Our house burned down in 2012. Our contractor chose not to build on Saturdays or after 4:30 p.m. on weekdays — out of respect for our neighbours and his own subcontractors. He was so considerate that he refused to place a portable toilet on the property, and instead had an emergency hookup installed inside the house. We are asking for that same level of respect from developers across Burlington.

When I polled friends, family, neighbours, and Millcroft residents, they supported this motion — regardless of where they live in the city. It simply makes sense. Multi-year construction projects can plan accordingly with this advance notice. Curtailing construction hours will allow all Burlingtonians — and the developers' own employees and contractors — to enjoy the outdoors and maintain a healthy balance.

This is a win for residents. This is a win for workers. This is a win for Burlington

Thank you for allowing me to delegate this morning.

Information Report Summary

SUBJECT: Information on the new Development Charge Reduction Program

TO: Committee of the Whole

FROM: Finance
N/A

Report Number: FIN-06-26

Wards Affected: All

Date to Committee: June 8, 2026

Date to Council: June 23, 2026

Recommendation:

Receive for information finance report FIN-06-26 regarding information on the Development Charge Reduction Program.

Executive Summary:

Purpose of report:

- Present Committee of the Whole with information released by the Province regarding the new Development Charge Reduction Program (DCRP), including the program objectives, eligibility requirements, potential implications for the City, and existing Council-approved actions that support housing supply and affordability.

Key findings:

What Council has approved to support housing:

- June 2024, DC by-law reduced proposed DC rates by 28%
- April 2026, CIP approved supporting affordable housing with up to $5 million in DC exemptions
    - Reductions in DCs not funded from property taxes
- Streamlined Zoning by-law

Provincial and Federal governments funding announcement

- The City supports the shared federal and provincial objective of increasing housing supply, improving affordability, and advancing housing-enabling infrastructure.

- Municipal engagement in the development of the program design appears to have been limited prior to the program's release.
- Municipalities must commit to reducing DCs for all residential development by 30%-50% for a period of 3 years
- Reduction in DCs will be measured against the rates in effect as of March 30, 2026
- Municipalities must make a commitment to fund at least 10% of the eligible (growth related) costs from non-DC sources.
- Eligible priority projects include water, wastewater, stormwater, roads, and transit
- Can apply for up to 5 projects with application deadline of June 19th, 2026
- Applications to the DCRP will be assessed based on:
    - percentage of committed residential DC rate reduction (minimum 30-50 per cent reduction)
    - number of homes projected to build as a result of proposed DC relief
    - the municipality's financial contribution
- Infrastructure projects that support the creation of new housing units would be prioritized before projects that support the development of complete communities
- If approved, reduction to development charges are to be in effect by August 15, 2026 and must immediately follow the execution of the Transfer Payment Agreement
- Reduced DC rates are to be backdated to March 30, 2026

Implications:

- The City remains committed to working collaboratively with provincial and federal partners to support housing supply and housing-enabling infrastructure. However, under the current program design, municipalities must maintain the DC reduction for three years starting March 30, 2026, and the program does not appear to include a mechanism to cap municipal exposure if actual uptake of the DC reduction exceeds approved funding. As a result, any shortfall will create pressure on tax-supported funding sources.

Background

On March 30, 2026, the federal and provincial government signed the Canada-Ontario Partnership to Build agreement to support the shared goals of build more homes faster, make housing more affordable and accelerating key infrastructure projects to protect jobs and help communities grow. The agreement included $8.8B in federal and provincial funding over 10 years to support housing-enabling infrastructure investments for municipalities.

Status

On June 1, 2026, the Province released information on the Development Charge Reduction Program (DCRP), which included details on the application process, eligibility and assessment criteria and funding requirements. The deadline to apply is June 19, 2026.

The commitment of up to $8.8 billion for housing-enabling infrastructure represents a significant investment in municipal infrastructure and housing priorities. As municipalities review the DCRP details, staff are assessing how the program's funding model and eligibility requirements may affect local implementation and financial planning. Municipalities also had limited opportunity to provide input on the program design prior to its release.

In addition to the following summary, commentary from Watson & Associates Economists is included in appendix A.

Program Details

This program will help municipalities reduce development charges (DC) by providing funding to support housing-enabling infrastructure and is open to all single-tier, upper-tier and lower tier Ontario municipalities that have an active DC bylaw as of March 30, 2026. Eligible housing-enabling infrastructure includes:

- Roads
- Water Systems
- Wastewater Systems
- Transit

However, eligible projects must meet the following outcomes:

- Primarily enable the construction of new housing units
- Accelerate the delivery and implementation of shovel-ready infrastructure projects in the municipality's DC background study and capital plan
- Begin construction by July 31, 2030, and be complete by October 31, 2035

In addition to the eligibility of infrastructure projects, applications will be assessed based on the following:

- percentage of committed DC rate reduction (minimum 30%-50% reduction for all residential development types for 3 years)
- number of housing units projected to be built as a result of the proposed DC relief
- the municipality's financial contribution (at least 10% of eligible project costs must be funded by the municipality)

The eligibility for the program also extends to municipalities that took early action to reduce and maintain low DCs prior to March 30, 2026. The City's DC background study and bylaw was updated and approved by Council in May 2024, and in effect on June 1, 2024. As part of the update, staff put forward an amendment to reduce the proposed DC rates, recognizing the pressure an increase to DC rates may cause to development and impede the City from meeting housing targets. As such, $205M of DC-recoverable capital cost was removed from the study, resulting in a reduction of 28% to residential DC rates. Based on the threshold of a 30%-50% DC reduction (which was unknown at the time) and the reduction measurement date of March 30, 2026, the City would not be able to utilize this retroactive action for this program.

Potential Impact to City

Infrastructure Projects

The City's 2026 Budget included a 10-year capital forecast of $127M of Growth-related capital project costs funded from DCs as approved in the Background study. However, housing-enabling infrastructure projects, such as water and wastewater, usually reside with the upper-tier municipality. Upon preliminary review of the City's growth program, the amount of projects that may be eligible would be limited. Furthermore, a determination of potential impact to housing supply, if any, would be also required in order to satisfy program criteria.

In addition, municipalities would be responsible for a minimum of 10% of eligible project costs. These amounts, as well as ineligible soft costs and cost contingencies, would also need to be considered. However, it has been noted that although infrastructure projects that support the creation of new housing units would be prioritized, projects that support the development of complete communities could also be considered for funding.

Financial Considerations

Forecasting development charge revenues, including the types of development, are difficult as it is highly dependent on construction activity. Recent market conditions have greatly shifted the economy and demand, and market variables and factors have changed, and continue to change, relatively quickly. Due to this, applicants may delay or accelerate approvals based on the economic viability of their specific project.

The main intent of the DRCP is to stimulate development and the creation of housing units over the next 3 years. The City supports this objective. However, the financial impact to the City from this program could extend for a number of years beyond the three-year duration of the program. For example, under the current DC Act, DC rates are locked in or frozen at the

time of site plan approval, provided a building permit is issued within 18 months of the application approval. Therefore, any site plans approved towards the end of year 3 of the program will be locked into the reduced DC rate for an additional 18 months to pull permits. As a result, it is difficult to estimate the financial impact that could result from the DRCP.

As part of Bill 17, *the Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act*, starting November 2025, DCs from residential developments are to be collected on the date of occupancy. The duration to occupancy varies across applications due to factors that are beyond the City's control. Staff is closely monitoring the effects of this provision but it is expected that this delayed cashflow, in addition to significant cost and inflationary increases, will put pressure on the DC reserve funds and runs a risk deferring some growth capital projects.

Implementation Process

In order to qualify to receive funding from the DCRP, municipalities must reduce all residential DC rates by 30%-50% and maintain the reduction for 3 years. The streamlined process that was introduced as part of Bill 17 to immediately reduce DC rates in the DC bylaw can be utilized to meet this requirement. However, in order to reinstate the reduced DCs rates after 3 years, municipalities will be required to open their bylaw and follow the prescribed process as per the DC Act. This includes public notice requirements, holding public meetings, and the opportunity for appeals.

Implications

With the release of the DRCP, the provisions in the DC Act remains unchanged. All DC reductions or exemptions implemented by the City, temporary or otherwise, continue to be required to be funded from a tax-supported source, as stated in the DC Act, s.5(6)(3):

> *"3. If the development charge by-law will exempt a type of development, phase in a development charge, or otherwise provide for a type of development to have a lower development charge than is allowed, the rules for determining development charges may not provide for any resulting shortfall to be made up through higher development charges for other development."*

As a result of this provision, any City discounts of DCs will require the City to fund such discounts from other tax-supported sources. Therefore, if DCRP funding is insufficient to make the City whole — i.e. actual uptake of the DC relief exceeds the amount of funding the City receives through the DCRP — the City will be required to fund the difference from tax-supported funding sources. It is a concern to staff that there is no capping mechanism for municipalities, as DC reductions must be maintained for the entire three-year period.

Since the first announcement on the signing of the Partnership in March 2026 to the public release of the DCRP earlier this month, municipalities had limited consultation opportunities to engage or provide feedback on the program. In addition to the risk that the program could result in a subsidy from City taxes, there does not appear to be consideration given to early and creative actions already enacted by municipalities to support the creation of new housing, while also meeting specific housing targets and goals to deliver complete communities.

As a result, staff do not recommend applying for funding through the current DCRP for City projects under the current program design.

Staff will continue to support the shared housing objectives of the federal and provincial governments, monitor the DCRP for any potential future program updates, and engage with senior government partners where opportunities arise to advance housing-enabling infrastructure in a financially sustainable manner.

A number of Council-approved actions have been implemented that support the creation of housing and which do not impact the tax base. None of these initiatives can be considered to contribute toward meeting the 30%-50% reduction threshold. Some items include:

- Staff-driven initiative to reduce the proposed DC rates to mitigate the proposed increase in the DC Background Study that has been in effect since June 2024.
    - Residential DC rates were reduced by 28%.
    - Non-residential DC rates were also reduced by 32%.
- Development of the City's first Affordable Rental Housing Community Improvement Plan (CIP), includes 10 programs in 2025.
- Amendments to the Affordable Rental Housing Community Improvement Plan in May, 2026 to broaden the scope of the CIP and develop a suite of new temporary programs in the now named City of Burlington Housing Community Improvement Plan, approved in May 2026 and currently within the appeal period, including:
    - DC grant programs to incentivize purpose-built rental units and ownership units with criteria related to built form, bedroom numbers and unit size, including within mid-rise and tall buildings.
    - Other temporary programs included Missing Middle Municipal Fee Waiver, Tax Increment Equivalent Grants and Accessible Design Grant.
- Modernized Official Plan policies and associated Residential Zoning By-law to support the creation of new residential units.
- Completion of all Housing Accelerator Fund Action Plan items.

In considering the DCRP, staff also note that Council recently reviewed options to support housing through development-related financial incentives. Through that work, broad DC reductions were identified as presenting financial and implementation risks, including reduced flexibility in future DC by-law updates, limitations in targeting specific housing policy objectives, and pressure on tax-supported funding sources. Council ultimately approved amendments to the City's housing-related Community Improvement Plan as a more targeted, temporary and controlled approach to supporting housing while protecting existing taxpayers.

These same considerations apply to the DCRP requirement for an across-the-board residential DC reduction.

Other Options

Should Council wish to pursue participation in the DCRP, staff would require direction to prepare and submit an application in accordance with the program requirements, including the required development charge reduction. Given the financial and implementation considerations outlined in this report, staff would also recommend reporting back to Council following the

outcome of the application and prior to entering into any funding agreement. The following proposed motion could be considered for this option:

"Direct staff to apply to the Development Charge Reduction Program, indicating that the City will commit to a 30% reduction to all residential development charges.

and;

"Report back on the result of the application prior to acceptance to determine feasibility of the program for the City"

Conclusion

The City supports the objectives of the Canada-Ontario Partnership to Build and recognizes the importance of senior government investment in housing-enabling infrastructure. The City has already taken significant Council-approved action to support housing supply, affordability, and complete communities.

However, based on the current DCRP design, including the requirement for an across-the-board 30% to 50% residential DC reduction, the minimum municipal contribution requirement, the March 30, 2026, measurement date, and the absence of a mechanism to cap municipal exposure, staff do not recommend applying to the DCRP for City projects at this time.

Staff will continue to work within Council-approved tools and monitor future federal and provincial funding opportunities that support housing-enabling infrastructure while considering the City's long-term financial and infrastructure funding requirements.

Key Dates & Milestones

- **June 1, 2024** – City's updated Development Charge By-law came into effect, including Council-approved reductions to proposed residential and non-residential DC rates.
- **Fall 2025 – Spring 2026** – City reviewed options to support housing creation through development-related financial incentives and other housing initiatives.
- **March 2026** – Council approved amendments to the City's Housing-related Community Improvement Plan, providing targeted incentives to support housing objectives while maintaining a controlled and time-limited approach.
- **March 30, 2026** – Federal and provincial governments signed the Canada-Ontario Partnership to Build agreement.
- **June 1, 2026** – Province released details of the Development Charge Reduction Program (DCRP).
- **June 19, 2026** – DCRP application deadline.

References

Ontario News Release – Ontario and Canada Sign Historic Partnership to Build Homes, Transit and Communities

Ontario News Release – Ontario and Canada Open Applications for New Development Charges Reduction Program

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Strategic Alignment

(Select all that apply)

☐ Designing and delivering complete communities

☐ Providing the best services and experiences

☐ Protecting and improving the natural environment and taking action on climate change

☑ Driving organizational performance

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Craig.Millar@burlington.ca
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Appendices:

A. Watson & Associates Economists Commentary

Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and approved by the Commissioner, Head of Corporate Affairs, Chief Financial Officer, and Commissioner of Legal and Legislative Services/City Solicitor.

June 3, 2026

To our Municipal Clients,

In our continued efforts to keep you informed of matters related to development charges (DC), we want to inform you of the June 1 announcement regarding the Development Charges Reduction Program (DCRP). The following provides a brief summary of the information, as well as some key sources of further information to assist you in the coming weeks:

- Funding Announcement: https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/1007531/ontario-and-canada-open-applications-for-new-development-charge-reduction-program
- Funding Program Details: https://www.ontario.ca/page/development-charges-reduction-program
- Program Guidelines: https://www.ontario.ca/files/2026-06/mmah-dcrp-application-guidelines-and-faq-en-2026-06-01.pdf

Applications for funding are **due by June 19, 2026** through Transfer Payment Ontario (TPON): https://www.tpon.gov.on.ca/tpon/psLogin

Overview

The provincial and federal governments announced $8.8 billion in funding over 10 years, to be delivered through the Build Communities Strong Fund's Provincial and Territorial stream. The intent of the funding is to provide housing-enabling infrastructure to support housing development in Ontario. To obtain this funding, municipalities will be required to commit to reducing their respective residential DCs by 30% to 50% and provide funding for at least 10% of the eligible growth-related project costs.[1] The Program Guidelines document (summarized below) provides further details regarding the program, including eligible projects, the application process, how projects will be assessed, and other relevant items. Note that joint submissions between municipalities may be accepted, subject to the requirements in the Program Guidelines.

Key Requirements

- Municipalities must commit to reducing DCs for all residential development by 30% to 50% to be eligible for funding.
    - It appears that a commitment to reducing DCs is required; a reduction in DCs in advance of receiving funding does not appear to be necessary.
    - It appears no reduction for non-residential development is required.
    - DC reductions must be inclusive of area-specific DCs.

[1] Note that eligible growth-related costs do not include the Benefit to Existing and Post-period Benefit shares of DC projects.

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    - DC reductions must total 30% to 50%, but municipalities can choose to reduce certain service categories more than others.
- Reductions in DCs will be measured against the rates in effect as of March 30, 2026.
    - Note that there was no mention of indexing in relation to estimating the DC relief. Further clarification of this matter may be required in preparation of your applications.
- Municipalities will be required to maintain any rate reductions for a period of at least three years.
- DC reductions would take effect immediately upon entering into the Transfer Payment Agreement and would be retroactive to building permits obtained after March 30, 2026.
    - When preparing amending by-laws to reduce the DC rate, municipalities may need to include wording to provide for the reduced rate to apply retroactively to building permits issued after March 30, 2026. Where DCs have already been paid, refunds may be required, which may add to the administrative burden.
- Municipalities must make a commitment to fund at least 10% of the eligible (growth-related) project costs from non-DC sources. Note that for assessment purposes only, soft costs can be used to estimate the municipal contribution.
    - As the guidelines state “for assessment purposes only,” it is assumed that the municipality would be responsible for 10% of the “eligible costs,” which excludes soft costs.
- Municipalities will be responsible for all cost over-runs and financing costs related to the projects.
- Applicants should request funding amounts that are reflective of the estimated amount of DC relief provided and the municipal contribution for each project.
    - Funding from other provincial and federal programs may be stacked towards the eligible project costs, subject to conditions of previous agreements and that the funding is not from housing-enabling infrastructure programs. These amounts cannot be used towards the municipal contribution.

Application Requirements

- A reasonable estimate of the number of housing units enabled by the proposed project(s).

- An estimate of the number of housing units that will benefit from the reduced DCs and the resulting amount of the reduction provided.
    - This will entail a projection of anticipated housing development for the period of the proposed reduction, for which the DC rates and reduced DC rates can be applied to estimate the overall reduction provided.
    - Note that this may be audited by the Province.
- Identification of the project, or projects (up to five), that would be eligible for the grant.
    - Projects must be included in your most recent DC background study and capital budget/plan.
        - Note that for municipalities without multi-year capital budgets, reference to a master plan or other study that identifies the capital needs may be required. Municipalities may need to seek clarification as part of the application preparation.
    - For municipalities that reduced DCs prior to March 30, 2026, they can choose projects in their capital plan that are not in the DC background study.
    - Smaller projects may be grouped together for the purpose of the application.
    - Where multiple projects are identified, prioritization of the projects with the rationale is required.
    - Multiple applications can be submitted if more than five projects are identified.
    - Projects can be parts of larger projects.
    - Projects must begin construction by July 31, 2030 and be completed by October 31, 2035.
        - Projects cannot be those already under construction, except where they started after March 30, 2026 and where DC rate reductions have been applied in advance.
- Municipalities must commit to complying with the Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada's Buy Canada Policy or the Municipal Buy Ontario Procurement Directive.
- Applications must include a clearly defined scope of work, schedule, and list of dependencies to enable a comprehensive understanding of the project (financial, technical, risk, etc.).
- Applications are required to include a copy of the applicable Official Plan schedules and Zoning By-law maps with anticipated housing clearly delineated.

Eligible Projects and Costs

- Projects that enable housing will be given priority.
    - Projects cannot include life cycle replacement projects, but may include expansions of existing infrastructure that increase capacity, size, scope, or reach to accommodate growth.
- Eligible service categories are:
    - Water, wastewater, stormwater, fixed transportation, and transportation rolling stock – these projects will be given priority.
    - Public Safety and Emergency Services and Community Infrastructure – these projects will be considered.
    - A full list of eligible asset types is provided in the Program Guidelines.
- Municipalities must own the infrastructure and/or confirm they will own the assets upon a specified date.
- Eligible Project Costs include:
    - Land acquisition costs (from the provincial share of the funds only).
    - Hard costs (including costs of construction, labour, materials, and equipment).
    - Environmental Assessment and Duty to Consult costs incurred after February 26, 2026.
    - As stated above, for assessment purposes only, soft costs can be used to estimate the municipal contribution. It is assumed that municipalities will be required to fund their portion of the actual eligible costs.

Ineligible Projects and Costs

- Projects that have started construction prior to a Transfer Payment Agreement being executed.
- Planning and design work as stand-alone projects.
- Projects for rehabilitation and/or repair of existing municipal infrastructure.
- Any share of a project that is identified as Benefit to the Existing Development or Post-period Benefit.
- Ineligible Project Costs include:
    - Soft costs, including those related to design, engineering, legal fees, and permitting and insurance.
    - Costs incurred after October 31, 2035.
    - Costs incurred for cancelled projects.
    - Any overhead costs, salaries, and other employment benefits of any employees of the applicant, any direct or indirect operating or administrative costs, and costs related to planning, engineering, architecture, supervision, management, and other activities normally carried out by the applicant's staff.

        - Note that this appears to imply that chargebacks to capital projects for municipal staff time would likely not be eligible for funding.
    - Sales tax.
    - Any costs eligible for rebates.
    - Costs for operating expenses, including maintenance.
    - Costs related to furnishings and non-fixed assets that are not essential for the operation of the asset.

Timelines and Key Dates

- Applications are due by June 19, 2026.
- Transfer Payment Agreements must be executed by August 15, 2026.

Evaluation of Applications

- Funding will be provided as determined by the Province, with priority given to applications with:
    - Deep DC rate reductions and a large number of housing units that would benefit from the DC relief.
    - Greater proposed rate reductions and/or municipal contribution (e.g., more than 10%).
    - Capital projects that are further in the shovel-ready process.
        - Shovel-readiness indicators include:
            - Completed Environmental Assessment;
            - Land acquisition;
            - Conceptual Engineering;
            - Detailed Engineering;
            - Planning and Design; and
            - Tender/contract award (without commencement of construction).
- Availability of dedicated DC reserve funds towards the project will be considered in determining shovel-readiness of the project.
    - It is assumed that this is in relation to cash-flowing the project while funds are distributed from the Province.

Other Matters for Consideration

- Projects should have a financial plan in place to manage ongoing operating costs.
- Projects should be considered in the next update to the municipality's asset management plan.
- Where the duty to consult Indigenous communities is triggered, the municipality must confirm that consultation has been undertaken.

- Projects must meet or exceed the requirements of the Ontario Building Code.
- Payments will be made to municipalities on a milestone basis as set out in the Program Guidelines.
- There appears to be no funding maximum.
- Municipalities approved for funding will be required to provide reports to the Ministry as set out in the Program Guidelines document.

Concluding Remarks

The intent of this program is to provide grant funding for housing-enabled projects that provide the greatest DC relief. As such, this program is designed such that municipalities will submit applications to compete for a defined pool of funds. Moreover, it incentivizes municipalities to provide DC reductions and municipal contributions beyond the minimum requirements set out in the Program Guidelines.

Given the intent of the program, it appears that a larger share of the funds may be provided to municipalities with higher levels of growth and higher DCs, as the reductions may have a larger impact in these areas.

As the application requirements include a commitment to reduce DCs, it is recommended that municipalities do not reduce DCs in advance of entering into a Transfer Payment Agreement in case grants are not awarded, unless DC reductions are provided for policy matters not related to receiving the grant funding.

The funding received for projects may not offset the revenue foregone from reducing DCs and funding at least 10% of project costs from municipal sources. An analysis should be undertaken to assess the financial benefit of receiving funding before applying or entering into a Transfer Payment Agreement.

If you have any questions regarding the DCRP, the preparation of applications, or the implications of this program for your municipality, we would be pleased to assist you. Feel free to contact any of the undersigned at your convenience.

Yours very truly,

WATSON & ASSOCIATES ECONOMISTS LTD.

Peter Simcisko, BA (Hons), MBE, Managing Partner
Sean-Michael Stephen, MBA, Managing Partner
Daryl Abbs, BA (Hons), MBE, PLE, Managing Partner
Byron Tan, BA (Hons), MBE, PLE, Managing Partner

1200 King Road

Community Facilities Update

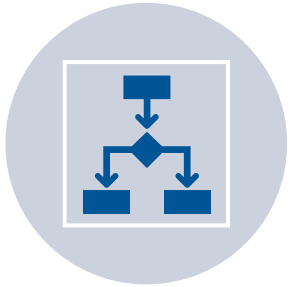
Purpose of Today

Staff are seeking Council direction to:

Endorse an expanded community facilities scope

Authorize a due diligence phase

Enable exploration of funding and partnerships



Return with the necessary analysis for implementation decision (early 2027)

Why this matter

1200 King Road is one of Burlington's last major urban development opportunities

Transit Oriented site (Aldershot GO)

Supports:

- Purposeful Growth (9,200 residential units planned)
- Economic activity (375,000 sq. ft. of commercial, retail, education space)
- Quality Services by meeting recreational service demands
- Preserving nature – 49% of the site will be for natural heritage, parks and open spaces

Proposed Facility Hub

Integrated concept includes:

- 5,000 – 7,000 capacity Arena/Event Centre
- Recreational Ice Facility
- Community Centre (aquatics, basketball)
- Multipurpose/Conference space
- Parking Infrastructure

Contemplated as a single integrated hub, not standalone facilities

Why a Hub Model

Research shows integrated hubs deliver stronger outcomes:

More activity, year-round – Mixed use districts generate economic activity beyond event days

Stronger economic impact – Bundling amenities increases visitation and spending

Better financial performance – Diversified revenue streams (events, hospitality, partnerships)

Hub model **offers continuous value** over intermittent use

Community & Economic Impact

Community benefits

- Potential to address ice, gym and multipurpose space needs
- Expands access in west Burlington
- Supports health, recreation and social connection

Economic benefits

- Construction job creation – 1,000 to 1,800 direct with broader economic impacts increasing total employment generated
- Operational job creation – TBD via due diligence phase
- Destination venue supporting tourism and events
- Catalyst for private investment and development

Financial Consideration

No financial commitment today

Arena estimate - $150M to $200M

Full Hub estimate - $300M

Cumulative funding opportunities exist to offset municipal contribution

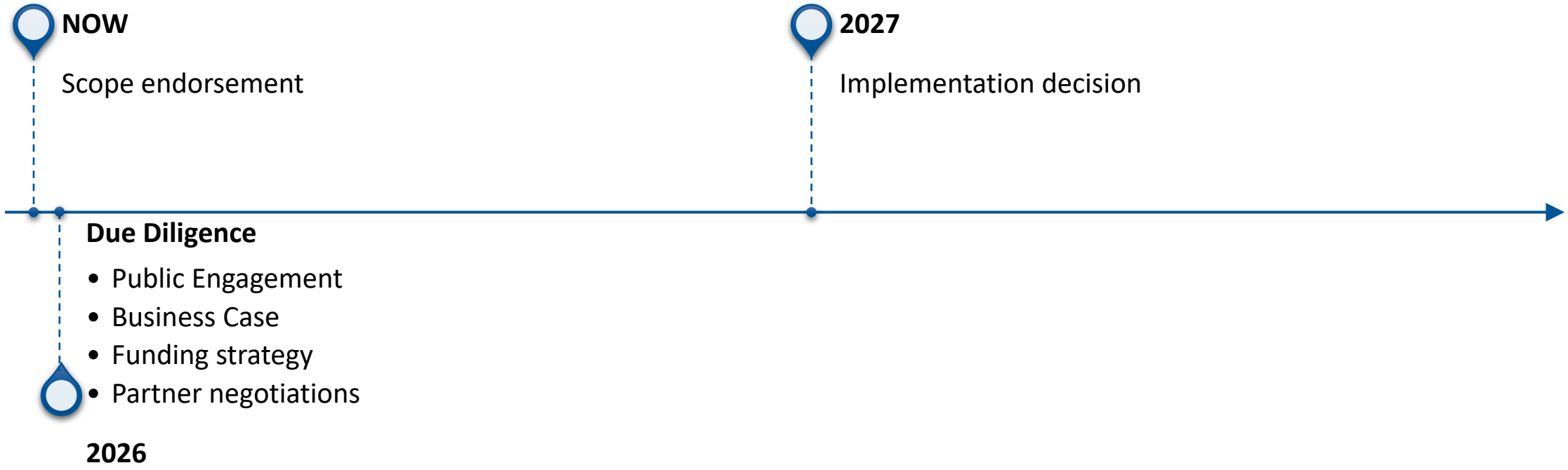
Funding strategy to explore

- Public-private partnerships
- Senior government funding
- Tax Increment Financing (TIF)
- Private Operator Model

Hub model improves funding and partnership viability

Delivery Strategy

Three-Phase approach



Council retains full decision authority before capital commitment

Questions

BURLINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

June 8, 2026

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward and Members of Burlington City Council
City of Burlington
426 Brant Street
Burlington, ON L7R 3Z6

Subject: Burlington Chamber of Commerce Position on 1200 King Road

Dear Mayor Meed Ward and Members of Council,

On behalf of the Burlington Chamber of Commerce and our membership, I am writing to express our position in support of the timely approval of the proposed 1200 King Road project.

This project has been under discussion for several years and has generated significant interest and engagement from the business community, residents, and community stakeholders alike. In September 2024, the Burlington Chamber of Commerce hosted a membership event focused on the vision and potential impact of the project. The level of participation and enthusiasm demonstrated at that event reflected the importance many in our community place on this opportunity.

Burlington is widely recognized as one of Canada's most desirable communities in which to live, work, and raise a family. As our city continues to grow and evolve, we must also ensure we are investing in projects that strengthen our long-term economic competitiveness, cultural vibrancy, and community identity. The 1200 King Road development represents precisely that kind of opportunity.

This proposal has the potential to establish a world-class event and entertainment venue in Burlington — one capable of hosting concerts, conferences, sporting events, community programming, and regional gatherings. Such a facility would not only enhance the cultural and recreational offerings available to residents but would also generate meaningful economic activity across the city.

The benefits to Burlington's business community would be substantial. Increased visitation to the city would create positive impacts for hotels, restaurants, retailers, transportation providers, and many small and medium-sized businesses that rely on tourism and event-driven traffic. The project would also support job creation, attract investment, and contribute to Burlington's broader economic development objectives.

Equally significant is the opportunity for Burlington to become home to an Ontario Hockey League franchise. Securing an OHL team would elevate Burlington's profile provincially and nationally while fostering community pride and creating exciting opportunities for local youth and families. Major junior hockey brings more than sport — it creates economic spin-offs, strengthens community engagement, supports charitable initiatives, and establishes a lasting civic identity tied to entertainment and excellence.

However, opportunities of this scale are highly competitive and time-sensitive. Delays in approval place both the project and the opportunity to attract an OHL franchise at considerable risk. Other municipalities continue to pursue similar investments aggressively, and Burlington must demonstrate that it is prepared to move forward in a timely and decisive manner if we wish to remain competitive.

We recognize and respect the importance of careful planning, community consultation, and responsible decision-making. At the same time, it is important to acknowledge that this proposal has already undergone years of discussion and review. Continued delays may ultimately result in Burlington losing a transformative opportunity that may not present itself again.

The Chamber believes this project aligns strongly with Burlington's long-term goals surrounding economic growth, tourism development, community engagement, and investment in cultural and recreational infrastructure. It represents an opportunity to create a destination that will serve residents, businesses, and visitors for decades to come.

On behalf of the Burlington Chamber of Commerce and our membership, we respectfully encourage Burlington City Council to support the timely approval of the 1200 King Road project. We believe this development has the potential to become a defining investment in Burlington's future and an important catalyst for economic and community growth.

Sincerely,

Terry Caddo
President and CEO
Burlington Chamber of Commerce

June 5, 2026

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward and Members of Council
City of Burlington
426 Brant Street
Burlington, ON

RE: Burlington Economic Development and Tourism (BEDT) Delegation in support of CAO-01-26 Community facilities update and recommendations for 1200 King Road

Dear Mayor Meed Ward and Members of Council,

On behalf of Burlington Economic Development and Tourism, I am writing in support of the recommendations contained within Report CAO-01-26, *1200 King Road Community Facilities Update and Recommendations*.

BEDT has consistently recognized the transformative opportunity presented by the 1200 King Road site and was pleased to bring forward the BEDT-endorsed Economic Vision for 1200 King Road, presented to Council through Report ECDEV-02-24, *1200 King Road Vision Update* in March 2024. Developed collaboratively by Burlington Economic Development and Burlington Lands Partnership, the vision contemplated a transit-oriented complete community anchored by significant community infrastructure, including recreation, culture, entertainment, employment, and destination-serving uses adjacent to Aldershot GO Station.

BEDT is encouraged by the City's proposed next phase of detailed due diligence and supports the continued exploration of event, employment and community facility opportunities at 1200 King Road. The direction outlined in CAO-01-26 builds upon the vision previously presented in ECDEV-02-24 and continues the evaluation of infrastructure investments that could serve both residents, businesses and visitors while advancing broader city-building objectives.

From an economic development and tourism perspective, the proposed consideration of a community event centre, conference and multi-purpose facilities, recreation amenities, cultural space, and supporting infrastructure is particularly significant. Burlington continues to benefit from its strategic location within the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area; however, Burlington currently lacks certain destination-scale facilities required to attract larger sporting events, tournaments, conferences, cultural

programming, entertainment opportunities, and associated visitor spending. Facilities of this nature warrant further evaluation given their potential contribution to economic activity, destination development, community vibrancy, and quality of life.

BEDT's Destination Stewardship Plan presented to council in March 2026 via TRN-02-26 Burlington Economic Development & Tourism – Destination Stewardship Plan identifies event infrastructure, festivals and events, destination development, complete communities, and strategic tourism infrastructure investments as important enablers of Burlington's long-term competitiveness and prosperity. The Plan recognizes that attractive places to visit are also attractive places to live and work, and that investments which enhance Burlington's appeal can create shared benefits for residents, businesses, and visitors alike.

The Destination Stewardship Plan further identifies Burlington's anticipated population growth, the increasing importance of complete communities connected to transit, and the opportunity for sports, entertainment, recreation, and leisure infrastructure to serve a growing regional market. The community facility opportunities being explored through CAO-01-26 align closely with these objectives and support Burlington's long-term vision as a vibrant, livable, and prosperous city.

As Council considers the next phase of this work, BEDT would be pleased to support the City, where appropriate and consistent with BEDT's mandate, by providing market intelligence, visitor economy insights, destination development perspectives, tourism infrastructure expertise, investment attraction support, and input into future business case development and evaluation.

BEDT remains supportive of the long-term vision for 1200 King Road and the continued exploration of community facility opportunities identified in CAO-01-26. We believe this initiative has the potential to deliver meaningful economic, tourism, recreation, cultural, and community benefits for Burlington and look forward to continuing to collaborate with the City and community partners as the project evolves.

Respectfully submitted,

Anita Cassidy
Executive Director,
Burlington Economic Development and Tourism (BEDT)

AQUATIC SPORT COUNCIL ONTARIO
Pools for Ontario's Athletes

June 5, 2026
Committee of the Whole
426 Brant Street,
Burlington, ON L7R 2E9
clerks@burlington.ca

Re: Letter of Support for a Proposed New Regional, Multi-Use Aquatic Sportsplex in Burlington

Dear Committee of the Whole,

On behalf of Aquatic Sport Council, I am writing to express our support for a new regional, multi-use aquatic infrastructure. The City's recent endorsement to update the scope of community facilities at 1200 King Road to include an aquatics facility represents an important opportunity to deliver meaningful recreational, sport, and community infrastructure for Burlington.

A modern aquatic centre anchored by a sport-friendly pool would provide wide-ranging benefits for residents of all ages and abilities. It would support learn-to-swim programs, water safety, rehabilitation and therapy, inclusive recreation, community fitness, and major sport and special events. It would also help relieve pressure on existing community pools and address the well-documented shortage of aquatic infrastructure across Ontario, particularly in underserved regions west of the GTA.

Introducing a 50-metre sport friendly aquatic facility would support competitive swimming, para swimming, warm-up and cool-down capacity, learn-to-swim programming, and regional or provincial competition hosting. It's important to note that sufficient deck space and spectator seating are essential to properly host events and to create a venue that can serve athletes, officials, volunteers, and the public at a high standard.

Burlington is well positioned to benefit from a 50-metre aquatic sport facility. Incorporating aquatic infrastructure into their broader vision would enhance the site's role as a complete community while adding long-term public value through sport tourism, economic activity, and year-round programming.

A facility of this nature would strengthen athlete development pathways, support officials and volunteer development, and improve access to the kind of high-quality aquatic venue Ontario increasingly needs. This is a strategic investment in community well-being, regional competitiveness, and future growth, as neither Halton nor Peel regions have access to a 50-metre aquatic centre.

For these reasons, **Aquatic Sport Council supports the inclusion of a 50-metre sport friendly aquatic facility.**

Sincerely,

Juanita Bueschleb, Communications Manager at Lifesaving Society Ontario

June 5, 2026

Written delegation to City of Burlington Committee of the Whole meeting on June 8, 2026, in regard to:

8.3 Motion memo regarding response to inquiries related to cricket in Central Park (COW-15-26),

- **"**Reporting on options to expand cricket throughout the City."

It is my understanding that a cricket pitch was being considered for City View Park at one time. As such, I'd like to take this opportunity to remind City staff and Council and interested parties that the undeveloped grassland fields at City View Park are very special habitats for birds, particularly Bobolinks (a ground-nesting and ground-foraging grassland species), which are a Species at Risk (Threatened). In addition, other birds are known to use these fields each year, such as Eastern Meadowlarks (Threatened), Savannah Sparrows, and American Woodcocks.

While I would wish to not see any of these important fields developed, I do understand the competing need for increased sports facilities in a growing city. As such, I hope the City of Burlington considers any necessary construction in the context of minimizing the footprint of any sports field, to preserve as much of these grassland habitats as possible, and also remaining in compliance with federal Species at Risk and Migratory Bird Convention Act regulations. These birds' presence have been documented on ebird.org over the years.

The Bobolinks have been observed using the field south of the south parking lot this year, while typically they more often use the field east of the large dirt mound.

With Burlington being a certified Bird Friendly City, I thank you for keeping this information in mind, and I'd be happy to assist with any further information needed.

Dave Tourchin,
Burlington resident, and
Co-chair, Bird Friendly Hamilton Burlington

Bay Area
Climate Change
Council

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Mohawk College, 135 Fennell Avenue West
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June 5, 2026

To: City of Burlington Committee of the Whole

Subject: BACCC COMMENTS REGARDING CLIMATE RESILIENT BURLINGTON PLAN – YEAR 4 PROGRESS UPDATE (PWS-07-26)

The Bay Area Climate Change Council (BACCC) represents a collaborative voice for climate action in the Hamilton-Burlington region. Members of the Council and our implementation teams span the region and represent organizations in the non-profit, education, public and private sectors.

We are writing regarding the **"Climate Resilient Burlington (CRB) Plan - Year 4 Progress Update" (Report PWS-07-26).**

BACCC commends the exceptional work of the City's environmental and sustainability staff. With a small, dedicated team, they have successfully driven cross-departmental collaboration across nine City departments, Burlington Hydro, and Conservation Halton.

As the City prepares to renew the CRB plan for its second five-year cycle, BACCC offers the following observations:

"Continuous Improvement" is the Reality of Climate Action: The Year 4 progress update reveals a critical trend: the number of actions categorized as "Continuous Improvement" has risen from 11 in 2023, to 13 in 2024, and now to **19 in 2025**.

BACCC views this not as a status update, but as a positive mindset shift. Climate resilience is not a single-execution project. These 19 continuous actions represent a permanent commitment to embed a climate lens into all future municipal operations, asset management, infrastructure standards, and long-term policies like *Horizon 2050*.

Proactively Supporting Future Resourcing Needs: While staff have achieved remarkable progress, capacity constraints have stalled key foundational actions. The City-Wide Biodiversity Plan (Action 2-5) and Resilience Hubs (Action 4-3) have not yet started, while Wind Risk Mapping (Action 1-11) remains delayed due to deferred funding.

As Council prepares for the 2027 budget process and the renewal of the CRB plan, BACCC recommends that Council proactively support the resource and staffing cases required to sustain

Bay Area
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this work. Resourcing our climate adaptation and emergency management teams is not an operational expense; it is a vital strategy to ensure Burlington remains safe, functional, and economically resilient.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our support for this initiative.

Sincerely,

Bay Area Climate Change Council

BURLINGTON DOWNTOWN

Friday June 5th, 2026

Attn: Chair, Members of the Committee of the Whole

The Burlington Downtown Business Association has reviewed report # PWS-28-26, a recommendation report outlining a Downtown parking market feasibility analysis.

As a key stakeholder and funder of the Defined Parking Area we have been consistent in our position that future off-street parking supply, east of Brant Street, must be delivered prior to 2030. We view the retention of a qualified consultant to undertake a feasibility study as an important milestone to advance this goal.

The BDBA **supports** the staff recommendations contained in the present report and encourages Committee and Council to adopt the recommendations similarly.

We appreciate that there is limited internal staff capacity to execute this project and concur that the commissioning of an independent consultant is a prudent expense through the Downtown Parking Growth Reserve Fund.

The unequal distribution of public parking assets throughout the Downtown has been a concern for the property and business owners east of Brant Street for some time. Our recent delegations to Committee and Council have reflected the urgency to accelerate the timeline for new parking supply in this corridor. Proximate parking is essential to meet the competitive needs of the small businesses across the lower Brant Street area.

The BDBA has verified this urgent need through its surveying and petitioning of the business community. The Association verifies the section of the report detailing the survey of 50 business members conducted between May 20 and 21st, 2026. The clear conclusion is that employee parking demand east of Brant Street regularly exceeds the municipal parking supply in this area.

Our business membership welcomes the opportunity to provide meaningful input to this project, including commentary on the study's parameters. We have valuable insights that can assist with the refinement of the consulting assignment and study objectives. We maintain that a major focus of the consultant's work must be the evaluation of how municipal parking assets can directly support businesses in the southeast quadrant of the Downtown.

The accelerated timeline for this work reflects the shard belief that the critical shortage of long-term parking supply must be addressed prior to 2030.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Dean, Executive Director
Burlington Downtown Business Association

Recommendation Report Summary

SUBJECT: Statutory Public Meeting and Recommendation Report for Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway

TO: Committee of the Whole

FROM: Development and Growth Management

Community Planning

Report Number: DGM-38-26

Wards Affected: 5

Date to Committee: June 9, 2026

Date to Council: June 23, 2026

Recommendation

Approve the applications, as modified by planning staff, for Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision, submitted by Bousfields Inc. on behalf of Alinea Land Corporation, proposing 254 lots and blocks including parks and open space blocks, employment blocks, natural heritage and stormwater management blocks, and a new public road network as “Phase 1” at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway; and

Approve Official Plan Amendment No. 11 to the City of Burlington Official Plan 2020, as modified by planning staff and provided in Appendix C of development and growth management report DGM-38-26, to amend the designation for the lands located at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway; and

Deem that Official Plan Amendment No.11 is consistent with The Planning Act; and

Instruct the City Clerk to prepare the necessary by-law adopting Official Plan Amendment No. 11 as contained in Appendix C to development and growth management report DGM-38-26 to be presented for approval at the same time as the associated by-law to amend Zoning By-law 2020, as amended, for the development proposal; and

Approve Zoning By-law 2020.520, attached as Appendix D to development and growth management report DGM-38-26, and

Deem that Zoning By-law 2020.520 will conform to all applicable Official Plans of the City of Burlington once Official Plan Amendment No. 11 is adopted; and

State that the amending Zoning By-law will not come into effect until Official Plan Amendment No. 11 is adopted; and

Approve the application for draft subdivision approval of a draft plan of subdivision for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway consisting of 254 lots and blocks, as revised and attached as Appendix E, with Appendix F showing the changes to the draft plan of subdivision submitted with the application in red mark-up, subject to the conditions contained in Appendix G of development and growth management report DGM-38-26, after the associated amending zoning by-law comes into effect.

Executive Summary

Purpose of report:

- The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information concerning the applications for an Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway, proposing to create a total of 254 lots and blocks for residential purposes (Lots 1 - 181 and Blocks 199 – 213), parks and open space blocks, employment blocks, natural heritage and stormwater management blocks, and a new public road network as "Phase 1" of Bronte Creek Meadows which includes the lands identified in the City Initiated Official Plan Amendment 4. Phase 1 will provide approximately 597 new residential units in a mix of single-detached, townhouse and medium-density mixed use residences. Subsequent development applications will be required to be submitted for the balance of the lands located to the east of the lands subject to these development applications.

Key findings:

- The applicant has applied for an Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision to facilitate the development of the proposed Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community. The proposed amendments to the Official Plan and Zoning By-law are found in Appendices C & D of this report.
- Staff are recommending modified approval of the proposed Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision as a result of the technical review and comments received as a result of circulation of the applications, based on the following:
    - The proposed Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendments and Draft Plan of Subdivision, as revised by staff, are consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement (2024);
    - The proposed Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendments and Draft Plan of Subdivision, as revised by staff, conform with the Regional Official Plan

(2009, as amended) and maintain the general intent of the Burlington Official Plan (1997) and Burlington Official Plan (2020);
    - The proposed development maintains the general intent of Zoning By-law 2020;
    - Staff are not supportive of the requested reduction with respect to the size, width and walkway requirements for accessible parking spaces in the proposed development and as such are modifying the application to the required standards for accessible parking spaces.

- Staff is of the opinion that the proposed development, as modified, represents good planning.

RECOMMENDATION:		Modified Approval	***Ward:***	5
Application Details	***APPLICANT:***	Bousfields Inc.		
	OWNERS:	Alinea Land Corporation		
	FILE NUMBERS:	505-02/26, 520-01/26, and 510-01/26		
	TYPE OF APPLICATION:	Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision		
	APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL:	254 lots and blocks to facilitate Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community through the Meadows Neighbourhood District, Mainway District, and a portion of the Burloak Commons District comprising approximately 597 new residential units.		
Property Details	***PROPERTY LOCATION:***	Northwest corner of Mainway and Burloak Drive, bounded by Upper Middle Road to the north and Sheldon Creek to the west		
	MUNICIPAL ADDRESS:	5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway		
	PROPERTY AREA:	123.7 ha (Phase 1: 49.35 ha)		
	EXISTING USE:	Vacant		
Documents	***1997 OFFICIAL PLAN Existing:***	General Employment and Greenlands		

	2020 OFFICIAL PLAN:	General Employment and City's Natural Heritage System
	OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT 4:	Meadows Neighbourhood District, Burloak Commons District, Mainway Institutional District, Natural Heritage System
	ZONING Existing:	General Employment (H-GE2-354, H-GE1-354, and GE11-354) and Open Space (O2 and O3)
	ZONING Proposed:	Residential Bronte Creek (RBC1), Mixed Use Corridor – Commercial (MXC), and Mixed Use Corridor - Employment (MXE)
Processing Details	***APPLICATION SUBMITTED:***	March 13, 2026
	APPLICATION DEEMED COMPLETE:	March 20, 2026
	STATUTORY DEADLINE:	July 11, 2026
	PRE-APPLICATION COMMUNITY MEETING:	October 1, 2025
	STATUTORY PUBLIC MEETING:	June 9, 2026
	PUBLIC COMMENTS:	At the time of writing this report, 6 written public letters were received out of 913 notices.

Recommendation Report

Background

In 2024, the Province made modifications to the Halton Region Official Plan (Regional Official Plan Amendment 49 – ROPA – 49) to convert several employment areas and add new urban areas within the City of Burlington.

City Council expressed support for the removal of the Employment Area overlay for Bronte Creek Meadows (i.e. the subject lands) directly to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing through a letter dated December 7, 2023 on the basis that the following elements be incorporated into these developments:

- economic benefits including future employment targets that increase future property assessment growth;
- social benefits including affordable and attainable housing, public parks and greenspace and community facilities and amenities; and
- environmental benefits including climate mitigation and adaption, natural heritage preservation and enhanced integrated mobility.

Following the Provincial decision to remove the Employment Area overlay from the subject lands, the City worked closely with the landowner's team to development area-specific policies and to support alignment with the submission of subsequent development applications.

Bronte Creek Meadows Area-Specific Planning Project

The Bronte Creek Meadows Area-Specific Planning Project began in April 2024 through the Burlington Official Plan, 2020 Targeted Realignment Exercise and culminated in the approval of Official Plan Amendment No.4 (OPA 4).

OPA 4 pertains to the lands south of Upper Middle Road, west of Burloak Drive, north of Mainway and east of Sheldon Creek. For more background on the Area-Specific Planning project, please refer to PL-81-24 Bronte Creek Meadows Area-Specific Planning Project update and Proposed Policy Directions and DGM-13-25 Bronte Creek Meadows Proposed Official Plan Amendment No.4. For a detailed overview of the project background, please refer to staff report DGM-13-25, Bronte Creek Meadows Proposed Official Plan Amendment (OPA) No.4,

Official Plan Amendment No.4 Statutory Public Meeting

On March 4, 2025, staff presented proposed OPA 4 to a Committee of the Whole Statutory Public Meeting through staff report DGM-13-25 in order to hear comments and questions from members of Council and the public.

The Proposed OPA 4 applies to the subject lands (known as Bronte Creek Meadows) and were drafted to guide the dev elopement of the subject lands in accordance with the broad principles outlined in the aforementioned letter dated December 7, 2023 that was sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the applicable parent policies of the Official Plans.

Following the public release of proposed OPA 4 on February 12, 2025, staff held one virtual and two in-person public open houses in February 2025 to inform the public on the proposed

amendment and gather feedback. Staff continued to accept questions, comments and recommendations from the public and stakeholders until March 18, 2025.

Official Plan Amendment No.4 (OPA 4)

OPA 4 applies to the subject lands known as Bronte Creek Meadows and the sub-area policies are read in conjunction with the policies of Burlington Official Plan, 2020. OPA 4 added a new set of Sub-Area policies and an associated Schedule which implemented a revised vision and area-specific policies for the Bronte Creek Meadow lands to guide future development proposals for the property.

At the Regular Meeting of Council on May 20, 2025 (Agenda), Council voted unanimously to adopt OPA 4 which set out a planning framework and is a guide for future study, to support development and growth within Bronte Creek Meadows.

OPA 4 established a vision for the Bronte Creek Meadows Community as a vibrant mixed-use, transit-supportive, complete community inclusive of social, economic and environmental benefits.

Development Applications

On March 13th, 2026, a complete application for an Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision was received for the subject lands at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway which is referred to as Bronte Creek Meadows. The applicant is proposing an Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision to create 254 lots and blocks for residential purposes (Lots 1 - 181 and Blocks 199 – 213), in addition to parks and open space blocks, employment blocks, natural heritage and stormwater management blocks, and a new public road network as “Phase 1” which includes the lands identified in the City Initiated Official Plan Amendment 4., as shown in Appendix B. Phase 1 will provide approximately 597 new residential units in a mix of single-detached, townhouse and medium-density mixed use residences.

Description of Site

The subject property is generally located at the northwest corner of Mainway and Burloak Drive, bounded by Upper Middle Road to the north and Sheldon Creek to the west. The site is approximately 123.7 hectares in size. Phase 1 focuses on the western portion of the property and is approximately 49.35 hectares in area, as shown on Appendix B. The site is currently vacant.

Surrounding uses are as follows:

- North: The northern property line along Upper Middle is a hydro corridor. Corpus Christi Catholic Secondary School is located on the south side of Upper Middle. North of Upper Middle is the Orchard Neighbourhood which includes low- to medium-density development. There are also commercial uses at the corner of Upper Middle Road and Sutton Drive.
- East: Bronte Creek Provincial Park is on the east side of Burloak Drive and further east is the Town of Oakville.
- South: An employment area with industrial uses is located south of Mainway.
- West: Sheldon Creek is located along the western property line and west of Sheldon Creek is an existing neighbourhood. Further west is Appleby Line.

Appleby GO Station is approximately 2.5 km south of the subject property (straight-line distance) and approximately 5 km travelling south on Burloak and west on Harvester Road.

The closest bus routes (81, 11, and 48) are located along Mainway, Upper Middle, and Sutton Drive.

Analysis

The proposed applications are subject to review in accordance with the Provincial Planning Statement (2024); Region of Halton Official Plan (2009, as amended); City of Burlington Official Plan (1997, as amended); City of Burlington Official Plan (2020, as amended); and City of Burlington Zoning By-law 2020, as summarized below and in greater detail within Appendix H – Detailed Policy Analysis.

Planning Staff are of the opinion that the proposed applications are consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement (2024) conforms with the Region of Halton Official Plan (2009, as amended), and the City of Burlington Official Plans (1997 as amended & 2020 as amended).

Phase 1 Tertiary Plan

Through OPA4, a Tertiary Plan was required for each District to establish how development will further articulate and demonstrate to the satisfaction of the City the achievement of the objectives and policies, guidelines, and any other direction required in order to support development and growth at a level of detail that may not be appropriate at the policy level.

A Tertiary Plan is a non-statutory document considered by Council in advance of or at the time of a development application. As per Section 8.8.2 (12.2.1) e), the Tertiary Plan is required to be approved by staff and subsequently considered by Council. A Tertiary Plan was submitted to the City prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026 for the Phase 1 lands which encompass the Meadows Neighbourhood District, the Mainway Institutional District, and a small portion of the Burloak Commons District designated for a stormwater management pond. As stated in the submitted Tertiary Plan, the urban design goals and directions of the broader Burloak Commons District are not addressed in this Plan and will be reviewed in detail through the Phase 2 development process and associated Tertiary Plan.

City Planning staff have reviewed the Tertiary Plan prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026. Any outstanding concerns regarding the Tertiary Plan are recommended to be addressed through the recommended Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions. Therefore, staff are comfortable with the plan as submitted; however, revisions are anticipated to be required through the submission of additional materials and detailed engineering submissions required to satisfy the recommended Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions in Appendix G.

City Planning staff have also reviewed the Tertiary Plan prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026 against the policies in OPA 4 Section 8.8.2 (12.2.1) f). As noted in Appendix C – Official Plan Amendment, City Planning staff are recommending an additional amendment to the Official Plan to address the 16 metre right-of-way proposed as a “window street” adjacent to the utility corridor. However, the Tertiary Plan shows a trail adjacent to the “window street” through Figure C: Meadows Neighbourhood District Active Transportation Plan. Therefore, staff are satisfied that the “window street” can provide pedestrian connections in accordance with the intent of the Official Plan requirements. However, other parts of Section 8.8.2 (12.2.1) are not adequately addressed through the Tertiary Plan and have been addressed through the recommended Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions.

Official Plan Amendment

Official Plan Amendment 4 (OPA 4) was approved and enacted May 20, 2025. OPA 4 addresses Regional Official Plan Amendment 49 (ROPA49) which was brought into full force and effect on November 4, 2022 by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. ROPA49 removed certain lands from the Regional Employment Area, including the subject lands. Subsequently, the City completed an Area-Specific Planning process for the subject lands, which resulted in OPA 4 which created three new designated areas within the Bronte Creek Meadows Community which are Meadows Neighbourhood District, Burloak Commons District, and Mainway Institutional District.

The policies of OPA 4 establish a vision for the Bronte Creek Meadows Community. The Bronte Creek Meadows Community is planned to accommodate growth to 2051 and beyond, including approximately 16,000 new residents in approximately 9,000 new units and provide approximately 3,600 new jobs.

The applicant has applied to amend Subsection 8.8.2 (3) b)) to read: *Bronte Creek Meadows community is envisioned to accommodate growth to 2051 and beyond, including by providing 3,600 new jobs, and meeting the Regional Official Plan density target of 76 people and jobs combined per hectare.* City Planning staff are recommending removing this proposed amendment as this would significantly reduce the number of residents. Additionally, the applicant's Land Use and Built Form Strategy prepared by NAK dated February 2026 shows the proposed phasing of the development across four stages. Figure 5.0: Bronte Creek Meadows phasing plan shows that the 9,000 units is proposed to be achieved through the overall build out of the lands. The Official Plan policies note that if a phase of development is expected to reduce the overall expectations for population and employment then the applicant should provide an overview of how development phases will achieve approximate population and jobs as required in OPA 4. Specifically, Section 8.8.2 (12) a) of OPA 4 notes that "Development applications that propose reductions to the overall expectations for the number of residents, units or employees in accordance with 8.8.2 (3) b) and c), may only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that:

- the reduction in overall expectation is minor;
- the reduction continues to deliver requirements identified through study, tertiary plan or other requirements; and,
- the reduction continues to achieve the vision, objectives and policies of the District."

The purpose of this policy is to lessen the need for an official plan amendment is to provide flexibility where minor changes are required to the approximate number of residents, units and jobs and to facilitate incremental decision-making overtime while not compromising the overall vision of OPA 4.

For the current development applications for Phase 1, City Planning staff are recommending the removal of the requested change to the Area Specific policies to continue to support the OPA 4 direction for 16,000 residents and 9,000 jobs.

OPA 4 also includes Subsection 8.8.2 (12.3) a) and b) which requires that a Sub-watershed Study, a Master Environmental Servicing Plan, a Land Use and Built Form Strategy, and an Area Servicing Plan be completed prior to the submission of an application for Plan of Subdivision or that these studies be substantially completed to the satisfaction of the City in consultation with

Conservation Halton, Halton Region, and partner agencies prior to the submission of an application. The applicant has submitted these studies concurrently with their development applications and has requested to amend to this section of OPA 4. The proposed new wording, if approved, would be added to Subsection 8.8.2 (12.3):

Notwithstanding 8.8.2 (12.3) applications for Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision may be submitted to the City for the Meadows Neighbourhood District and Mainway Institutional District.

City Planning staff are recommending that the applicants proposed change be implemented with slight language changes to specifically identify that the Sub-watershed Study, a Master Environmental Servicing Plan, a Land Use and Built Form Strategy, and an Area Servicing Plan be completed prior to the submission of an application for a Draft Plan of Subdivision or that these studies be substantially completed to the satisfaction of the City in consultation with Conservation Halton, Halton Region, and partner agencies prior to the submission of an application of any future phases.

City Planning staff have also recommended three additional amendments to OPA 4 to address the crossing over Sheldon Creek to facilitate the extension of Corporate Drive to Burloak Drive, to permit a “window street” at 16 metres, and to permit a public laneway at a minimum width of 9 m. These changes will be discussed in later sections of this report.

Natural Features and Natural Hazards

Phase 1 of the subject property includes Sheldon Creek located to the west of the subject lands and a City owned woodlot located central to the Phase 1 lands.

The subsequent phases will address the other natural features located on the property which are the Sheldon Creek East Branch and Bronte Creek tributary, as well as the woodlot adjacent to Mainway.

The applicant has submitted a Subwatershed Study prepared by MTE Consultants dated February 2026. This study reviews the entirety of the lands and is satisfactory for Phase 1 of the development. However, staff are recommending an amendment to OPA 4 to require the subwatershed study to be completed or substantially completed prior to the submission of an application for development of the lands in the Burloak Commons District (excluding the portion for the stormwater management pond).

In Appendix F, a redlined Draft Plan of Subdivision is provided showing the changes that have been implemented in Appendix E which is the blacklined Draft Plan of Subdivision. Sheldon Creek, located on the western boundary of the property, was altered due to comments from Conservation Halton. Although Sheldon Creek is a natural heritage feature, it is subject to natural hazard policies of the Provincial Planning Statement as it contains steep slopes and floodplain. Conservation Halton staff have reviewed the proposal including all lots and blocks and have concluded that through the changes in the redline plan all development is located outside of the natural hazards which include the minimum 6 metres from the greater of the flood plain, meander belt, and stable top of bank. This is consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement. Conservation Halton has also provided comment on the entirety of the property and have noted that the existing and proposed natural hazard limits for Sheldon Creek East Branch and Bronte Creek tributary are not yet confirmed and will be determined through future updates to the Subwatershed Study prepared by MTE Consultants dated February 2026. For Phase 1 of the development, Conservation Halton has provided conditions that are contained within Appendix G – Draft Plan of Subdivision Conditions.

The City owned woodlot located central to the Phase 1 lands have also been reviewed and the proposed 10 metre buffer to the south of the woodlot is considered to be inadequate to prevent encroachments as per LGL Limited comments. Staff are recommending that the buffer to the south of the woodlot be reviewed through further study as a Draft Plan of Subdivision condition as shown in Appendix G. As a condition of draft plan approval, the applicant will be required to obtain approval for revised technical studies to determine the appropriate buffer width along the southern edge of the woodlot. The Draft Plan of Subdivision will have to be revised to reflect the final approved buffer width.

The Zoning By-law Amendment recommended for approval by staff as Appendix D of this report establishes a 20-metre buffer from the natural heritage system in this location. Staff are of the opinion that this is an appropriate buffer to establish in zoning based on the currently available information. If the final approved technical studies identify a different buffer width, the zoning map can be amended through a housekeeping amendment to match the approved buffer width.

Overall, staff are of the opinion that the applications, as modified, represent good planning in regard to protection of natural heritage features and avoidance of any existing natural hazards.

Land Use Compatibility

The surrounding area of the subject site includes residential, institutional (school), and commercial uses to the east and north of the subject property. Bronte Creek Provincial Park is

located to the east of the subject property, and industrial uses to the south of the subject property. Phase 1 of the proposal includes the Meadows Neighbourhood District and Mainway Institutional District. There is also a portion of the Burloak Commons District; however, the only development proposed in that district currently is a stormwater management pond. The Meadows Neighbourhood District is primarily low to medium density development consisting of detached dwellings, semi-detached dwellings, and townhouses. These are considered sensitive uses and will not have any adverse impacts on the surrounding uses to the west, north and east. However, Pinchin was retained by City staff as the land use compatibility peer reviewer to address any concerns with the introduction of new sensitive uses in the southerly portions of the subject ands. Pinchin has reviewed the submitted materials from the applicant related to land use compatibility and are satisfied with the revised version of the 2026 RWDI Land Use Compatibility Study. Therefore, no negative impacts are anticipated to/from the existing industrial uses to the south of Mainway through the introduction of sensitive uses in the Meadows Neighbourhood District.

The Mainway Institutional District is envisioned to be a focus for employment, institutional, and healthcare uses to support the creation of jobs, with shops and services for employees and visitors as per OPA 4 Section 8.8.2 (5.3). Although this District is anticipated to accommodate the majority of the 3,600 jobs in the Bronte Creek Meadows community, this is anticipated through healthcare uses rather than traditional heavy industrial uses. As part of the peer review assignment, Pinchin reviewed the proposal and based on staff's review and the results of the peer review, staff are satisfied that this will not result in any land use compatibility concerns.

Overall, City Planning staff are of the opinion that the applications, as modified by staff, represent good planning in regard to land use compatibility.

Transportation

Phase 1 includes 254 lots and blocks consisting of 389 freehold units through a mix of single detached dwellings, semi-detached dwellings, and townhouses (Lota 1 – 181 and Blocks 182 - 213).

The Mainway Institutional District is identified as a block at this time and will be subject to future planning to create lots; however, the vision provided by the applicant is included in the Land Use and Built Form Strategy prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026 providing an idea of how those lands will be developed. The Land Use and Built Form Strategy prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026 is subject to further revision as any development in the Burloak Commons District (excluding the stormwater management pond) will require the Land Use and Built Form Strategy to be completed or substantially completed.

Through Phase 1 of the development, the new units will be connected to existing neighbourhoods primarily through the Neighbourhood Connector street which is a continuation of Sutton Drive. Sutton Drive runs north to south from Upper Middle Road to Mainway through the property connecting to Primary Local Streets and bisecting another Neighbourhood Connector which is the extension of Corporate Drive. The Corporate Drive crossing of Sheldon Creek to the existing residential neighbourhood to the west is required through a later phase when higher density development is proposed through the Burloak Commons District. It was recommended that the connection over Sheldon Creek be completed during the higher density development phases as this will be needed for fire access, potential future transit routes and to provide east-west connectivity from within the neighbourhood.

City Transportation Planning staff have reviewed the proposal in regard to traffic volume and congestion. It is recommended that a revised Transportation Impact Study be submitted to address traffic counts and that a Transportation Demand Management and Implementation Strategy be submitted. It is recommended that preliminary/functional designs of traffic control options be advanced by the applicant which has been addressed through the recommended Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions.

Although increased traffic is anticipated through the development of Bronte Creek Meadows lands, it is anticipated that the arterial roads abutting the subject lands, subject to the implementation of the recommendations in the revised documents noted above can appropriately address traffic volumes and congestion.

A “window street” is also proposed along the north of the property along the hydro corridor and easement. This street is proposed to be 16 metres in width which does not align with OPA 4 Section 8.8.2 (6.6) f) which states that new public local streets shall have a minimum right-of-way width of 18 metres. City Planning staff have reviewed the street network provided and have identified that this street being a “window street” has a different character than the Neighbourhood Connector and Local Streets. The “window street” being 16 metres is not anticipated to have any negative impacts to the functionality of the road provided that a trail or sidewalk is provided which has been shown in the Tertiary Plan and Land Use and Built Form Strategy both prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026.

Overall, City Planning staff are of the opinion that the applications, as modified, represent good planning in regard to transportation.

Zoning

The property is currently zoned General Employment (H-GE2-354, H-GE1-354, and GE1-354) and Open Space (O2 and O3). Both the General Employment zone and Open Space zone prohibit residential use and were put in place prior to ROPA 49 and OPA 4. Through Regional Official Plan Amendment 49, the lands known as Bronte Creek Meadows had the Employment Area overlay removed and are no longer intended to be used solely for employment purposes.

Through City Official Plan Amendment 4, the lands were designated Meadows Neighbourhood District, Burloak Commons District, and Mainway Institutional District. This allowed permissions for residential use and projected that Bronte Creek Meadows is planned to accommodate 16,000 new residents in 9,000 units and 3,600 new jobs. The applicant has proposed new zones in Phase 1 which encompasses the Meadows Neighbourhood and Mainway Institutional District. City Planning Staff are recommending modified approval to better align the proposed zoning with Official Plan Amendment 4. Therefore, City Planning staff are recommending the new zones be the Residential Bronte Creek (RBC1 and RBC2), Mixed Use Corridor General (MXG), and Mixed-Use Corridor Employment (MXE). The RBC1 and RBC2 zones will encompass the single detached dwellings, semi-detached dwellings and townhouses. The MXG zone will be located on the southwest corner of the Sutton Drive and Upper Middle intersection to permit a mixed-use building. The MXE zone will be located in the Mainway Institutional District and implement healthcare and employment uses. More detail about the permitted uses and other provisions of the proposed zoning can be found in Appendix D.

Draft Plan of Subdivision

The applicant has applied for approval of a Draft Plan of Subdivision for 254 lots and blocks including parks and open space blocks, employment blocks, natural heritage and stormwater management blocks, and a new public road network as “Phase 1”. The Draft Plan of Subdivision was circulated for public and technical review. Through this review process technical concerns were identified, and the Draft Plan of Subdivision was revised by the applicant to demonstrate how the concerns can be addressed. Attached in the appendices of this report are Appendix F which shows the originally submitted plan with redlined markups indicating where the revisions have been made. There is also Appendix E, which is the blacklined plan that incorporates those redlined changes into a clean document for ease of reference. These include but are not limited to addressing concerns regarding natural hazards, natural heritage, and laneway width. Further revisions to the Draft Plan of Subdivision are anticipated through the recommended Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions in Appendix G.

Technical Review

Canada Post - the completed project will be serviced by centralized mail delivery provided through Canada Post Community Mail Boxes.

It is requested that the following clause be included as a pre-approval condition in the Site Plan Approval Agreement:

- The **Developer** covenants and agrees to provide the City of Burlington with evidence that satisfactory arrangements, have been made with Canada Post Corporation for the installation of Community Mail Boxes (CMB) as required by Canada Post Corporation and as shown on the approved Site Plan, at the time of sidewalk and/or curb installation. The **Developer** further agrees to provide notice to prospective tenants/purchasers of the locations of the CMBs and that mail service will be via CMBs.

Conservation Halton – Based on the review of the *Redline Draft Plan of Proposed Subdivision*, prepared by Bousfields Inc, dated May 21, 2026, and the corresponding natural hazards overlay, the proposed Phase 1 development limit including all lots and blocks, is now outside of natural hazards (i.e. A minimum of 6m from the greater of the flood plain, meander belt, or stable top of bank). Conservation Halton staff recommends the proposed zoning by-law amendment schedules be updated accordingly based on the *Redline Draft Plan of Proposed Subdivision* such that natural hazards (including the 6m erosion access allowance), wetlands, and lands within 30m of wetlands SCW-1 and SCW-2 and 15m of wetland SCW-3 are zoned appropriately (e.g. Open Space).

Development Engineering – A revised Draft Plan of Subdivision, Functional Servicing and Stormwater Management Report, Noise Impact and Feasibility Study, and Preliminary Engineering Drawings is required to address stormwater and other matters.

Enbridge - Enbridge Development Requirements have been provided to the applicant as the proposed subject site intersects 2 Enbridge pipelines along its northern boundary.

Finance - Taxes must be paid on parcels associated with this file. This includes all outstanding balances plus current year taxes that have been billed but not yet due.

Fire - From an emergency services perspective, it is paramount to ensure that Corporate Drive is extended, the bridge/crossing is in place, and the connection is made with Street A during this phase of the proposed development. If only “one way in” and “one way out” is provided via Upper Middle Road to the development this may have a negative impact on emergency response times and may inhibit our ability to efficiently and effectively mitigate fire emergencies. *It is noted that

two separate roadway connections are proposed for Upper Middle Road, however, they are in very close proximity.

In the event that Corporate Drive / Street A connection is not made prior to the start of the development, it is our strong recommendation that construction be limited to low density only such as detached single detached homes.

Halton Catholic District School Board - In terms of school accommodation, if the development were to proceed today, elementary students generated from this proposal would be accommodated at St. Elizabeth Seton CES located at 5070 Dryden Avenue. Secondary school students would be directed to Corpus Christi CSS located at 5150 Upper Middle Road.

Halton District School Board - The Halton DSB confirms a school site is required in Phase 2 (Burloak Common District). HDSB will provide comments on site suitability in a formal Phase 2 submission.

Heritage - Heritage Planning staff have reviewed the submission materials provided by the applicant and require that additional Stage 3 archaeological assessments be completed and provided to Heritage Planning staff for review, as per the recommendations of the Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment Report dated 7 August 2025, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc.

Hydro One - The comments provided do not constitute an endorsement of any element of the subdivision design or road layout, nor do they grant any permission to access, use, proceed with works on, or in any way alter the transmission corridor lands, without the express written permission of HONI.

Burlington Hydro – no comment at this time.

Imperial Infrastructure - There is no active Imperial infrastructure in the vicinity of this location.

Ministry of Transportation – A revised Transportation Impact Study is required to address MTO Traffic Impact Study Guidelines.

Landscape, Parks and Urban Forestry – Landscape, Parks and Urban Forestry currently do not object to the proposal for the Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-Law Amendment and Plan

of Subdivision application given that the noted revisions and additional requested information will be addressed and/or provided at the detailed design stage.'

Halton Region Police Service- no concerns with this proposal as it doesn't interfere with our line-of-sight radio system

Halton Region - In accordance with the MOU and to support Regional and local objectives related to growth management, to ensure water and wastewater services are provided in accordance with Regional requirements, to support an effective Regional transportation network, and to ensure that Regional waste collection services can be provided in a safe and cost-effective manner, Halton Region requests the City of Burlington include conditions of Schedule "A" in the City's conditions of Draft Plan Approval.

Based upon the comments provided, Regional staff offer no objection to the Plan of Subdivision and Zoning By-law Amendment applications, subject to the Conditions of Draft Plan Approval and the inclusion of a Holding Provision for Block 237 for the medium density development.

Rogers - Rogers Communications Canada Inc. ("Rogers") has reviewed the application for the above Subdivision and has determined that it intends to offer its communications services to residents of the Subdivision. Accordingly, we request that municipal approval for the Subdivision be granted subject to conditions provided.

Burlington Sustainable Development Committee - At this site, the Sustainable Development Committee (SDC) would like to see more parking spaces per unit, more EV charging stations, and support the development of greenspace for residents filled with native and pollinator-friendly trees and plants. SDC supports the current proposal.

Stormwater Engineering – No comments.

Transportation – Supportive of the Official Plan Amendment and recommended a holding provision for the Zoning By-law Amendment.

Peer Review Consultants

Pinchin (Peer Review – Land Use Compatibility) - Pinchin is satisfied that the revised version of the 2026 RWDI Land Use Compatibility Study addresses the deficiencies noted; however, minor clarifications and recommendations are present that need to be addressed.

LGL (Peer Review – Environmental) - The peer review team has no concerns with the Environmental Conditions Report amendments and additions. The team, however, continues to have commentary that is outstanding on the Sub Watershed Study and the Environmental Impact Assessment (and some of the supporting materials).

Indigenous Communities

The City of Burlington consulted with Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Through the consultation processes the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nations provided questions that were answered by City staff and the applicant. Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council provided fulsome comments and a portion outlining their position on the proposal has been provided below. Full comments have been attached in Appendix J.

Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council – Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council (SNGREC) believes that the proponents have done their best to avoid doing anything beyond the minimum with regards to the environment. No actions have been taken to minimize impacts to SNGR's Aboriginal and Treaty Rights or to the environment. The proponents have followed the minimum requirements (i.e. enhancement areas) and reduced buffers at every opportunity. The increases to wetland buffers that were accepted did not accomplish anything as those wetlands are at least 30m 2 within the combined enhancement area and woodlot. The wetland that is most likely to be impacted, SCW3, is the only wetland that did not receive any buffer increase. Increasing the other buffers is disingenuous and appears as an attempt to placate and distract while accomplishing nothing. Applying a 30m buffer would cost the proponents very little but would improve the situation for SCW3. The suggested buffers are called "Refined Science Based Buffers" but no scientific evidence or justification is provided besides Colucent Environmental's own opinions that any science or regulations pointing to greater buffers is bad without evidence that smaller buffers are sufficient.

SNGREC requests that SCW3 receives a vegetated buffer of at least 30-41m. 30m is a middle ground between SNGREC's 41m requirement and the desires of Colucent Environmental and the proponent. Additionally, SNGREC chose not to stress compensation or protection for the wetland removals in favor of enhancing SCW3,even with the wetland removals being hidden in the documentation and insufficiently discussed.

The proponents have not proposed any measures that exceed the standard and thus have no excuse to reduce wetland buffers below the standard.

Recommendation Details

- The proposed amendment is consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement (2024);
- The proposed amendment conforms with the Regional Official Plan (1995, as amended);
- The proposed amendment maintains the general intent of the Burlington Official Plan (2020, as amended) and the applicable policies in Burlington Official Plan (1997, as amended);
- The proposed amendment maintains the general intent of Zoning By-law 2020.

Key Dates & Milestones

- Pre-Application Community Meeting: October 1, 2025
- Technical Circulation: March 3, 2026
- Public Circulation: March 9, 2026
- Notice of Statutory Public Meeting and Recommendation Report: May 6, 2026
- Statutory Public Meeting: June 9, 2026
- Council Meeting: June 23, 2026

Implications

Financial

All application fees have been received in accordance with the Development Application Fee Schedule.

Climate

In February 2020, City Council approved the City of Burlington Climate Action Plan to support the City's path towards a low-carbon future, focusing on mitigating greenhouse gases and reducing energy consumption. The Plan identifies seven implementation programs, including, programs to enhance energy performance for new and existing buildings; increase transit and active transportation mode shares; encourage the adoption of electric mobility and equipment through personal and commercial vehicles and other currently gas-powered equipment; and support waste reduction and diversion.

The Sustainable Building and Development Guidelines (2018) which provide an overview of the required and encouraged sustainable design measures for new development across the City. The applicant submitted the Sustainable Building and Development Guidelines Checklist prepared by Bousefields dated February 4, 2026. Burlington Sustainable Development Committee also reviewed the proposal and noted support.

Engagement Matters

Notice signs were posted on the subject lands on April 2, 2026. A public notice of the Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Plan of Subdivision were mailed to 895 addresses, which includes all property owners within 120 metres of the subject lands.

A webpage was created on the City of Burlington website, accessible at www.burlington.ca/brontecreekmeadows. This webpage provides information about the proposed amendments including dates of public meetings, links to supporting studies, and contact information for the Community Planning Department.

As of the writing of this report, 6 written public letters have been received by staff with respect to the subject applications. The public comments received to date have been included under Appendix I – Public Comments. The letters received include the following themes:

Comment Theme	**Staff Response**
Traffic/Congestion	City Transportation Planning staff have reviewed the proposal in regards to traffic volume and congestion. It is recommended that a revised Transportation Impact study be submitted to address traffic counts and that a Transportation Demand Management and Implementation Strategy be submitted. It is recommended that preliminary/functional designs of traffic control options be advanced by applicant which has been addressed through Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions. Although increased traffic is anticipated through the development of Bronte Creek Meadows lands, it is anticipated that the revised documents provided above will address traffic volumes and congestion.

Noise Pollution/Construction	The City obtained a peer review from Pinchin dated March 27, 2026 that reviewed the applicants submitted Environmental Noise Feasibility Study Bronte Creek Meadows – Phase 1, 5164, 5366 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway, Burlington, Ontario prepared by Valcoustics Canada Ltd. Dated February 23, 2026. The peer review by Pinchin concluded that they are satisfied by the submitted documents provided minor clarifications and recommendations be addressed.
Safety/Emergency Services	The City's Fire staff provided comments stating that the Corporate Drive extension is essential to ensure there are not negative impacts on emergency response time. City Fire staff have stated that if this connection is not completed prior to the start of development that construction be limited to low density only such as detached single-family homes. City Planning staff are recommending that the Corporate Drive extension be required prior to Phase 2 development. Further, City Transportation staff have reviewed the proposal and have recommended revisions to address any outstanding concerns. City Planning staff are confident that any concerns can be addressed through draft plan conditions for the Plan of Subdivision. The Region of Halton's Transportation review also had no objection provided the concerns can be addressed through draft plan conditions for the Plan of Subdivision.
Indigenous Relations	The City consulted with First Nations partners prior to approving OPA 4, and continues to consult with First Nations partners in the review of the phase one development applications. Input from these First Nations partners has informed City staff's review of the development applications and will be considered by City

	Council before they make any decisions on the applications.
Environment (ex. Creek and trees)	The City obtained LGL Limited to provide peer review comments dated March 31, 2026. The peer review team has no concerns with the Environmental Condition Report amendments and additions. However, it has been identified that the Subwatershed Study and Environmental Impact Assessment will require refinements. City Planning staff have reviewed the comments from LGL Limited and have discussed these comments with the applicant. Through these discussions, an increased buffer has been applied to the south end of the City owned woodlot. Other comments are anticipated to be addressed through detailed design. Later phases in this process will address the creek crossing and the alignment of the tributaries.
Affordability	Through OPA 4, Section 8.8.2 (3) c) states that “The Bronte Creek Meadows Community shall plan to accommodate a minimum of approximately 400 new affordable units”. Additionally, Section 8.8.2 (3) l) states that “Development of ground-oriented dwellings shall require a minimum of 20% of new units to contain an additional residential unit and/or be built to accommodate a future additional residential unit, including side or rear secondary entrance/exit and other requirements. Therefore, there are considerations for additional residential units and affordable housing to provide a mix of housing options aligning with the Provincial Planning Statement (2024).

Infrastructure/Servicing	The applicant submitted a Preliminary Functional Servicing Report, the Bronte Creek Meadows Area Servicing Plan, and the Bronte Creek Meadows Master Environmental Servicing Plan all prepared by MTE Consultants Inc, dated February 20, 2026. The Region of Halton has reviewed these documents in regards to servicing requirements and have offered no objections provided the conditions of Draft Plan approval be addressed.
Environmental Impact Study	The applicant submitted technical studies in support of their phase one development application, which assessed the impacts of the proposed development on air quality, stormwater management, flooding and erosion hazards, subwatershed impacts, noise levels, and engineering matters, among other matters.
Heritage Trees and Endangered Species	Technical studies submitted by the applicant and reviewed by the City include assessments of environmental impacts, including impacts to woodlands, wetlands, watercourses, ecosystems, significant wildlife habitat, and species-at-risk habitat. Staff's recommendation to City Council include recommended provisions to ensure the conservation of our natural heritage system, for example by requiring appropriate buffer spaces between new development and sensitive environmental features.
Crime	It is standard for the Planning Department to circulate development applications to Halton Police for review and comment. Halton Police did not identify concerns about crime rates increasing due to the proposed Bronte Creek Meadows development.
Coyotes, fox and other wildlife migration paths	The City's review of the environmental studies for the development applications has included attention to impacts on wildlife movement corridors. If City Council approves

	the phase one applications, then the City will continue to assess impacts as the project moves through detailed design work, to ensure that wildlife movement corridors can be protected. It is also the City's policy to look for any opportunities to improve existing conditions for wildlife, for example by requiring the developer to create new or improved "linkages" between patches of woodland that are currently separated by farm fields.

Strategic Alignment

☑ Designing and delivering complete communities

☐ Providing the best services and experiences

☑ Protecting and improving the natural environment and taking action on climate change

☐ Driving organizational performance

Author:

Jamie Tellier, MCIP, RPP
Director of Community Planning
905-335-7600 ext 7892

Appendices:

A. Existing Zoning
B. Concept Plan
C. Official Plan Amendment
D. Zoning By-law Amendment
E. Draft Plan of Subdivision – Blackline
F. Draft Plan of Subdivision – Redline
G. Draft Plan of Subdivision Conditions
H. Detailed Policy Analysis (available in the Addendum)
I. Public Comments
J. Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council Comments

Draft By-laws for Approval at Council:

- 2020.520 and OPA 11 by-laws going to June 23, 2026 Council meeting (subject to subsequent appeal period prior to coming into force and effect).

Notifications:

Dave Pitblado, Director of Real Estate Development
The Alinea Group

Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and approved by the Commissioner, Head of Corporate Affairs, Chief Financial Officer, and Commissioner of Legal and Legislative Services/City Solicitor.

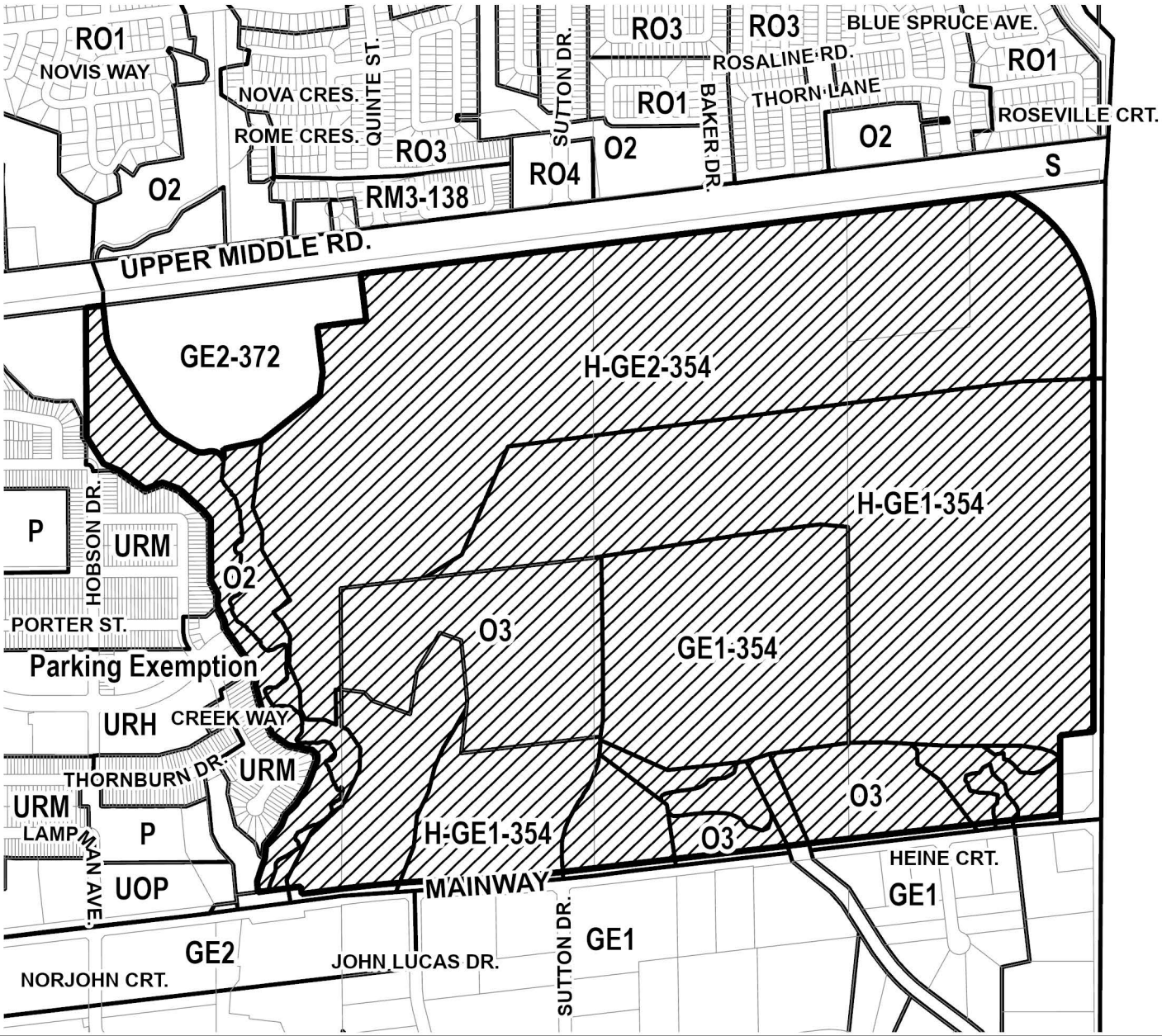
Sketch No. 3

EXISTING ZONING

The applicant is proposing to amend the Official Plan, Zoning By-law, and apply for a Draft Plan of Subdivision for the lands located at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway to create 254 lots and blocks including parks and open space blocks, employment blocks, natural heritage and stormwater management blocks, and a new public road network as “Phase 1” of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community. Phase 1 will provide approximately 597 new residential units in a mix of single-detached, townhouse and medium-density mixed use residences.

SUBJECT PROPERTY

File Nos. 505-02/26, 520-02/26, 510-01/26



GENERAL ZONING LEGEND

Low Density	Medium Density	High Density	Mixed Use	Commercial	Employment	Other
RO1 RO2 RO3 RO4	URM	URH	MXE	BC1	GE1 GE2	O2 O3 P S UOP

Date: February 27, 2026
Community Planning Department

TERANET CITY OF Burlington

Sketch No. 1

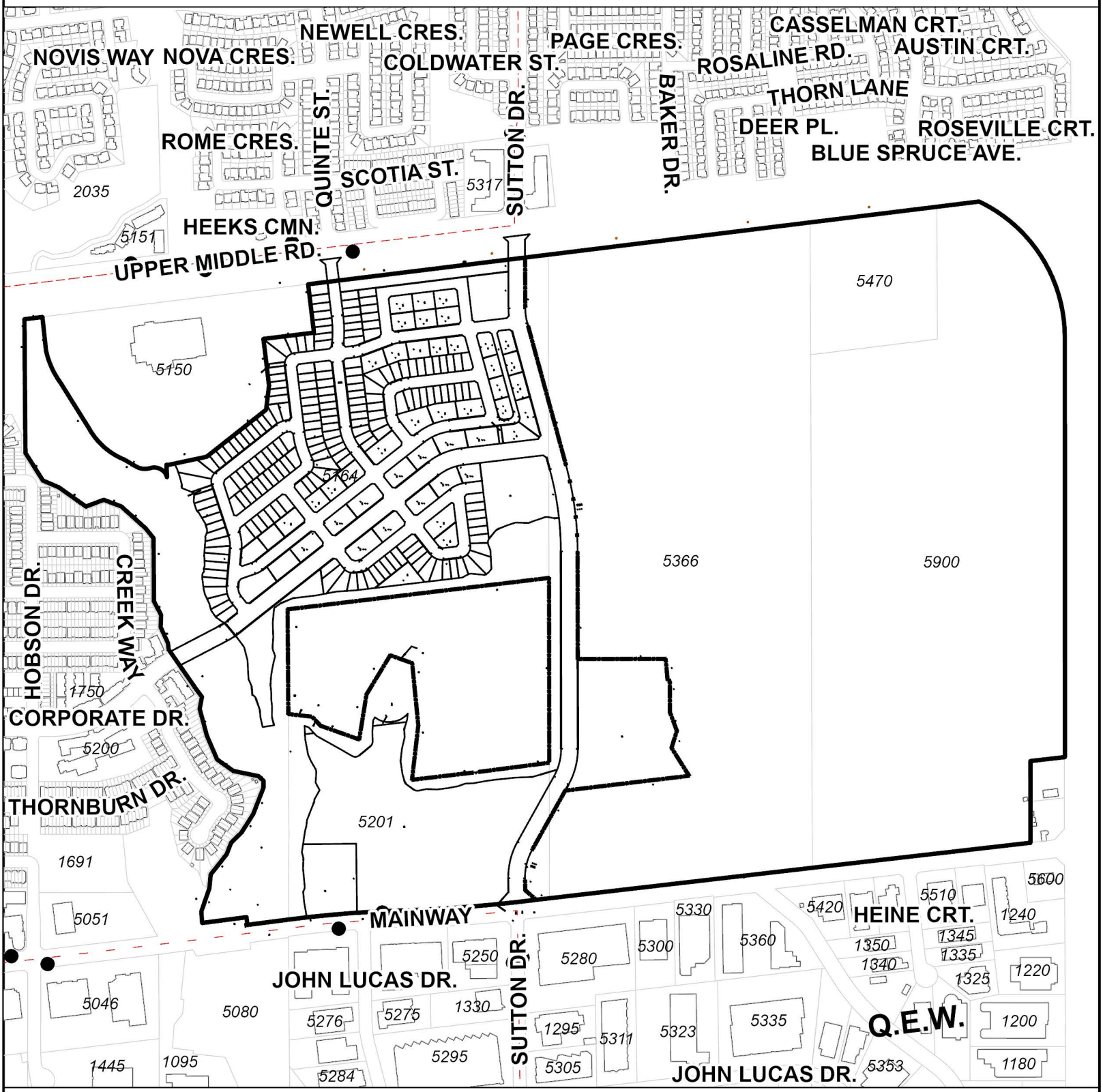
Appendix B to DGM-38-26

CONCEPT PLAN

The applicant is proposing to amend the Official Plan, Zoning By-law, and apply for a Draft Plan of Subdivision for the lands located at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway to create 254 lots and blocks including parks and open space blocks, employment blocks, natural heritage and stormwater management blocks, and a new public road network as “Phase 1” of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community. Phase 1 will provide approximately 597 new residential units in a mix of single-detached, townhouse and medium-density mixed use residences.

SUBJECT PROPERTY — Bus Routes — Bus Stops

File Nos. 505-02/26, 520-02/26, 510-01/26



Date: 2/27/2026

Community Planning Department

0 100 200 300 400 500

870

Meters

TERANET CITY OF Burlington

AMENDMENT NO. 11 TO THE OFFICIAL PLAN OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON PLANNING AREA

CONSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT

The details of the Amendment, as contained in Part B of this text, constitute Amendment No. 11 to the Official Plan of the Burlington Planning Area, as amended.

PART A – PREAMBLE

1. PURPOSE OF THE AMENDMENT

The purpose of this Amendment is to redesignate the lands at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway in accordance with the Schedules to this amendment and to delete and replace site specific policies within Official Plan Amendment 4 (Area Specific Plan) to clarify language and update housing targets.

2. SITE AND LOCATION

The subject lands are municipally known as 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway and are located on the west side of Burloak Drive, south side of Upper Middle Road, and north side of Mainway. The lands are irregular in shape and have a total lot area of 123.7 hectares.

3. BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

On May 20, 2025, Burlington City Council voted unanimously to adopt OPA4 which sets out a planning framework and is a guide for future study, to support development and growth within Bronte Creek Meadows.

OPA4 established an Area Specific Plan for the Bronte Creek Meadows development and provides policies requirements and guidance specific to the area to guide how the community is development.

Since the approval of OPA4 and the use of the amendment in practice, four separate clauses have been identified as needing further amending in order for development to proceed in an orderly fashion. The subject Official Plan Amendment will address these policies.

The proposed development supports the City’s objective to broaden the range of housing forms and supply to meet City needs in a manner that is compatible with surrounding land uses. It also adds new employment opportunities that will help the City and Region achieve its economic development goals.

The applicant submitted technical studies and reports that provide adequate and appropriate information to support the development.

PART B – THE AMENDMENT

1. DETAILS OF THE AMENDMENT

Map Changes:

None

Text Change:

The text of the City of Burlington Official Plan, 2020, as amended, is hereby amended as follows:

Item No.	Section	Replacement Text
1	8.8.2(6.6)(j)	Amend policy 8.8.2(6.6)(j) by adding the underlined text after the word “City”: In accordance with long-term Official Plan direction as shown on Schedule O-1 and established in Table 2, of this Plan, a crossing over Sheldon Creek to facilitate the extension of Corporate Drive to Burloak Drive as shown on Schedule S *shall* be required to the satisfaction of the *City* prior to *development* occurring within the Burloak Commons District as shown on Schedule S of this Plan, with the exception of *development* for the purposes of stormwater management.
2	8.8.2(6.6)(p)	Add policy 8.8.2(6.6)(p) with the following: Notwithstanding policy 8.8.2(6.6)(f) of this Plan, where a local street is adjacent to and runs parallel with a utility corridor, and is deemed by the *City* not to require sidewalks on both sides of the street, the local street *shall* have a minimum right-of-way width of 16 metres.
3	8.8.2(6.8)(c)	Add policy 8.8.2(6.8)(c) with the following: Notwithstanding policy 8.8.2(6.6)(f) of this Plan, where a laneway is proposed to be dedicated to the *City* as a public right-of-way, the laneway right-of-way width *shall* have a minimum width of 9 metres and *shall* meet the design requirements of the *City*, including:

		(i) that the laneway be designed to accommodate emergency vehicles, winter maintenance vehicles, and waste collection vehicles; and (ii) the provision of adequate space for snow storage.
4	8.8.2 (12.3) e)	Add Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) e) with the following: Notwithstanding Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) (a) and (b) of this Plan, applications for Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision may be submitted to the *City* for the Meadows Neighbourhood District and the portion of the Mainway Institutional District located west of Sutton Drive.

2. INTERPRETATION

This Official Plan Amendment shall be interpreted in accordance with the “Interpretation” policies of Part VI, Implementation, Section 3.0, Interpretation, of the Official Plan of the Burlington Planning Area.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

This Official Plan Amendment will be implemented in accordance with the appropriate “Implementation” policies of Part VI of the Official Plan of the Burlington Planning Area.

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON
BY-LAW NUMBER 2020.520

A By-law to amend By-law 2020, as amended; for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway, Burlington

File No.: 520-02/26

WHEREAS Section 34(1) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 13, as amended, states that Zoning By-laws may be passed by the councils of local municipalities;

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Burlington approved Recommendation DGM-38-26 on June 23, 2026 to amend by the City's existing Zoning By-law 2020, as amended, to permit the development of Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, being a mixed-use complete community consisting of a variety of residential, commercial, institutional and employment uses for the lands located at 5164, 5366 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway, Burlington.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Zoning Map Number 28 to By-law 2020, as amended, is hereby amended as shown on Schedule "A" attached to this By-law.

2. The lands identified as "A" on Schedule "A" attached hereto are hereby rezoned from 'H-GE1-354', 'GE1-354', H-GE2-354', 'GE2-354', 'GE2-373', 'O2', and 'O3' to 'S', 'P', 'O2', 'O3', 'RBC1', 'RBC2', 'H-RBC1', 'H-RBC2', 'H-MXG-574', and 'H-MXE-575'.

3. Part 1 of By-law 2020, as amended, General Conditions and Provisions, is amended by revising Subsection 2.12, "Visibility Triangles", Table 1.2.5, to include "RBC1" and "RBC2" zones:

Table 1.2.5

Zone	Visibility Triangle
RAL1	6 m x 6 m
RAL2	6 m x 6 m
RAL3	6 m x 6 m
RAL4	6 m x 6 m
RO1	6 m x 6 m
RO2	6 m x 6 m
RO3	6 m x 6 m
RO4	3 m x 3 m
REV1	6 m x 6 m
REV2	6 m x 6 m
REV3	6 m x 6 m
RBC1	**6 m x 6 m**
RBC2	**6 m x 6 m**
RM5	6 m x 6 m
UCR1-81	6 m x 6 m
DC, DW, DL-A, DL-B, DL-C, DRH, DRM	6 m x 6 m
Other Zones	9 m x 9 m

4. Part 1 of By-law 2020, as amended, General Conditions and Provisions, is amended by revising Subsection 2.21(u), "Uses Permitted in All Zones", "Additional Residential Units, bullet point #1, to include "RBC1", "RBC2" zones:

   (i) Permitted in the R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, RM1, RM2, RM3, RM4, RM5, RH1, RH2, RH4, RH5, RO1, RO2, RO3, RO4, RAL1, RAL2, RAL3, RAL4, REV1, REV2, REV3**, RBC1, RBC2,** MXG, MXC, MXT, DRM, DRL, UCR1, UCR2, UCR3, URH, URM, RNA1, RNA2, RNA3, SNA, ONA, and DNA zones, and any exception numbers associated with these zones, and in the O2-195, O2-196, and O3-196 zones.

5. Part 1 of By-law 2020, as amended, General Conditions and Provisions, is amended by revising Subsection 2.28 "Classification of Roads" to modify Schedule 'B' East "Classification of Roads" by showing the extension of Sutton Drive from Mainway to Upper Middle Road as shown on Schedule "B" of this By-law.

6. Part 1 of By-law 2020, as amended, General Conditions and Provisions, is amended by revising Subsection 2.36 "Setbacks Abutting Creek Blocks, O2 Zones, O3 Zones and RG Zones", to add the words "and "Bronte Creek Meadows Community" after "Evergreen Community":

2.36 SETBACKS ABUTTING CREEK BLOCKS, O2 ZONES, O3 ZONES, AND RG ZONES

Notwithstanding the other provisions of this By-law, all buildings and structures, including:

- dwellings and garages;
- above-ground and in-ground swimming pools;
- patios, decks, sheds, sunrooms, gazebos, unitary equipment;
- paved walkways;
- at-grade parking areas or above- or below-grade parking structures;

shall maintain the following setbacks from a creek block, O2 zone, O3 zone, or RG zone:

- 15 m for those areas located on Zoning Maps 1-W, 1-E, 2-W, 2-E, 3-W north of Plains Road West, 3-E north of the CNR railway, 4-W and 4-E; those areas zoned O3 on Maps 29-E, 30-W and 30-E, and those areas zoned RG on Maps 31-E and 32-E;
- 7.5 m for all other areas; 4.5 m if block includes a 3 m buffer.

The above provision shall not apply to Uptown Centre, Orchard Community, Alton Community, Evergreen Community, **Bronte Creek Meadows Community** zones, where only the setbacks of the base zoning apply.

The above setbacks may be reduced to the applicable setback requirement contained in the base zoning, provided the approval of Conservation Halton is obtained.

7. Part 2 of By-law 2020, as amended, Residential Zones, is amended by adding the following Section 30, “RBC Zone Permitted Uses (Bronte Creek Meadows Community).”

The uses permitted in all Residential ‘RBC’ Zones shall be in accordance with Table 2.30.1:

30 RBC ZONE PERMITTED USES (BRONTE CREEK MEADOWS COMMUNITY)

The uses permitted in all Residential ‘RBC’ Zones shall be in accordance with Table 2.30.1:

Table 2.30.1

USE	BRONTE CREEK MEADOWS COMMUNITY ZONES	
	RBC1	RBC2
Detached Dwelling	✓	
Semi-Detached Dwelling	✓	
Street Townhouse	✓	✓
Townhouse	✓**(a)**	✓**(c)**
Additional Residential Units	✓**(b)**	✓**(b)**

Footnotes to Table 2.30.1:

(a) Subject to Part 5, Section 5
(b) Subject to Part 1, Subsection 2.21(u), except where amended by Part 2, Section 31.6, Additional Residential Units or Part 2, Section 32.7 Additional Residential Units
(c) Subject to Part 5, Section 5, except as amended by Part 2, Section 32

8. Part 2 of By-law 2020, as amended, Residential Zones, is amended by adding the following Section 31, "RBC1 Zone Regulations."

31. RBC1 ZONE REGULATIONS

31.1 LOT WIDTH, AREA, YARDS

Table 2.31.1

Dwelling	Lot Width	Lot Area	Front Yard and Street Side Yard	Rear Yard	Side Yard
Detached Dwelling	10 m	270 m^2	3 m dwelling 6 m garage	7 m	1.2 m, 0.6 m other side
Semi-Detached Dwelling	7.5 m	250 m^2	3 m dwelling 6 m garage	7 m	1.2 m, interior side yard 0 m
Street Townhouse	6 m	130 m^2	3 m dwelling 6 m garage	7 m	1.2 m, interior side yard 0 m

Table 2.31.2

Other Yards	Requirement
Yard abutting a Creek Block	7.5 m
Yard abutting a Pipeline Easement	7 m

31.2 LOT COVERAGE

31.2.1 Maximum lot coverage, including all accessory buildings, shall be as follows:

a) Detached Dwelling: 55%

b) Semi-detached Dwelling: 55%
c) Street Townhouse: 60%

31.3 DRIVEWAYS AND WALKWAYS

31.3.1 Driveways and walkways shall be in accordance with Part 1, Subsection 2.24, except as amended by the following:

Table 2.31.3

Lot Type	Front or Street Side Lot Width	Maximum Driveway Width
Detached Dwelling, Semi-Detached Dwelling, or Street Townhouse	Less than 9 m	3 m
	9 m or more	5.5 m

(a) In addition to the above maximum driveway width, a walkway with a maximum width of 1.5m shall be permitted.

(b) The remaining lot area between a street line and a building elevation facing a street shall be Landscaped Open Space Area.

(c) A maximum of one driveway shall be provided for each property.

31.4 ENCROACHMENTS

31.4.1 Part 1, Subsections 2.3 and 2.13 apply except as amended by the following:

(a) Porches are permitted to encroach a maximum distance of 1.5 m into the required front yard and required street side yard.

(b) Balconies are permitted only in a front yard or street side yard, or in a side yard abutting an Open Space zone or Park zone.

(c) Balconies on a wall facing the front or street side, or side abutting an Open Space or Park zone, may project up to 2.5 m beyond the wall of a building, up to 1.5 m of the property line.

(d) A bay window, balcony, vestibule, fire escape, or open stairway may not project into a required side yard.

31.5 BUILDING HEIGHT AND BUILT FORM

(a) Residential building height shall be provided in accordance with Part 1, Subsection 2.31, “Residential Building Height”, except as amended by the following:

(i) Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys
(ii) Maximum number of storeys: 3 storeys

(b) The width of a front-loading garage shall not exceed 55% of the width of the building elevation.
(c) For Detached and Semi-Detached dwellings, an exterior entrance providing access to an interior staircase shall be provided on a side building elevation or street-side building elevation where the side yard is 1.2 m or greater.

31.6 ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL UNITS

(a) Notwithstanding any regulation to the contrary in Part 1, Subsection 2.21(u), where an Additional Residential Unit is accessed from an exterior entrance located within a side yard, the minimum interior side yard where the exterior entrance is located is required to be 1.2 metres.
(b) Notwithstanding Part 1, Subsection 2.21(u)(v), for a building containing an Additional Residential Unit, a maximum of two exterior entrances are permitted on each elevation of the principal building facing a street.

9. Part 2 of By-law 2020, as amended, Residential Zones, is amended by adding the following Section 28, “RBC2 Zone Regulations.”

32. RBC2 ZONE REGULATIONS

32.1 LOT WIDTH, AREA, YARDS

Table 2.32.1

Dwelling	Lot Width (d)	Lot Area (d)	Front Yard (a)	Rear Yard	Side Yard	Street Side Yard
Street Townhouse	6 m	130 m^2	3 m	(b) (c)	1.2 m, interior side yard 0 m	3 m
Townhouse	25 m	750 m^2	3 m	(b) (c)	1.2 m	3 m

Footnote to Table 2.32.1

(a) For the purposes of determining the Front Lot Line, notwithstanding Part 16 Definitions, Lot Line, Front, the following regulations shall apply whether or not such abutting or adjacent streets have 0.3 m reserves:
  (i) for Through Lots abutting Sutton Drive and Corporate Drive:
    i. the Street Line on Sutton Drive and Corporate Drive shall be deemed to be front lot line; and
  (ii) for all other Through Lots:
    i. the Street Line on a street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater shall be deemed to be the front lot line
(b) For a Rear Yard abutting a street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater, the Rear Yard shall be 3 m for a dwelling and 6 m for a garage.
(c) For a Rear Yard abutting a laneway, the Rear Yard shall be 3 m.

32.2 DRIVEWAYS AND WALKWAYS

32.2.1 Driveways and walkways shall be in accordance with Part 1, Subsection 2.24, except as amended by the following:

Table 2.32.2

Lot Type	Rear Street Line	Maximum Driveway Width
Street Townhouse with Rear Yard abutting a street	Less than 9 m	3 m
	9 m or greater	5.5 m

Lot Type	Rear Street Line	Maximum Driveway Width
with a deemed width of 18 m or greater		
Street Townhouse with Rear Yard abutting a public or common-element laneway	---	5.5 m
Townhouse with Rear Yard abutting a street	---	3 m for each dwelling unit
Townhouse with Rear Yard abutting a public or common-element laneway	---	5.5 m for each dwelling unit

(a) In addition to the above maximum driveway width, a walkway with a maximum width of 1.5m shall be permitted in a rear yard.
(b) The remaining lot area between the rear street line and a building elevation facing a street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater shall be Landscaped Open Space Area.
(c) Within a front yard or street side yard:
    a. Driveways and parking are prohibited.
    b. A walkway with a maximum width of 1.5m shall be permitted.
    c. The remaining lot area between the front or street side lot line and a building elevation facing the street shall be Landscape Area.
(d) A maximum of one driveway shall be provided for each property.

32.3 ENCROACHMENTS:

32.3.1 Part 1, Subsections 2.3 and 2.13 apply except as amended by the following:

(a) Porches are permitted to encroach a maximum distance of 1.5 m into the required front yard, Landscape Area and required street side yard.

(b) Balconies may project up to 2.5 m beyond the wall of a building, up to 1.5 m of the property line.

(c) A bay window, balcony, vestibule, or fire escape, or open stairway may not project into a required side yard.

32.4 BUILDING HEIGHT AND BUILT FORM

(a) Residential building height shall be provided in accordance with Part 1, Subsection 2.31, “Residential Building Height”, except as amended by the following:

For Townhouses and Street Townhouses:
(i) Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys

(ii) Maximum number of storeys: 3 storeys

(b) For Through Lots abutting Corporate Drive and Sutton Drive:
  (i) Units shall present a front building elevation with an exterior entrance towards one or more of: Corporate Drive, Sutton Drive, or a side street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater.
  (ii) Vehicle access is prohibited on Sutton Drive or Corporate Drive

(c) On Through Lots abutting any other street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater:
  (i) Units shall present a front building elevation with an exterior entrance towards one or more of: the front street line or a side street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater.
  (ii) Vehicle Access is prohibited on a street with a deemed with of 18 m or greater

32.5 ACCESSORY BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

(a) Notwithstanding Part 1, Section 2.2:
  (i) for all accessory buildings the minimum setback from a lot line abutting any street shall be 3 m
  (ii) for all accessory structures the minimum setback from a rear lot line shall be 1 m

32.6 FENCING AND PRIVACY SCREENS

(a) Fences and walls shall be subject to Part 1, Subsection 2.4.1 of this By-law except as amended by the following:
  (i) Maximum height in a front yard, street side yard, and rear yard: 1 m
  (ii) Minimum setback from a lot line abutting a laneway or rear street line: 1 m

(b) Privacy screens shall be subject to Part 1, Subsection 2.4.1 of this By-law except as amended by the following:
  (i) Privacy screens only permitted on:
    i. a balcony,
    ii. the side or street side elevations of a deck,
    iii. the side (excluding street side) elevations of a porch.

32.7 ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL UNITS

(a) In addition to Part 1, Subsection 2.21(u), Where an Additional Residential Unit is accessed from an exterior entrance located within a side yard, the minimum interior side yard where the exterior entrance is located in is required to be 1.2 metres.
(b) Notwithstanding Part 1, Subsection 2.21(u)(v), for a building containing an Additional Residential Unit, a maximum of two exterior entrances are permitted on each elevation of the principal building facing a street.

10. Part 11, Appendix A, of By-law 2020, as amended, Holding Zone Provisions, is amended by adding Site-Specific Requirement 109 for Removal of an "H" Holding Symbol, as follows:

109.	**H-MXG-574**	**Map 28**	**Resolution:**
That prior to the lifting of the H, the Owner shall have addressed the following requirements for all the residential units proposed for development to the satisfaction of the Region of Halton. The Region of Halton shall provide written confirmation to the City of Burlington that these matters have been addressed: (a) The Owner shall secure the appropriate amount of water and wastewater Servicing Allocation under the Region of Halton Allocation Program; (b) The Owner shall have signed the applicable Allocation Agreement or any required Amending Agreements; (c) The Owner shall have made all required payments associated with the Allocation Program; and, (d) The Owner shall be in receipt of the Region of Halton Public Works Commissioner's Notice (PWCN) letter.			

11. Part 11, Appendix A, of By-law 2020, as amended, Holding Zone Provisions, is amended by adding Site-Specific Requirement 110 for Removal of an "H" Holding Symbol, as follows:

110.	**H-MXE-575**	**Map 28**	**Resolution:**
That prior to the lifting of the H, the Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington Director of Community Planning: a. a Land Use Compatibility Study and other studies deemed necessary by the City, demonstrating that any proposed land uses are compatible with those existing and planned on site and in the surrounding area; and b. The owner shall provide the City with relevant archaeological analysis and supporting documentation to demonstrate that the owner has obtained consent from the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act,* to develop the subject lands in accordance with this By-law.			

12. Part 11, Appendix A, of By-law 2020, as amended, Holding Zone Provisions, is amended by adding Site-Specific Requirement 108 for Removal of an "H" Holding Symbol, as follows:

108.	**H-RBC1 and H-RBC-2**	**Map 28**	**Resolution:**
That prior to the lifting of the H, the Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington Director of Community Planning:			

a. The owner shall provide the City with relevant archaeological analysis and supporting documentation to demonstrate that the owner has obtained consent from the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act,* to develop the subject lands in accordance with this By-law.

13. Part 14 of By-law 2020, as amended, Exceptions to Zone Designations is amended by adding Exception 574 as follows:

Exception	Zone	Map	Amendment	Enacted
574	H-MXG	28-W & 28-E		

1. **Additional Prohibited Uses:**

(a) All Automotive uses
(b) Drive-through facilities
(c) Night Club

2. **Additional Permitted Uses:**

(a) Public Service Facilities
   a. Definition of Public Service Facilities: means land, buildings, and structures for the provision of programs and services provided or subsidized by a government or other body, such as social assistance, recreation, police and fire protection, health and educational programs, long-term care services, and cultural services. Public service facilities do not include infrastructure.

3. **Additional Regulations for all permitted uses:**

(a) For buildings located within 25 metres of Sutton Drive:
   a. The building shall contain a minimum of two permitted uses.
   b. Regulation a. above shall not apply to a building containing a permitted Community Institution, Place of Worship, School, Long-term care facility, Public Service Facilities, or Day Care use.
   c. Dwelling units and residential amenity areas shall be prohibited on the ground floor facing Sutton Drive.

(b) Notwithstanding Table 5.4.1,
   a. for a building with a height of 3 storeys or less, the yard abutting a residential zone shall be 3 m.
   b. for a building with a height greater than 3 storeys, the Yard abutting a residential zone shall be:
      i. Floors 1 to 3: 12 m
      ii. Floors 4 and higher: 15 m

(c) BUILDING HEIGHT:
   (i) For Apartment buildings, Long-Term Care Facility, Retirement Homes, and Office buildings:

i. Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys
ii. Maximum number of storeys: 8 storeys

(ii) For all Townhouses:
(a) Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys
(b) Maximum number of storeys: 3 storeys
(c) No minimum floor area for the third storey

(iii) For all other uses:
(i) Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys
(ii) Maximum number of storeys: 5 storeys

(d) Landscape Buffer:
(i) Abutting a Residential Zone: 3 m

(e) Residential Bicycle Parking for Apartment Building:
(i) Short-term: 0.1 bicycle parking spaces per unit
(ii) Long-term: 0.5 bicycle parking spaces per unit
(iii) For the purpose of Bicycle parking regulations:
i. Long-term bicycle parking spaces are bicycle parking spaces for use by the occupants, employees or tenants of a building, and must be located in a building. Required long-term bicycle parking spaces in apartment buildings may not be in a dwelling unit, on a balcony or in a storage locker.
ii. Short-term bicycle parking spaces are bicycle parking spaces for use by visitors to a building. Short-term bicycle parking spaces are to be located close to a building entrance and sheltered from the elements.

Except as amended herein, all other provisions of this By-law, as amended, shall apply.

14. Part 14 of By-law 2020, as amended, Exceptions to Zone Designations, is amended by adding Exception 575 as follows:

Exception 575	Zone H-MXE	Map 28-W & 28-E	Amendment	Enacted

1. Additional Prohibited Uses:
   a. Drive-through facilities
   b. All Automotive uses
2. Additional Permitted Uses:
   a. Retirement Homes, as per MXG zone
   b. Long Term Care Facility, as per Part 1, Section 2.21(b)
   c. Public and Private Hospitals, Public Health Care, Social Services, as Per Part 1, Section 2.21(c)
   d. Places of Worship, as per Part 1, Section 2.21(d)
   e. Day Care Centre, as per Part 1, Section 2.21(f)
   f. Residential Social Services, as per Part 1, Section 2.21(j)
   g. Public Service Facilities

i. Definition of Public Service Facilities: means land, buildings, and structures for the provision of programs and services provided or subsidized by a government or other body, such as social assistance, recreation, police and fire protection, health and educational programs, long-term care services, and cultural services. Public service facilities do not include infrastructure.

3. Permitted Industrial Uses only:
   Notwithstanding Part 5, Table 5.2.1, only the following Industrial Uses permitted in a GE2 zone are permitted:
   a. Training Centre
   b. Research and Development
   c. Knowledge-Based & High Technology
   d. Pharmaceutical & Medicines
4. Outside Storage for all Industrial Uses:

   Notwithstanding Part 5, Table 5.2.1 footnote (j), Outside Storage associated with permitted Industrial Uses are subject to the Outside Storage regulations in Part 5, Section 4.7 regulations only.

5. Retail and Service Commercial Uses
   a. Permitted retail and service commercial uses are only permitted on the ground floor of a building containing a permitted Office use, Industrial use, Retirement Home, Long-term care facility, Public and Private Hospital, Public Health Care use, Social Services use, Place of Worship, Day Care Centre, Residential Social Services, Public Service Facilities, Community Institution, or School use.
   b. A maximum of 50% of Floor Area shall be used for permitted retail and service commercial uses.
6. Separation Distances
7. The following uses shall be set back a minimum of 90 m from Mainway:
   a. Community Institution
   b. Retirement Home
   c. Long-term care facility
   d. Public and Private Hospitals, Public Health Care, Social Services
   e. Places of worship
   f. Day Care
   g. Residential social services
   h. Public service facility
   i. Outdoor recreational uses
8. Building Height

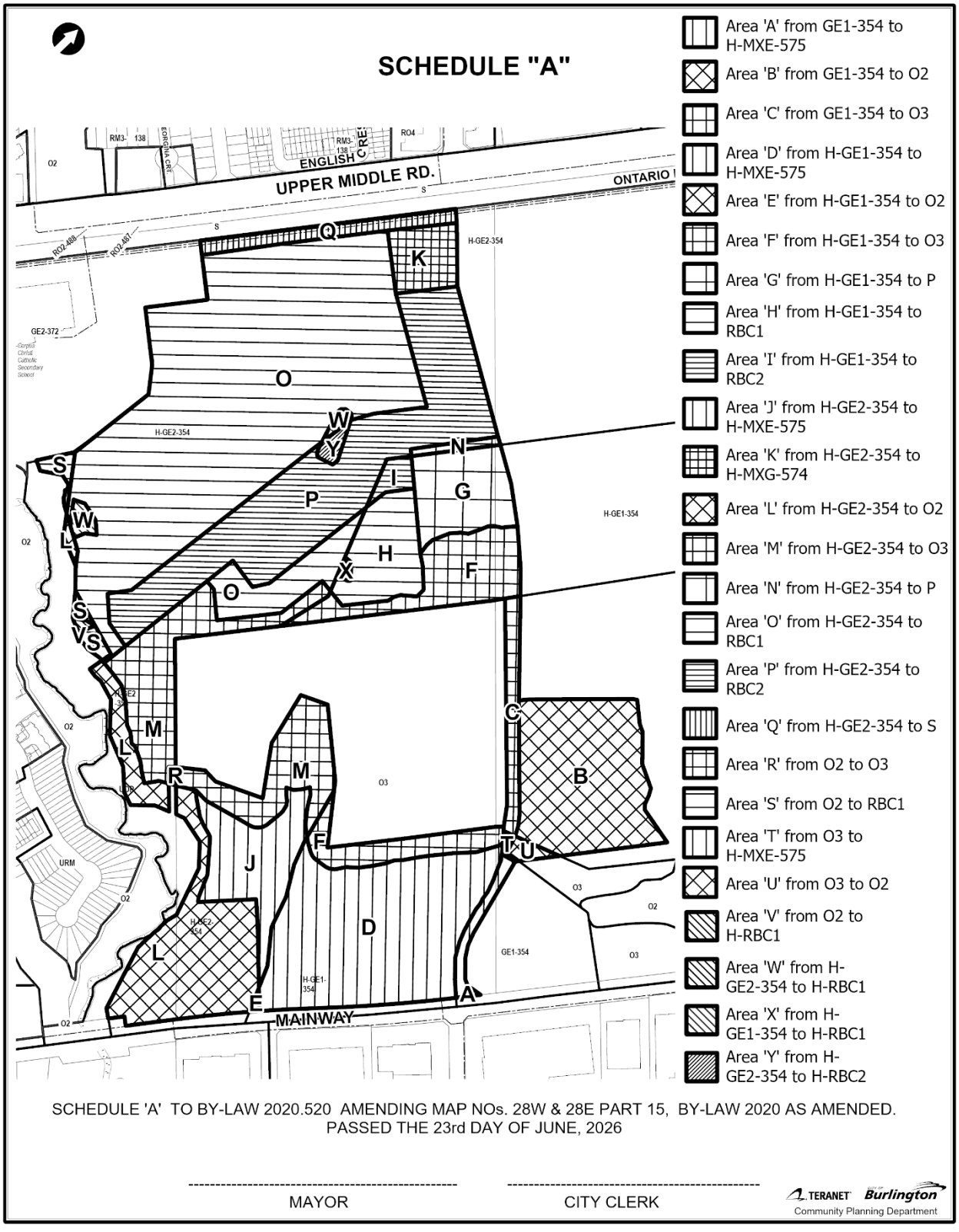
   Minimum: 2 storeys

   Maximum: 8 storeys

9. Other regulations:

a. Notwithstanding Part 1, 2.21(a), a School is not required to abut a Major Arterial, Multi-Purpose Arterial, Minor Arterial, or Collector Road.
b. Notwithstanding Part 1, 2.21(b)(i), a Long-Term Care Facility is not required to abut a Major Arterial, Multi-Purpose Arterial, Minor Arterial, or Collector Road.
c. Notwithstanding Part 1, 2.21(c)(iii), a Public and Private Hospital, Public Health Care, Social Services use is not required to have a front or side lot line in common with a Major Arterial, Multi-Purpose Arterial, Minor Arterial, or Collector Road.
d. Notwithstanding Part 1, 2.21(d), a Place of Worship is not required to abut a Major Arterial, Multi-Purpose Arterial, Minor Arterial, or Collector Road.
e. Notwithstanding Part 1, 2.21(f), a Day Care Centre is not required to abut a Major Arterial, Multi-Purpose Arterial, Minor Arterial, or Collector Road.
f. Notwithstanding Part 1, 2.21(j)(iii), a Residential Social Services use is not required to have a front or side lot line in common with a Major Arterial, Multi-Purpose Arterial, or Minor Arterial Road.

Except as amended herein, all other provisions of this By-law, as amended, shall apply.



SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2020.520 AMENDING MAP NOs. 28W & 28E PART 15, BY-LAW 2020 AS AMENDED.
PASSED THE 23rd DAY OF JUNE, 2026

MAYOR

CITY CLERK

TERANET Burlington
Community Planning Department

Schedule B

Schedule 'B' - East
CLASSIFICATION OF ROADS
Reference Line
NO. 1 SIDE RD.
WALKER'S LINE
GUELPH LINE
HWY. No. 407
APPLEBY LINE
C.N.R.
UPPER MIDDLE RD.
MAINWAY
Q.E.W.
HARVESTER ROAD
FAIRVIEW ST.
GUELPH LINE
WALKER'S LINE
APPLEBY LINE
NEW ST.
BURLOAK DRIVE
LAKESHORE RD.
See Map inset above for Downtown Area
LAKE ONTARIO

EXISTING RESIDENTIAL

EXISTING RESIDENTIAL

EXISTING RESIDENTIAL

EXISTING SCHOOL

KNOWN AS **UPPER MIDDLE ROAD**
(ROAD ALLOWANCE BETWEEN CONCESSION 1 AND 2 S.D.S.)

BLOCK 213
MEDIUM-DENSITY MIXED USE BLOCK
0.430 ha - 160 units

BLOCK 221
EASEMENT BLOCK
0.055 ha

BLOCK 222
EASEMENT BLOCK
0.484 ha

339.01

STREET 'P'

BLOCK 232
DEVELOPENT BLOCK
0.588 ha

STREET 'O'

STREET 'M'

STREET 'N'

STREET 'L'

STREET 'K'

STREET 'J'

STREET 'I'

STREET 'H'

STREET 'G'

STREET 'F'

STREET 'E'

STREET 'D'

STREET 'C'

STREET 'B'

STREET 'A'

BLOCK 215
PARK
1.102 ha

BLOCK 223
NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM
4.762 ha

BLOCK 225
OPEN SPACE
0.017 ha

BLOCK 214
EMPLOYMENT BLOCK
6.366 ha

BLOCK 216
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT POND
1.126 ha

BLOCK 217
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT POND
2.942 ha

BLOCK 224
NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM
8.913 ha

BLOCK 220
POTENTIAL ENHANCEMENT BLOCK
0.742 ha

BLOCK 226
POTENTIAL ENHANCEMENT BLOCK
0.932 ha

BLOCK 227
POTENTIAL ENHANCEMENT BLOCK
0.011 ha

EXISTING NHS WOODLOT
(NOT PART OF THIS APPLICATION)

OTHER LANDS OWNED BY APPLICANT
(NOT PART OF THIS APPLICATION)
74.235 ha

CORPORATE DRIVE

BURLOAK DRIVE

BRONTE CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK

MAINWAY
(ASSUMED AND NAMED PUBLIC HIGHWAY BY BY-LAW 8-1994, INST. No. 817492)

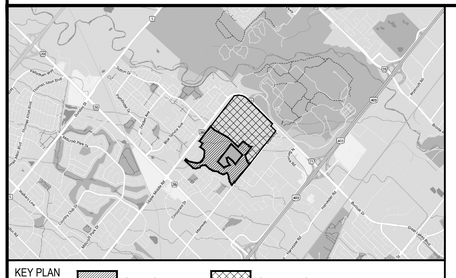
MAINWAY
(DEDICATED BY PLAN 20M-525)

MAINWAY

EXISTING INDUSTRIAL

EXISTING INDUSTRIAL

DETAIL "A"
NOT TO SCALE



KEY PLAN
Subject Property
Other Lands Owned by Applicant

LEGEND

Subject Property

NOTES

All dimensions are in metres.
All area measurements are computer generated.
All elevations refer to Geodetic Datum.

LAND USE - AREA TABLE	23121 - 91dp			May 21, 2026
Low Density Residential	Lots	1-181	14%	6.767 ha±
On-Street Townhouses	Blocks	182-198	4%	1.815
Double Frontage Townhouses	Blocks	199-212	4%	1.903
Med Density Mixed Use Block	Block	213	1%	0.430
Employment Block	Block	214	13%	6.366
Park	Block	215	2%	1.102
Stormwater Management Ponds	Blocks	216-217	8%	4.068
Open Space Blocks	Blocks	218-220	0%	0.051
Easement Blocks	Blocks	221-222	1%	0.539
Natural Heritage Blocks	Blocks	223-224	28%	13.675
Potential Enhancement Blocks	Blocks	225-228	2%	0.918
Development Blocks	Blocks	229-234	4%	1.739
Potential Crossing Block	Block	235	1%	0.252
Road Widening	Block	236	0%	0.090
Roads			20%	9.693
Total			**100%**	**49.408 ha±**

ROADS			
26.0m Public R.O.W.	1,606 m		4.193
18.0m Public R.O.W.	2,944 m		5.344
7.5m Public Lane	165 m		0.156
Total	**4,715 m**		**9.693 ha**

ESTIMATED UNIT COUNT			
12.5m Single Family Detached	A	15%	77
11.0m Single Family Detached	B	20%	104
6.1m On-Street Townhouses		17%	89
7.0m Double Frontage Townhouses		16%	84
Medium Density Units		31%	160
Total		**100%**	**514 units**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 51(17) OF THE PLANNING ACT

A, B, E, F, G, J, L - As Shown on Plan
C. Additional lands owned by the applicant as shown on the key plan.
D. Low Density Residential, On-Street Townhouses, Dual Frontage Townhouses, Medium Density Mixed Use, School, Employment Block, Park, Stormwater Management Pond, Open Space, Easement, Natural Heritage Blocks, Woodlot Compensation Blocks, Development Blocks, Potential Crossing, Road Widening, Roads
H. Piped water to be provided.
I. Clay loam soil.
K. Sanitary & storm sewers to be provided.

SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE

I certify that: the boundaries of the lands to be subdivided and their relationship to the adjacent lands are correctly shown.

ROY C. MAYO, O.L.S.
MACKAY, MACKAY & PETERS LIMITED
Day Month Year

OWNER'S AUTHORIZATION

I/we, a. 5201 Mainway - Paletta Bros. Four Ltd.
b. 5164 Upper Middle Road - 2362302 Ontario Inc.
c. 5366 Upper Middle Road - Qualico Foods (1994) Inc.

being the registered owner(s) of the subject lands hereby authorize BOUSFIELD'S INC. to prepare and submit a draft plan of subdivision for approval.

a. Signature Day Month Year
b. Signature Day Month Year
c. Signature Day Month Year
d. Signature Day Month Year
e. Signature Day Month Year

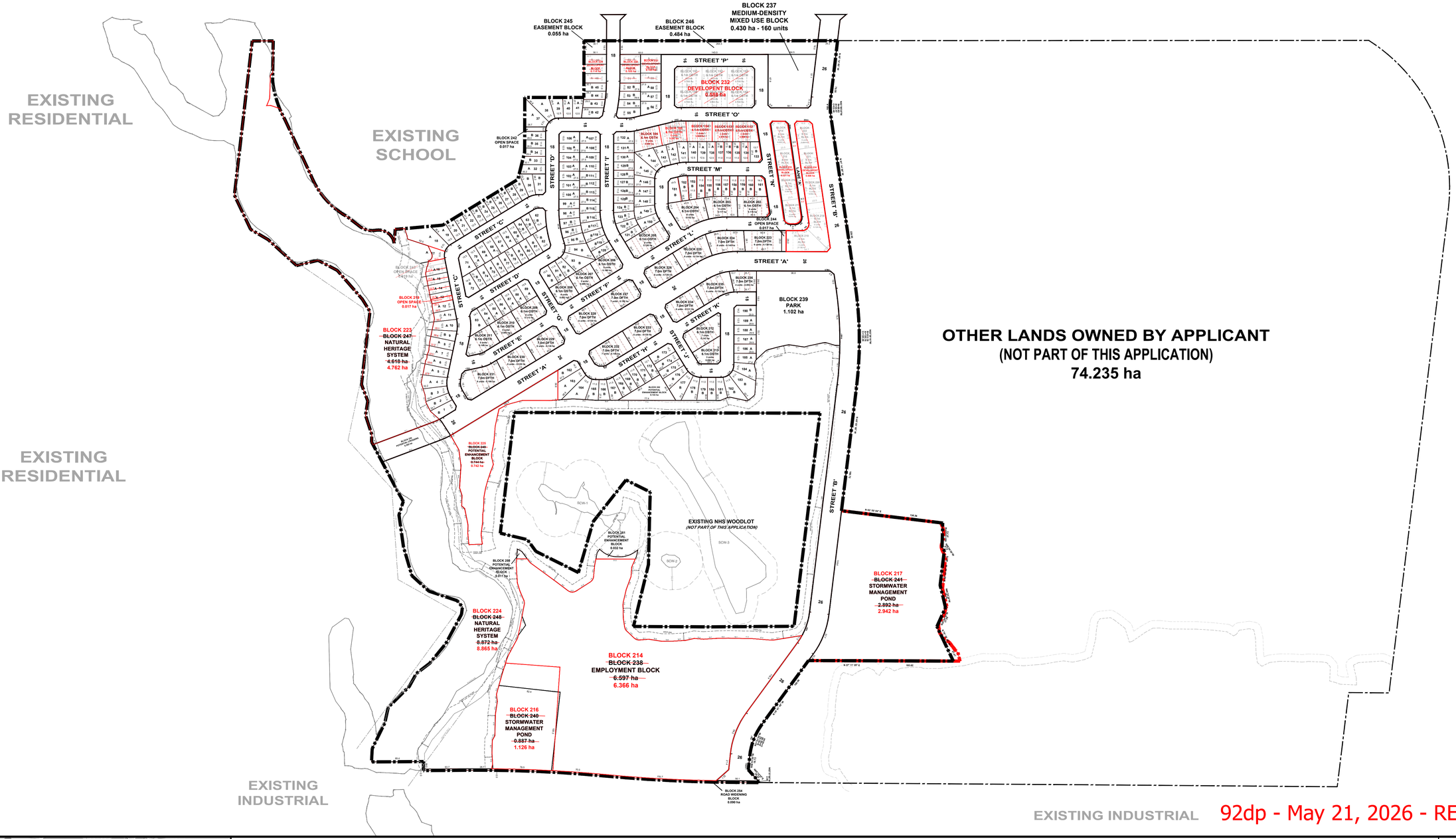
DRAFT PLAN OF PROPOSED SUBDIVISION
LOTS 2, 3 & 4
CONCESSION 2 S.D.S.
(GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF NELSON)
CITY OF BURLINGTON
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON

BOUSFIELDs INC.
3 Church Street, Suite 200
Toronto, Ontario M5E 1M2
P (416) 947-9744
F (416) 947-0781

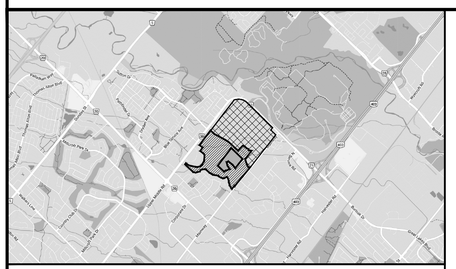
1 : 2500	May 21, 2026	23121 - 91dp
Scale	Date	Drawing Number

92dp - May 21, 2026 - REDLINE of 68dp

Appendix F to DGM-38-26



OTHER LANDS OWNED BY APPLICANT
(NOT PART OF THIS APPLICATION)
74.235 ha



KEY PLAN — Subject Property — Other Lands Owned by Applicant

LEGEND

Subject Property

NOTES

All dimensions are in metres.
All area measurements are computer generated.
All elevations refer to Geodetic Datum.

0 10 20 40 100

LAND USE - AREA TABLE	23121 - 68dp			February 10, 2026
Low Density Residential	Lots	1-190	15%	7.286 ~~ha~~
On-Street Townhouses	Blocks	191-213	5%	2.409
Rear-Lane Townhouses	Blocks	214-222	2%	0.832
Double Frontage Townhouses	Blocks	223-236	4%	1.903
Med Density Mixed Use Block	Block	237	1%	0.430
Employment Block	Block	238	13%	6.597
Park	Block	239	2%	1.102
Stormwater Management Ponds	Blocks	240-241	8%	3.779
Open Space Blocks	Blocks	242-244	0%	0.053
Easement Blocks	Blocks	245-246	1%	0.539
Natural Heritage Blocks	Blocks	247-248	27%	13.490
Potential Enhancement Blocks	Blocks	249-252	2%	0.920
Potential Crossing Block	Block	253	1%	0.252
Road Widening	Block	254	0%	0.090
Roads			20%	9.676
Total			**100%**	~~49.368 ha~~

ROADS			
26.0m Public R.O.W.	1,606	m	4.193
18.0m Public R.O.W.	2,944	m	5.344
7.5m Public Lane	165	m	0.139
Total	**4,715**	**m**	**9.676 ha**

ESTIMATED UNIT COUNT				
12.5m Single Family Detached	A	14%	85	77
11.0m Single Family Detached	B	18%	105	104
6.1m On-Street Townhouses		20%	119	89
~~6.1m Rear Lane Townhouses~~		~~7%~~	~~44~~	
7.0m Double Frontage Townhouses		14%	84	
Medium Density Units		27%	160	
Total		**100%**	**597 units**	**514**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 51(17) OF THE PLANNING ACT

A, B, E, F, G, J, L - As Shown on Plan
C. Additional lands owned by the applicant as shown on the key plan.
D. Low Density Residential, On-Street Townhouses, Rear-Lane Townhouses, Dual Frontage Townhouses, Medium Density Mixed Use, School, Employment Block, Park, Stormwater Management Pond, Open Space, Easement, Natural Heritage Blocks, Woodlot Compensation Blocks, Potential Crossing, Road Widening, Roads
H. Piped water to be provided.
I. Clay loam soil.
K. Sanitary & storm sewers to be provided.

SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE

I certify that: the boundaries of the lands to be subdivided and their relationship to the adjacent lands are correctly shown.

ROY C. MAYO, O.L.S.
MACKAY, MACKAY & PETERS LIMITED
Day Month Year

OWNER'S AUTHORIZATION

I/we, a. 5201 Mainway - Paletta Bros. Four Ltd.
b. 5164 Upper Middle Road - 2362302 Ontario Inc.
c. 5366 Upper Middle Road - Qualico Foods (1994) Inc.

being the registered owner(s) of the subject lands hereby authorize BOUSFIELD'S INC. to prepare and submit a draft plan of subdivision for approval.

a. Signature Day Month Year
b. Signature Day Month Year
c. Signature Day Month Year
d. Signature Day Month Year
e. Signature Day Month Year

DRAFT PLAN OF PROPOSED SUBDIVISION
LOTS 2, 3 & 4
CONCESSION 2 S.D.S.
(GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF NELSON)
CITY OF BURLINGTON
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON

BOUSFIELDs INC.
3 Church Street, Suite 200
Toronto, Ontario M5E 1M2
P (416) 947-9744
F (416) 947-0781

1 : 2500	February 10, 2026	23121 - 68dp
Scale	Date	Drawing Number

92dp - May 21, 2026 - REDLINE of 68dp

CONDITIONS APPLYING TO THE APPROVAL OF THE FINAL

PLAN FOR REGISTRATION OF PLAN OF SUBDIVISION BY:

Alinea – Bronte Creek Meadows Community Phase 1

FILE: 510-01/26

The Conditions which shall be fulfilled prior to final approval of this Plan of Subdivision are as follows:

1. This approval applies to the Draft Plan of Subdivision prepared by Bousfields Inc., dated May 21, 2026, consisting of 181 Low Density Residential lots (Lots 1 – 181), 16 On-Street Townhouse blocks (Blocks 182 – 198), 13 Double Frontage Townhouse blocks (Blocks 199 – 212), one Medium Density Mixed Use Block (Block 213), one Employment Block (Block 214), one Park block (Block 215), two Stormwater Management Pond blocks (Blocks 216 – 217), three Open Space blocks (218 – 220), two Easement blocks (Blocks 221 – 222), two Natural Heritage blocks (Blocks 223 – 224), four Potential Enhancement blocks (Blocks 225 – 228), five Development blocks (Blocks 229 – 234), one Potential Creek Crossing block (Block 235), one Road Widening block (Block 236), and Roads identified as 26.0m Public R.O.W., 18m Public R.O.W., and 7.5m Public Lane.

2. Prior to final approval, the owner shall sign the City of Burlington's Subdivision Agreement and any other necessary agreement(s) in effect on the date of signing thereof, in a form satisfactory to the Commissioner, Legal and Legislative Services/City Solicitor, within three years of the date of draft approval; and acknowledge the implications of the standard conditions contained in the City's Standard Subdivision Agreement, failing which, the draft approval shall lapse.

3. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, Director or Engineering Services, Director of Transportation Services, Manager of Parks Design and Construction, and in a form satisfactory to the Commissioner of Legal and Legislative Services/City Solicitor:
    a. Dedicate to the City of Burlington free of charge, including all legal and survey costs, the following as identified on the Draft Plan of Subdivision (as may be modified/revised based on final detailed design):
        i. Park Block 215 (1.102 ha);

ii. Stormwater Management Pond Blocks 216 and 217 (combined area of 4.068 ha);
iii. Open Space Blocks 218-220 (combined area of 0.051 ha);
iv. Easement Blocks 221 and 222 (combined area of 0.539 ha);
v. Natural Heritage Blocks 223 and 224 (combined area of 13.675 ha);
vi. Potential Enhancement Blocks 225-228 (combined area of 0.918 ha);
vii. Potential Crossing Block 235 (0.252 ha);
viii. Road Widening Block 236 (0.090 ha);

b. Dedicate to the City of Burlington and/or the Region of Halton free of charge, including all legal and survey costs, the following as identified on the Draft Plan of Subdivision (as may be modified/revised based on final detailed design):
   i. Rights-of-way widenings:
      1. Approximate widening of 1-2 m along Mainway, adjacent to the subject lands, the exact widening which shall be determined/identified by the Applicant/Owner's Ontario Land Surveyor (OLS)
      2. Any and all rights-of-way widenings identified by the Region of Halton.
   ii. 26.0 m rights-of-way for Neighbourhood Connector Streets 'A' and 'B' (4.193 ha);
   iii. 18.0 m rights-of-way for Local Streets 'C', 'D', 'E', F', 'G', 'H', 'I', 'J', 'K', L', 'M', 'N', and 'O';
   iv. 18.0 m rights-of-way for two north-south segments of Street 'P' perpendicular to Street 'O';
   v. 16.0 m right-of-way for east-west segment of Street 'P' parallel to Street 'O';
   vi. 9.0 m right-of-way for public laneway, Lane 'A' (0.156 ha);
   vii. 15 m x 15 m daylight triangles at Region of Halton intersection:
      1. Upper Middle Road and Street 'B (aka Sutton Drive Extension)
      2. Upper Middle Road and Street "I"
   viii. 5 m x 5 m daylight triangles at intersection of:
      1. Mainway and Street 'B' (aka Sutton Drive Extension)
      2. Street 'A' (aka Corporate Drive Extension) and Street 'B' (aka Sutton Drive Extension)
      3. Street 'A' (aka Corporate Drive Extension) with all intersecting Local Streets
      4. Street 'B' (aka Sutton Drive Extension) and Street 'O'

ix. 3 m x 3 m daylight triangles at all intersections of:
    1. Local Streets and Local Streets

x. 3 m x 3 m daylight triangles at intersections of:
    1. Lane ‘A’ and Street ‘L’, Street ‘N’ and Street ‘O’
    2. Subject to discretion of Directors of Transportation Services or Engineering Services or their designates.

xi. All easements identified on the approved draft plan and through detailed engineering design, to the satisfaction of the City and the Region.

c. Dedicate to the City of Burlington and/or the Region of Halton free of charge, including all legal and survey costs, the following to be identified through revisions to the Draft Plan of Subdivision, as needed, subject to approval of final detailed design to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington and the Region of Halton:

    i. Additional right-of-way widths for street segments, in accordance with the final approved Transportation Impact Study which may include but not be limited to:
        1. Street ‘B’ between Upper Middle Road and Street ‘O’;
        2. Street ‘B’ between Mainway and Stormwater Management Pond Block 217;
        3. Street ‘I’ between Upper Middle Road and Street ‘O’;
        4. Street ‘P’ east-west segment parallel to Street ‘O’;

    ii. All 0.3 m reserves to the satisfaction of the City and the Region including but not limited to those listed in Condition 8.h.ix.

    iii. Additional Open Space blocks for the purpose of entry features at locations that are gateways to the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, identified in the final approval Tertiary Plan and Urban Design Strategy, which may include but not be limited to:
        1. Adjacent to Street ‘B’ in proximity to Upper Middle Road, the Hydro corridor, and/or Easement Block 222;
        2. Adjacent to Street ‘I’ in proximity to Upper Middle Road, the Hydro corridor, and/or Easement Block 221;
        3. Adjacent to Street ‘B’ in proximity to Mainway;
        4. Adjacent to Street ‘A’ in proximity to Potential Crossing Block 235.

d. Prepare and deposit all reference plans required for the foregoing dedications and a reference plan showing the boundaries of the property to UTM, NAD 83 Datum and provide the City a digital copy of the plan in .dwg format with all points and line work on separate layers.

e. Dedicate the foregoing lands to the City of Burlington with free title (free and clear of encumbrances).

    i. Notwithstanding condition 3.e., the following blocks and rights-of-way may be encumbered by easements in favour of Enbridge and/or the Region of Halton, and may be dedicated to the City with such encumbrances at the discretion of the City of Burlington Commissioner of Legal and Legislative Services/City Solicitor:

        1. Easement Blocks 221 and 222,
        2. portions of Streets ‘B’ and ‘I’,
        3. Park Block 215, and
        4. Natural Heritage System Block 224.

f. Submit a copy of the updated parcel register when survey plans are submitted for the preparation of the Subdivision Agreement.

g. Pay for the cost of lifting 0.3 metre reserves, as may be required.

h. Pay for the cost of dismissing/amending existing easements, as may be required.

4. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to pre-grading or pre-servicing and prior to the first engineering submission:

    a. Submit an updated **Scoped Subwatershed Study** that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton, the City of Burlington, and the City’s peer reviewers, pertaining to Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, and agree to implement all recommendations contained within the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study pertaining to Phase 1, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the Director of Community Planning.
    b. Submit an updated **Master Environmental Servicing Plan** that addresses all comments from the City pertaining to Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community and is consistent with the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study as approved by Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington for the purposes of Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the Director of Community Planning.
    c. Submit an updated **Land Use & Built Form Strategy** that
        i. addresses all comments from the City pertaining to Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, and lands outside of Phase 1 that drain towards stormwater management facilities/infrastructure within Phase 1, and
        ii. is consistent with the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study as approved by Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington for the purposes of Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community

    to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning.

d. Agree to implement all recommendations contained within the updated Land Use and Built Form Strategy to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning.
e. Remove statutory notice signs that were required to be posted on the subject lands or in adjacent rights-of-way in relation to applications for Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision for Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community.

5. Upon obtaining written confirmation from the Director of Community Planning that the required updates to the Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, and Land Use and Built Form Strategy have been completed to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the Director of Community Planning as required by conditions 4(a), 4(b), and 4(c), the Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to pre-grading or pre-servicing and prior to the first engineering submission:
    a. Submit to the City, and obtain the written approval of the Director of Community Planning for, a revised Tertiary Plan, Urban Design Strategy/Guidelines, and Urban Design Concepts, and Streetscape Plan that:
        i. Have been developed in consultation with the Burlington Urban Design (BUD) Panel and includes written responses to the feedback provided by BUD;
        ii. Address the policy requirements of the City's Official Plan for tertiary planning and urban design of the Meadows Neighbourhood District and Mainway Institutional District in the Bronte Creek Meadows Community;
        iii. Respond to all comments provided to date by the City and other agencies on previously submitted version(s) of the Tertiary Plan; and
        iv. Are consistent with and implement the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study and Land Use and Built Form Strategy.
    b. Agree to implement the approved Tertiary Plan, Urban Design Strategy/Guidelines, and Urban Design Concepts, and Streetscape Plan and the design policies of the City's Official Plan in the detailed design of the subdivision, to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning.
    c. Submit to the City a revised Phase 1 Environmental Impact Assessment that
        i. addresses all comments of the City of Burlington, the City's environmental peer reviewer (LGL Limited), and Conservation Halton, to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, including mitigation and enhancement measures needed to address negative impacts to the NHS from all proposed uses; and

ii. and is consistent with and implements the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, and Land Use and Built Form Strategy.

d. Submit to the City a detailed Buffer, Enhancement Area, and Trail Design Plan that is consistent with and implements the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study, Land Use and Built Form Strategy, and Environmental Impact Assessment, and determines the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning:
    i. the appropriate buffer width for the southern edge of the City-owned Woodlot surrounded by Open Space Block 224;
    ii. the design of all buffers of the natural heritage system within Phase 1;
    iii. the detailed design plan for all enhancement areas (including the crossing associated with Street B, the proposed enhancement areas in the Environmental Impact Assessment, and non-naturalized components of the natural heritage system associated with hazard lands); and
    iv. the design of trails that are located within or adjacent to the natural heritage system,

    that will achieve the goal of no negative impact to woodland and wetland ecological function, including interior habitat, edge conditions, and hydrologic regime (e.g., limiting unplanned encroachments, habitat protection and enhancements, water quality protections during unanticipated events, noise control particularly from road infrastructure, light impacts, and salt/fertilizer contamination).
e. Submit a Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan by a Certified Ecologist for lands to be conserved, restored and protected in a post development setting to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning. The plan should include but not be limited to:
    i. recommended actions to be implemented during pre-construction, construction, and post construction stages of the development;
    ii. detailed explanations of necessary monitoring and adaptive management required to (1) address/prevent invasive species, (2) ensure success/establishment of restoration area, buffers, and wildlife enhancement designs; and (3) detect and further mitigate woodland edge effects and wetland impacts (e.g., hydroperiod monitoring) to ensure their continued and improved ecological roles.
f. Submit a detailed Stormwater Management plan that achieves the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning:
    i. Is consistent with and implements the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study, including the water budget and supply recommendations within the Scoped Subwatershed Study; and
    ii. Is consistent with and implements the approved Land Use and Built Form Strategy, including the approved development concept, land use, built form, densities, and imperviousness of development in all

lands that will drain to the stormwater management facilities in Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community.

g. Submit an updated Conceptual Transit Routes Plan as needed to demonstrate consistency with the approved Tertiary Plan and updated Transportation and Mobility Impact Study, to the satisfaction of the Director of Transit, Director of Transportation Services, and Director of Community Planning;
h. Submit an updated Active Transportation Network Plan and a detailed Trails Plan that achieve the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, Director of Transportation Services, and Manager of Parks Design and Construction:
    i. Are consistent with the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study, Land Use and Built Form Strategy, Environmental Impact Assessment, and Tertiary Plan;
    ii. Are in accordance with the in-effect version of the City's Community Trail Strategy;
    iii. Are consistent with the detailed Buffer and Trail Design Plan and detailed design of enhancement blocks;
    iv. Are consistent with the approved Transportation and Mobility Impact Study and the Landscape Construction Drawings;
    v. Identify any needed revisions to the draft plan of subdivision to implement the Active Transportation Network Plan and Trails Plan.

6. Upon obtaining written confirmation from the Director of Community Planning that the requirements of conditions 5(a) to 5(f) have been completed to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, the Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to pre-grading or pre-servicing:

    a. Submit a detailed Erosion and Sediment Control and Soil Management plan with associated monitoring and management requirements to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, the Director of Engineering Services, the Manager of Forestry, and the Manager of Parks and Open Space;
    b. Submit a construction management plan and associated construction plans (e.g., exclusionary fencing) for the management and protection of wildlife during construction to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning;
    c. Submit DFO permitting correspondences and conditions in-water works (or registration commitments); and
    d. Submit provincial and federal permitting correspondences and conditions for impacts to species at risk and their habitat, if applicable.

7. Prior to site alteration, servicing or grading of the site, the Owner shall carry out additional Stage 3 archaeological assessments, as per the recommendations of

the Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment Report dated 7 August 2025, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., and, if recommended, mitigate/salvage/excavate any significant resources to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturism. No grading or other soil disturbance shall take place on the subject property prior to the letter of the Ministry Acknowledgement Letter, to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning.

8. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to obtaining approvals for earthworks or servicing:
    a. Submit an updated Planning Justification Report that:
        i. responds to and reflects the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Land Use and Built Form Strategy, Environmental Impact Assessment, Tertiary Plan, Urban Design Strategy/Guidelines, and Urban Design Brief; and
        ii. responds to comments provided by the City on previous versions of the Planning Justification Report;
        iii. explains how the revised draft plan of subdivision implements the recommendations of the approved technical studies referenced in these conditions of draft plan approval; and
        iv. demonstrates how the revised proposed development of Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community conforms to the applicable Provincial Planning Statement, Official Plan(s) of the City of Burlington, and Zoning By-law of the City of Burlington, and implements the approved vision and objectives of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community.
    b. Submit an updated Functional Servicing Report that is consistent with and implements the approved Area Servicing Plan, Scoped Subwatershed Study, and Master Environmental Servicing Plan, to the satisfaction of the Director of Engineering Services, the Region of Halton, and the Director of Community Planning;
    c. Submit an update or addendum to the Transportation and Mobility Impact Study that implements the approved Land Use and Built Form Strategy and Tertiary Plan and addresses the comments provided by the City of Burlington, Region of Halton, and Ministry of Transportation;
    d. Submit an updated Tree Canopy Statement that demonstrates how the urban forestry objectives of the City's Official Plan and Urban Forest Management Plan will be addressed through the proposed development;
    e. Submit a revised design for Lane A to the City for review and approval by the Director of Community Planning, in accordance with the following:
        i. The revised design submission for Lane A shall include the following materials and information completed by relevant qualified professional(s): cross-section drawings, plan drawings, and an accompanying functional justification report/brief, and such

additional materials and information as the Director of Community Planning may require, which may include stormwater management analysis, lighting plan and photometric details, urban design brief, waste management plan, vehicle turning movement diagrams and swept path analysis, landscape plan, signage plan, and/or written response to comments by City staff and/or Burlington Urban Design Panel.

ii. The revised design shall address the City's requirements, including the public laneway design requirements of the City communicated by Community Planning staff to the Owner's planning consultant by email on February 10, 2026, and as may be further clarified or revised by the Director of Community Planning in consultation with the Director of Engineering Services, Director of Transportation Services, Director of Roads Parks and Forestry, Fire Department, Region of Halton, or utility providers.

iii. The Owner further agrees to revise the draft plan of subdivision to reflect the design for Lane A and abutting blocks and streets approved by the Director of Community Planning

f. Submit to the City a Hydro Corridor Land Use Application or equivalent documentation demonstrating that the Owner has consulted with Hydro One and initiated the process(es) required by Hydro One to confirm the feasibility of the proposed road crossings of the Hydro One corridor (Streets B and I) and any other proposed development or site alteration within the hydro corridor.

g. Submit to the City documentation demonstrating that the Owner has consulted with Enbridge and initiated the process(es) required by Enbridge to confirm the feasibility of the proposed road crossings of the Enbridge pipeline corridor (Streets B and I), the proposed development adjacent to the Enbridge pipeline corridor (Street P and Blocks 213 and 229-232) and any other proposed development or site alteration within the Enbridge pipeline corridor.

h. Revise the draft plan of subdivision as needed to address, implement, and be consistent with the approved technical studies and reports referenced in these conditions of Draft Plan approval, to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning. The Owner agrees that revisions to the draft plan of subdivision may be required to include, but not be limited to, the following:

i. Revisions to align blocks and lots with approved zoning boundaries and achieve conformity with the Zoning By-law;

ii. Revisions to Lots 1 through 18, Employment Block 214, Stormwater Management Pond Blocks 216 and 217, Open Space Block 219, Natural Heritage System Blocks 223 and 224, Enhancement Blocks 225-228, for the purpose of directing development away from

hazards and providing appropriate buffers to the Natural Heritage System, in accordance with the approved Subwatershed Study and Environmental Impact Assessment;

iii. Revisions to Lane A, Open Space block 220, and Development Blocks 233 and 234 to reflect an approved laneway design and lotting pattern for lands to be accessed by the laneway. These revisions may be required to include the provision of a “bump-out” of the Lane A right-of-way or the creation of an additional Open Space block for snow storage or stormwater management purposes.

iv. Revisions to the right-of-way width of Street P to 18 metres minimum if it is determined by the Director of Transportation that sidewalks are required on both sides of the window street;

v. Revisions to the right-of-way width of Streets I and B in proximity to Upper Middle Road, and of Street B in proximity to Mainway, if it is determined by the Region of Halton and/or the Director of Transportation that additional right-of-way width will be required in these locations;

vi. Revisions to Stormwater Management Pond Blocks 216 and 217 as needed to ensure adequate sizing and design of stormwater management facilities/infrastructure, in accordance with an approved Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Land Use and Built Form Study, Environmental Impact Assessment, and Stormwater Management Report;

vii. Revisions to provide a minimum 5 m wide easement or block conveyance as required by the City for storm sewer crossing(s) between Street H and Enhancement Block 228

viii. Revisions to create additional blocks to be dedicated gratuitously to the City for the purpose of providing entry features at gateways to the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, in accordance with an approved Tertiary Plan and where determined to be feasible and appropriate by the City in consultation with Hydro One, Enbridge, and the Region of Halton.

ix. Revisions to provide 0.3 metre reserve blocks where required by the City or Region of Halton, which:

    1. shall include but not be limited to:
        a. the side street frontage of Lot 153 abutting Street A;
        b. the frontages of Blocks 199-212 abutting Streets A, C, G, H, I, and J;
        c. the frontages of Block 233 abutting Streets N and O;
        d. the frontages of Block 234 abutting Streets A, B, and O; and
    2. may also include but not be limited to:

a. the eastern edge of Street B abutting lands not part of this application,
b. the frontages of Employment Block 214 abutting Mainway and/or abutting Street B in proximity to Mainway,
c. the frontage of Medium-Density Mixed-Use Block 213 abutting Street B and/or Street O;
d. portions of Street I north of Street O.

x. Revisions to the Roads Schedule to correct the reference to “7.5m Public Lane” to reflect the approved width and area of the Lane A right-of-way;
xi. Revisions to remove the word “potential” from the labeling of “Potential Enhancement Blocks” 225-228 and “Potential Crossing Block” 235 on the draft plan of subdivision and in the Land Use – Area Table.
xii. Revisions to the naming of “Employment Block” 214 to be more reflective of the approved Official Plan designation and zoning permissions applying to this block.
xiii. Revisions to the rear lot lines of Lots 153 and 154 where determined by the City that such revision would be desirable or necessary to provide a more regular lot shape for these lots while also maintaining the size of, and maintaining or improving the function of, Enhancement Block 225 in accordance with an approved Environmental Impact Study. Such revision may require a minor adjustment to the boundaries of the applicable zones through the appropriate Zoning Bylaw Amendment process in order to maintain conformity with the Zoning Bylaw.

9. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to entering into a subdivision agreement:
    a. Submit to the City a revised Housing Impact Statement that addresses comments provided by the Community Planning Department.
    b. Submit to the City a revised Land Use Compatibility study that addresses the comments provided by Pinchin dated March 27, 2026.
    c. Agree to include the following clauses in the subdivision agreement:
        i. The Owner’s certified consultant(s) to complete all required implementation and monitoring work in accordance with the Adaptive Management and Monitoring Plan at the sole cost of the Owner, to the satisfaction of the City.
    d. Agree to provide the necessary security deposits for all the works as required by the City of Burlington and agencies, in accordance with the approved plans/drawings.

e. Agree to provide a stormwater management easement in favour of the City of Burlington across other lands owned by the applicant for the purpose of conveying stormwater and drainage flows from the outlet of Stormwater Management Pond Block 217 to the Mainway right-of-way, if deemed by the City to be required.

f. Agree to provide and install at the Owner's expense such signage as the City deems necessary in the Lane A right-of-way;

g. Agree to register such warning clauses as the Director of Community Planning may deem necessary on title of blocks or lots abutting Lane A;

h. Agree to convey such maintenance access easements in favour of the City on portions of Blocks 233 and 234 as the City may require for the purpose of ensuring maintenance access for infrastructure within the Lane A right-of-way.

i. Agree to provide any public-access easements on private property that the City may require for the purpose of improving neighbourhood connectivity and multi-modal mobility and supporting and promoting active transportation on a neighbourhood scale.

j. The Owner shall acknowledge and agree that in addition to submitting a revised Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Land Use and Built Form Strategy, and Area Servicing Plan to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, Conservation Halton, and Region of Halton to the extent required for the purposes of obtaining final approvals for Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, the Owner shall also be responsible for further updating the Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Land Use and Built Form Strategy, and Area Servicing Plan, and obtaining comprehensive final approvals for these studies from the Director of Community Planning, Conservation Halton, and the Region of Halton, prior to approval of any future applications for Draft Plan of Subdivision and/or Zoning By-law Amendment for any subsequent phase of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community.

k. Provide the Director of Community Planning with a letter signed by the Owner that confirms in writing the Owner's acknowledgement and agreement that it shall be the responsibility of the Owner to construct a crossing over Sheldon Creek to facilitate the multi-modal extension of Corporate Drive to Burloak Drive prior to approval of subsequent phases of development east of Sutton Drive.

l. Agree to include in all offers of purchase and sale for all residential lots and blocks abutting Open Space Blocks 218-220, and approved public trail locations, the following clause:

    i. "Purchasers are advised that these open space/walkway areas will be used for general active and passive public recreation and leisure uses, including walkways/bikeways."

m. Agree to display a copy of the approved draft plan and draft plan conditions in the sales office for the information of purchasers;

n. Agree to provide copies of the draft plan conditions for the review of purchasers, if requested;

o. Agree to make available to all purchasers a copy of an Information Sheet for New Home Buyers to be developed and provided to the Owner by the City, or to be developed by the Owner and approved by the City, as determined by the Director of Community Planning;

p. Agree to provide all new home purchasers in the subdivision with an information brochure, approved by the Director of Community Planning, that contains information on the ecological value and function of the natural areas within the community to be preserved, and appropriate stewardship behaviour such as domestic pet control, no debris/garbage dumping, no vegetation control and no pedestrian access except at specified trail locations.

q. Agree to make any excess parcel which is unsuitable for development, available for assembly with the adjacent developments or with adjacent open space lands.

10. The Owner / Applicant shall complete the following for Phase I of the subdivision to the satisfaction of the Director of Engineering Services of the City of Burlington**:**

a. Agree to complete all design works, including but not limited to site grading, servicing, roads, sidewalks, boulevards, street lighting, driveway locations, (including the restoration of all disturbed municipal property and infrastructure).

b. Agree to provide the necessary security deposit for all the works, all in accordance with all agency's requirements and the approved engineering drawings.

c. Prior to registration of any portion of the subdivision, the owner shall submit a comprehensive phasing plan indicating the sequence of development, the land area in hectares, the number of lots and blocks for each phase, the proposed use of all blocks including the proposed number of units, and how comprehensive development is to proceed, including construction of public services and creek block work.

d. Prior to the registration of each phase, dedicate to the City free of charge the following:

    i. any easements over the subject property required for access, drainage, services and/or utilities;

    ii. any easements over adjacent properties as required to accommodate access, services, Creek Blocks, and/or overland flow swales.

e. Prepare and deposit all reference plans required for the foregoing dedications and a reference plan showing the boundaries of the property

to UTM, NAD 83 Datum and provide the City a digital copy of the plan in .dwg format with all points and line work on separate layers.

f. Submit a copy of the updated parcel register when survey plans are submitted for the preparation of the Subdivision Agreements.
g. Agree that prior to any land being conveyed to the City of Burlington, including but not limited to roads, road widening, stormwater management facilities, open space, parks, creek blocks and buffers that the owner undertake an environmental audit and will not be accepted with a Certificate of Property Use. Agree to undertake any work to clean the site of soil contamination to make the land suitable for the use proposed.
h. Acknowledge that the suitability of the land for the proposed use is the responsibility of the landowner, and that prior to registration of each phase, the Owner shall undertake an environmental assessment performed by a Qualified Person to ensure that the land is suitable for the proposed use. If in the opinion of the Qualified Person, the environmental site assessment indicates the land may not be suitable for the proposed use, the Qualified Person must so advise the Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks and the City of Burlington. The Owner undertakes to do further investigative studies and to do all works required to make the lands suitable for the proposed use. The Owner shall also agree to make available for inspection to all prospective purchaser's copies of the completed Environmental Site Assessment and Record of Site Condition, if applicable.
i. Agree that if during ongoing road construction, as well as subdivision and/or related site plan works, the land is determined not to be suitable for the proposed use, to undertake further investigative studies and perform all necessary works required to make the land suitable for the proposed use, all at expense of the owner, if applicable.
j. Agree to submit an amended Geotechnical Study and to implement the recommendations of the approved Geotechnical Study for road construction as well as subdivision and/or related site plan servicing works.
k. Agree to submit an amended Functional Servicing Report/Stormwater Management Report including but not limited to Grading, Servicing and Stormwater Management and to implement the necessary stormwater management recommendations of the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study /Master Environmental Servicing Plan. The Owner shall also agree to make any revisions to the draft plan necessary to implement the approved recommendations.
l. Agree that foundation drainage shall discharge directly into the storm sewer either by gravity or sump pump installation. Connections by gravity will not be permitted unless hydraulic grade line analysis confirms that

surcharging of the storm sewer during a 100-year design storm will not result in any underground parking or foundation damage.

m. Agree to submit an Erosion and Siltation Control Plan, for approval, and implementation during all phases of construction, including servicing and building construction.
n. Submit and obtain City approval for a Construction & Mobility Management Plan (CMMP) which includes but is not limited to:
    i. Installation of temporary street lighting, street name, stop signs and other traffic control measures on streets throughout the development after placement of base asphalt and prior to building permits being issued and maintain the signs until such time as the permanent installations have been completed by the City.
o. Agree to submit an amended Environmental Noise and Vibration Study, for approval, and to implement the recommendations of the approved Environmental Noise and Vibration Study.
p. Agree to make provisions in all Offers, Leases, Tenancy, Sales, and Reservations Agreements inserting the necessary environmental noise and vibrations warning of the approved Environmental Noise and Vibration Study.
q. Agree to provide certification by an Acoustical Engineer that the builder's plans are in conformance with the approved recommendations of the Environmental Noise and Vibration Study prior to the issuance of building permits. The Owner shall also agree that all affected blocks will be deemed unbuildable until such certification is received and accepted by the City.
r. Agree to verify the actual indoor and outdoor environmental sound levels on-site and provide certification by an Acoustical Engineer that the approved recommendations of the Environmental Noise and Vibration Study have been implemented and satisfy the criteria of the City and the MECP prior to the release of the related securities.
s. Agree to pay for any alterations to existing utilities, pavement and services that may be necessary to accommodate the proposed subdivision.
t. Agree to install all servicing and utilities (including hydro) underground throughout the development.
u. Submit an overall Utility Coordination Plan for approval and implementation, addressing the location (shared or otherwise), timing and phasing of all required utilities (on-grade, below-grade, or above-grade), including street lighting, gas, electrical, telecommunications, water, wastewater, and stormwater services. Such Utility Coordination Plan shall be to the satisfaction of all utility providers and shall be approved by the City prior to construction of any of the required utilities.
v. Agree to obtain a Municipal Consent Permit for any works on public lands, including but not limited to daylighting, temporary staging, grading,

servicing, construction, or disturbance of vegetation. Fees for a Municipal Consent Permit shall be in accordance with the City's Rates and Fees By-law, as amended.

w. Agree to construct the necessary fencing between all boundaries abutting either open space/creek blocks, parks, walkway blocks, or Employment blocks abutting either open space/creek blocks or transit corridor block if applicable.
x. Agree to comply with the City Policy in effect at the time of the subdivision registrations with respect to the following conditions:
    i. Agree to provide a cash deposit to be used by the City for contracted or in-house expenses for dealing with non-compliance with City requirements for control of grading issues, weeds, mud, dust and debris on roads and further agree that inspection staff time for invoicing on work undertaken will be charged at double the normal rate.
    ii. Agree to hire a contractor on retainer to deal with after hour problems related to unsafe situations in active subdivisions and provide the City with the contractor's 24 hour/7 days a week emergency contact phone number.
    iii. Agree to install "Illegal Dumping Prohibited" signs at all lots/blocks intended for future development.
    iv. Agree to regrade with topsoil and seed within 7 days, and cut weeds and remove debris within 48 hours, of a request by the City on any undeveloped blocks as may be requested.
y. Agree to provide written certification by the Civil Engineer prior to final assumption of the subdivision works including underground services (i.e. storm sewers, CCTV Inspection, etc.) and aboveground services (i.e. roads, sidewalks, boulevards, etc.), has been constructed in conformance to the City standards and the approved engineering drawings.
z. Agree to design, construct, and implement all stormwater management facilities, outfalls, creek and associated works in accordance with the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study, Functional Servicing and Stormwater Management Report, and applicable municipal, provincial and conservation authority standards. The Owner shall ensure that adequate maintenance access is provided to all stormwater management facilities and associated infrastructure.

11. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Directors of Engineering Services and the Manager of Parks Design and Construction of the City of Burlington:
    a. The Owner shall submit detailed Landscape Construction Drawings to the satisfaction of the City, prepared and stamped by a full member of the Ontario Association of Landscape Architects (OALA) in good standing. The Landscape Construction Drawings shall be completed in accordance

with the City of Burlington Official Plan, any associated secondary plans, tertiary plans, City of Burlington Development Standards, Tertiary Plans, general or site-specific Guidelines and industry best practices.

b. Landscape drawings shall include, but are not limited to:
    i. landscaping and signage in and around the stormwater retention pond blocks;
    ii. entry features;
    iii. Conceptual street tree plantings;
    iv. trails (including any associated assets e.g. signs, fencing);
    v. measures to protect existing vegetation to be retained, permanent and during construction;
    vi. naturalization of buffers to key features, including forest edge remediation if and where needed;
    vii. naturalization and/or habitat creation in enhancements to key features;
    viii. fencing for the delineation between City, public and private owned lands.
c. Agree to submit detailed cost estimate(s) that relate to the landscape drawings for review and approval by the City.
d. Agree to provide securities for the landscape works as specified in Condition 1c above. The Owner agrees that the City may draw on the securities to undertake those landscape works which the Owner fails to provide within a reasonable time, provided that the Owner is given a reasonable opportunity by the City to remedy the failure.
e. Agree to coordinate with City staff on the development of a Park Concept Plan(s) to determine the locations of servicing for the park base conditions. Following the submission of an AutoCAD of the Park Concept Plan from the Owner to the City, the City will provide to the Owner a detailed park plan which will be used to implement required park base conditions, including related grading and servicing plans and utility coordination plans, at the Owners expense.
f. Agree to be responsible for the design, construction and installation of the required park base conditions at the sole cost of the Owner. The park base conditions shall include:
    i. Coordination, consistency, and implementation of the recommendations of the approved Arborist Report(s), Tree Preservation Plans, Forest Management Plans, Forest Edge Management Plans and any other associated documents.
    ii. Coordination with all other associated engineering drawings to ensure all proposed private infrastructure (e.g. utilities, utility cabinets, servicing, fire access or turn-around lanes) remain outside Park Block 215
    iii. Grading within Park Block 215 to result in a minimum 2% slope to ensure adequate drainage. The Owner agrees that any grading or drainage requirements for the subdivision infringing on Park Block

215 requires the written approval of the Director of Engineering Services, prior to commencement of the works.

iv. Coordination and provision of all proposed park catch basins with a minimum 3 levels of 2” (50mm) concrete rings. Proposed catch basins and storm sewers must be located on future City-owned lands.

v. Supply and installation of all servicing of Park Block 215 in accordance with City and Region standards including:
    1. Appropriately sized hydro/electrical connection(s) to the property line;
    2. Appropriately sized water connection(s) (min 50mm) to the property line, with curb stop and valve box;
    3. Appropriately sized storm sewer connection(s) with one or more catch basin(s)
    4. Appropriately sized above grade service cabinet complete with Regional water meter and backflow preventor; and
    5. Appropriately size culvert(s)

g. Supply and installation of all engineered fill and all backfill material used to grade Park Block 215. All engineered fill and backfill material shall be compacted to the City’s standards and shall be selected material from excavation or other sources for the use intended, unfrozen and free of rocks larger than 75 mm, cinders, ashes, sod, refuse or other deleterious materials.

h. Supply and installation of approved finished elevations of Park Block 215. Approved elevations are to include a minimum 20 cm topsoil depth and match the proposed finished grade at all property lines for all abutting land uses.

i. Where parkland, NHS blocks, stormwater management facilities and pedestrian walkway blocks abut non-municipal lands, supply and installation of permanent chain link fencing, noise walls, privacy fencing or alternative approved fencing consistent with City standards.

j. Supply and installation of temporary post, page wire fencing and erosion sediment control (ESC) measures, with gate access points along the perimeter of Park Block 215 where it abuts road allowances or other potential access points, to prohibit access to such lands until such time as parkland improvements proceed. Page wire fencing, ESC measures and all components are to be kept in good order until assumption. If the construction of the park (by the City) is planned beyond the date of official assumption, the City will accept maintenance responsibilities of the fence and/or erosion control measures.

k. Following completion of the grading and servicing works and prior to application of the topsoil, the Owner agrees to provide the City with post-grading geotechnical soil tests, and a topographic survey that meets City requirements, confirming that the grading and servicing of Park Block 215 are consistent with the approved plans. The Owner shall consult with the

City regarding the parameters and quantity of geotechnical soil tests, prior to commencement.

l. Agree to provide topsoil on Park Block 215 to City standards and only in locations of future softscape. Prior to application of the topsoil, agree to provide the City with the results of a topsoil fertility analysis and topsoil depth verification confirming that the topsoil to be applied to the park meets City standards. The Owner agrees to consult with the City regarding the quantity of samples required for topsoil analysis and depths. If amendments are required of the topsoil, a pre-and-post testing analysis report shall be provided. Following application of the topsoil to Park Block 215, the Owner agrees to provide the City with a finished grade topographical survey consistent with City requirements.

m. Agree to sod and/or seed Park Block 215 as directed by the City. The Owner shall consult with the City prior to site alteration on the requirements of seeding vs sodding.

n. Agree to install a sign on Park Block 215 notifying residents of the future park planned for the site and include language that no dumping is permitted on the future park lands.

o. Agree to complete all landscaping works in accordance with the approved landscape drawings, at the sole cost of the Owner, to the satisfaction of the City.

p. Agree, prior to registration, to convey to the City Block 215 pursuant to the provisions of the Planning Act with the balance of any under dedication to be provided as cash in lieu of parkland dedication. Any parkland dedication over and above the minimum requirements shall be dedicated gratuitously to the City.

q. Agree to submit, prior to the registration of the plan, a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) that includes all future City lands along with Block 215. The Owner shall certify that the Phase 1 ESA is prepared in accordance with the Canadian Standards Association Standard Z768-01.

r. The Owner shall implement the recommendations of the Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessments including the undertaking of a Phase II ESA and/or preparation of a remediation plan, and if recommended, the implementation of the remediation prior to registration of the phase of development within which the remediation is to occur. The Owner shall be responsible to pay for all costs associated with the preparation of the plan and implementation. Any required ESA/Remedial Plan should not contain a limitation upon the right of the City to rely upon it and/or the information contained therein.

s. Agree to remove, prior to conveyance to the City of future City owned lands within the subdivision, any debris and refuse, and restore the lands to the satisfaction of the City.

t. Agree to remove, prior to conveyance, any debris and refuse from the Natural Heritage lands within the subdivision

u. Agree to maintain Park Block 215 including grass cutting and debris removal until park construction commences or until time of Assumption by the City, whichever occurs first.
v. Agree that no stockpiling of material or construction staging shall occur on Park Block 215 without the written approval of the Director of Engineering Services. Such approval will stipulate timing of removal of all material from Park Block 215 for the construction of the park. Such approval shall also require posting of applicable securities based upon an approved cost estimate provided to by the Owner to the satisfaction of the City.
w. Agree to provide written certification from the Landscape Architect prior to final assumption of the subdivision that the landscape plantings have been installed in accordance with the landscape drawings pursuant to Condition 1b. Certification shall be accompanied with as-constructed drawings and all applicable certifications, to the satisfaction of the City.
x. Agree to submit prior to parkland dedication and conveyance of land to the City:
    i. A stamped and signed certification letter from the consulting Engineer verifying that the park base conditions have been implemented as per the approved park base condition requirements in conjunction with the Park Concept Plan.
    The certification letter is to note as-built top of grate and pipe invert elevations for all catch basins and manholes. In addition, an Auto-CAD drawing is to be submitted showing the as-constructed survey of all finished (compacted) sub-grades, finished (topsoil) grades and servicing information overlayed on top of the proposed grading information. The drawing is to include 0.5m contour intervals and spot elevations at key points on site (eg. catch basin rim elevations, high point swales and ridges).
    ii. A Record of Site Condition to ensure the proposed parkland and woodlot blocks are clean and free of contaminants prior to dedication
    iii. A Record of Site Condition and/or Risk Assessment for Natural Heritage System Blocks 223 and 224 prior to dedication.
y. Prior to parkland dedication and conveyance of land to the City, the Owner shall ensure all approved submission documents reflect no community mailboxes located within the Park Block 215 or within adjacent boulevards.
z. Agree to include the following warning clauses in all Offers, Agreements of Purchase and Sale, Lease and Reservation Agreements and those Registered on Title:
    i. “Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that trail development may occur in the Natural Heritage System Blocks, Natural Heritage Enhancement Blocks, vegetative protection zone buffer areas and/or other areas as deemed appropriate by the City.”
    ii. “Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that chain link (or approved equal) fencing along the lines of Lots and/or Blocks abutting

publicly owned lands is a requirement of the Subdivision Agreement. All required fencing, with the exception of noise fence and privacy fence, shall be constructed with all fencing materials, including foundations, entirely on public property as shown on the approved construction drawings. The fencing installed shall not be altered in any way, including the addition of gates. Any costs to repair modifications will be the responsibility of the Owner."

12. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Roads, Parks & Forestry of the City of Burlington**:**

a. Prepare an Arborist Report and Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan, by a Certified Arborist to the satisfaction of the City. The report and plans shall document and inventory all existing trees (minimum 10cm dbh) within and adjacent to the subject lands (6.0m beyond property line) and provide an assessment of significant trees to be preserved, removed, or monitored together with the proposed methods of tree protection and preservation of endangered species and the removal of invasive species. The report shall be prepared in accordance with the City's guidelines and indicate if a subsequent hazard tree monitoring report is required.
b. Agree to submit detailed cost estimate(s) that relate to the arborist report and tree preservation drawings for review and approval by the City.
c. Agree to provide securities for the tree preservation/removal works as specified in Condition 2b above. The Owner agrees that the City may draw on the securities to undertake those park works which the Owner fails to provide within a reasonable time, provided that the Owner is given a reasonable opportunity by the City to remedy the failure.
d. Agree to prepare a Forest Edge Management Plan and Report in conjunction with the Sheldon Creek Woodlot Buffer landscaping plans, by a Certified Arborist or Registered Professional Forester, with qualifications as a tree risk assessor as certified by the ISA, to the satisfaction of the City. The plan should include but not be limited to details such as evaluation of potential impacts related to the installation of the trail in this buffer and proposed mitigative measures to address these impacts including monitoring measures/ requirements.
e. Agree to prepare a Forest Management Plan and Report in conjunction with the Sheldon Creek Woodlot Buffer landscaping plans, by a Certified Arborist or Registered Professional Forester, with qualifications as a tree risk assessor as certified by the ISA, to the satisfaction of the City.
f. Prior to tree removals, the Owner agrees to complete the following:
    i. enter into any applicable agreement(s) with the City,
    ii. post all necessary securities and pay all necessary fees as required by the City, and
    iii. obtain the necessary clearances for all other applicable draft plan conditions associated with the agreement(s).
g. Agree to include the following clauses in the subdivision agreement:

i. From the commencement of site grading until assumption of future rights-of-way, stormwater facilities and trails by the City, the Owner shall be responsible for ongoing maintenance (excluding snow removal), repairs and replacement of same, to the satisfaction of the City.
ii. The Owner's Certified Arborist shall carry out, or cause to carry out, in a timely manner, the recommendations set out in the Arborist Report(s), Tree Preservation Plans and any other associated documents to the satisfaction of the City. The consultant is required to certify in writing, that the removals have been completed as per the approved Arborist Report(s), Tree Preservation Plans and any other associated documents. An additional certification from the same Certified Arborist shall be required prior to assumption, confirming that any long-term requirements and recommendations in the rfeport(s), plan(s) and document(s) have been carried out, to the satisfaction of the City.
In the event that trees, vegetation, or environmentally significant features are removed or altered without the written consent of the City, the Owner shall restore the lands and/or provide compensation to the satisfaction of the City.
iii. The Owner's certified consultant(s) to complete all required implementation works in accordance with the Forest Edge management Plan and Report, and Forest Management Plan at the sole cost of the Owner, to the satisfaction of the City.
iv. The Owner's certified consultant(s) to complete all required implementation and monitoring works in accordance with the Forest Management Plan at the sole cost of the Owner, to the satisfaction of the City.
v. It is the sole responsibility of the Owner for ongoing maintenance and repairs to tree protection fencing to the satisfaction of the City until assumption.
vi. Tree protection fencing and associated measures shall be inspected regularly in conjunction with ESC inspections (e.g., weekly during active construction and monthly outside the active construction window) by the Owner or Owner's designate, with all noted deficiencies rectified within 72 hours (exclusive of weekends) of them being documented and Owner being notified in writing, to the satisfaction of the City. All tree protection fencing and tree protection measures are to remain in place on site until written permission for removal is granted by the City.
vii. Agree to provide topsoil on all boulevards to a minimum depth of 1.0m to City Standards only in locations where future street tree planting is proposed. prior to application of the topsoil, agree to provide City with topsoil fertility analysis and topsoil depth verification confirming the topsoil to be applied to the boulevards meets City standards. The Owner agrees to consult with the City

regarding the quantity of samples required for topsoil analysis and depths. If amendments are required of the topsoil, a pre-and-post testing analysis report shall be provided.

viii. Agree to include the following warning clauses in all Offers, Agreements of Purchase and Sale, Lease and Reservation Agreements and those Registered on Title:

1. “Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that publicly owned open spaces, woodlots, natural features and stormwater management facilities will be left in a naturally vegetated condition. In accordance with Ontario Regular 162/06, these areas will not be manicured and shall receive minimal maintenance. Uses such as private picnics, barbequing, garden areas, storage of materials, dumping of refuse, snow storage or erection of structure shall not be permitted on these lands.”
2. “Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that unauthorized encroachment onto natural heritage and vegetative protection blocks shall not be permitted. Furthermore, vehicle and machinery access through the natural heritage and vegetative protection blocks shall not be permitted.”
3. “Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that street tree planting is a requirement of the subdivision agreement and will be completed by the City after formal assumption is granted. The City of Burlington will not accept requests for changes to tree species, sizes or the elimination of any planting. The locations of utilities, driveways, and associated setbacks may cause landscape modification or deletions within the road-of-way and upon City owned lands. Purchasers and/or tenants are advised to confirm with the City of Burlington for proposed final locations of plant material and landscape features.
4. “Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that existing trees retained on private residential lots are the sole responsibility of the lot owner and/or tenant to maintain. These trees shall be subject to the City of Burlington’s Private Tree By-law for alteration and/or removal.”

13. The Applicant/Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation Services of the City of Burlington:

a. Submit written agreement to include the following in a registered portion of the Subdivision Agreement and agree to ensure that warning clauses to this effect are included in all offers to purchase and sale and reservation agreements, and within the Condominium Declaration, for all residential units:

i. “Purchasers/tenants are advised that a concrete sidewalk shall be constructed adjacent to/close to the property line and that this may limit the parking space in front of the unit to one vehicle in the

driveway between the garage and sidewalk. Parked vehicles will not be permitted to overhang the public sidewalk."

ii. "Purchasers/tenants are advised that the City of Burlington Zoning By-law standards require a minimum number of on-site parking spaces to be provided per dwelling unit, one of which may be provided in the garage. Furthermore, the City of Burlington Parking By-law limits on-street parking to five hours. Purchasers/tenants are advised that City of Burlington Parking and Idling By-law standards do not permit parking on any public street between 1 am and 6 am or beyond 5 hours."

iii. "Purchasers/tenants are advised that residential on-street parking permits will not be available/approved for this development."

b. Submit and obtain City approval for updated Draft Plan of Subdivision, as required to reflect detailed design.

c. Submit and obtain City approval for Updates/Addendums to the Tertiary Plan as directed by Transportation Services.

d. Submit and obtain City approval for Updates/Addendums to the Transportation Impact Study, such as but not limited to traffic control measures, PXO's, traffic calming, etc. and implement recommendations of said Updates/Addendums and/or as directed by Transportation Services.

e. Submit written confirmation that the Region has reviewed and does not require any further updates/revisions to the Transportation Impact Study dated February 2026, as revised.

f. Submit written confirmation that the MTO has reviewed and does not require any further updates/revisions to the Transportation Impact Study dated February 2026, as revised.

g. Submit and obtain City approval for a plan showing proposed traffic control at all intersections and phases of the development within the Plan of Subdivision.

h. Submit and obtain City approval for plan(s) showing the approved road typologies with regards to Multi-Modal Level of Service (MMLOS) and targets and rights-of-way width for Phase 1 of the Subdivision.

i. Submit and obtain City approval for a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) and Implementation Strategy for Phase 1 of the Subdivision including but not limited to review and recommendations for cycle tracks, sidewalks both sides, proposed future transit stops, sidewalk connections to generators, etc.

j. Submit and obtain City approval for vehicle turning plans for typical and atypical public rights-of-ways and roads, and private roads within the subdivision and as directed by Transportation Services with detail design

k. Submit and obtain City approval for detail cross-sections for typical public rights-of-ways and any non-typical rights-of-way within the subdivision.

l. Design, secure for, and install transportation infrastructure improvements, including an updated works cost estimate, based on the findings of the Transportation Impact Study and any requirements of Transportation Services, so long as these requirements have not been addressed elsewhere.

m. Driveway Locations Plan
    i. The Applicant/Owner shall submit and obtain City approval for a Driveway Locations Plan prior to preparing plans/designs for public street rights-of-way abutting proposed detached dwellings, semi-detached dwellings, townhouses, and street townhouses.
    ii. The Applicant/Owner shall prepare and submit to the City a Driveway Locations Plan that will pair driveways to optimize on-street parking and optimize boulevard space within the right-of-way for street trees and infrastructure, to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation Services.
    iii. The approved Driveway Locations Plan shall be incorporated into the plans/designs for public street rights-of-way, with modifications as required through detailed design.

n. Submit and obtain City approval for a pavement markings, parking, and street sign plan, for each public street, including but not limited to all proposed pedestrian crossings, existing and proposed above ground utilities such as fire hydrants, poles, transit stops, and Canada Post Community Mailbox locations.

o. Submit and obtain City approval for a pavement markings, parking, and street sign plan, for each, private/common element street, including but not limited to all existing and proposed above ground utilities such as fire hydrants, poles, transit stops, and Canada Post Community Mailbox locations.

p. Install temporary street name, stop signs and other traffic control measures on streets throughout the development after placement of base asphalt and prior to building permits being issued and maintain the signs until such time as the permanent installations have been completed by the City.

q. Submit a Utility Coordination Plan, for approval and implementation, addressing the location (shared or otherwise), timing and phasing of all required utilities (above-grade, on-grade, or below-grade), including street lighting, gas, electrical, telecommunications, water, wastewater, and stormwater services. Such Utility Coordination Plan shall be to the satisfaction of all utility providers and shall be approved by the City prior to construction of any of the required utilities.

r. Submit and obtain City approval for Street Lighting Photometric Drawings, Temporary Photometric and Electrical Drawings and final Electrical Drawings, for the municipal public rights-of-way within and abutting this development.

Said Street Lighting Plans shall be coordinated with the Street Lighting Plans required by the Region of Halton for Regional Roads and intersections.

s. Agree that should the Applicant/Owner propose that the registration of the development be phased, the City requires that a phasing plan be submitted prior to the registration of the first phase of subdivision. The phasing plan will incorporate an Agreement (to the satisfaction of the Directors of Engineering Services and Transportation Services) that must indicate the timing and sequence of development (including tree removal) for each phase and include securities to guarantee the implementation of the plan.

t. Submit and obtain City approval for Private Property Parking and Fire Route Signage plans.

u. Deposit such Transportation Services securities as are agreed to in the Subdivision Agreement.

v. Submit and obtain City approval for a Construction & Mobility Management Plan (CMMP), which includes but is not limited to:

    i. Installation of temporary street lighting, street name, stop signs and other traffic control measures on streets throughout the development after placement of base asphalt and prior to building permits being issued and maintain the signs until such time as the permanent installations have been completed by the City.

w. Prior to a full security release,

    i. Dedicate to the City and/or the Region free of charge lands in accordance with this Agreement.

    ii. Inspection(s) of the completed Transportation Services works as set out in the agreed terms are necessary for a full security release.

    iii. Inspection(s) of the completed Private Property Parking and Fire Route Signage works are necessary for a full security release.

    iv. Submit written confirmation that warning clauses have been included in all Purchase and/or Lease Agreements and/or Condominium Declarations for any Transportation and Parking related items as specified in Condition XX above.

    v. Applicant/Owner shall provide updated plan(s) showing the approved road classifications and rights-of-way widths for Phase 1 of the Subdivision.

    vi. Applicant/Owner shall provide updated plan(s) showing proposed typologies of all road segments and intersections using Ontario Traffic Council (OTC) Multi-Modal Level of Service (MMLOS) and OTC-MMLOS-Analysis-Tool for Phase 1 of the Subdivision.

x. The Applicant/Owner shall submit and obtain City approval for detail cross-sections for all private roads and laneways.

y. The Applicant/Owner shall submit and obtain City approval for an On-Street Parking Plan that reflects City requirements of 0.5 spaces per residential unit including the following:

   i. For calculation of residential on-street parking, parking shall be shown abutting the lands for Rear Lane Towns, Townhouses and Detached Homes. Residential on-street parking shall not abut non-residential lands.

   ii. Parking is not permitted within minimum distances of traffic signal installations and pedestrian crossings as set-out within OTM Book 12, Traffic Signals, OTM Book 15, Pedestrian Crossing Treatments, and applicable City of Burlington By-Laws and practices.

   iii. Maintains requirements of By–law 39-2016 that regulate parking and idling in the City of Burlington. 039-2016-By-law.pdf

   iv. There are trails and paths that require safe road crossings which impact permitted parking locations.

   v. There are “no parking areas” at community mailboxes, “no stopping” clearances at fire hydrants.

   vi. Driveways and laneways require 1.0 m clearance for on-street parking per City of Burlington By–law 39-2016.

   vii. On-street parking is not permitted in a manner that obstructs traffic or bicycle lanes.

   viii. A minimum no parking set-back of 9 m from an intersection or bridge

   ix. Parking will not be permitted at the top of T intersections to ensure future pedestrian curb depressions are kept clear and unencumbered; a minimum 9 metre set-back from the top of the T must be maintained on both sides of the intersection.

   x. No on-street parking shall be permitted/shown on the inside of a curve.

   xi. No parking is permitted along the rights-of-way abutting the parks or woodlots unless the City’s Directors of Transportation Services and Engineering Services or their designates have granted approval.

z. Corporate Drive will be terminated at Street ‘C’ or a temporary cul-de-sac at the west terminus of Corporate Drive will be required.

aa. While the construction of the bridge across Sheldon Creek is deferred, the land dedication for the future right-of-way (Corporate Drive extension) must still be secured to ensure future connectivity is protected. Space is reserved on Street ‘A’ to include a future Phase 2 east/west multi-modal transportation connection.

bb. Agree to include the following clauses in the subdivision agreement and offers to purchase and sale and reservation agreements for all residential units:

i. “Purchasers/tenants are advised that due to limited on-street parking, the City of Burlington will not issue driveway curb cut widening permits.”

i. “Purchasers/tenants are advised that the City of Burlington Parking By-Law limits on-street parking to five hours and no on-street parking is permitted between 1:00am and 6:00am.”

cc. Agree to include the following clauses in the subdivision agreement and offers to purchase and sale and reservation agreements for all applicable residential units:

i. “Purchasers/tenants are advised that a concrete sidewalk may be constructed adjacent to the property line and that this will limit the parking space in front of the unit to one vehicle in the driveway between the garage and sidewalk.”

14. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Engineering Services and the Director of Transportation Services:

a. Agree to submit roadway sections for all proposed streets, ensuring that the designs meet the approval of the Directors of Engineering Services, Transportation Services, Community Planning, and Roads Parks and Forestry Departments.

b. Agree to ensure construction access, traffic management and parking are to the satisfaction of the Director of Engineering Services and Director of Transportation Services during all stages of construction and agree to pay for any required signage, barricades, or other measures, as needed.

15. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Manager of Parks Design and Construction and the Director of Transportation Services:

a. Prior to parkland dedication and conveyance of land to the City, the Applicant/Owner shall:

i. agree to amend the On-Street Parking Plan in conjunction with all associated submission materials to remove on-street parking along Park 215 frontages, or as otherwise agreed to by the Manager of Parks Design and Construction

16. This section intentionally left blank.

17. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Transit, Director of Community Planning, and the Director of Transportation Services:

a. On the basis of transit route design and stop locations approved by the Director of Transit, the Applicant/Owner agrees to incorporate transit

infrastructure into the design of public street rights-of-way, to the satisfaction of the Directors of Transit, Transportation Services, and Director of Engineering Services.

i. The Applicant/Owner agrees, as follows:

1. prior to servicing, to design transit stops within the street rights-of-way at locations approved by the Director of Transit, and,
2. prior to the assumption of the public works within the subdivision, at the City's discretion either:
    a. construct the transit stops, or
    b. submit a cost estimate based on the design referred to above and provide such funds as are set out in the cost estimate to allow the City to construct such transit stops.

18. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Region of Halton and Director of Transportation Services:

a. The Applicant/Owner agrees to and will enter into Servicing and/or Subdivision Agreement (through the Development Project Manager), to the satisfaction of Halton Region for the completion of required Works for all development associated road improvements (Upper Middle Road intersection and corridor works (unless completed by Halton Region as part of the Capital Project), including but not limited to:

i. Upper Middle Road interim intersection works at Street 'A' (aka Sutton Drive Extension) must include temporary traffic signals, left & right-turn lanes, and a temporary sidewalk/asphalt pathway and continuous illumination along the south side of Upper Middle Road from Quinte Street/Street 'I' to Burloak Drive.

b. The Applicant/Owner agrees to locate, design, secure for, and install transportation infrastructure improvements at:

i. the new intersection of Street 'B' (aka Sutton Drive Extension) at the south side of Upper Middle Road that aligns centreline to centreline with the existing intersection of Sutton Drive at the north side of Upper Middle Road, any requirements of the City of Burlington Transportation Services Department, so long as these requirements have not been addressed elsewhere.

ii. the new intersection of Street 'I' at the south side of Upper Middle Road that aligns centreline to centreline with the existing intersection of Quinte Street at the north side of Upper Middle Road, any requirements of the City of Burlington Transportation

Services Department, so long as these requirements have not been addressed elsewhere.

19. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Canada Post and the Director of Transportation Services:
    a. The Applicant/Owner will consult with Canada Post to determine suitable permanent locations for the placement of Community Mailboxes and to indicate these locations on appropriate servicing plans.
    b. The Applicant/Owner will confirm to Canada Post that the final secured permanent locations for the Community Mailboxes will not be in conflict with any other utility, including hydro transformers, bell pedestals, cable pedestals, flush to grade communication vaults, landscaping enhancements (tree planting) and bus pads.
    c. The Applicant/Owner will install concrete pads at each of the permanent Community Mailbox locations as well as any required walkways across the boulevard and any required curb depressions for wheelchair access as per Canada Post's concrete pad specification drawings.

20. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Halton District School Board and the Director of Transportation Services:
    a. The Applicant/Owner agrees that a copy of the approved sidewalk plan, prepared to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington, be submitted to the Halton District School Board

21. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Halton Catholic District School Board and the Director of Transportation Services:
    a. That a copy of the sidewalk plan, prepared to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington, shall be provided to the HCDSB.

22. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Transportation and the Director of Transportation Services:
    1. Prior to final approval, the Applicant/Owner shall submit to the Ministry of Transportation for their review and approval, a lighting plan with illumination details.

23. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton:
    a. That the Owner agrees to redline revise/update the draft plan, as necessary, to address the conditions (listed below) to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.

24. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton prior to pre-grading or pre-servicing:
    a. That the Owner submits an updated **Scoped Subwatershed Study** that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington pertaining to Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community and agrees to implement all recommendations contained within the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study pertaining to Phase 1, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
    b. That the Owner submits an updated **Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Area Servicing Plan, and Land Use & Built Form Strategy** to reflect the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study pertaining to Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, as necessary, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton, the Region of Halton and the City of Burlington.
    c. That the Owner submits an updated **Phase 1 Tertiary Plan** to reflect the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study and development limits, as necessary, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
    d. That, prior to the first engineering submission, the Owner submits an updated **Environmental Impact Assessment** that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington and agrees to implement all final recommendations contained within the Environmental Impact Study, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
    e. That the Owner submits an updated **Wetland Water Balance** that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
    f. That the Owner submits an updated **Fluvial Geomorphological Assessment** that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton.
    g. That the Owner submits an updated **Functional Servicing Report** in accordance with the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
    h. That the Owner submits an updated **Stormwater Management Report** in accordance with the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
    i. That the Owner submits an updated **Planning & Urban Design Rationale** in accordance with the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
    j. That the Owner submits **grading plans** for all lots and blocks that contain or back onto Conservation Halton’s regulated area, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.

k. That the Owner prepares and implements a plan outlining **erosion and siltation controls measures** required prior to and during the construction of the subdivision to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton (regarding regulated areas) and the City of Burlington. A separate sediment and erosion control plan will be required for the following three phases of construction: a) earthworks b) servicing c) home construction.
l. That the Owner erects a **temporary barrier to work fence** prior to and during construction or regrading along the rear of blocks adjacent to the Open Space blocks, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton (regarding regulated areas) and the City of Burlington.
m. That the Owner submits the required **Adaptive Management and Monitoring Plan** in accordance with the approved Environmental Impact Assessment and the **Pre- During- and Post-Construction Monitoring Plans** in accordance with the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and City of Burlington prior to any site alteration.
n. That the Owner obtains a Permit from Conservation Halton, pursuant to the ***Conservation Authorities Act*** **and Ontario Regulation 41/24**, for any development activities or site alteration within the regulated area associated with pre-grading or pre-servicing.

25. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton prior to registration:
    a. That the Owner obtains a Permit from Conservation Halton, pursuant to the ***Conservation Authorities Act*** **and Ontario Regulation 41/24**, for any development activities or site alteration within the regulated area including, but not necessarily limited to, placement or excavation of fill, grading, stormwater outfalls, watercourse alterations or realignments, and watercourse crossings.
    b. That the Owner designs, constructs, stabilizes and has in operation all **stormwater management facilities** and stormwater outfalls, or appropriate alternative measures, in accordance with the approved Stormwater Management Plan.
    c. That the Owner designs, constructs, stabilizes and has in operation any **alterations to watercourses and natural hazards** to the satisfaction of the Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
    d. That the Owner agrees **to phase the development** of the subject lands to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington if necessary.
    e. That the Owner prepares and implements a **landscape restoration and enhancement plan** for the restorative works within Conservation Halton regulated areas, in keeping with Conservation Halton Guidelines for Landscaping and Rehabilitation Plans, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
    f. That the Owner **provides digital copies of the registered plan of subdivision** including all approved natural hazard delineations (e.g.,

wetland boundaries, stable top of bank, flood plain, meander belt) to Conservation Halton, prior to registration of the plan. Digital data should be delivered in one of the following formats:

i. ESRI geodatabasev10.x (or newer) feature classes
ii. ESRI shape file format.
iii. AutoCAD DWG or DXF Format, version 2019 or earlier

If the Project Consultant uses ESRI products to produce maps, the matching .mxd will be provided that corresponds to the map figure. Digital data will be provided in UTM NAD 83 Zone 17 NAD 83 datum. Data referencing elevations (e.g., floodplains) shall be referenced to appropriate vertical benchmarks. The datum must be specified as one of Canadian Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1928 (CGVD28) with 1978 adjustment, or Canadian Geodetic Vertical Datum of 2013 (CGVD2013). Vertical datums must be clearly identified in the survey documentation. Flood plain models used in the delineation of flood hazards must be provided to Conservation Halton and referenced to the above mapping standards.

g. That the Owner pays any **outstanding review fees** to Conservation Halton, if it is determined that a balance is outstanding. Conservation Halton reserves the right to adjust the fees owing based on the current plan review schedule, if time has lapsed since the initial application.
h. That the Owner submits the **final clearance fee** to Conservation Halton, prior to registration of the draft plan. If the development is phased, each phase will require a separate clearance fee.

26. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton prior to execution of the final plan:
    a. That the Owner agrees to obtain confirmation from **Conservation Halton** that conditions 23-27 inclusive have been satisfied prior to the execution of the final plan.

27. The owner shall ensure the following are included within the Subdivision Agreement to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton
    a. That the Owner agrees that the **Scoped Subwatershed Study** will be updated and finalized for the entire Bronte Creek Meadows Community and will address all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington relating to development after Phase 1, prior to submission of future applications within the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
    b. That the Owner agrees that the **Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Area Servicing Plan, and Land Use & Built Form Strategy** will be updated to reflect the updated and finalized Scoped Subwatershed Study as necessary, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton, the Region of Halton and the City of Burlington, prior to submission of future applications within the Bronte Creek Meadows Community.

c. That the Owner agrees to provide **as-built drawings** for crossings, stormwater outlets, and any watercourse and natural hazard alterations within Conservation Halton regulated areas. Surveys undertaken to delineate any hazards shall be provided to Conservation Halton in digital format. Digital data should be delivered in one of the following formats:
   i. ESRI geodatabasev10.x (or newer) feature classes
   ii. ESRI shape file format.
   iii. AutoCAD DWG or DXF Format, version 2019 or earlier

   If the Project Consultant uses ESRI products to produce maps, the matching .mxd will be provided that corresponds to the map figure. Digital data will be provided in UTM NAD 83 Zone 17 NAD 83 datum. Data referencing elevations (e.g., floodplains) shall be referenced to appropriate vertical benchmarks. The datum must be specified as one of Canadian Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1928 (CGVD28) with 1978 adjustment, or Canadian Geodetic Vertical Datum of 2013 (CGVD2013). Vertical datums must be clearly identified in the survey documentation. Flood plain models used in the delineation of flood hazards must be provided to Conservation Halton and referenced to the above mapping standards.

d. That the Owner agrees, that should it be determined through detailed design that **grade changes** are required in order to accommodate development of lots/blocks, any grade changes must be accommodated outside of the areas regulated by Conservation Halton that are contained within natural heritage system or watercourse blocks, and the lot lines must be adjusted accordingly, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton (regarding regulated areas) and the City of Burlington.
e. That the Owner agrees **to phase the development** of the subject lands to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington, if necessary
f. That the Owner agree to implement the **Monitoring and Adaptative Management Plan** as per the approved Environmental Impact Assessment and the **Pre- During- and Post-Construction Monitoring** as per the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington and Conservation Halton (regarding regulated areas).
g. That the Owner agrees to submit monthly (or after significant rainfall equal or greater than 10mm or snowmelt events) **sediment and erosion control reports** during construction to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
h. That the Owner agrees to post **acceptable securities** with the City of Burlington as part of the subdivision agreement, for the purpose of ensuring the construction and completion of all works identified on the approved plans including the rehabilitation of any Natural Heritage System block or open space areas to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton (regarding regulated areas) and the City of Burlington which may be disturbed during the development of the subdivision.

i. That the Owner agrees that any **exposed soil within a watercourse block**, either as a result of realignment or rehabilitation works, will be seeded or otherwise stabilized in accordance with approved erosion and sediment control plans.
j. That the Owner agrees that no fill from the site may be **dumped on or off-site** in an area regulated by a Conservation Authority without the prior written permission of the appropriate Conservation Authority.
k. That the Owner agrees to not **stockpile fill** within Conservation Halton's regulated area without prior written approval on Conservation Halton.
l. That purchasers and/or tenants of lots that contain areas regulated by Conservation Halton (Lots A4-A18 and B177-B178, and Block 214), are advised in the offers of purchase and sale that a portion of their lot/block may contain areas regulated by Conservation Halton under the Conservation Authorities Act (CA Act) and Ontario Regulation 41/24. Permits are required from Conservation Halton prior to undertaking development activities within the regulated area. For further information please contact Conservation Halton at chplanning@hrca.on.ca or 905.336.1158.

28. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Halton Region:
a. That prior to registration the Owner is required to provide digital copies of the proposed final m-plan to the satisfaction of the Region of Halton. The plan shall include horizontal co-ordinates of all boundary monuments. These co-ordinates must be to real 60 UTM co-ordinates, NAD 83 datum.
b. That prior to registration Owner shall submit to the City of Burlington digital copies of the final draft plan of subdivision along with applicable Land Registry Office Appendix D form for sign off. Upon acceptance, the City of Burlington will forward these materials to the Region of Halton for final sign off.
c. The Owner agrees that should the development be further phased, a phasing plan shall be submitted prior to registration of the first phase. The phasing plan will indicate the sequence of development, the land area in hectares, the number of lots and blocks for each phase and the proposed use of all blocks including the proposed number of units, the specific lots to be developed, site access to each phase, grading and the construction of public services. The phasing must be reflected in all engineering reports.
d. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Regional Development Review shall be advised by Halton Region that conditions 28.a. through uu. have been carried out to the satisfaction of Halton Region with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.
e. That the Owner has addressed all the requirements of the Allocation Program, including, but not limited to, the signing of any additional agreements, provision of any required payments and the issuance of a Region of Halton Public Works Commissioner's Notice (PWCN), to the satisfaction of the Region of Halton.

f. The Owner agrees that until notice from Halton Region's Commissioner of Public Works is given to the Owner that development of these lands is able to proceed by the issuance of a building permit with residential water/wastewater capacity or that units under the Region's Allocation Program will be operational within 12 months, that the Owner shall not seek the issuance of building permits for any development in this phase and:
    i. shall not sell or offer for sale any lot or block or any part thereof within this phase if such sale obligates the Owner or permits the purchaser to construct a residential building on such lot or block; and,
    ii. shall not seek final approval for registration of such lots or blocks or any part thereof.
g. The Owner will provide a revised Allocation Assignment Plan to reflect the correct Allocation Law Files and updated Allocation Allotment approach to the satisfaction of Halton Region.
h. The Owner shall prepare a detailed engineering submission to be submitted to the Regional Development Project Manager for review and approval prior to the preparation of the Regional development agreement.
i. That the Owner acknowledges, in writing, that registration of all or part of this plan of subdivision may not take place until notified by the Region's Development Project Manager that sufficient water capacity exists to accommodate this development.
j. The Owner acknowledges, in writing, that registration of all or part of this plan of subdivision may not take place until notification by the Region's Development Project Manager that sufficient Wastewater Plant capacity exists to accommodate this development.
k. That the Owner acknowledges, in writing, that registration of all or part of this plan of subdivision may not take place until notification by the Region's Development Project Manager that sufficient storage and pumping facilities and associated infrastructure relating to both water and wastewater are in place.
l. That all works which are the responsibility of the Owner to complete shall be supervised during construction by a licensed Professional Engineer of the Province of Ontario with all professional engineering fees paid by the Owner. The Owner's engineer must provide competent full time inspection staff on site during construction activities to obtain the required "as constructed" field information, and to ensure compliance with the approved drawings and the Region's Current Construction and Design Standards.
m. That the Owner agrees to conduct a survey of the static water level and quality of all wells within 500 metres of the plan. The owner further agrees to resolve any claims of well interruption due to the construction of municipal services to the satisfaction of the Region's Development Project Manager.
n. That the Owner agrees to conduct a survey of the property to identify all existing wells related to the former use of the lands. The owner further agrees to decommission any existing wells in accordance with MECP guidelines prior to commencing the development of these lands to the satisfaction of the Region's Development Project Manager.

o. That the Owner agrees to conduct a survey of the property to identify all existing private septic systems related to the former use of the lands. The owner further agrees to decommission any existing private septic systems in accordance with MOE guidelines prior to commencing the development of these lands to the satisfaction of the Region's Development Project Manager.
p. That the development shall be subject to full municipal water and sanitary sewer services to the satisfaction of the Region of Halton.
q. That the Owner shall enter into a development agreement and satisfy all requirements, financial and otherwise, of The Regional Municipality of Halton, including but not limited to, the phasing of the plan for registration, investigation of soil contamination and soil restoration, the provision of roads and the installation of water and sanitary sewer services, utilities and drainage works. This agreement is to be registered on title to the lands.
r. That temporary easements be provided for watermain looping that are internal and/or external to the site that are not located in an existing road right-of-way and that these easements be dedicated to the Region of Halton for the purpose of watermain protection; these easements shall be dedicated with clear title (free & clear of encumbrances) and a certificate of Title shall be provided, in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services and Corporate Counsel.
s. That the Owner agrees to provide and install individual pressure reducing valves (PRV), where required, at the residential units within the subdivision to meet the requirements of the Ontario Building Code to the satisfaction of the Region's Development Project Manager.
t. That the Owner agrees that warning clauses shall be included in a registered portion of the Regional Subdivision Agreement, and in subsequent offers of purchase and sale on all units within this development and, registered on title regarding potential high and low water pressures within the subdivision.
u. That the Owner is required to submit a revised Functional Servicing Study, in accordance with the standards of the Region of Halton and subject to Halton Region's Development Project Manager, Regional Planning and Public Works Department for review and approval, that includes the following:
    i. water modelling that addresses secondary watermain connections, flows, pressures, fire flow testing of the existing water system, and dead-end watermains.
    ii. an analysis that demonstrates that the existing water and sanitary sewer systems in the surrounding area can accommodate the proposed development including any required infrastructure upgrades or interim measure.
    iii. external drainage from Upper Middle Road will be conveyed into the subdivision storm sewers.
v. That the Owner is required to provide long term mitigation measures for the proposed dead end watermains along Sutton Drive such as a program for

flushing of dead end watermains or providing alternative looping to the satisfaction of the Halton Region's Development Project Manager.

w. That the Owner acknowledges that portions of the subdivision, may experience water pressures below the Region's minimum static pressure of 275 kPa (40 psi) during peak hour conditions. The Owner agrees to work with the Region to identify and implement appropriate mitigation measures, which may include but are not limited to PRV connections to higher pressure mains, or the use of booster pumps within specific buildings or blocks. The preferred mitigation strategy shall be confirmed through further consultation with the Region and documented in the detailed design submission to the satisfaction of the Region's Development Project Manager.

x. That the Owner agrees that warning clauses shall be included in a registered portion of the Regional Subdivision Agreement, and in subsequent offers of purchase and sale on all units within this development and, registered on title regarding potential water pressures changes within the subdivision resulting from the realignment of the Region's water pressure zones from the existing zone condition to the interim and ultimate zone pressure conditions.

y. That the Owner shall agree that pre- and post-development stormwater flows from the site to the existing drainage systems on Upper Middle Road during and after construction, such that there are no adverse impacts to the existing storm drainage systems on these roadways, to the satisfaction of Halton Region's Development Project Manager.

z. The owner/applicant shall dedicate any lands within 23.5 metres of the constructed centre line of the original right-of-way of Upper Middle Road (Regional Road 40) that are part of the subject property to Halton Region prior to registration for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements.

aa. The owner/applicant acknowledges and agrees to dedicate any additional lands that are part of the subject property and have been identified as required for the future widening of Upper Middle Road (Regional Road 40) per a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (MCEA) for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements. If the subdivision is registered before the Upper Middle Road MCEA is completed, then this condition does not apply and will be cleared.

bb. The owner/applicant acknowledges and agrees to dedicate any additional lands that are part of the subject property and have been identified as required for the future widening of Upper Middle Road (Regional Road 40) per a Halton Region Capital Works Detail Design Project (following the MCEA study) for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements. If the subdivision is registered before the Upper Middle Road Detail Design Project is completed, then this condition does not apply and will be cleared.

cc. The owner/applicant shall dedicate a daylight triangle measuring 15 metres along Upper Middle Road (Regional Road 40) and 15 metres along all approved future intersections, based on the ultimate Regional right-of-way

requirements, to Halton Region prior to registration for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements.

dd. The owner/applicant shall dedicate any lands within 23.5 metres of the constructed centre line of the original right-of-way of Burloak Drive (Regional Road 21) that are part of the subject property to Halton Region prior to registration for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements.

ee. The owner/applicant acknowledges and agrees to dedicate any additional lands that are part of the subject property and have been identified as required for the future widening of Burloak Drive (Regional Road 21) per a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (MCEA) for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements. If the subdivision is registered before the Upper Middle Road MCEA is completed, then this condition does not apply and will be cleared.

ff. The owner/applicant acknowledges and agrees to dedicate any additional lands that are part of the subject property and have been identified as required for the future widening of Burloak Drive (Regional Road 21) per a Halton Region Capital Works Detail Design Project (following the MCEA study) for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements. If the subdivision is registered before the Upper Middle Road Detail Design Project is completed, then this condition does not apply and will be cleared.

gg. The owner/applicant shall dedicate a daylight triangle measuring 15 metres along Burloak Drive (Regional Road 21) and 15 metres along all approved future intersections, based on the ultimate Regional right-of-way requirements, to Halton Region prior to registration for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements.

hh. The owner/applicant shall provide a legal survey (detailing land dedication to verify that the adequate property requirements are met), to the satisfaction of Halton Region.

ii. The owner/applicant shall ensure that all lands to be dedicated to Halton Region shall be dedicated with clear title (free and clear of encumbrances) and a Certificate of title shall be provided, in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services or his/her designate.

jj. The owner/applicant acknowledges and agrees that any proposed private signage, landscaping, etc., for the site must be placed outside of the ultimate Regional right-of-way and daylight triangle (on private property). Per Halton Region's Regional Road Landscaping Guidelines & Specifications (2018), only grasses and/or low lying shrubs are to be planted within the Regional ROW daylight triangles. All plantings must have a mature height that does not exceed 1 metre. Species that deviate from this rule can impact the safety of roadway and sidewalk users at intersections by obstructing sightlines.

kk. The owner/applicant shall submit an updated Transportation Impact Study in support of the proposed development that addresses Halton Region's comments submitted as part of this application. The final study, its

assumptions and recommendations must be to the satisfaction of Halton Region.

ll. The owner/applicant shall implement all road improvements identified in the approved Transportation Impact Study required to support the subdivision to the satisfaction of Halton Region. The owner/applicant is responsible for all costs associated with the improvements identified.

mm. The owner/applicant shall enter into a Development Agreement (through the Development Project Manager, Halton Region) prior to registration for the completion of the works required as identified in the latest approved Transportation Impact Study.

Detailed design drawings of the works must be completed to Halton Region's satisfaction and submitted to Halton Region's Development Project Manager for review and approval. A design based on the specifications outlined in the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads (GDGCR) and approved by Road Operations & Maintenance and/or Engineering, Construction & Transportation Management must be shown. The detailed design drawings should include road improvements and all associated design details, including but not limited to: grading & cross-sections, Traffic Signal drawings, the location of intersection street signs (advanced & at-intersection) and intersection pavement markings.

nn. The owner/applicant shall submit an updated Noise Feasibility Study in support of the proposed development that addresses Halton Region's comments provided on the previously submitted study. The final study, its assumptions and recommendations must be to the satisfaction of Halton Region. Every effort should be made where possible in planning the development layout so that future Outdoor Living Areas (OLAs) do not require physical mitigation measures from Regional Roads and/or Town roads (i.e. acoustic barrier).

oo. The owner/applicant agrees to implement the noise recommendations of the approved Noise Feasibility Study to support the subdivision to the satisfaction of Halton Region. The owner/applicant is responsible for all costs associated with the improvements identified.

An updated detailed Noise Feasibility Study should be conducted if any proposed grading information has significantly changed to refine the noise assessment and warning clauses.

pp. The owner/applicant shall provide a signed/stamped letter from the development Architect, in conjunction with the Building Permit Application, stating that the recommendations from the approved Noise Feasibility Study will be implemented and have been reflected in the submitted drawings. Halton Region shall receive confirmation of such correspondence.

qq. All updated/amended Warning Clauses must be reviewed and approved by Halton Region and the City of Burlington. All applicable warning clauses shall be listed in the City of Burlington' Site Plan Agreement and also be inserted in the Agreements of Purchase and Sale or Lease.

rr. The owner/applicant agrees to the following, to the satisfaction of Halton Region:
    i. that for all lands, lots or blocks that will be fitted with noise control measures and/or features, the owner/applicant shall instruct its sales staff and agents (in the sales centre or otherwise) to notify all interested or potential purchasers, parties, buyers and/or future owners of the recommendations and warning clauses of the approved Noise Feasibility Study as early in the purchasing process as possible (pre-sale); and,
    ii. that for all lands, lots or blocks that will be fitted with noise control measures and/or features, the recommendations and warning clauses of the approved Noise Feasibility Study shall be registered on title, included in all pre-sales materials and all agreements of purchase and sale.

ss. The owner/applicant shall provide noise easements for all required Regional noise barriers to the satisfaction of Halton Region prior to registration for the purpose of allowing Regional staff access for maintenance. Halton Region requires a +/-1 metre easement on the inside of the acoustic barriers within the residential lots and a +/-2 metre easement on the outside of the acoustic barriers within any private or City/Town-owned blocks.

tt. The owner/applicant shall ensure that the design of any required Active Transportation connections to Upper Middle Road and Burloak Drive will be designed and constructed to the satisfaction of Halton Region.

uu. The owner/applicant shall obtain a Permit from and/or enter into an Encroachment Agreement with Halton Region (as required by Halton Region) for any shoring/tie-backs, open excavation, crane swing, construction access, etc. proposed within the ultimate Upper Middle Road and Burloak Drive right-of-ways during construction of the proposed development. All construction components (including a detailed Construction Management Plan) must be reviewed and approved by Halton Region and co-ordinated with Halton Region.

29. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Halton District School Board:
    a. The Owner agrees to place the following notification in all offers of purchase and sale for all lots/units and in the City's subdivision agreement, to be registered on title:
        i. Prospective purchasers are advised that schools on sites designated for the Halton District School Board in the community are not guaranteed. Attendance at schools in the area yet to be constructed is also not guaranteed. Pupils may be accommodated in temporary facilities and/or be directed to schools outside of the area. School attendance areas are subject to change and/or redirections can be put into place to address immediate school accommodation pressures.

ii. Prospective purchasers are advised that the surrounding neighbourhood may not be fully constructed, and will be under construction once the school is in operation. As such, not all sidewalks, roadways, and/or other infrastructure may not be immediately available.
iii. Prospective purchasers are advised that school buses will not enter cul-de-sacs and pick-up points will be generally located on through streets convenient to the Halton Student Transportation Services. Prospective purchasers are advised that School buses shall not enter new subdivisions (construction areas) until all major construction activity has been completed. School bus stops will be placed at or near the entrance to the new subdivision. Bus stop locations within new subdivisions will be determined by Halton Student Transportation Services upon completed site reviews. It is therefore the responsibility of future purchasers that have students attending an HDSB school to identify a suitable means for home to school transportation requirements (whether walking or bused).
iv. Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that due to the proximity of the adjacent school, sound levels from these facilities may at times be audible.
v. Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that roads adjacent to the Halton District School Board school sites will be subject to higher-than-normal traffic volumes as a result of the school facilities and activities.
vi. Purchasers and/or tenants of lots or units within this subdivision are advised that the Halton District School Board elementary school sports field and play areas may be in use during daytime, evening, and weekends, with operating hours from 7:00 a.m. until nightfall. In the event that an elementary school sports field receives lighting, those hours may be extended from 7:00 am to 11:59 pm. Uses programmed on elementary school sites may generate noise or lights that could affect the occupants of properties adjacent to or nearby this facility.

b. That in cases where offers of purchase and sale have already been executed, the Owner will send a letter to all purchasers, which includes the above statements.
c. The Owner shall provide all required municipal subdivision services necessary to accommodate the construction of a school on the designated school site, as contemplated by the Halton District School Board. Such services shall include, without limitation, storm and sanitary sewers, stormwater management facilities, hydro, water, telephone, natural gas, fibre optics, and cable television, excluding any switchgear. These services must be of sufficient capacity and appropriately designed to support a school of the intended size and shall be made available at the boundary between the school site and the adjacent public roadway, at a location that optimally facilitates the development of the school site.

d. That the Owner will not place nor store any fill or topsoil in the school block without the prior written consent of the Halton District School Board.
e. The Owner agrees that, should the development be phased, a copy of the phasing plan must be submitted prior to final approval to the Halton District School Board. The phasing plan will indicate the sequence of development, the land area, the number of lots and blocks, and units for each phase. The Owner will provide information on the anticipated start of construction and tentative occupancy dates of residential units.
f. That the Owner shall supply, erect, and maintain signs at all major entrances into the new development advising prospective purchasers that pupils may be directed to schools outside of the area. The Owner will make these signs to the specifications of the Halton District School Board and erect them prior to final approval.
g. That a copy of the approved sidewalk plan, prepared to the satisfaction of the Municipality, be submitted to the Halton District School Board.
h. The Owner agrees to discuss with Halton District School Board, student active transportation needs, with possible input and requirements for future planned conditions of the road network and intersections within the development and the area surrounding the development, and supporting crossing infrastructure.
i. The Owner shall provide Halton District School Board a PDF copy and a geo-referenced AutoCAD file of the Draft Plan of Subdivision, as well as a Draft M-Plan once all Lot and Block numbering has been finalized. Should any changes occur after the initial submission to Lot and Block configuration or numbering on the draft M-Plan, the Owner shall provide a new AutoCAD file and a memo outlining the changes.

30. The owner shall agree to the following to the satisfaction of Halton Catholic District School Board, to be fulfilled prior to final approval:
    a. That the Owner agrees in the Subdivision Agreement, to the satisfaction of HCDSB and the City of Burlington, to install appropriate privacy fencing and/or buffering where residential lots are adjacent to school lands, including but not limited to sports fields, domes, play areas, and parking areas, in order to address privacy, safety, and land use compatibility concerns.
    b. The owner agrees to place the following notification in all offers of purchase and sale for all lots/units and in the City's agreements, to be registered on title:
        i. Prospective purchasers are advised that Catholic school accommodation may not be available for students residing in this area, and that you are notified that students may be accommodated in temporary facilities and/or bused to existing facilities outside the area.
        ii. Prospective purchasers are advised that the HCDSB will designate pick up points for the children to meet the bus on roads presently in existence or other pick up areas convenient to the Board, and that

you are notified that school busses will not enter cul-de-sacs and private roads.

iii. Prospective purchasers of lots/units abutting, fronting and adjacent to the HCDSB school site are advised that temporary facilities/portables will be sited on the school site in order to accommodate pupils in excess of the school building capacity.

iv. The owners of lots adjoining the HCDSB school site are prohibited to install or use, for any purposes, a gate in any boundary line fence adjacent to such school property. In the event a gate is installed, the Board will remove it at the owner's expense.

v. The owners of lots adjoining the HCDSB school site are advised that noise, lighting, and activity associated with normal school operations, including sports fields and future facilities, may occur.

c. In cases where offers of purchase and sale have already been executed, the owner is to send a letter to all purchasers which include the above statements.

d. That the owner agrees to the satisfaction of the HCDSB, to erect and maintain signs at all major entrances into the new development advising prospective purchasers that if a permanent school is not available alternative accommodation and/or busing will be provided. The owner will make these signs to the specifications of the HCDSB and erect them prior to final approval.

e. That the developer agrees that should the development be phased, a copy of the phasing plan must be submitted prior to final approval to the HCDSB. The phasing plan will indicate the sequence of development, the land area, the number of lots and blocks and units for each phase.

f. That a copy of the approved sidewalk plan, prepared to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington be submitted to the HCDSB.

g. The owner shall provide HCDSB a geo-referenced AutoCAD file of the Draft M-plan once all Lot and Block numbering has been finalized. Should any changes occur after the initial submission to Lot and Block configuration or numbering on the draft M-plan the Owner shall provide a new AutoCAD file and a memo outlining the changes.

31. The owner shall agree to the following to the satisfaction of Canada Post:

a. The Developer covenants and agrees to provide the City of Burlington with evidence that satisfactory arrangements have been made with Canada Post Corporation for the installation of Community Mail Boxes (CMB) as required by Canada Post Corporation and as shown on the approved Site Plan, at the time of sidewalk and/or curb installation. The Developer further agrees to provide notice to prospective tenants/purchasers of the locations of the CMBs and that mail service will be via CMBs.

b. The owner/developer will consult with Canada Post to determine suitable permanent location(s) for the placement of Community Mailboxes and to indicate these locations on appropriate servicing plans confirming that the locations will not be in conflict with any other utility

c. The owner/developer agrees, prior to offering any of the residential units for sale, to place a "Display Map" on the wall of the sales office in a place readily available to the public which indicates the location of all Canada Post Community Mailbox site locations, as approved by Canada Post and the City of Burlington.
d. The developer agrees to include in all offers of purchase and sale, a statement which advises the purchaser that mail will be delivered via Community Mail Box. The developer also agrees to note the locations of all Community Mail Boxes within the development, and to notify affected homeowners of any established easements granted to Canada Post to permit access to the Community Mail Box.
e. Where necessary, the developer will provide a suitable and safe temporary site for a Community Mail Box until curbs, sidewalks and final grading are completed at the permanent Community Mail Box locations.
f. The developer agrees to provide the following for each Community Mail Box site and to include these requirements on the appropriate servicing plans:
    i. Any required walkway across the boulevard, per municipal standards
    ii. Any required curb depressions for wheelchair access, with an opening of at least two meters (consult Canada Post for detailed specifications)
g. In order to ensure mail service is initiated when new homeowners move in, it is the Developer's responsibility to ensure Canada Post is kept up to date on the date of first occupancy providing at least 60 days notice of the first resident moving in.
   If required, Canada Post will install the concrete pads at each of the identified locations outlined on the municipally approved Site Plan – the developer will provide access to these sites at the time of installation.

32. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Transportation:
    a. The promoter shall submit a revised TIS that addresses the comments identified in MTO's email sent on March 27, 2026. The revised TIS shall be reviewed and accepted by MTO as a condition of Draft Plan approval prior to registration.

33. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Hydro One Inc.:

    a. Any proposed secondary land use on the transmission corridor is processed through the Provincial Secondary Land Use Program (PSLUP). The developer must contact Joan Zhao Senior Real Estate Coordinator , Joan.Zhao@HydroOne.com to discuss all aspects of the subdivision design, ensure all of HONI's technical requirements are met to its satisfaction, and acquire the applicable agreements.

    b. Prior to HONI providing its final approval, the developer must make arrangements satisfactory to HONI for lot grading and drainage. Digital PDF copies of the lot grading and drainage plans (true scale), showing

existing and proposed final grades, must be submitted to HONI for review and approval. The drawings must identify the transmission corridor, location of towers within the corridor and any proposed uses within the transmission corridor. Drainage must be controlled and directed away from the transmission corridor.

c. Any development in conjunction with the subdivision must not block vehicular access to any HONI facilities located on the transmission corridor. During construction, there must be no storage of materials or mounding of earth, snow or other debris on the transmission corridor.

d. At the developer's expense, temporary fencing must be placed along the transmission corridor prior to construction, and permanent fencing must be erected along the common property line after construction is completed.

e. The costs of any relocations or revisions to HONI facilities which are necessary to accommodate this subdivision will be borne by the developer. The developer will be responsible for restoration of any damage to the transmission corridor or HONI facilities thereon resulting from construction of the subdivision.

f. This letter and the conditions contained therein should in no way be construed as permission for or an endorsement of proposed location(s) for any road crossing(s) contemplated for the proposed development. This permission may be specifically granted by OILC under separate agreement(s). Proposals for any secondary land use including road crossings on the transmission corridor are processed through PSLUP. HONI, as OILC's service provider, will review detailed engineering plans for such proposals separately, in order to obtain final approval. Should approval for a road crossing be granted, the developer shall then make arrangements satisfactory to the OILC and HONI for the dedication and transfer of the proposed road allowance directly to the Burlington. Access to, and road construction on the transmission corridor is not to occur until the legal transfer(s) of lands or interests are completed.

34. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Burlington Hydro Incorporated:

a. agree to satisfy all of the conditions and requirements, financial or otherwise, of Burlington Hydro Incorporated and provide the Director of Engineering with a clearance letter from Burlington Hydro Incorporated when its requirements have been met;

b. sign Burlington Hydro Incorporated's subdivision agreement and any other agreements required by Burlington Hydro Incorporated; and

c. provide the Director of Engineering with a clearance letter from Burlington Hydro Incorporated when its requirements have been met.

35. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Enbridge:

    a. Obtain written consent for any ground disturbance activities within the prescribed area (30 m) of the pipeline through Enbridge Crossings and Encroachments application process.

    b. Obtain written consent through Enbridge Crossings and Encroachments application process for all above and below ground crossings and encroachments of the pipeline, either temporary or permanent.

    c. Obtain written consent for any proposed landscaping or pathways on Enbridge's pipeline right-of-way.

36. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Bell Canada:

    a. Prior to commencing any work within the Plan, the owner must confirm that sufficient wire-line communication/telecommunication infrastructure is currently available within the proposed development to provide communication/telecommunication service to the proposed development. In the event that such infrastructure is not available, the owner may be required to pay for the connection to and/or extension of the existing communication/telecommunication infrastructure. If the owner elects not to pay for such connection to and/or extension of the existing communication/ telecommunication infrastructure, the owner shall be required to demonstrate to the municipality that sufficient alternative communication/telecommunication facilities are available within the proposed development to enable, at a minimum, the effective delivery of communication/ telecommunication services for emergency management services (i.e. 911 Emergency Services).

37. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Rogers Communications Canada Inc.:

    a. The Owner shall agree in the Subdivision Agreement to (a) permit all CRTC-licensed telecommunications companies intending to serve the Subdivision (the "Communications Service Providers") to install their facilities within the Subdivision, and (b) provide joint trenches for such purpose.

    b. The Owner shall agree in the Subdivision Agreement to grant, at its own cost, all easements required by the Communications Service Providers to serve the Subdivision, and will cause the registration of all such easements on title to the property.

    c. The Owner shall agree in the Subdivision Agreement to coordinate construction activities with the Communications Service Providers and other utilities, and prepare an overall composite utility plan that shows the

locations of all utility infrastructure for the Subdivision, as well as the timing and phasing of installation.

d. The Owner shall agree in the Subdivision Agreement that, if the Owner requires any existing Rogers facilities to be relocated, the Owner shall be responsible for the relocation of such facilities and provide where applicable, an easement to Rogers to accommodate the relocated facilities.

38. The Owner agrees to complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning and the Manager of Parks Design and Construction:

    a. Revise the Draft Plan of Subdivision to provide additional Open Space blocks for the purpose of providing entry features at gateway locations to the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, and dedicate such Open Space blocks to the City free of charge.

        i. The Open Space blocks shall be located to maximize public visibility at points of entry to the community and shall not be located within any street right-of-way or daylight triangle;

        ii. The Open Space blocks shall be sized to accommodate maintenance access around all sides of the entry features, and/or may require the provision of maintenance access easements in favour of the City of Burlington registered on adjacent private properties;

        iii. The Open Space blocks and entry features may require approval of Hydro One and/or Enbridge depending on location.

    b. Submit and obtain approval for detailed designs of entry features and associated landscape plans;

    c. Agree to construct/install the entry features and landscaping in accordance with the approved designs at the Owner’s expense;

    d. Agree to provide any cost estimates and/or financial securities as the City may require in association with the approved entry features.

39. Prior to final approval of the draft plan of subdivision, the Director of Community Planning shall be satisfied that the approved pavement markings and street sign plan provides for the design and placement of signage and traffic management measures that are consistent with the recommendations of the approved Environmental Impact Assessment and will enable wildlife cohabitation adjacent to the natural heritage system and within the neighbourhood, particularly to enable connections between the proposed development and the natural areas east of the subject property;

40. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to final approval:

a. Prior to final approval, provide a list of lot and block widths and areas prepared by an Ontario Land Surveyor, to ensure all blocks conform to Zoning By-law 2020, as amended.

b. Prior to final approval, pay any outstanding City staff processing costs incurred to that date in the processing of the application.

c. prior to final approval, pay the City's per unit registration processing fee;

d. Prior to final approval:

    i. Consult Community Planning staff for street naming criteria and process requirements.

    ii. Submit to the City proposed street names for all streets in the plan. Community Planning staff will co-ordinate review and approval of street names by relevant stakeholders including Halton Regional Police Service.

    iii. Obtain approval from Director of Community Planning for names of all streets in the plan, and update the plan to reflect the approved names.

e. Prior to final approval, the Director of Community Planning shall be satisfied that the Owner has entered into any agreement(s), as the City may be permitted to require, for the provision of funds or the provision of service satisfaction of Council for any funds or services which may be required of any future landowners in order for the development of Bronte Creek Meadows to proceed as planned.

f. Prior to registration of any portion of the subdivision, the owner shall submit a comprehensive phasing plan indicating the sequence of development, the land area in hectares, the number of lots and blocks for each phase, the proposed use of all blocks including the proposed number of units, and how comprehensive development is to proceed, including construction of public services and creek block work.

g. Design, locate and erect signs prior to the sale of any lots and prior to commencement of subdivision construction which provide notification of: the proposed land uses, road pattern, lotting, phasing of the proposed subdivision, the properties abutting the development, location of postal facilities, transit route locations and lots subject to warning clauses. The signs shall be resistant to weathering and vandalism. All lots and blocks shall be deemed unsuitable for building until the above has been satisfied

h. Design, locate and erect signs that are resistant to weathering and vandalism at the end of all stub roads prior to offering any lots for sale. These signs shall provide notice that the stub roads shall be extended at a future date when the adjoining lands are developed.

i. Prior to final approval, and prior to potential submission of building permit applications for model homes, the Owner will submit to the City a letter/brief from an architect or other qualified design professional,

certifying that the approved Tertiary Plan and Urban Design Study and the design policies of the City's Official Plan have been complied with on the plans for all development lots/blocks not subject to Site Plan Control.

j. Prior to the approval of engineering and landscape drawings, the Owner agrees to submit a letter from a landscape architect or other qualified design professional certifying that the approved Tertiary Plan and Urban Design Study and the design policies of the City's Official Plan have been complied with and will be implemented as provided for on the engineering drawings.

41. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall be satisfied that conditions 1-9, 38-40, and 42-57 and all subsections thereto, have been satisfied.

42. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Director of Engineering Services of the City of Burlington that conditions 3, 10, 11, and 14 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

43. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Manager of Parks Design and Construction of the City of Burlington that conditions 3, 11, 15, and 38 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

44. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Director of Roads, Parks, and Forestry of the City of Burlington that condition 12 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

45. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Director of Transportation Services of the City of Burlington that conditions 3 and 13-22 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

46. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Director of Transit Services of the City of Burlington that condition 17 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

47. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Region of Halton that conditions 18 and 28 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

48. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Canada Post that conditions 19 and 31 and all

subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

49. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Halton District School Board that conditions 20 and 29 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

50. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Halton Catholic District School Board that conditions 21 and 30 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

51. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Ministry of Transportation that conditions 22 and 32 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

52. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Hydro One Inc. that condition 33 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

53. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Burlington Hydro Inc. that condition 34 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

54. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Enbridge that condition 35 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

55. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Bell that condition 36 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

56. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Rogers Communications Canada Inc. that condition 37 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

57. All of the above conditions shall be satisfied within 3 years of the granting of draft approval, being June 23, 2029.

J. Tellier Date

Director of Community Planning

If there are no appeals, Draft Approval is deemed to have been made on

June 23, 2026

NOTES:

City of Burlington

1. The owner is advised that additional fees are required by the City of Burlington and the Region of Halton for each Extension to Draft Approval and for Major Revisions to the draft plan or conditions.
2. To request or initiate a consultation with the Burlington Urban Design (BUD) Panel, visit www.burlington.ca/urbandesign and/or contact planning@burlington.ca
3. The owner, its successors and assigns, is hereby notified that City-wide Development Charges may be payable in accordance with the applicable by-law.
4. At any time prior to final approval of the plan for registration, the City may amend, delete or add to the conditions and this may include the need for amended or new studies in accordance with Section 51 (18) of the Planning Act, 1990

Region of Halton

5. Halton Region will have the following requirements at the time of registration of the subdivision:
   a. Final draft M plans signed and dated by the Owner, Surveyor and initialed by the City of Burlington Planner;
   b. Regional Registration fee;
   c. LRO Confirmation Email of LRO Pre-approval and PX number.
6. For more information on how to obtain a Public Works Commissioner's Notice (PWCN), please contact Nicole - Pettenuzzo - Senior Planner, Public Works"

Halton District School Board

7. Education Development Charges (EDC) are payable in accordance with the applicable EDC By-law and are required at the issuance of a building permit. Any building permits that are additional to the maximum unit yield which is specified by the Subdivision Agreement are also subject to EDCs prior to the issuance of a building permit, at the rate in effect on the date of issuance.
8. Additional Dwelling Units (ADU) constructed as part of a primary dwelling unit prior to occupancy are subject to EDCs. For ADUs to be eligible for an exemption, the building permit must be issued after occupancy of the primary unit, and must meet other requirements such as size and number of units relative to the existing unit. For more information on EDCs and ADUs, please reach out to the School Boards.
9. The Board's 2023 EDC by-law provides a limited number of statutory and non-statutory exemptions. School Boards may not exempt a development from the payment of EDCs unless such a development falls squarely within the terms of an exemption provided under an EDC by-law. To qualify for an exemption, an applicant must submit appropriate documentation confirming the intended purpose of the development. Approval of the exemption will be subject to verification and compliance with all relevant legislative and regulatory requirements. For more information on EDCs, please reach out to the School Boards.

Canada Post

10. The owner/developer of any condominiums will be required to provide signature for a License to Occupy Land agreement and provide winter snow clearance at the Community Mailbox locations
11. Enhanced Community Mailbox Sites with roof structures will require additional documentation as per Canada Post Policy
12. There will be no more than one mail delivery point to each unique address assigned by the Municipality
13. Any existing postal coding may not apply, the owner/developer should contact Canada Post to verify postal codes for the project
14. The complete guide to Canada Post’s Delivery Standards can be found at: https://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/assets/pdf/business/standardsmanual_en.pdf

Hydro One

15. The transmission lines abutting the subject lands operate at either 500,000, 230,000 or 115,000 volts. Section 188 of Regulation 213/91 pursuant to the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*, require that no object be brought closer than 6 metres (20 feet) to an energized 500 kV conductor. The distance for 230 kV conductors is 4.5 metres (15 feet), and for 115 kV conductors it is 3 metres

(10 feet). It is the developer's responsibility to be aware, and to make all personnel on site aware, that all equipment and personnel must come no closer than the distance specified in the *Act*. They should also be aware that the conductors can raise and lower without warning, depending on the electrical demand placed on the line.

Appendix I: Public Comments

Comment 1

From: Alex Murden

Date: March 16, 2026

As an orchard resident who lives on Roseville Court, across from this proposed development, I 1000% disagree with this proposal! The area is already super busy and crammed, many days I cannot even pull out of bluespruce onto uppermiddle due to the number of cars coming down the road. There's already too many people, houses, cars in this small area and adding in hundreds of more houses which will be thousands of more people off of uppermiddle, will be a complete disaster. I actually find it incredible that this is even being proposed, its probably one of the stupidest things I've seen in my life. I know many people in the orchard area who think the exact same as I do and want this proposal to be denied. That being said, we all know city council and the mayor, couldnt care less what we think, we only pay their salaries.....I for one, will work and vote to ensure Paul Sharman and Meed-Ward do not get re-elected, they dont deserve it if this proposal goes through. We need to elect some people who actually care about the residents way of life, rather than tax income. The worst part of all of this is, if this is approved, I will have to move out of my house that I have lived in with my family for the last 13 years as there is no way I am being part of the chaos of the construction and want nothing to do with living here once the new houses are crammed in. I really hope this will be re-considered as it truly is a terrible plan/idea and I really dont want to have to move may family.

Comment 2

From: Alexandra Duffy

Date: May 15, 2026

Good afternoon,

I am writing to express serious concerns regarding the proposed Alinea Bronte Creek Meadows Phase 1 development and, in particular, the planned use of Sutton Drive as a major connecting corridor between Mainway and Dundas/Upper Middle Road.

According to the proposal, Phase 1 alone is expected to add approximately 597 new residential units. (Burlington) While growth is expected in Burlington, the current road network and character of Sutton Drive are not appropriate for the level of through-traffic this connection will generate.

Sutton Drive is primarily a residential street with families, pedestrians, and three nearby schools. It was not designed to function as a high-volume transit or commuter artery. Even

today, a significant number of drivers already use Sutton Drive as a shortcut or pass-through route without respecting speed limits, stop signs, or neighbourhood safety. Traffic noise and congestion have already become a major issue for residents.

Connecting this development directly through Sutton Drive while adding nearly 600 new homes will significantly worsen:

- Traffic volume and speeding

- Noise pollution

- Safety risks for children and pedestrians

- Cut-through commuter traffic

- Overall neighbourhood livability

Residents should not bear the burden of regional traffic flow through an established residential community. The proposal appears to prioritize vehicle connectivity over neighbourhood safety and quality of life.

I respectfully request that the City carefully reconsider the transportation design and evaluate alternative access strategies that do not turn Sutton Drive into a major north-south connector. At minimum, stronger traffic calming, safety protections, and restrictions on through-traffic should be evaluated before any approvals move forward.

I also ask that the Transportation Impact Study fully account for:

- Existing non-local cut-through traffic

- School zone safety impacts

- Peak-hour congestion

- Noise impacts on adjacent homes

- Long-term cumulative impacts from future phases of Bronte Creek Meadows

The existing community deserves infrastructure planning that protects residents, children, and neighbourhood livability, rather than transforming residential streets into commuter corridors.

Comment 3

From: Marisol Avalos

Date: March 28, 2026

Good evening,

I would like to put forward the below comments pertaining to the proposal to amend zoning By-laws for site address - Ward 5 to allow development of residential lots, employment blocks etc.

1. Has an environmental impact study been conducted on the effects of 597 new residential units being constructed and the additional pollution-air, water, waste, noise and land that will be generated as a result of these new developments in ward 5?

2-How will heritage trees and endangered species and ecosystems be preserved and protected with zoning changes to ward 5?

3- should 597 new residential units being constructed. This will lead to an increase of crime and or a strain on current road infrastructure. How will this be addressed?

4- Will there be any consideration given in preserving and protecting the creek?

5- How will coyotes, fox and other wildlife migration paths be secured and maintained in ward 5 should 597 new residential units be constructed?

6- Of the 597 new units being built will this include low income housing in ward 5?

7-Will the increase of infrastructure in ward 5 lead or result in an increase of property taxes for residents in the city of Burlington?

8- Will there be a collaboration with indigenous partners on stewardship pertaining to advocacy re the land stipulated in ward 5 and its preservation (if any)?

9-Will there be a provision for increasing emergency services in ward 5 with the building of 597 additional units?

Comment 4

From: Samantha Lowry

Date: March 23, 2026

I am writing to you as a concerned homeowner on Creek Way. We grew up in Burlington, my husband and I both were born in 1988 and grew up in Headon Forest. This city and its development are out of control. We moved here to Creek Way to give our children a quiet, safe place to play and grow. Increasing developments puts us back to where we moved from (off of Guelph Line), to being busy and bustling. How sad. Alton Village is atrocious. You will be doing the same to Millcroft. And now here. Think of families wanting safe environments. I know my words will fall on deaf ears, but someone needs to say it. Please consider.

Comment 5

From: Siddhartha Parti

Date: May 15, 2026

Dear Jaclyn and Thomas,

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to you as an immediate neighbor to the proposed "Bronte Creek Meadows" development (Phase 1). My property is located at **1491 Burloak Drive**.

Given our immediate proximity to this massive 597-unit residential and mixed-use community, my property will be heavily impacted and by the upcoming shifts in local infrastructure.

As the City reviews the Official Plan and Zoning By-law amendments ahead of the **June 9, 2026 Statutory Public Meeting**, I want to formally request that the City consider infrastructure integration for existing adjacent boundary properties. Specifically, I want to ensure that the capacity calculations for the new wastewater/sanitary sewer mains and natural gas lines account for the hookup and transition of existing properties like mine. Currently, my residence (and 3 other adjoining residences) relies entirely on a private septic system and a propane tank.

Could you please assist me with the following?

1. **Notice List:** Please add my name and email to the official "Notice List" for all future decisions, updates, and reports regarding these files.

2. **Functional Servicing Study:** Could you provide or direct me to the applicant's Functional Servicing Report / Study so I can review the proposed routing for the water, wastewater, and gas mains?

3. **City Policy on Integration:** What is the City's current strategy or mechanism (e.g., Local Improvement Charges or developer-led boundary extensions) to allow immediate perimeter neighbors to hook into the new municipal lines while crews are actively trenching the area?

Thank you for your time and for your guidance on how to best ensure our property is accounted for in this local infrastructure overhaul.

Comment 6

From: Vasu Kanna

Date: May 15, 2026

I am writing to express serious concerns regarding the proposed Alinea Bronte Creek Meadows Phase 1 development and, in particular, the planned use of Sutton Drive as a major connecting corridor between Mainway and Dundas/Upper Middle Road.

According to the proposal, Phase 1 alone is expected to add approximately 597 new residential units. (Burlington) While growth is expected in Burlington, the current road network and character of Sutton Drive are not appropriate for the level of through-traffic this connection will generate.

Sutton Drive is primarily a residential street with families, pedestrians, and three nearby schools. It was not designed to function as a high-volume transit or commuter artery. Even today, a significant number of drivers already use Sutton Drive as a shortcut or pass-through route without respecting speed limits, stop signs, or neighbourhood safety. Traffic noise and congestion have already become a major issue for residents.

Connecting this development directly through Sutton Drive while adding nearly 600 new homes will significantly worsen:

- Traffic volume and speeding

- Noise pollution

- Safety risks for children and pedestrians

- Cut-through commuter traffic

- Overall neighbourhood livability

Residents should not bear the burden of regional traffic flow through an established residential community. The proposal appears to prioritize vehicle connectivity over neighbourhood safety and quality of life.

I respectfully request that the City carefully reconsider the transportation design and evaluate alternative access strategies that do not turn Sutton Drive into a major north-south connector. At minimum, stronger traffic calming, safety protections, and restrictions on through-traffic should be evaluated before any approvals move forward.

I also ask that the Transportation Impact Study fully account for:

- Existing non-local cut-through traffic

- School zone safety impacts

- Peak-hour congestion

- Noise impacts on adjacent homes

- Long-term cumulative impacts from future phases of Bronte Creek Meadows

The existing community deserves infrastructure planning that protects residents, children, and neighbourhood livability, rather than transforming residential streets into commuter corridors.

Douglas, Thomas

From: Emmett Vanson <LRLUST@sixnations.ca>
Sent: March 20, 2026 10:54 AM
To: Schneider, Jaclyn; Douglas, Thomas
Cc: Peter Graham
Subject: SNGREC Environmental Comments Regarding the Bronte Creek Meadows ZBA/OPA/DPS

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Blue Category

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Sekon [say-goh] (Hello) Jaclyn and Thomas,

Thank you for continuing to keep me in the loop on the project. I'd be interested in a meeting to discuss this project sometime after the week of April 7th. Please let me know what times would work best for yourselves.

Included are my environmental comments on behalf of Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council (SNGREC) regarding The ZBA/OPA/DPS submission for Bronte Creek Meadows.

1701 Nanfan Treaty Preamble

Six Nations of the Grand River (SNGR) Territory is within the most highly urbanized land in Canada. Development has occurred on Six Nations' traditional territory without consultation or consent of SNGR. The cumulative effects of this intense development have contributed to significant environmental degradation and, as a result, Six Nations has experienced severe impacts on its ability to exercise Aboriginal and Treaty Rights that are not only set out in the treaties themselves but are also recognized and affirmed in Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982. The 1701 Nanfan Treaty guarantees SNGR's right to harvest and hunt on this property for perpetuity, but this proposal undermines those rights. SNGR must be accommodated to mitigate any harm to its treaty rights caused by the proponent.

SNGREC's Stance

SNGREC believes that the proponents have done their best to avoid doing anything beyond the minimum with regards to the environment. No actions have been taken to minimize impacts to SNGR's Aboriginal and Treaty Rights or to the environment. The proponents have followed the minimum requirements (i.e. enhancement areas) and reduced buffers at every opportunity. The increases to

wetland buffers that were accepted did not accomplish anything as those wetlands are at least 30m within the combined enhancement area and woodlot. The wetland that is most likely to be impacted, SCW3, is the only wetland that did not receive any buffer increase. Increasing the other buffers is disingenuous and appears as an attempt to placate and distract while accomplishing nothing. Applying a 30m buffer would cost the proponents very little but would improve the situation for SCW3. The suggested buffers are called "Refined Science Based Buffers" but no scientific evidence or justification is provided besides Colucent Environmental's own opinions that any science or regulations pointing to greater buffers is bad without evidence that smaller buffers are sufficient.

SNGREC requests that SCW3 receives a vegetated buffer of at least 30-41m. 30m is a middle ground between SNGREC's 41m requirement and the desires of Colucent Environmental and the proponent. Additionally, SNGREC chose not to stress compensation or protection for the wetland removals in favor of enhancing SCW3, even with the wetland removals being hidden in the documentation and insufficiently discussed.

The proponents have not proposed any measures that exceed the standard and thus have no excuse to reduce wetland buffers below the standard.

Treaty Rights Accommodation and Compensation

Further development of the land infringes on Six Nations Aboriginal and Treaty Rights by essentially guaranteeing land will not be returned to a natural state and by negatively impacting the environment through emissions and use of resources. Developments on this land fall under the Duty to Consult and Accommodate, meaning Six Nations of the Grand River must be consulted with and accommodated for impacts to their rights.

SNGREC requires that this development is paired with compensation for impacts to these rights and to the environment. Compensation should include environmental enhancement, financial compensation, and other forms of compensation such as increased numbers of affordable units and discounts for Six Nations people. Please contact lrlust@sixnations.ca to schedule a meeting to collaborate on determining compensation.

Buffers

As discussed previously, SNGREC has a 41-metre vegetated buffer expectation for wetlands, as per SNGREC's Environmental Levy Policy. Reducing this buffer risks water quality impacts and habitat failure. The current state of the wetland is also likely to be improved by a greater vegetated buffer as the current agricultural use has not provided enough water control.

The Sutton Drive side of the woodlot is proposed to have a 7.5m buffer with works within the first 5m of the buffer. That creates a 2.5m buffer that is grossly insufficient. SNGREC requests a minimum of a 10m buffer. Vegetation selection can assist in making any preexisting infrastructure more accessible, and if this causes the road to be misaligned with the existing water infrastructure, then it makes it easier to complete maintenance on the water infrastructure.

Colucent Environmental uses human disturbance to suggest that both SCW3 and the Sutton Drive side of the woodlot do not need buffers. The fact that human disturbance has impacted these features is not an excuse to make them worse but instead provides a restoration opportunity. To reduce environmental impacts of development, it is critical that developments, especially of this scale, are

paired with sufficient environmental enhancements and minimize environmental impacts.

SNGREC requests that these buffers are respected and zoned for protection..

SNGREC requests that 10m woodlot buffers are only used with residential rear fencing. The EIA seems to suggest that these properties interfacing with the woodlot is a positive, but without fencing it is likely that encroachment will occur and greater negative impacts will be felt by the woodlot such as litter and introduction of invasive species.

Proposing that a created wetland does not need a buffer is deeply concerning. The point of creating a wetland is to allow it to reach a natural state, meaning it will need the same buffer that any natural wetland will need. Buffers will additionally help the wetland to establish more successfully, which is important as created wetlands have notoriously low success rates.

Density

SNGREC encourages increasing the density of housing to reduce the extent of urban sprawl and make more efficient use of the land.

Invasive Species Management

SNGREC requests commitment to invasive species management (ISM) as compensation for the negative environmental impacts of this development. Focus on buckthorn removal in and around SCW3 could be the most impactful invasive species removal when paired with additional efforts. After initial ISM, the creation of community groups (through education and advertising) could bring locals together to volunteer to maintain the Sheldon Creek Woodlot and surrounding area.

Walkability and Cycling

SNGREC strongly encourages maximizing walkability and cycling infrastructure in this development. Methods to improve walkability include pathways within a block, raised crosswalks, regular benches, and traffic calming methods such as bump-outs at intersections. Cycling options include protected bike lanes and turning boxes and more. Without creating the infrastructure now, it won't be safe to cycle and the demand will not be visible.

Maximizing walkability and cycling infrastructure will help improve traffic flow by keeping vehicles off the road, reduce car dependency and thus emissions, improve human health, and increase property values.

Wetland Contingency and Monitoring

SNGREC requests that contingency funds are set aside and monitoring is completed for at least 5 years to assess for success of wetland establishment.

Landscaping

SNGREC requires that native plant species are prioritized in landscaping efforts, and that invasive

or potentially invasive species are completely avoided. Non-native species are less ecologically beneficial, and some non-native species can become invasive even after decades of seeming fine. For example, Norway Maples were previously mass planted as they were believed to be a positive plant but are now considered highly invasive.

Further, cultivars of non-native species that are considered “sterile” are not safe to plant, as they can still cross-pollinate with fertile plants and produce sometimes more potent young (Gould 2023, Knight et al. 2011)

SNGREC requires an opportunity to review all landscape plant lists before procurement begins. SNGREC requests that the proponent uses Kayanase Plant Nursery for procurement of plants if Kayanase’s capacity allows.

SNGREC requests that the proponent commits to these actions during this phase of the application.

SNGREC strongly encourages the creation of pollinator gardens using native plant species in landscaped areas not intended for human movement. Pollinator gardens can offer food, breeding space, and sanctuary for pollinators that are harmed by human expansion as they lose functional habitat, and their remaining habitat becomes more fragmented. Pollinator gardens will also increase the visual attractiveness of the area.

Bird and Light Friendly Design

SNGREC requests that the buildings and streetscapes are designed using bird and light friendly practices. This includes minimizing reflective surfaces, creating visual markers on windows, and using warmer lights that are directed downwards and away from natural areas.

Please see the City of Toronto’s bird friendly practices for glass and for lighting as guidelines and implement them thoroughly across the entire design:

https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/8d1c-Bird-Friendly-Best-Practices-Glass.pdf

https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/8ff6-city-planning-bird-effective-lighting.pdf

SNGREC requests commitment at this stage of development to explore and implement thorough bird and light friendly practices during the appropriate phases.

It is not just high-rise buildings that result in birds dying due to window collisions, as an estimated 90% of bird-window collision deaths occur on home windows (Machtans et al., 2013).

This becomes especially important features such as glass balconies which look like a passage for birds.

Tree Compensation

SNGREC requests a 10:1 tree replacement ratio for all trees removed regardless of DBH and 1:1 for any dead trees/snags removed as these are an important habitat feature. A high tree replacement ratio helps to restore lost ecological function and considers time for regrowth and reduced survivability due to deer browsing and tree die-off. The goal of an increased tree replacement ratio is also to create habitat and strengthen ecological resilience. SNGREC acknowledges that the City of Burlington has an

existing tree replacement requirement but deems this requirement insufficient as it is a bare minimum settler perspective and does not take into account the indigenous perspective and obligation to protect and enhance the natural environment.

Further, the higher tree replacement ratio better compensates for the long lasting, permanent impact of the development on the land which will no longer be able to be used by Indigenous people. The removal of or damage to the natural environment has an immense negative impact to Six Nations of the Grand River Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in this area. Planting additional trees and improving the environment helps make up for the negative impacts from development on these rights.

Planted trees must be site-specific native species and should be planted as close to the site as possible without impacting existing natural features and ecosystems.

The 10:1 ratio can be achieved by planting plugs or other earlier-growth trees, and they do not all need to be full street-tree size. Planting earlier-growth trees will require protection (i.e. herbivore browsing guards) and minor maintenance. SNGREC requires planting best practices are used and suggests collaboration with Kayanase Plant Nursery for recommendations and guidance.

Please be advised, if tree offset is not feasible onsite, SNGREC expects offset plantings to take place as close as reasonably possible to the impacted site. SNGREC encourages collaboration with the Halton Conservation Authority or the City of Burlington to achieve these offset plantings. Lastly, the Six Nations of the Grand River Environmental Levy may be considered should closer sites be unavailable, allowing SNGREC to purchase land and plant trees on behalf of the proponent. SNGREC's Environmental Levy is a cash-in-lieu option that is more financially feasible than other cash-in-lieu options as SNGREC will plant trees that are not full caliber, resulting in a cost of about $40 per tree planted.

SNGREC expects that the tree replacement is paired with a robust and complete monitoring and maintenance plan complete with contingency actions to ensure successful establishment of the trees for long term success.

References

Machtans et al. (2013). A First Estimate for Canada of the Number of Birds Killed by Colliding with Building Windows. Avian Conservation and Ecology. 8. 6. 10.5751/ACE-00568-080206. Retrieved from https://www.researchgate.net/publication/260163261_A_First_Estimate_for_Canada_of_the_Number_of_Birds_Killed_by_Colliding_with_Building_Windows

Thank you for taking my comments. I look forward to hearing and collaborating more on this project. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Niá:wen (thank you),
Emmett Vanson, BSc., Grad. Cert. **(he/him)**
Land Use and Stewardship Technician
Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council - Lands and Resources Department - Consultation and Accommodation Process Team
lrlust@sixnations.ca

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Statutory Public Meeting and Recommendation Report

Bronte Creek Meadows Community, Phase 1

Applications for Official Plan Amendment, Zoning Bylaw Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision

Address: 5164-5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway

File: 505-02/26, 520-02/26, 510-01/26

Date: June 9, 2026

Report: DGM-38-26

CITY OF Burlington

Overview of Site

Key Dates and Milestones

- Pre-Application Community Meeting: October 1, 2025
- Technical Circulation: March 3, 2026
- Public Circulation: March 9, 2026
- Notice of Statutory Public Meeting and Recommendation Report: May 6, 2026
- Statutory Public Meeting: June 9, 2026
- Council Meeting: June 23, 2026

Proposed Official Plan Amendments

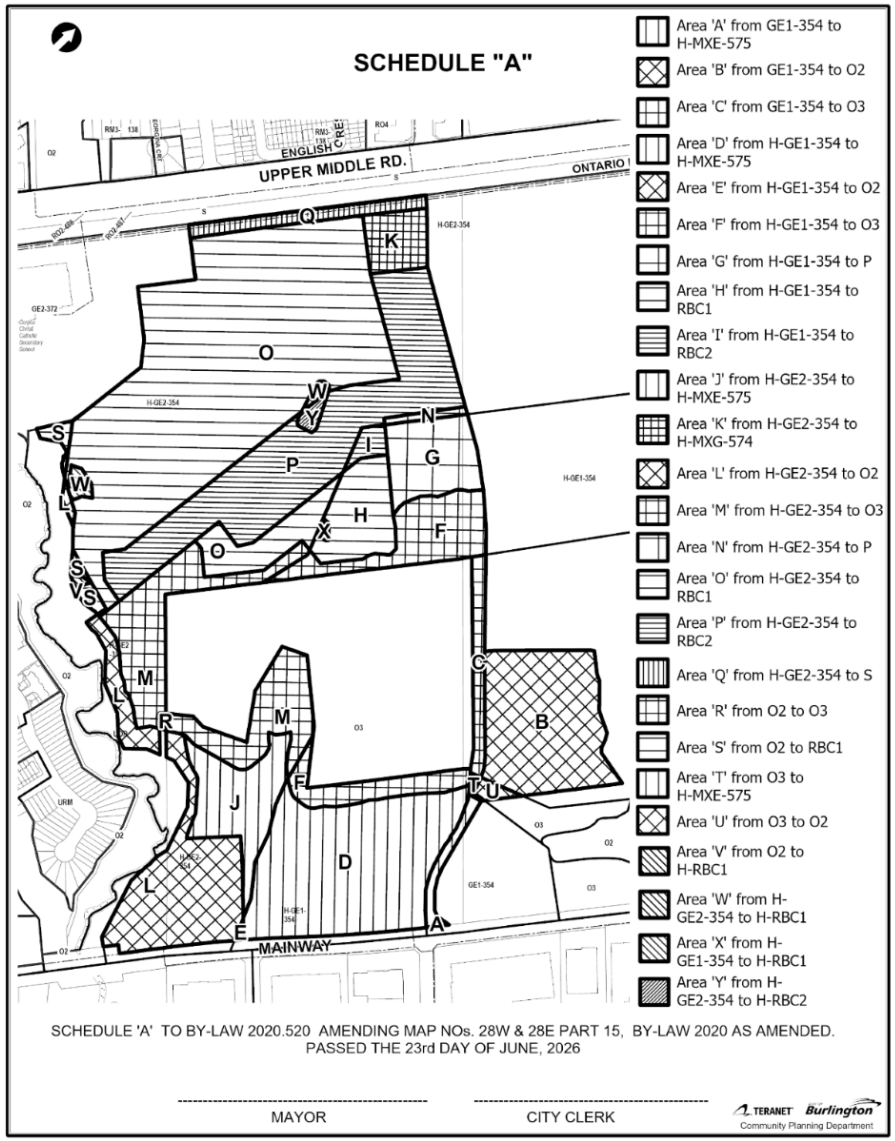
- Amendment to require the crossing over Sheldon Creek to facilitate the extension of Corporate Drive to Burloak Drive prior to development occurring within the Burloak Commons District

- Amendment to permit the 16 metre “window street”

- Amendment to permit the 9 metre laneway

- Amendment to allow Phase 1 prior to the completion of the Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Area Servicing Plan, and Land Use and Built Form Strategy

Proposed Zoning Amendments

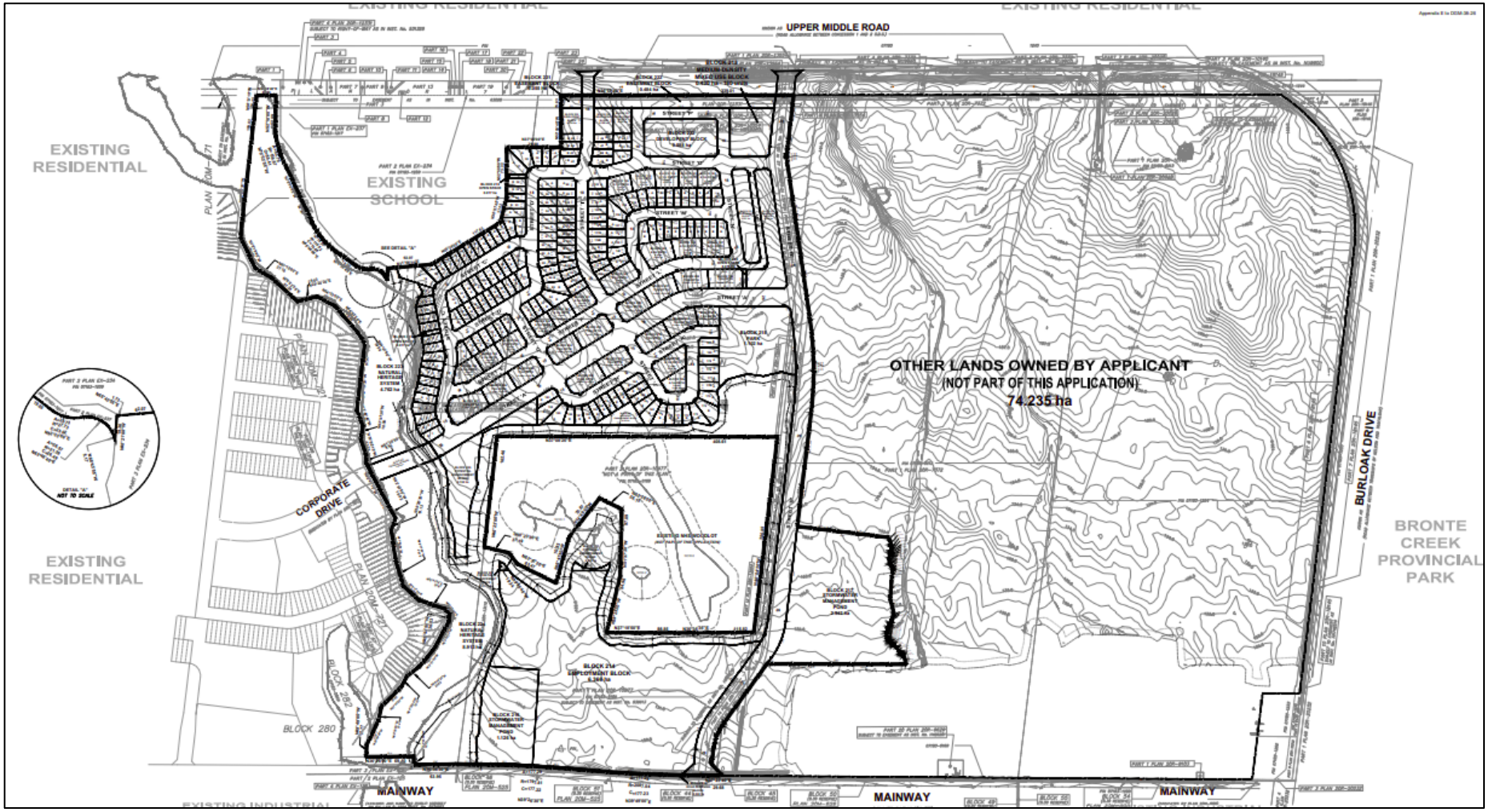


Existing Zones: H-GE2-354, H-GE1-354, GE1-354, O2, and O3

Proposed Zones: RBC1, H-RBC1, RBC2, H-RBC2, H-MXG-574, H-MXE-575, O2, O3, P, and S

CITY OF Burlington

Proposed Draft Plan of Subdivision



Staff Recommendation

- Approve the applications, as modified by planning staff, for Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Plan of Subdivision, submitted by Bousfields Inc. on behalf of Alinea as “Phase 1” at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway; and,
- Approve Official Plan Amendment No. 11 to the City of Burlington Official Plan 2020, as modified by planning staff and provided in Appendix K of the Memo to Development and Growth Management report DGM-38-26, to amend the designation for the lands located at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway; and,
- Deem that the Official Plan Amendment No.11 as revised in Appendix K is consistent with The Planning Act; and,
- Instruct the City Clerk to prepare the necessary by-law adopting Official Plan Amendment No. 11 as contained in Appendix K of the Memo to Development and Growth Management report DGM-38-26 to be presented for approval at the same time as the associated by-law in Appendix L to amend Zoning By-law 2020, as amended, for the development proposal; and,
- Approve Zoning By-law 2020.520, attached as Appendix L of the Memo to Development and Growth Management report DGM-38-26, and,
- Deem that Zoning By-law 2020.520 will conform to all applicable Official Plans of the City of Burlington once Official Plan Amendment No. 11 is adopted; and,
- State that the amending zoning by-law will not come into effect until Official Plan Amendment No. 11 is adopted; and,
- Approve the Draft Plan of Subdivision for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway consisting of 181 Low Density Residential lots, 16 On-Street Townhouse blocks, 13 Double Frontage Townhouse blocks, one Medium Density Mixed Use Block, one Employment Block, one Park block, two Stormwater Management Pond blocks, three Open Space blocks, two Easement blocks, two Natural Heritage blocks, four Potential Enhancement blocks, five Development blocks, one Potential Creek Crossing block, one Road Widening block, and Roads identified as 26.0m Public R.O.W., 18m Public R.O.W., and 7.5m Public Lane, as revised and attached as Appendix E, with Appendix F showing the changes to the draft plan of subdivision submitted with the application in red mark-up, subject to the conditions contained in Appendix M of the Memo to Development and Growth Management report DGM-38-26, after the associated amending zoning by-law comes into effect

CITY OF Burlington . . . Memo

DGM-38-2026

To: **Mayor Meed Ward and Members of City Council**

From: **Jamie Tellier, Director of Community Planning**

Cc: **Curt Benson, Steve Robichaud, Kyle Plas, William Wallace, Thomas Douglas, and Jaclyn Schneider**

Re: **Revised – Statutory Public Meeting and Recommendation Report for Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway**
File Nos. 505-02/26, 520-02/26, 510-01/26

Below is staff's revised recommendation of report DGM-38-26, which adds a more detailed description of the Draft Plan of Subdivision and replaces Appendices C, D, and G with Appendices K, L, and M as follows (modifications in grey highlight):

Revised Staff Recommendation:

Approve the applications, as modified by planning staff, for Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Plan of Subdivision, submitted by Bousfields Inc. on behalf of Alinea as "Phase 1" at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway; and,

Approve Official Plan Amendment No. 11 to the City of Burlington Official Plan 2020, as modified by planning staff and provided in Appendix K of the Memo to Development and Growth Management report DGM-38-26, to amend the designation for the lands located at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway; and,

Deem that the Official Plan Amendment No.11 as revised in Appendix K is consistent with The Planning Act; and,

Instruct the City Clerk to prepare the necessary by-law adopting Official Plan Amendment No. 11 as contained in Appendix K of the Memo to Development and Growth Management report DGM-38-26 to be presented for approval at the same

time as the associated by-law in Appendix L to amend Zoning By-law 2020, as amended, for the development proposal; and,

Approve Zoning By-law 2020.520, attached as Appendix L of the Memo to Development and Growth Management report DGM-38-26, and,

Deem that Zoning By-law 2020.520 will conform to all applicable Official Plans of the City of Burlington once Official Plan Amendment No. 11 is adopted; and,

State that the amending zoning by-law will not come into effect until Official Plan Amendment No. 11 is adopted; and,

Approve the Draft Plan of Subdivision for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway consisting of 181 Low Density Residential lots, 16 On-Street Townhouse blocks, 13 Double Frontage Townhouse blocks, one Medium Density Mixed Use Block, one Employment Block, one Park block, two Stormwater Management Pond blocks, three Open Space blocks, two Easement blocks, two Natural Heritage blocks, four Potential Enhancement blocks, five Development blocks, one Potential Creek Crossing block, one Road Widening block, and Roads identified as 26.0m Public R.O.W., 18m Public R.O.W., and 7.5m Public Lane, as revised and attached as Appendix E, with Appendix F showing the changes to the draft plan of subdivision submitted with the application in red mark-up, subject to the conditions contained in Appendix M of the Memo to Development and Growth Management report DGM-38-26, after the associated amending zoning by-law comes into effect

Background and Discussion:

Staff Report DGM-38-26 was published Monday, June 1, 2026 on the City of Burlington website as an addendum to the agenda for the Committee of the Whole meeting for June 9, 2026. The report outlined staff's recommendation for a modified approval of the Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision for the Bronte Creek Meadows Community Phase 1 lands. Throughout the entire process of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community including Official Plan Amendment 4 and the current Phase 1 development applications, City staff have been committed to working with the applicant in a collaborative manner through standing weekly meetings and additional meetings as needed to discuss any concerns raised by internal and external agencies. Since the publication of report DGM-38-26, Planning staff have met with the applicant and have discussed the Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of

Subdivision. Planning staff also circulated the report materials to relevant City departments and external agencies to ensure that their requirements have been accurately reflected in the conditions of draft plan approval.

This memo represents staff's response to additional information and discussion and also contains updated recommendations for Council's consideration.

Staff note that the Draft Plan of Subdivision (red-line version and black-line version) included as Appendices E and F of report DGM-38-26 currently lack a surveyor's signature. City staff understand the applicant will provide signed copies of the Draft Plan of Subdivision (red-line version and black-line version). Upon receipt, City staff will check the plans for verification that all details match those shown in Appendices E and F and correctly reflect the revisions that have been required to date to address technical comments on the applications, particularly as it relates to addressing the comments from Conservation Halton about ensuring that development does not occur with regulated hazardous lands. The signed copies will then be included on the June 23 Council agenda to replace the unsigned copies currently in Appendices E and F prior to final Council decision on the applications.

The tables below reflect the feedback that staff have received from the applicant, City departments and agencies, and provide staff's responses. The tables describe revisions that are now recommended to the draft Official Plan Amendment, Draft Zoning Bylaw Amendment, and Draft Conditions of Approval in response to the feedback received.

Response to feedback on draft Official Plan Amendment:

	Staff's recommended OPA as published Monday June 1 in Appendix C of DGM-38-26	**Feedback received**	**Requested Revisions to Staff Recommended OPA**	**Staff's revised recommendation in Appendix K of DGM-38-26**	**Staff comment/rationale for revised recommendation**
1	n/a	Background: As outlined in report DGM-38-2026, the applications requested an Official Plan amendment to change the housing/growth targets for Bronte Creek Meadows (BCM) in policy	Replace Policy 8.8.2(3)(b) with the following: The Bronte Creek Meadows Community policies shall plan to accommodate growth to 2051 and beyond, including approximately 16,000 new residents in approximately 9,000 new	n/a	No revision proposed. Staff continue to not support an amendment to change the housing/growth targets in the OP for BCM. The existing targets in policy 8.8.2(3)(b) were approved by Council in 2025 based on information provided

		8.8.2(3)(b). City staff did not support this request. Applicant's feedback: The applicant asks staff to reconsider supporting an amendment to the housing/growth targets. The applicant proposes revised wording:	units and provide approximately 3,600 new jobs. Flexibility is permitted for these targets, and no Official Plan Amendment is required should they not be met, as long as the Vision and Objectives continue to be met.		by the applicant. Any amendment to change those targets would require a more comprehensive growth planning exercise considering how BCM fits into the big picture of city-wide growth management. It would also be premature to change the targets prior to advancing the ongoing work on the Land Use & Built Form Strategy for BCM. Changing the targets is also not needed to allow the Phase 1 development to proceed.
2	Amend policy 8.8.2(6.6)(j) by adding the underlined text after the word "City": In accordance with long-term Official Plan direction as shown on Schedule O-1 and established in Table 2, of this Plan, a crossing over Sheldon Creek to facilitate the extension of Corporate Drive to Burloak Drive as shown on Schedule S *shall* be required to the satisfaction of the *City* prior to *development* occurring within the Burloak Commons District	Applicant: Request that staff consider removing this amendment and keeping the existing policy unchanged, or revising the amendment with different language, in order to allow more flexibility in the timing of construction for the crossing over Sheldon Creek.	n/a	n/a	No revision proposed. Staff believe the recommended amendment appropriately ties delivery of the creek crossing to development of the Burloak Commons District, and that there is already sufficient flexibility to account for the fact that provision of the bridge includes a series of milestones related to design, site preparation, and construction.

	as shown on Schedule S of this Plan, with the exception of *development* for the purposes of stormwater management.				
3	Add policy 8.8.2(6.8)(c) with the following: Notwithstanding policy 8.8.2(6.6)(f) of this Plan, where a laneway is proposed to be dedicated to the *City* as a public right-of-way, the laneway right-of-way width *shall* have a minimum width of 9 metres and *shall* meet the design requirements of the *City*, including: (ii) that the laneway be designed to accommodate emergency vehicles, winter maintenance vehicles, and waste collection vehicles; and (ii) the provision of adequate space for snow storage.	Applicant: request that the recommended amendment be removed so that the laneway width and design criteria not be specified in the OP, or that the recommended amendment be revised by replacing the second "shall" with "is recommended to" and adding subsection (iii) for greater flexibility in implementation.	Add policy 8.8.2(6.8)(c) with the following: Notwithstanding policy 8.8.2(6.6)(f) of this Plan, where a laneway is proposed to be dedicated to the *City* as a public right-of-way, the laneway right-of-way width *shall* have a minimum width of 9 metres and ~~*shall*~~ is recommended to meet the design requirements of the *City*, including: (iii) that the laneway be designed to accommodate emergency vehicles, winter maintenance vehicles, and waste collection vehicles; and (iii) the provision of adequate space for snow storage. (iii) No Official Plan Amendment is required should the design details vary from what is listed in 6.8(c)i & ii, to the satisfaction of the City.	Add policy 8.8.2(6.8)(c) with the following: Notwithstanding policy 8.8.2(6.6)(f) of this Plan, where a laneway is proposed to be dedicated to the *City* as a public right-of-way, the laneway right-of-way width *shall* have a minimum width of 9 metres and ~~*shall*~~ *should* meet the design requirements of the *City*, including: (ii) that the laneway be designed to accommodate emergency vehicles, winter maintenance vehicles, and waste collection vehicles; and (ii) the provision of adequate space for snow storage.	Partial revision: Staff support changing the second "shall" to "should" but believe addition of subsection (iii) is not necessary or appropriate. The recommended policy identifies the City's design requirements for a public laneway at an appropriate level of detail and allows flexibility in determining how the requirements will be achieved.

4	Add Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) e) with the following: Notwithstanding Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) (a) and (b) of this Plan, applications for Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision may be submitted to the *City* for the Meadows Neighbourhood District and the portion of the Mainway Institutional District located west of Sutton Drive.	Applicant: suggest clarifying language to recognize that Phase 1 includes a stormwater pond located within the Burloak Commons District.	Add Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) e) with the following: Notwithstanding Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) (a) and (b) of this Plan, applications for Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision may be submitted to the *City* for the Meadows Neighbourhood District, and the portion of the Mainway Institutional District located west of Sutton Drive, and lands within the Burloak Commons District for the purposes of stormwater management.	Add Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) e) with the following: ~~Notwithstanding~~ In addition to Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) ~~(a) and~~ (b) and notwithstanding Policy 8.8.2(6.3)(c) of this Plan, applications for Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision may be submitted to the *City* for the Meadows Neighbourhood District and the portion of the Mainway Institutional District located west of Sutton Drive, and lands within the Burloak Commons District for the purposes of stormwater management..	Revision. Staff support the applicant's suggestion for additional clarifying language. Staff also propose additional revisions to further clarify by changing how policy 8.8.2(12.3) is referred to and adding to "notwithstanding policy 8.8.2(6.3)(c)", which is relevant to the Area Servicing Plan.

Response to feedback on draft Zoning By-law Amendment:

	Staff's recommended Zoning as published Monday June 1 in Appendix D of DGM-38-26	Feedback received	Revisions Requested	Staff's revised recommendation in Appendix L of DGM-38-26	Staff comment/rationale for revised recommendation
1	RBC zone permitted uses, Table 2.30.1, footnote (a): Townhouse permitted in RBC1 zone subject to regulations in Part 5, section 5	Applicant requests that area-specific regulations for "Townhouse" be added to RBC1 zone rather than refer to existing regulations in Part 5, section 5 (MXG zone)	-	-	No revision recommended at this time. Staff will consider this request in advance of the June 23 Council meeting.

2	RBC 1 zone, Table 2.31.1: Street Townhouse regulations: Lot Width: 6 m Lot Area: 130m2 Rear yard: 7m	Applicant requests revisions to provide greater flexibility	RBC 1 zone, Table 2.31.1: Street Townhouse regulations: Lot Width: 5.5 m Lot Area: 120m2 Rear yard: 6 m	RBC 1 zone, Table 2.31.1: Street Townhouse regulations: Lot Width: 5.5 m Lot Area: 120m2 Rear yard: 6 m	Revision. Staff do not object to requested revisions.
3	RBC 1 zone, Table 2.31.3: Maximum Driveway Width for lots wider than 9 m: 5.5 m	Applicant requests revision to maximum driveway width to better align with garage width	RBC 1 zone, Table 2.31.3: Maximum Driveway Width for lots wider than 9 m: 6 m	RBC 1 zone, Table 2.31.3: Maximum Driveway Width for lots wider than 9 m: 6 m	Revision. Staff do not object to requested revisions.
4	RBC 1 zone, section 31.4.1(b) “Balconies are permitted only in a front yard or street side yard, or in a side yard abutting an Open Space zone or Park zone.”	Applicant requests that balconies be permitted in rear yards also.	RBC 1 zone, section 31.4.1(b) “Balconies are permitted only in a front yard or street side yard, or in a side yard abutting an Open Space zone or Park zone, or in a rear yard.”	n/a	No revision. Staff recommend that balconies not be permitted in rear yards, to avoid privacy concerns, and avoid a sense of crowding in the relatively small rear yards that are permitted in this zone. Staff’s approach is consistent with other zones in the City.
5	RBC1 zone, section 31.5(c) “For Detached and Semi-Detached dwellings, an exterior entrance providing access to an interior staircase shall be provided on a side building elevation or street-side building elevation where the side yard is 1.2 m or greater.”	Applicant requests deletion of this regulation	-	n/a	No revision. Staff do not support removing this regulation, as it is intended to facilitate easier creation of Additional Residential Units (ARUs) for future homeowners, conforming with the OPA4 policies and objectives that strongly encourage the creation of ARUs and the development of zoning regulations to support ARU creation.

6	RBC2 zone, Table 2.32.1: Street Townhouse regulations: Lot Width: 6 m Lot Area: 130m2 Street Side yard: 3 m	Applicant requests revisions to provide greater flexibility	RBC2 zone, Table 2.32.1: Street Townhouse regulations: Lot Width: 5.5 m Lot Area: 120m2 Street side yard: 2.4 m	RBC2 zone, Table 2.32.1: Street Townhouse regulations: Lot Width: 5.5 m Lot Area: 120m2 Street Side yard: 3 m	Partial revision. Staff recommend maintaining 3 m as the minimum for street side yard, front yard, and rear yard (for through lots) to support consistent streetscape. Staff do not object to the other requested revisions.
7	RBC2 zone, Table 2.32.1, footnote (c): For a Rear Yard abutting a laneway, the Rear Yard shall be 3 m.	Applicant requests that rear yard be reduced to 1.2 m for through lots that back onto the laneway.	RBC2 zone, Table 2.32.1, footnote (c): For a Rear Yard abutting a laneway, the Rear Yard shall be 1.2m.	RBC2 zone, Table 2.32.1, footnote (c): For a Rear Yard abutting a laneway, the Rear Yard shall be 2 m.	Partial revision. Staff can support reducing the minimum rear yard to 2 m abutting the laneway, but not 1.2 m. While detailed design of the public laneway is still to be confirmed, staff expect that a minimum 2m rear yard on the townhouse properties will still allow sufficient space between the back of curb (within the laneway) and the rear wall of the townhouse (on private property) to allow for safe sightlines and space for maintenance crews to work, to ensure a safe and functional laneway environment.
8	RBC2 zone, Table 2.32.2: Maximum Driveway Width for Street Townhouse lots wider than 9 m: 5.5 m …and for Townhouse unit with rear yard abutting a	Applicant requests revision to maximum driveway width to better align with garage width	RBC2 zone, Table 2.32.2: Maximum Driveway Width for Street Townhouse lots wider than 9 m: 6 m …and for Townhouse unit with rear yard abutting a	RBC2 zone, Table 2.32.2: Maximum Driveway Width for Street Townhouse lots wider than 9 m: 6 m …and for Townhouse unit with rear yard abutting a	Revision. Staff do not object to requested revisions.

	public or common-element laneway: 5.5m		public or common-element laneway: 6 m	public or common-element laneway: 6 m	
9	RBC2 zone, 32.2(d): A maximum of one driveway shall be provided for each property.	-	-	RBC2 zone, 32.2(d): For Street Townhouse, a ~~A~~ maximum of one driveway shall be provided for each property. (e) For Townhouse, a maximum of one driveway shall be provided for each dwelling unit.	Revision initiated by staff to clarify that for Street Townhouse, each dwelling unit is a freehold unit on its own property, and there should be one driveway per property. For Townhouse, multiple units are built on a single property as condominium or rental units, and one driveway should be permitted for each unit on the property.
10	H-MXE-575 zone: Permitted Industrial Uses only: Notwithstanding Part 5, Table 5.2.1, only the following Industrial Uses permitted in a GE2 zone are permitted: a. Training Centre b. Research and Development c. Knowledge-Based & High Technology d. Pharmaceutical & Medicines	Applicant requests that additional industrial/employment uses be permitted in the H-MXE-575 zone.	H-MXE-575 zone: Permitted Industrial Uses only: Notwithstanding Part 5, Table 5.2.1, only the following Industrial Uses permitted in a GE2 zone are permitted: a. Training Centre b. Research and Development c. Knowledge-Based & High Technology d. Pharmaceutical & Medicines e. Information and Data Processing f. Other Industrial Operations – small-scale manufacturing g. Office uses h. Wholesale Trade	H-MXE-575 zone: Permitted Industrial Uses only: Notwithstanding Part 5, Table 5.2.1, only the following Industrial Uses permitted in a GE2 zone are permitted: a. Training Centre b. Research and Development c. Information and Data Processing d. Knowledge-Based & High Technology e. Pharmaceutical & Medicines	Partial revision. Staff can support adding zoning permission for Information and Data Processing, as this use is permitted by the Official Plan 8.8.2(5.3.2)(b)(i). Office uses are already permitted in the MXE zone and do not need to be listed as additional permitted uses in exception 575. The other proposed employment/industrial uses cannot be permitted in the Zoning Bylaw because this would not conform with the range of permitted uses that are allowed for by the Official

			i. Construction and Trade Contractors j. Wholesale Building and Construction Materials k. Warehouse and Logistics		Plan policies for Mainway District. Staff also note that the other proposed employment/industrial uses would not generate a high density of jobs, and would hinder achievement of the objective to generate 3,600 jobs in the BCM community. These lower-density employment/industrial uses should be directed to the City's Employment Area (which does not include BCM lands), where they are widely permitted.
11	H-MXE-575 zone: 6. Separation Distances 7. The following uses shall be set back a minimum of 90 m from Mainway: A. Community Institution b. Retirement Home c. Long-term care facility d. Public and Private Hospitals, Public Health Care, Social Services e. Places of worship f. Day Care g. Residential social services h. Public service facility i. Outdoor recreational uses	Applicant requests that this regulation be removed and that any needed separation distances should be determined through the further Land Use Compatibility analysis that is required for these lands prior to removal of the "H" Holding Symbol.	~~H-MXE-575 zone:~~ ~~6. Separation Distances~~ ~~7. The following uses shall be set back a minimum of 90 m from Mainway:~~ ~~A. Community Institution~~ ~~b. Retirement Home~~ ~~c. Long-term care facility~~ ~~d. Public and Private Hospitals, Public Health Care, Social Services~~ ~~e. Places of worship~~ ~~f. Day Care~~ ~~g. Residential social services~~ ~~h. Public service facility~~ ~~i. Outdoor recreational uses~~	~~H-MXE-575 zone:~~ ~~6. Separation Distances~~ ~~7. The following uses shall be set back a minimum of 90 m from Mainway:~~ ~~A. Community Institution~~ ~~b. Retirement Home~~ ~~c. Long-term care facility~~ ~~d. Public and Private Hospitals, Public Health Care, Social Services~~ ~~e. Places of worship~~ ~~f. Day Care~~ ~~g. Residential social services~~ ~~h. Public service facility~~ ~~i. Outdoor recreational uses~~	Revision to remove the regulation. Staff do not object to removing this regulation. The intent of this regulation was to provide additional separation between sensitive uses and the existing Employment Area south of Mainway, for the purpose of avoiding potential future land use conflicts. However, staff acknowledge that Land Use Compatibility analysis completed to date has not identified a need for a specific

					separation distance in this area, and further Land Use Compatibility analysis will occur prior to removal of the “H” Holding Symbol. It should be noted that after approval of the H-MXE-575 zone regulations, if the future Land Use Compatibility analysis does recommend a separation distance, this would have to be implemented either through a Site Plan application or through a future housekeeping amendment to the Zoning Bylaw.
12	-	-	-	Add new footnote to Table 2.31.1: <u>(a) Notwithstanding Part 1, section 2.11.1, For purposes of determining a front lot line, or side lot line abutting a street, a daylight triangle is deemed not to exist, provided the minimum distance of any building or structure from the hypotenuse of a daylight triangle is 2.1 m.</u>	Revision initiated by staff to better align an existing regulation (minimum setback of building or structure from the hypotenuse of a daylight triangle) with other proposed regulations for visibility triangles and minimum front yards and street side yards. The existing zoning regulations require a building or structure to be set back 3 m from the hypotenuse of a daylight triangle, and the proposed new regulation

					reduces this setback to 2.1m.
13	-	-	-	Table 2.32.2: remove erroneous reference to footnote (d) in Lot Width and Lot Area sections, and create new footnote (d) applying to whole table: (d) Notwithstanding Part 1, section 2.11.1, For purposes of determining a front lot line, or side lot line abutting a street, a daylight triangle is deemed not to exist, provided the minimum distance of any building or structure from the hypotenuse of a daylight triangle is 2.1 m.	Revision initiated by staff. Same as above (setback from hypotenuse of daylight triangle), plus correcting a typographical error.

Response to feedback on draft Conditions of Draft Plan Approval:

	Condition as published Monday June 1 in Appendix G of DGM-38-26	Feedback received	Staff's revised recommendation in Appendix M of DGM-38-26	Staff comment/rationale for revised recommendation
1	1. This approval applies to the Draft Plan of Subdivision prepared by Bousfields Inc., dated May 21, 2026, consisting of 181 Low Density Residential lots, 16 On-Street Townhouse blocks, 13 Double Frontage Townhouse blocks, one Medium Density Mixed Use Block, one	Applicant: Recommend clarifying that reference to "7.5m Public Lane" is merely describing how the lane is currently labeled on the draft plan, rather than being the approved width of the laneway.	1. This approval applies to the Draft Plan of Subdivision prepared by Bousfields Inc., dated May 21, 2026, consisting of 181 "Low Density Residential" lots, 16 "On-Street Townhouse" blocks, 13 "Double Frontage Townhouse" blocks, one "Medium Density Mixed Use	Revision to: Add quotation marks to clarify that this condition describes the features as currently labeled on the draft plan. There are conditions which require some labels to be updated prior to final approval.

	Employment Block, one Park block, two Stormwater Management Pond blocks, three Open Space blocks, two Easement blocks, two Natural Heritage blocks, four Potential Enhancement blocks, five Development blocks, one Potential Creek Crossing block, one Road Widening block, and Roads identified as 26.0m Public R.O.W., 18m Public R.O.W., and 7.5m Public Lane.		Block", one "Employment Block", one "Park" block, two "Stormwater Management Ponds" blocks, three "Open Space Blocks", two "Easement Blocks", two "Natural Heritage Blocks", four "Potential Enhancement Blocks", five "Development Blocks", one "Potential Creek Crossing Block", one "Road Widening" block, and Roads identified as "26.0m Public R.O.W.", "18m Public R.O.W.", and "7.5m Public Lane".	
2	3. … Director or Engineering Services…	Development Engineering: Correct typo (of not or)	3. … Director ~~or~~ of Engineering Services…	Revision to correct typo
3	4. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to pre-grading or pre-servicing and prior to the first engineering submission:	Applicant: Request greater flexibility on timing/sequencing of submissions.	4. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to pre-grading or pre-servicing and prior to the first formal engineering submission:	Revision to address comment by providing greater flexibility and signal City's willingness to review informal or partial engineering submissions in advance of formal or full engineering submission.
4	4. b. and c.	Conservation Halton: Request for clarification of references to "approved" Scoped Subwatershed Study to distinguish between acceptance of the updated study as it relates to Phase 1, versus future final approval of the overall study as it relates to the BCM community lands	-	No revision at this time. City staff will consider this request prior to June 23 Council meeting in consultation with Conservation Halton.
5	5. Upon obtaining written confirmation from the Director of Community Planning that the required updates to the Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan,	Applicant: Request greater flexibility on timing/sequencing of submissions.	5. Upon obtaining written confirmation from the Director of Community Planning that the required updates to the Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan,	Same revision as above related to formal engineering submission.

	and Land Use and Built Form Strategy have been completed to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the Director of Community Planning as required by conditions 4(a), 4(b), and 4(c), the Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to pre-grading or pre-servicing and prior to the first engineering submission:		and Land Use and Built Form Strategy have been completed to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the Director of Community Planning as required by conditions 4(a), 4(b), and 4(c), the Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to pre-grading or pre-servicing and prior to the first formal engineering submission:	
6	5.a.i. Have been developed in consultation with the Burlington Urban Design (BUD) Panel and includes written responses to the feedback provided by BUD;	Applicant: Request clarification of scope and purpose of BUD panel consultation	5.a.i. Have been developed in consultation with the Burlington Urban Design (BUD) Panel and includes written responses to the feedback provided by BUD (BUD consultation to be scoped to matters still outstanding after draft plan approval);	Revision to provide requested clarity on scope of BUD consultation
7	5.c.i. addresses all comments of the City of Burlington, the City's environmental peer reviewer (LGL Limited), and Conservation Halton, to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, including mitigation and enhancement measures needed to address negative impacts to the NHS from all proposed uses; and	Applicant: request remove explicit reference to LGL Limited	5.c.i. addresses all comments of the City of Burlington, the City's environmental peer reviewer ~~(LGL Limited)~~, and Conservation Halton, to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, including mitigation and enhancement measures needed to address negative impacts to the NHS from all proposed uses; and	Revision as requested. The more general reference to "the City's environmental peer reviewer" is retained.
8	5.d.iii. the detailed design plan for all enhancement areas (including the crossing associated with Street B, the proposed enhancement areas in the Environmental Impact Assessment, and non-	Applicant: Request clarification of reference to "crossing associated with Street B"	5.d.iii. the detailed design plan for all enhancement areas (including the wildlife crossing associated with Street B, the proposed enhancement areas in the Environmental Impact Assessment, and non-	Revision to add wording to clarify that this references an environmental linkage or wildlife crossing at Street B (Sutton Drive), not the future road bridge across Sheldon Creek at Street A (Corporate Drive)

	naturalized components of the natural heritage system associated with hazard lands); and		naturalized components of the natural heritage system associated with hazard lands); and	
9	5. d. …that will achieve the goal of no negative impact to woodland and wetland ecological function, including interior habitat, edge conditions, and hydrologic regime (e.g., limiting unplanned encroachments, habitat protection and enhancements, water quality protections during unanticipated events, noise control particularly from road infrastructure, light impacts, and salt/fertilizer contamination).	Applicant: Request adding wording "consistent with the PPS"	5.d. …that will achieve the goal of no negative impact to woodland and wetland ecological function, including interior habitat, edge conditions, and hydrologic regime (e.g., limiting unplanned encroachments, habitat protection and enhancements, water quality protections during unanticipated events, noise control particularly from road infrastructure, light impacts, and salt/fertilizer contamination), consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement.	Revision to provide the requested wording
10	6. c. Submit DFO permitting correspondences and conditions in-water works (or registration commitments); and	Applicant: Request adding "if applicable"	6. c. Submit DFO permitting correspondences and conditions in-water works (or registration commitments), if applicable; and	Revision to add the requested wording
11	7. Prior to site alteration, servicing or grading of the site, the Owner shall carry out additional Stage 3 archaeological assessments, as per the recommendations of the Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment Report dated 7 August 2025, prepared by Archaeological Services Inc., and, if recommended, mitigate/salvage/excavate any significant resources to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturism.	Applicant: Requests that this condition be scoped to only apply to the lands that have been identified by the studies completed to date as requiring further archaeological assessment. And Development Engineering: Requests revising terminology "site alteration" to "pre-servicing or pre-grading" for consistency with other conditions.	-	No revision at this time. Staff will consider these requests prior to the June 23 Council meeting, subject to consultation with the City's Heritage Planner.

	No grading or other soil disturbance shall take place on the subject property prior to the letter of the Ministry Acknowledgement Letter, to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning.			
12	8.h.x. Revisions to the Roads Schedule to correct the reference to “7.5m Public Lane” to reflect the approved width and area of the Lane A right-of-way;	Development Engineering: Request for clarification	8.h.x. Revisions to the Roads Schedule to correct ~~the reference to~~ the current wording“7.5m Public Lane” to reflect the approved width and area of the Lane A right-of-way;	Revision for clarification
13	9.j. The Owner shall acknowledge and agree that in addition to submitting a revised Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Land Use and Built Form Strategy, and Area Servicing Plan to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, Conservation Halton, and Region of Halton to the extent required for the purposes of obtaining final approvals for Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, the Owner shall also be responsible for further updating the Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Land Use and Built Form Strategy, and Area Servicing Plan, and obtaining comprehensive final approvals for these studies from the Director of Community Planning, Conservation Halton, and the Region of Halton, prior to	Applicant: Request that this condition be removed to avoid Phase 1 conditions referring to future works related to other Phases of BCM community not included in the current draft plan of subdivision. And Conservation Halton: Request for discussion about co-ordinating to ensure consistency between City condition 9j and Conservation Halton conditions 27a and 27b.	-	No revision at this time. Given that the conditions of approval for the current draft plan of subdivision (Phase 1 of BCM community) require revisions and updates to the “big four” foundational studies for the purposes of implementing Phase 1, staff believe that it is appropriate to also include a condition that sets clear expectations and requires acknowledgement that additional revisions and updates to these studies will be required in future as part of the approvals process for future phases of development in the BCM community (i.e.: for lands east of Sutton Drive). Staff will consider co-ordination/clarification request prior to the June 23 Council meeting in consultation with Conservation Halton.

	approval of any future applications for Draft Plan of Subdivision and/or Zoning By-law Amendment for any subsequent phase of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community.			
14	9.k. Provide the Director of Community Planning with a letter signed by the Owner that confirms in writing the Owner's acknowledgement and agreement that it shall be the responsibility of the Owner to construct a crossing over Sheldon Creek to facilitate the multi-modal extension of Corporate Drive to Burloak Drive prior to approval of subsequent phases of development east of Sutton Drive.	Applicant: request that this condition be removed or reworded.	-	No revision recommended by staff. Staff believe the condition as written accurately reflects discussions to date and appropriately documents expectations for next steps in the development of Bronte Creek Meadows.
15	11. and 12.	Applicant: Various requests for clarification of Parks and Forestry conditions, and confirmation of which technical studies are best suited to address which matters And Development Engineering: Request to co-ordinate Engineering and Parks requirements with respect to ESA reports And Conservation Halton:		No revision at this time. Staff will consider these requests prior to June 23 Council meeting, subject to consultation with Parks and Forestry staff.

		please update reference to Ontario Regulation to reflect currently applicable O. Reg		
16	22. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Transportation and the Director of Transportation Services: 1. Prior to final approval, the Applicant/Owner shall submit to the Ministry of Transportation for their review and approval, a lighting plan with illumination details.	Applicant: Request to confirm whether this condition is appropriate or relevant for the subject site, given that it is not located adjacent to a provincial highway.		No revision at this time. Staff will consider this request prior to June 23 Council meeting, subject to consultation with Transportation Department and MTO as needed.
17	23. through 27.	Applicant: Various requests for clarification of Conservation Halton conditions.		No revision at this time. Staff will consider this request prior to June 23 Council meeting, subject to consultation with Conservation Halton.
18	28.	Applicant: Various requests for clarification or modification of Halton Region conditions.		No revision at this time. Staff will consider this request prior to June 23 Council meeting, subject to consultation with Halton Region.
19	29.	Applicant: Requests for clarification and request for removal of conditions that may not be relevant to Phase 1 of the BCM community.		No revision at this time. Staff will consider this request prior to June 23 Council meeting, subject to consultation with Halton District School Board.
20	34. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Burlington Hydro Incorporated: a. agree to satisfy all of the conditions and requirements, financial or otherwise, of Burlington Hydro Incorporated and provide the Director of Engineering with a clearance	Burlington Hydro: Request to reflect Burlington Hydro's requirements in more detail in the conditions of approval.	34. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Burlington Hydro Incorporated: a. agree to satisfy all of the conditions and requirements, financial or otherwise, of Burlington Hydro Incorporated ~~and provide the Director of Engineering with a clearance~~	Revise the conditions for Burlington Hydro by removing unnecessary references to the City's Engineering Department and incorporating more details adapted from Burlington Hydro's past comment letters on the BCM development proposal.

	letter from Burlington Hydro Incorporated when its requirements have been met; b. sign Burlington Hydro Incorporated's subdivision agreement and any other agreements required by Burlington Hydro Incorporated; and c. provide the Director of Engineering with a clearance letter from Burlington Hydro Incorporated when its requirements have been met.		~~letter from Burlington Hydro Incorporated when its requirements have been met;~~ b. sign Burlington Hydro Incorporated's subdivision agreement and any other agreements required by Burlington Hydro Incorporated; and c. ~~provide the Director of Engineering with a clearance letter from Burlington Hydro Incorporated when its requirements have been met.~~ The Owner agrees to provide/acquire any easements for Burlington Hydro, as required for the provision of hydro services to the subdivision.	Staff will also add other details from Burlington Hydro's past comment letters to the explanatory notes section at the end of the conditions document.
21	-	Applicant: Various other requests for: • clarification of conditions • reducing repetition or duplication where possible • clarification in particular as it relates to conditions that refer to phasing: distinguish phasing of the overall BCM community vs. sub-phasing of the "Phase 1" lands that are subject of the current draft plan of subdivision.		No revision at this time. Staff will consider these requests prior to June 23 Council meeting, ensuring co-ordination with the relevant City departments and agencies who have contributed conditions.

Conclusion

Staff have met with the applicant and have discussed the Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision. Staff are of the opinion that the proposed changes to the recommendations of report DGM-38-26 and the planning instruments, as outlined by staff in this memo, are appropriate.

Staff consider the above amended recommendation an appropriate form of intensification and efficient use of land. It is staff's opinion that the modified recommendation satisfies the City's objectives and represents good planning.

Appendices

Appendix H – Detailed Policy Analysis

Appendix K - Revised Draft Official Plan Amendment

Appendix L – Revised Draft Zoning By-law Amendment

Appendix M – Revised Draft Plan of Subdivision Conditions

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie Tellier

Director of Community Planning

905-335-7600 ext 7892

Appendix D – Detailed Planning Analysis

Contents

1.0 The Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) 2
2.0 Halton Region Official Plan (ROP) 6
3.0 City of Burlington Official Plan (2020) 10
4.0 Tertiary Plan 16
5.0 Urban Design Guidelines 22
6.0 Sustainable Building and Development Guidelines (December 2021) 22
7.0 Pedestrian Level Wind Study Guidelines and Terms of Reference (June 2020) 23
8.0 Shadow Study Guidelines and Terms of Reference (June 2020) 23
9.0 Zoning By-law 24

1.0 The Provincial Planning Statement (PPS)

The Provincial Planning Statement (the “PPS”) came into force and effect on October 20, 2024, and applies to decisions concerning planning matters occurring after this date. This replaces the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) and A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (The Growth Plan) (2019). The PPS provides broad policy direction on matters of provincial interest related to land use planning and development and supports improved land use planning and management, which contributes to a more effective and efficient land use planning system.

In accordance with Section 2.1. 6., planning authorities should support the achievement of complete communities by:

a) accommodating an appropriate range and mix of land uses, housing options, transportation options with multimodal access, employment, public service facilities and other institutional uses (including schools and associated child care facilities, long-term care facilities, places of worship and cemeteries), recreation, parks and open space, and other uses to meet long-term needs;
b) improving accessibility for people of all ages and abilities by addressing land use barriers which restrict their full participation in society; and
c) improving social equity and overall quality of life for people of all ages, abilities, and incomes, including equity-deserving groups.

In accordance with Section 2.2.1, planning authorities shall provide for an appropriate range and mix of housing options and densities to meet projected needs of current and future residents of the regional market area by:

b) permitting and facilitating
    1. all housing options required to meet the social, health, economic and wellbeing requirements of current and future residents, including additional needs housing and needs arising from demographic changes and employment opportunities; and
    2. all types of residential intensification, including the development and redevelopment of underutilized commercial and institutional sites (e.g., shopping malls and plazas) for residential use, development and introduction of new housing options within previously developed areas, and redevelopment;
c) promoting densities for new housing which efficiently use land, resources, infrastructure and public service facilities, and support the use of active transportation; and
d) requiring transit-supportive development and prioritizing intensification, including potential air rights development, in proximity to transit, including corridors and stations.

In accordance with the energy conservation, air quality and climate change policies, Section 2.9 describes that planning authorities shall plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for the impacts of a changing climate through approaches that:

a) support the achievement of compact, transit-supportive, and complete communities;
b) incorporate climate change considerations in planning for and the development of infrastructure, including stormwater management systems, and public service facilities;
c) support energy conservation and efficiency;
d) promote green infrastructure, low impact development, and active transportation, protect the environment and improve air quality; and
e) take into consideration any additional approaches that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build community resilience to the impacts of a changing climate.

In accordance with Section 3.5.1 Land Use Compatibility, major facilities and sensitive land uses shall be planned and developed to avoid, or if avoidance is not possible, minimize and mitigate any potential adverse effects from odour, noise and other contaminants, minimize risk to public health and safety, and to ensure the long-term operational and economic viability of major facilities in accordance with provincial guidelines, standards and procedures.

In accordance with Section 3.6.8 Sewage, Water and Stormwater, planning for stormwater management shall:

a) be integrated with planning for sewage and water services and ensure that systems are optimized, retrofitted as appropriate, feasible and financially viable over their full life cycle;
b) minimize, or, where possible, prevent or reduce increases in stormwater volumes and contaminant loads;
c) minimize erosion and changes in water balance including through the use of green infrastructure;
d) mitigate risks to human health, safety, property and the environment;
e) maximize the extent and function of vegetative and pervious surfaces;
f) promote best practices, including stormwater attenuation and re-use, water conservation and efficiency, and low impact development; and
g) align with any comprehensive municipal plans for stormwater management that consider cumulative impacts of stormwater from development on a watershed scale.

In accordance with the public spaces, recreation, parks, trails and open space policies under Section 3.9 1., the PPS describes healthy and active communities should be promoted by:

a) planning public streets, spaces and facilities to be safe, meet the needs of persons of all ages and abilities, including pedestrians, foster social interaction and facilitate active transportation and community connectivity;
b) planning and providing for the needs of persons of all ages and abilities in the distribution of a full range of publicly-accessible built and natural settings for recreation, including facilities, parklands, public spaces, open space areas, trails and linkages, and, where practical, water-based resources;
c) providing opportunities for public access to shorelines; and
d) recognizing provincial parks, conservation reserves, and other protected areas, and minimizing negative impacts on these areas.

In accordance with Section 4.1 Natural Heritage, natural heritage features and areas shall be protected for the long term and development or site alteration shall not be permitted in natural heritage features unless it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or their ecological functions.

In accordance with 5.2 Natural Hazards, planning authorities shall, in collaboration with conservation authorities where they exist, identify hazardous lands and hazardous sites and manage development in these areas, in accordance with provincial guidance.

Staff comment:

The applications for Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision seek to implement Official Plan Amendment 4 (OPA4). The applications are for Phase 1 of the development which include the Meadow Neighbourhood District, Mainway Institutional District, and a portion of Burloak Commons District for the stormwater management pond. The proposed Phase 1 lands will support a complete community by providing for a mix of land uses, housing options, transportation options with multimodal access, employment, public service facilities and other institutional uses, parks and open space, and other uses to meet long-term needs.

The Meadows Neighbourhood District is primarily comprised of low to medium residential dwellings in the form of detached dwellings, semi-detached dwellings, and townhouses. The Mainway Institutional District is anticipated to be where the majority of the 3,600 jobs in the Bronte Creek Meadows Community are located. An active transportation plan was also provided in the Land Use and Built Form Strategy prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026 which include future bicycle lanes and pedestrian connections.

Through OPA4, Section 8.8.2 (3) c) states that “The Bronte Creek Meadows Community shall plan to accommodate a minimum of approximately 400 new affordable units”. Additionally, Section 8.8.2 (3) l) states that “Development of ground-oriented dwellings shall require a minimum of 20% of new units to contain an additional residential unit and/or be built to accommodate a future additional residential unit, including side or rear

secondary entrance/exit and other requirements. Therefore, there are considerations for additional residential units and affordable housing to provide a mix of housing options.

A park is proposed within the Phase 1 lands that is 1 hectare in size and located at the intersection of the two Neighbourhood Connector streets. This central location within the Meadows Neighbourhood District allows it to be well connected to the residents through proposed sidewalk and trail connections. Although there are no public parks proposed within the Mainway Institutional District, the Tertiary Plan prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026 identifies ample opportunities for privately owned publicly accessible spaces to create a diversity of spaces that will contribute positively to the open space character of Bronte Creek Meadows Phase 1.

The Bronte Creek Meadows property includes natural hazards, which have been reviewed by Conservation Halton. In response to comments provided by Conservation Halton, the applicant revised the Draft Plan of Subdivision and the corresponding natural hazards overlay. The *Redlined Draft Plan of Proposed Subdivision* dated May 21, 2026 proposes that the development limits, including all lots and blocks, fall outside of the natural hazards, which is consistent with the PPS.

The subject property contains Natural Heritage Features with Sheldon Creek, the city owned woodlot, and wetlands being located within Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community. The ROP requires Local Official Plans and Zoning By-laws to recognize and protect the Natural Heritage Systems. Through Phase 1, the City has proposed zones to identify and include the Natural Heritage Features and their respective buffers in Open Space zones. These zones apply to the Conservation Halton 6 metre regulated area along Sheldon Creek on the western boundary of the property and the buffers surrounding the City owned woodlot that vary in size. Conservation Halton reviewed the proposal and recommends the proposed zoning by-law amendment schedules be updated accordingly based on the *Redline Draft Plan of Proposed Subdivision* (Appendix F) such that natural hazards (including the 6m erosion access allowance), wetlands, and lands within 30m of wetlands SCW-1 and SCW-2 and 15m of wetland SCW-3 are zoned appropriately (e.g. Open Space). Staff have accommodated these requests in the proposed zoning by-law, and any outstanding considerations have been addressed through the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions.

In regards to the buffers along the City owned woodlot, City Planning staff obtained LGL Limited as the peer reviewer. Comments were also received from Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council which objected to the proposed buffers and recommended greater buffer widths. LGL Limited also provided comments that there are continued substantive concerns with the Subwatershed Study with respect to the proposed water balance calculations to onsite wetlands and with respect to the Natural Heritage System boundaries and buffer recommendations. City Planning staff have reviewed all information and comments received and have had discussions with the applicant, LGL Limited, and Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council. The City has reviewed the

buffers to the City owned woodlot and have accepted the 10 metre buffer to the north of the woodlot and the 7.5 metre buffer to the east of the woodlot. The City accepts the applicant's expert's buffer provided that detailed design, as a Draft Plan of Subdivision condition, is implemented to ensure these buffers provide sufficient vegetation to mitigate any potential impacts. To the west of the City owned woodlot is a block proposed for enhancement of the Natural Heritage Features which provides a greater connection between Sheldon Creek and the City owned woodlot. To the south of the City owned woodlot, City Planning staff agree with both LGL Limited and Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council that more work needs to be undertaken to ensure that a sufficient buffer is proposed adjacent to the Mainway Institutional District. City Planning staff are recommending that the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions address this buffer through additional studies to determine the appropriate buffer width. Overall, City Planning Staff are confident that the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions as recommended in Appendix G will provide for sufficient buffers to protect the existing natural heritage features.

The applicant has proposed two stormwater management ponds within the Phase 1 lands. One of the stormwater management ponds is within the Burloak Commons District as part of Phase 1. The City's Stormwater Engineering staff have reviewed the proposal and are satisfied with the proposed design.

As per the analysis provided, City Planning staff is of the opinion that the Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision, as modified by staff, are consistent with the PPS.

2.0 Halton Region Official Plan (ROP)

Following the Province's removal of planning responsibilities from the Region of Halton, which took effect on July 1, 2024, the Regional Official Plan became an official plan of each of the lower-tier municipalities in Halton. The policies of the ROP, 1995 are in-force and effect and the adoption of the ROP, 1995 and associated policies and designations cannot be appealed.

The Halton Region Official Plan (the "ROP") provides for "broad policy directions on strategic matters such as management of land and natural resources, growth strategies, housing, economic development, water and wastewater services, solid waste management, transportation, and health and social services". The Planning Act requires that Burlington's Official Plan and Zoning By-law be amended to conform with the ROP.

In accordance with Map 1H – Regional Urban Structure of the ROP, as amended, the subject lands are designated 'Urban Area'.. In accordance with Section 72, the Urban Area policies of the ROP identify that the goal of the Urban Area and the Regional Urban Structure is to manage growth in a manner that fosters complete communities, enhances mobility across Halton, addresses climate change, and improves housing affordability, sustainability, and economic prosperity.

In accordance with Section 74, the Urban Area consists of areas so designated within the Regional Urban Boundary as delineated on Map 1, where urban services are or will be made available to accommodate existing and future urban development and amenities.

In accordance with Section 84, the goal for housing is to supply the people of Halton with an adequate mix and variety of housing to satisfy differing physical, social and economic needs. Section 85 further describes that some of the objectives of housing in the Region of Halton include: to make more efficient use of existing developed lands, housing stock and available services to increase the supply of housing while maintaining the physical character of existing neighbourhoods and encourage the Local Municipalities and the building and development industry to develop innovative housing designs that stress flexibility in use, mix of compatible land uses, good environmental practices, universal physical access, public safety and security needs, cost-efficiency, affordability and energy and natural resource conservation while maintaining sound engineering and planning principles.

In accordance with Section 89(3), all new development within the Urban Area is to be connected to the Region of Halton's municipal water and wastewater system.

Section 114 of the ROP states that the goal of the Natural Heritage System is to increase the certainty that the biological diversity and ecological functions within Halton will be preserve and enhanced for future generations. Section 118 requires Local Official Plans and Zoning By-laws to recognize the Regional Natural Heritage System as identified in this Plan and include policies and maps to implement policies of this Plan and to incorporate any refinements made thereto.

Section 165 of the ROP states that the goal for Cultural Heritage Resources is to protect the material, cultural and built heritage of Halton for present and future generations.

Section 143(12) of the ROP requires the proponent of sensitive land uses in proximity to industrial, transportation and utility sources of noise, vibration, odour and air pollutants to complete appropriate studies and undertake necessary mitigating actions in accordance with the Region's Land Use Compatibility Guidelines, Air Quality Impact Assessment Guidelines, and any applicable Ministry of the Environment guidelines.

Section 147(17) of the ROP requires the applicant of a development proposal to determine whether there is any potential contamination on the site they wish to develop, and if there is, to undertake the steps necessary to bring the site to a condition suitable for its intended use.

Staff comment:

The Bronte Creek Meadows Community is within the Urban Area and a portion is within the Regional Natural Heritage System. The lands were previously within the Regional Employment Area; however, through policy changes with a Regional Official Plan Amendment, the Bronte Creek Meadows Community is no longer a part of the Regional Employment framework. The Urban Area is intended to manage growth in a manner that

fosters complete communities, enhances mobility across Halton, addresses climate change, and improves housing affordability, sustainability, and economic prosperity. The applications are for Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community which includes the Meadows Neighbourhood District, Mainway Institutional District, and a portion of the Burloak Commons District for a stormwater management pond. Phase 1 will include low and medium density residential development as well as jobs concentrated in the Mainway Institutional District. The community is proposed to connect to the existing street network through an extension of Sutton Drive running north and south through the Bronte Creek Meadows Community and an extension of Corporate Drive running west to east. The Corporate Drive connection is proposed over Sheldon Creek along the west boundary of the property in later phases of this plan to support the higher density residential development located in the subsequent phases.

Table 2 of the Regional Official Plan envisions 76 people and jobs per hectare; however, OPA 4 which was a City Led Official Plan Amendment envisioned 16,000 residents in 9,000 units and 3,600 jobs. The applicant has submitted an Official Plan Amendment proposing to remove the requirement for 16,000 residents in 9,000 units. City Planning staff are not supportive of this amendment and are recommending that it is premature as it is not needed to facilitate Phase 1 of the development. Further, the Land Use and Built Form Strategy prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026 showed that the 9,000 units would be achieved through the overall development of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community. Further, removing this language from OPA 4 would revert the requirement back to 76 people and jobs per hectare which equates to approximately 5,000 people and jobs based on the net developable area of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, which is significantly lower than the level of intensity envisioned through OPA 4. The applicant has proposed to keep the 3,600 jobs in OPA 4 which would reduce the people accommodated in the community to under 2,000 people which is a large reduction from OPA 4 which envisioned 16,000 people be accommodated through the entire Bronte Creek Meadows Community. It should be noted that the City will be reviewing its growth management strategy over the next while, which could result in amendments to growth requirements. Additionally, the applicant can propose reductions during later phases if the number envisioned in OPA 4 is not obtainable through 8.8.2 (12) a) of OPA 4.

The Urban Area is connected to the Region’s urban services and a Master Environmental Servicing Plan and Area Servicing Plan were submitted as a part of the applications. The Region of Halton have reviewed the submitted Preliminary Functional Servicing Report (FSR), prepared by MTE Consultants Inc., dated February 20, 2026, and the Phase 1 Preliminary Water Modelling Report. The comments provided by the Region of Halton staff have been addressed in the recommended holding provision and Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions provided in Appendix D and G of this report.

The subject property contains Natural Heritage Features with Sheldon Creek, the city owned woodlot, and wetlands being located within Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows

Community. The ROP requires Local Official Plans and Zoning By-laws to recognize the Natural Heritage Systems. Through Phase 1, the City is proposing to include the Natural Heritage Features and their respective buffers in Open Space zones. These zones apply to the Conservation Halton 6 metre regulated area along Sheldon Creek on the western boundary of the property and the buffers surrounding the City owned woodlot that vary in size. Conservation Halton reviewed the proposal and recommends the proposed zoning by-law amendment schedules be updated accordingly based on the *Redline Draft Plan of Proposed Subdivision* (Appendix F) such that natural hazards (including the 6m erosion access allowance), wetlands, and lands within 30m of wetlands SCW-1 and SCW-2 and 15m of wetland SCW-3 are zoned appropriately (e.g. Open Space). Staff have accommodated these requests in the proposed zoning by-law, and any outstanding considerations have been addressed through the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions.

In regards to the buffers along the City owned woodlot, City Planning staff obtained LGL Limited as the peer reviewer. Comments were also received from Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council which objected to the proposed buffers and recommended greater buffer widths. LGL Limited also provided comments that there are continued substantive concerns with the Subwatershed Study with respect to the proposed water balance calculations to onsite wetlands and with respect to the Natural Heritage System boundaries and buffer recommendations. City Planning staff have reviewed all information and comments received and have had discussions with the applicant, LGL Limited, and Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council. The City has reviewed the buffers to the City owned woodlot and have accepted the 10 metre buffer to the north of the woodlot and the 7.5 metre buffer to the east of the woodlot. The City accepts the applicant's expert's buffer provided that detailed design, as a Draft Plan of Subdivision condition, is implemented to ensure these buffers provide sufficient vegetation to mitigate any potential impacts. To the west of the City owned woodlot is a block proposed for enhancement of the Natural Heritage Features which provides a greater connection between Sheldon Creek and the City owned woodlot. To the south of the City owned woodlot, City Planning staff agree with both LGL Limited and Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council that more work needs to be undertaken to ensure that a sufficient buffer is proposed adjacent to the Mainway Institutional District. City Planning staff are recommending that the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions address this buffer through additional studies to determine the appropriate buffer width. Overall, City Planning Staff are confident that the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions as recommended in Appendix G will provide for sufficient buffers to protect the existing natural heritage features.

The applicant submitted Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment Report prepared by Archaeological Services Inc. dated August 7, 2025. This report recommended that the applicant undergo an additional Stage 3 archaeological assessment. The City's Heritage Planning staff reviewed the submitted materials and endorsed this recommendation. City Planning staff have addressed the potential for cultural heritage on the property through

the recommended holding provision and Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions. The applicant also identified that they have entered into monitoring agreements with Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI), Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council. Overall, City Planning Staff are confident that the recommended holding provisions and Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions will appropriately address matters related to cultural heritage.

Land use compatibility was considered as there are existing industrial uses along Mainway. The applicant's proposal includes new sensitive uses to be introduced into the area. The Meadows Neighbourhood District proposes new residential uses into the area. As per the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks D-1 Land Use Compatibility Guidelines, the objective is to minimize or prevent, through the use of buffers, the exposure of any person, property, plant, or animal life to adverse effects associated with the operation of specified facilities. The City obtained Pinchin to complete a land use compatibility peer review which they completed and dated March 27, 2026. Pinchin stated that they are satisfied that the revised version of the 2026 RWDI Land Use Compatibility Study addressed the deficiencies noted; however, minor clarifications and recommendations are present that need to be addressed. The minor clarifications and recommendations are proposed to be addressed through the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions. Further, City Planning staff contemplated the Mainway Institutional District as it is anticipated to provide majority of the 3,600 jobs to the Bronte Creek Meadows Community. As per OPA 4, it is envisioned to be a health care campus, which could contain a sensitive use. A holding provision has been recommended to address land use compatibility of this District at a later stage. Overall, City Planning staff are of the opinion that Land Use Compatibility is appropriately addressed provided the recommended holding provision is applied.

Site Contamination was also considered. The applicants submitted a Phase 1 and Phase 2 Environmental Impact Assessment. City Planning staff have no concerns provided a Record of Site Condition be submitted as per the recommended Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions in Appendix G. Overall, City Planning staff are of the opinion that site contamination has been appropriately addressed.

As per the analysis provided, City Planning staff is of the opinion that the Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision as modified are consistent with the ROP.

3.0 City of Burlington Official Plan (2020)

On Nov. 30, 2020, the City's new Official Plan (Burlington Official Plan, 2020) was approved by Halton Region. All parts of the Burlington Official Plan, 2020 that were not appealed came into effect the day after the end of the appeal period, Dec. 22, 2020. For

the list of the appeals filed with the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT), see the Dec. 23, 2020, update under “Burlington Official Plan, 2020 appeals process”.

On Jan. 4, 2023, the OLT formally confirmed which parts of the Burlington Official Plan, 2020 came into effect on Dec. 22, 2020, and which parts did not. The OLT also confirmed that no parts of the Official Plan (other than policies where appeal rights are limited by the Planning Act) are in effect on lands with site-specific appeals. For a list of policies in effect as of Dec. 22, 2020, see the May 16, 2023, update under “Burlington Official Plan, 2020 appeals process”. This update also includes a list of site-specific appellants.

Until all broad appeals to the Region’s approval of the Burlington Official Plan, 2020 are resolved, parts of the old Official Plan (Burlington Official Plan 1997, as amended) will stay in effect. Parts of the Burlington Official Plan, 2020 that are broadly appealed may be considered on an informative, but not determinative, basis.

The interim working version of the Burlington Official Plan, 2020 is provided for information only. For legal purposes, reference the original certified documents on file with the City Clerk, including the April 26, 2018, City of Burlington adopting by-law and the Nov. 30, 2020 Halton Region Notice of Decision.

As the OLT process continues, the Burlington Official Plan, 2020 may change and need to be updated. Readers of the Plan must satisfy themselves as to the legal status and applicability of the policies by reviewing all Orders and Decisions from the OLT. You can view these documents by visiting the Ontario Land Tribunal's webpage for case no. OLT-22-002219: "OP - New Official Plan – City of Burlington".

The Bronte Creek Meadows Area-Specific Planning Project began in April 2024 through the Burlington Official Plan, 2020 Targeted Realignment Exercise and culminated in the approval of Official Plan Amendment No.4 (OPA 4). OPA 4 pertains to the lands south of Upper Middle Road, west of Burloak Drive, north of Mainway and east of Sheldon Creek. For more background on the Area-Specific Planning project, please refer to PL-81-24 Bronte Creek Meadows Area-Specific Planning Project update and Proposed Policy Directions and DGM-13-25 Bronte Creek Meadows Proposed Official Plan Amendment No.4. Refer to staff report DGM-13-25, Bronte Creek Meadows Proposed Official Plan Amendment (OPA) No.4, for a detailed overview of the project background.

Through OPA 4 Section 8.8.2 (12.3), a Land Use and Built Form Strategy, Subwatershed Study, Area Servicing Plan, and Master Environmental Servicing Plan were required prior to the submission of an application or when the City and partner agencies generally support the conclusions and directions of the studies. Through the submitted application, an Official Plan Amendment was applied for which proposed adding a provision to allow these studies to not be required to be complete or generally supported for the Meadows Neighbourhood District, Mainway Institutional District, and a portion of the Burloak Commons District for the stormwater management pond. City Planning staff have

recommended approval of this modification as the review of these studies continue to require revisions. These have been addressed through the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions recommended through Appendix G.

City Planning staff have reviewed the proposed amendments as well as the comments received from external and internal agencies and have made the following recommendations:

Section	Applicant Proposed Replacement Text	City Recommended Replacement Text
8.8.2 (3) b)	Replace Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) with the following: The Bronte Creek Meadows Community policies *shall* plan to accommodate growth to 2051 and beyond, including by providing 3,600 new jobs, and meeting the Regional Official Plan density target of 76 people and jobs combined per hectare.	Remove
Staff comment: The applicant has proposed to lessen the proposed density to 76 residents and jobs per hectare. However, the applicant's Land Use and Built Form Strategy prepared by NAK dated February 2026 shows the proposed phasing of the development across four stages. Figure 5.0: Bronte Creek Meadows phasing plan shows that the 9,000 units is proposed to be achieved through the overall build out of the lands. If a phase of development is expected to reduce the overall expectations for population and employment the applicant should provide an overview of how development phases will achieve approximate population and jobs as required through OPA 4. Section 8.8.2 (12) a) of OPA 4 notes that "Development applications that propose reductions to the overall expectations for the number of residents, units or employees in accordance with 8.8.2 (3) b) and c), may only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that: • the reduction in overall expectation is minor; • the reduction continues to deliver requirements identified through study, tertiary plan or other requirements; and, • the reduction continues to achieve the vision, objectives and policies of the District." The purpose of this policy is to lessen the need for an official plan amendment when minor changes are required to the approximate number of residents, units and jobs and to facilitate incremental decision-making overtime while not compromising the overall vision of OPA 4.		

For the current development applications for Phase 1, City Planning staff are recommending the removal of the proposed change to continue to support the OPA 4 direction for 16,000 residents and 9,000 jobs.		
8.8.2 (12.3) e)	Add Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) e) with the following: Notwithstanding 8.8.2 (12.3) applications for Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision may be submitted to the City for the Meadows Neighbourhood District and Mainway Institutional District.	Add Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) e) with the following: **In addition to** Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) (b) **and notwithstanding Policy 8.8.2(6.3)(c)** of this Plan, applications for Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision may be submitted to the *City* for the Meadows Neighbourhood District and the portion of the Mainway Institutional District located west of Sutton Drive, **and lands within the Burloak Commons District for the purposes of stormwater management.**
Staff comment: Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) a) and b) require that the Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Land Use and Built Form Strategy and Area Servicing Plan be submitted prior to the submission of a Plan of Subdivision or when the City and partner agencies generally support the conclusions and directions of the studies. The applicant proposed to amend this section to allow the Zoning By-law Amendment and Plan of Subdivision applications to be submitted for the Meadows Neighbourhood District and Mainway Institutional District prior to these studies being complete or generally supported. City Planning staff are recommending that the new provision proposed be added, however, it is recommended that the wording be altered to address Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) (a) and (b) as well as be more specific to the lands that are identified in this policy.		
8.8.2(6.6)(j)	N/A	**Amend policy 8.8.2(6.6)(j) by adding the underlined text after the word "City":** **In accordance with long-term Official Plan direction as shown on Schedule O-1 and established in Table 2, of this Plan, a crossing over Sheldon Creek to facilitate the extension of Corporate Drive to Burloak Drive as shown on Schedule S *shall* be required to the satisfaction of the *City* prior to development occurring**

		<u>within the Burloak Commons District as shown on Schedule S of this Plan, with the exception of development for the purposes of stormwater management.</u>
Staff comment: The applicant has proposed that the crossing over Sheldon Creek to facilitate the extension of Corporate Drive to Burloak be implemented in a later phase in the plan. City Planning staff are recommending that the provision be revised to require the extension prior to development with the exception of development for the purposes of stormwater management. This will allow for flexibility to the applicant while maintaining the requirement as agencies have provided comments stating the importance of the crossing for the Bronte Creek Meadows lands including but not limited to fire access and future transit routes.		
8.8.2(6.6)(fp)	N/A	**Add policy 8.8.2(6.6)(p) with the following:** **Notwithstanding policy 8.8.2(6.6)(f) of this Plan, where a local street is adjacent to and runs parallel with a utility corridor, and is deemed by the *City* not to require sidewalks on both sides of the street, the local street *shall* have a minimum right-of-way width of 16 metres.**
Staff comment: The applicant has proposed "Street P" in the Draft Plan of Subdivision prepared by MacKay, Mackay & Peters Limited dated May 21, 2026. This street is proposed to have a right-of-way width of 16 m. Although City Transportation Planning staff do not generally support a 16 m right-of-way and would recommend that the street have a minimum width of 18 m,, Transportation Planning staff recommend a trail/sidewalk for pedestrian connections along "Street P" and a trail is reflected in the tertiary plan.		
8.8.2(6.8)(c)	N/A	**Add policy 8.8.2(6.8)(c) with the following:** **Notwithstanding policy 8.8.2(6.6)(f) of this Plan, where a laneway is proposed to be dedicated to the *City* as a**

		public right-of-way, the laneway right-of-way width *shall* have a minimum width of 9 metres and *should* meet the design requirements of the *City*, including: (i) **that the laneway be designed to accommodate emergency vehicles, winter maintenance vehicles, and waste collection vehicles; and** (i) **the provision of adequate space for snow storage.**
Staff comment: The applicant has proposed a laneway width of 8 m. City Transportation Staff have provided comments that a 8 m right-of-way is not acceptable and a 9 m right-of-way is required.		

In addition to the policies for the number of residents, units, and jobs, OPA 4 also required that a minimum of approximately 400 new affordable units be provided as per Section 8.8.2 (3) c) of OPA 4. The applicant has proposed that the 400 new affordable units be provided within the Mainway Institutional District. However, this is adjacent to existing industrial uses south of Mainway. Further, a holding is being proposed over the Mainway Institutional District for a Land Use Compatibility Study and other studies deemed necessary for proposed uses. As per Section 8.8.2 (3) g) of OPA 4, affordable housing is permitted and encouraged to locate in all districts. City Planning staff will continue to work with the applicant to ensure the inclusion of the 400 affordable units.

Further, development of ground-oriented dwellings shall require a minimum of 20% of new units to contain an additional residential unit and/or be built to accommodate a future additional residential unit Section 8.8.2 (3) l) of OPA 4. City Planning staff have recommended that the Draft Zoning By-law Amendment include a provision that detached and semi-detached dwellings provide an exterior entrance providing access to an interior staircase on the side building elevation or street-side building elevation where the side yard is 1.2 metres or greater. This provision will allow for the ability for new units to accommodate additional residential units.

Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community includes the Meadows Neighbourhood District, Mainway Institutional District, and a small portion of the Burloak Commons District for a stormwater management pond.

The Meadows Neighbourhood District is located at the northwest quadrant of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community and is envisioned to provide a wide range of housing types with complimentary community facilities, public spaces, and parks as per Section 8.8.2 (5.1) of OPA 4. The submitted Draft Plan of Subdivision in Appendix E demonstrates that the applicant is proposing single detached dwellings, semi-detached dwellings, and townhouses in the Meadows Neigghbourhood District. There is also lands at the southwest corner of the intersection of Upper Middle Road and Sutton Road with a mixed use zoning proposed. A park that is 1 hectare in size is also proposed within the Meadows Neighbourhood District. The proposal is consistent with the vision of the Meadows Neighbourhood District.

The Mainway Institutional District is located at the southwest quadrant of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community and is envisioned to be a focus for employment, institutional and healthcare uses to support the creation of jobs, with shops and services for employees and visitors as per Section 8.8.2 (5.3) of OPA 4. City Planning staff's modified approval reflects the institutional nature of the Mainway Institutional District with limited industrial uses to be compatible with the vision and adhere to the uses that may be permitted within Section 8.8.2 (5.3.2) b) of OPA 4. The proposal modified by City Planning staff is consistent with the vision of the Mainway Institutional District.

The only development proposed within the Burloak Commons District is the stormwater management pond. No other development is proposed within the Burloak Commons District and as proposed by City Planning staff the Land Use and Built Form Strategy, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Area Servicing Plan, and Subwatershed Study need to be complete or substantially completed prior to development in the Burloak Commons District (with the exception of the stormwater management pond).

4.0 Tertiary Plan

Through OPA4, a Tertiary Plan was required for each District to establish how development will further articulate and demonstrate to the satisfaction of the City the achievement of the objectives and policies, guidelines, and any other direction required in order to support development and growth at a level of detail that may not be appropriate at the policy level. A Tertiary Plan is a non-statutory document considered by Council in advance of or at the time of a development application. As per Section 8.8.2 (12.2.1) e), the Tertiary Plan is required to be approved by staff and subsequently considered by Council. A Tertiary Plan was submitted to the City prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026 for the Phase 1 lands which encompass the Meadows Neighbourhood District, the Mainway Institutional District, and a small portion of the Burloak Commons District designated for a stormwater management pond. As stated in the submitted Tertiary Plan, the urban design goals and directions of the broader Burloak

Commons District are not addressed in this Plan and will be reviewed in detail through the Phase 2 development process and associated Tertiary Plan.

City Planning Staff have reviewed Section 8.8.2 (12.2.1) f) of OPA 4 and have provided the following review:

i) *District identity and character in accordance with the vision, objectives and policies of each district;*

The Tertiary Plan prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026 includes Section 5.0 Urban Design Concepts which outlines the plans on how each district meets the design objectives of OPA 4 as well as the vision of objectives for the Meadows Neighbourhood District and Mainway Institutional District. As stated in Section 8.8.2 (12.2.1) a) of OPA 4, a Tertiary Plan shall be required for each District of this Plan prior to development occurring. As the Burloak Commons District is not being developed in this Plan (with the exception of the stormwater management pond), it will be reviewed at a later date.

The Meadows Neighbourhood District is described as a new neighbourhood providing a wide range of housing types with complementary community amenities including a Neighbourhood Park and woodlot. While the Meadows Neighbourhood will be primarily low-rise, ground-oriented dwellings, the introduction of mid-rise, non-ground oriented dwellings along with shops and services to support daily needs are planned for the mixed-use node at Upper Middle Road and Sutton Drive to contribute to a vibrant, complete community. City Planning staff are generally supportive of the identity and character of the Meadows Neighbourhood District.

The Mainway Institutional District is described as an innovative health and education hub focused on well-being and community amenities, strategically compatible with existing employment lands and residential areas. Through an integrated community-wide active transportation system, the district will provide access to transit services, NHS trails, and contribute to the active mobility network of Bronte Creek Meadows. City Planning staff are generally supportive of the identity and character of the Mainway Institutional District.

ii) *Required Studies, technical work or implementation of findings of any such work required to support the development of the District;*

The Tertiary Plan prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026 is generally supported by staff; however, there are outstanding concerns with the Tertiary Plan that are recommended to be resolved through the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions. This includes updating the Tertiary Plan once the updates to other studies including (but not limited to) the Subwatershed Study and Land Use and Built Form Strategy.

iii) Cultural heritage and archaeological considerations;

The applicant submitted Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment Report prepared by Archaeological Services Inc. dated August 7, 2025. This report recommended that the applicant undergo an additional Stage 3 archaeological assessment. The City's Heritage Planning staff reviewed the submitted materials and endorsed this recommendation. City Planning staff have addressed the potential for cultural heritage on the property through the recommended holding provision and Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions. The applicant also identified that they have entered into monitoring agreements with Haudenosaunee Development Institute (HDI), Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and Six Nations of the Grand River Elected Council. Overall, City Planning Staff are confident that the recommended holding provisions and Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions will appropriately address matters related to cultural heritage.

iv) The protection of the Natural Heritage System;

As previously mentioned, City Planning staff reviewed all relevant materials as well as comments provided and have determined that the Draft Zoning By-law (Appendix D) and Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions (Appendix G) will appropriately address the Natural Heritage System.

v) Transportation, active transportation, including pedestrian, cycling and transit stops and trail connections along with an assessment of the function, ownership, cross-section, alignment, design of transportation connections, and all forms of intersection control including the consideration of roundabouts within each District and the surrounding neighbourhoods;

City Planning staff are generally supportive of the proposed trail network around the woodlot for pedestrian connections and the cycling network. As noted in Appendix C – Official Plan Amendment, City Planning staff are recommending an additional amendment to the Official Plan to address the 16 metre right-of-way proposed as a "window street" adjacent to the utility corridor. However, the Tertiary Plan shows a trail adjacent to the "window street" through Figure C: Meadows Neighbourhood District Active Transportation Plan. Therefore, staff are satisfied that the "window street" can provide pedestrian connections. However, other parts of Section 8.8.2 (12.2.1) are not adequately addressed through the Tertiary Plan and have been addressed through the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions.

vi) The size, location and configuration of new transit priority measures, transportation facilities, and transportation amenities along streets;

The Tertiary Plan prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026 provides Figure C and D which shows the proposed future transit connections

including those through the Corporate Drive connection which is to be completed in the later phases. Section 3.4.3 of the Tertiary Plan also outlines the existing routes that the neighbourhood could connect to. Further, Transportation Planning staff have requested a Transportation Demand Management Plan which will be addressed through the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions in Appendix G.

vii) *Proposed layout of streets, lanes and development blocks;*

Section 3.4 Transportation and Active Transportation Connections of the Tertiary Plan outlies the street network. City Planning staff are generally supportive of the proposed street network and cross sections provided through this section. Any outstanding comments will be addressed through detailed design.

viii) *Plan of road classifications and conceptual street right-of-way cross section for all road types in accordance with the Land Use and Built Form Strategy;*

Section 3.4 Transportation and Active Transportation Connections of the Tertiary Plan outlies the street network. City Planning staff are generally supportive of the proposed street network and cross sections provided through this section. Any outstanding comments will be addressed through detailed design.

ix) *High-level strategy for the provision of water and wastewater infrastructure servicing in accordance with the policies of this Plan, including the confirmation that the existing sewage and water services can accommodate the proposed development;*

The Region of Halton staff have reviewed water and wastewater infrastructure. Regional staff offer no objection to the Plan of Subdivision and Zoning By-law Amendment applications, subject to the Conditions of Draft Plan Approval and the inclusion of a Holding Provision.

x) *High-level strategy for the provision and location of stormwater management facilities and/or green infrastructure in accordance with the policies of this Plan;*

The City's Stormwater Engineer reviewed the applications and conditions have been provided in the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions.

xi) *An assessment of the need for, and recommended location of pedestrian connections;*

Pedestrian connections were addressed in Section 4.0 Urban Design Guidelines in the Tertiary Plan prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026.

xii) *The location of new required parks and open spaces within the District including the size, location and configuration of parks in order to ensure the proper siting*

of parks and the effective coordination of land dedication to support park space functionality, design and development;

A Community Needs Study was completed through OPA 4 and has informed the location and size of parks. In Phase 1, a 1 hectare park is proposed on the northwest corner of the intersection of Corporate Drive and Sutton Drive. Further discussion about the Community Needs Study and how it is implemented should be included in the Tertiary Study.

xiii) *The location and size of Privately-Owned Publicly Accessible Spaces (POPs), and their relationship to the public realm*

The location and size of POPs don't seem to be discussed in the proposed community layout, but there is a section on POPs in the Urban Design Guidelines on page 48 in the Tertiary Plan prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026. This Section notes that there are ample opportunities for a diversity of spaces to contribute to the open space character of Phase 1. However, it is unclear if POPs are proposed in Phase 1 of the proposed development.

xiv) *New public service facilities and institutional uses, along with an assessment of function, configuration and ownership in accordance with the policies of this Plan*

Section 3.7 Public Service Facilities of the Tertiary Plan prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026 outlines the proposed facilities as the Neighbourhood Park, Potential Healthcare Services, Potential Institutional Uses and Potential Community Uses. Greater detail should be provided for their functionality in Phase 1.

xv) *The location and configuration of retail and service commercial floor area;*

The applicant has provided a brief discussion in the vision and land use sections for the Meadows Neighbourhood District regarding retail and service commercial floor area. However, further detail outlining how retail and service commercial uses and floors are being provided across Phase 1 is required.

xvi) *The provision of additional needs housing, assisted housing and affordable housing in accordance with Section 3.1 of this Plan*

The vision for the Mainway Institutional District discusses the opportunity for affordable housing. However, the Mainway Institutional District is envisioned to provide majority of the 3,600 jobs in the Bronte Creek Meadows Community. As noted in this report, Land Use Compatibility will need to be considered to determine that the uses in the Mainway Institutional District and existing industrial uses south of Mainway are not impacted by any future sensitive uses in this area. This should be addressed in the Tertiary Plan.

xvii) The relationship to abutting districts, Bronte Creek Provincial Park and surrounding neighborhoods outside the Bronte Creek Meadows Community boundaries

Although the existing neighbourhoods is discussed throughout the Tertiary Plan, it would be useful to dedicate a section to how the proposal will integrate with the surrounding area.

xviii) Demonstration of land use compatibility, including any mitigation requirements, to the satisfaction of the City;

As previously mentioned, Land Use Compatibility should be discussed in the Tertiary Plan to address the jobs provided in the Mainway Institutional District and the existing industrial uses south of Mainway.

xix) Demonstration of consistency with the overall Land Use and Built Form Strategy for Bronte Creek Meadows Community in accordance with Section 8.8.2 (12.1) a) of this Plan;

NAK Design Strategies prepared both the Land Use and Built Form Strategy as well as the Tertiary Plan. Both will be updated through the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions.

xx) Demonstration of sustainability best practices, including consideration of the Council-approved Sustainable Building and Development Guidelines

The urban design of the Meadows Neighbourhood District and Mainway Institutional District were provided in Section 5.0 Urban Design Concepts in the Tertiary Plan prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026. It is recommended that a section is added to include the City's Sustainable Building and Design Guidelines.

xxi) Other specific urban design issues that will be addressed in implementing plan(s) of subdivision, zoning standards and site plan approval based on Council-approved Guidelines

Any additional Urban Design considerations can be addressed at the Draft Plan of Subdivision or detailed design stages.

xxii) Provision and location of flood hazard mitigation in accordance with the policies of this Plan

Conservation Halton has reviewed the proposal in regard to natural hazards and have provided conditions in the Draft Plan of Subdivision.

xxiii) Stormwater management infrastructure to mitigate for flood hazards including spill flood hazards;

City's Stormwater Engineering staff and Conservation Halton has reviewed the proposal in regard to natural hazards and have provided conditions in the Draft Plan of Subdivision.

xxiv) On-site stormwater management infrastructure to mitigate for flood hazards and spills;

City's Stormwater Engineering staff and Conservation Halton has reviewed the proposal in regard to natural hazards and have provided conditions in the Draft Plan of Subdivision.

xxv) Phasing of development including all relevant information required to evaluate the phasing plan; and,

A Phasing Plan was provided in Section 5.2 of the Land Use and Built Form Strategy prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026. More detail should be provided and details should be provided in the Land Use and Built Form Strategy as well as the Tertiary Plan. Further information on how the Meadows Neighbourhood District will develop should be provided.

xxvi) Implement the findings of the Community Needs Study as per 8.2.2 (9) i) including conveyance of land and/or entering into agreements with the City or other parties.

A Community Needs Study was completed through OPA 4 and has informed the location and size of parks. Discussion should be provided as to how this study has informed the Tertiary Plan.

City Planning staff have reviewed the Tertiary Plan prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026. Any outstanding concerns regarding the Tertiary Plan are recommended to be revised through the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions. Therefore, staff are comfortable with the plan as submitted; however, revisions are anticipated to be required through the Draft Plan of Subdivision conditions in Appendix G.

5.0 Urban Design Guidelines

The applicant submitted a Tertiary Plan prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026. Through the Tertiary Plan, Urban Design Guidelines were outlined in Part 4 of this submitted document. City Planning staff have reviewed this document and have recommended a Draft Plan of Subdivision condition that the applicant submit a revised Tertiary Plan, Urban Design Strategy/Guidelines, and Urban Design Concepts, and Streetscape Plan. These plans are recommended to be developed in consultation with the Burlington Urban Design Panel and respond to all comments received from the City and other agencies.

6.0 Sustainable Building and Development Guidelines (December 2021)

The purpose of the Sustainable Building and Development Guidelines is to encourage sustainable design approaches through Planning Act applications, in keeping with the City's declaration as a sustainable community, and in alignment with Burlington's

Strategic Plan 2015-2040. Burlington's Strategic Plan encourages energy efficient buildings and other on-site sustainable features and sets a net carbon neutral goal for the community. Sustainable design is an integrated design process that helps to reduce infrastructure demands and costs, environmental impacts, greenhouse gas emissions, long-term building operating costs, and contributes to the City's goal of being a prosperous, livable, and healthy community. The guidelines address sustainability approaches related to site design, transportation, the natural environment, water, energy and emissions, waste and building materials, and maintenance, monitoring, and communication.

The Sustainable Building and Development Guidelines will be addressed in a future Site Plan application when a development is proposed.

7.0 Pedestrian Level Wind Study Guidelines and Terms of Reference (June 2020)

Pedestrian Level Wind Studies ('Wind Study') are conducted to predict and assess the wind impacts of proposed buildings and site designs on surrounding public and private spaces in addition to on-site wind conditions to ensure pedestrian comfort and safety is maintained. In accordance with Section 2.1 of the guidelines, a Qualitative Wind Assessment is required as a minimum for development proposals with building heights of 5- to 11-storeys; however, a Quantitative Wind Assessment may be required at the discretion of City staff based on building exposure, size, sensitivity, and other factors. Any future development on the subject property will require a Wind Study. A Wind Study will be required and reviewed by staff at the Site Plan stage for a future development proposal above 4-storeys in height.

8.0 Shadow Study Guidelines and Terms of Reference (June 2020)

The purpose of the Shadow Study Guidelines is to provide a best practices approach to Shadow Studies in order to promote high-quality development proposals that ensure adequate access to sunlight is maintained for the enjoyment of public and private spaces alike throughout the City. The Shadow Study Guidelines indicate that a Shadow Study is required for development proposals with building heights of 5-storeys or more and in some cases when additional building height is requested and when a proposal is in close proximity to shadow sensitive uses.

The guidelines consider shadowing on Key Civic and Cultural Spaces, Private Outdoor Amenity Spaces, Parks and Open Spaces, Places Where Children Play, and Public Realm and Sidewalks. A Shadow Study will be required and reviewed by staff at the Site Plan stage for a future development proposal above 4-storeys in height.

9.0 Zoning By-law

The property is currently zoned General Employment (H-GE2-354, H-GE1-354, and GE1-354) and Open Space (O2 and O3). Both the General Employment zone and Open Space zone prohibit residential use. Through Regional Official Plan Amendment 49, the lands known as Bronte Creek Meadows were taken out of the Regional Employment designation and are no longer intended to be solely used for employment purposes. The City is recommending modified approval to rezone the property to RBC1, H-RBC1, RBC2, H-RBC2, H-MXG-574, H-MXE-575, O2, O3, P, and S.

Through City Official Plan Amendment 4, the lands were designated Meadows Neighbourhood District, Burloak Commons District, and Mainway Institutional District. This allowed permissions for residential use and projected that Bronte Creek Meadows shall accommodate 16,000 new residents in 9,000 units and 3,600 new jobs. The applicant has proposed new zones in Phase 1 which encompasses the Meadows Neighbourhood and Mainway Institutional District. City Planning Staff are recommending modified approval to better align the proposed zoning with Official Plan Amendment 4, as shown in the following tables:

Zoning Regulation	**Proposed RBC1**	**Staff Recommended RBC1**
Permitted Uses	• Detached Dwelling • Semi-Detached Dwelling • Townhouse • Street Townhouse • Additional Residential Units	• Detached Dwelling • Semi-Detached Dwelling • Townhouse • Street Townhouse • Additional Residential Units
Staff comment: No modification to the applicant's proposed rezoning is recommended.		

Lot Width	• Detached Dwelling
	  10m
	• Semi-Detached Dwelling
	  7.5m
	• Townhouse
	  45m
	• Street Townhouse
		• Detached Dwelling
		  10m
		• Semi-Detached Dwelling
		  7.5m
		• **Townhouse**
		  30m
		• Street Townhouse

	5.5m	5.5m
Staff comment: As per the Plan of Subdivison submitted, no standard townhouses (without street frontage) are proposed. Therefore, without the ability to review a specific model, City Planning staff are recommending that the townhouses be subject to the provisions of the Mixed Use Corridor – General (MXG) zone.		
Lot Area	• Detached Dwelling 270sqm • Semi-Detached Dwelling 250sqm • Townhouse 0.4ha • Street Townhouse 120sqm	• Detached Dwelling 270sqm • Semi-Detached Dwelling 250sqm • **Townhouse** **1200sqm** • Street Townhouse 120sqm
Staff comment: As per the Plan of Subdivison submitted, no standard townhouses without street frontage are proposed. Therefore, without the ability to review a specific model, City Planning staff are recommending that the townhouses be subject to the provisions of the MXG zone.		
Front Yard and Street Side Yard	• Detached Dwelling 3m to dwelling 6m to garage • Semi-Detached Dwelling 3m to dwelling 6m to garage • Townhouse 3m to dwelling 6m to garage • Street Townhouse 3m	• Detached Dwelling 3m to dwelling 6m to garage • Semi-Detached Dwelling 3m to dwelling 6m to garage • Townhouse 3m to dwelling 6m to garage • Street Townhouse 3m to dwelling **6m to garage**
Staff comment:		

<table>
<tr><td colspan="3">City Planning staff are recommending that the Street Townhouses also have a setback of 6m to the garage to be consistent with the other low density built forms.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Rear Yard</td><td>Detached Dwelling
6m
Semi-Detached Dwelling
6m
Townhouse
6m
Street Townhouse
6m</td><td>Detached Dwelling
7m
Semi-Detached Dwelling
7m
Townhouse
6m
Street Townhouse
6m</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Staff comment:
City Planning staff are recommending that the rear yard setback for detached dwellings and semi-detached dwellings be increased 1m to provide for a 7m rear yard setback to allow for greater rear amenity area and pervious surface.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Side Yard</td><td>Detached Dwelling
1.2m for one side;
0.6m for other side
Semi-Detached Dwelling
1.2m for one side;
0m for interior side yard
Townhouse
1.2m for one side;
0m for interior side yard
Street Townhouse
1.2m for one side;
0m for interior side yard</td><td>Detached Dwelling
1.2m for one side;
0.6m for other side
Semi-Detached Dwelling
1.2m for one side;
0m for interior side yard
Townhouse
3m
Street Townhouse
1.2m for one side;
0m for interior side yard</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Staff comment:</td></tr>
</table>

As per the Plan of Subdivison submitted, no standard townhouses without street frontage are proposed. Therefore, without the ability to review a specific model, City Planning staff are recommending that the townhouses be subject to the provisions of the MXG zone.		

Street Side Yard	• Detached Dwelling
	  1.2m
	• Semi-Detached Dwelling
	  1.2m
	• Townhouse
	  N/A
	• Street Townhouse
	  1.2m
		• Detached Dwelling
		  1.2m
		• Semi-Detached Dwelling
		  1.2m
		• Townhouse
		  N/A
		• Street Townhouse
		  1.2m

Staff comment: No modification to the applicant's proposed rezoning is recommended.		

Yard abutting a Creek Block	• Detached Dwelling
	  7.5m
	• Semi-Detached Dwelling
	  7.5m
	• Townhouse
	  7.5m
	• Street Townhouse
	  7.5m
		• Detached Dwelling
		  7.5m
		• Semi-Detached Dwelling
		  7.5m
		• Townhouse
		  7.5m
		• Street Townhouse
		  7.5m

Staff comment: No modification to the applicant's proposed rezoning is recommended.		
Yard abutting a Pipeline	N/A	• **7m**
Staff comment: The applicant has not included a setback for a yard abutting a pipeline which would mean that the base zoning would apply. As staff are recommending creating a new zone for the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, the 7 metre setback for pipelines has been carried over into this zone.		

Lot Coverage	• Detached Dwelling
	  55%
		• Detached Dwelling
		  55%

	• Semi-Detached Dwelling
	  55%
	• Townhouse
	  N/A
	• Street Townhouse
	  60%
		• Semi-Detached Dwelling
		  55%
		• Townhouse
		  N/A
		• Street Townhouse
		  60%

Staff comment: No modification to the applicant's proposed rezoning is recommended.		
Driveways and Walkways	N/A	**Front or Street Side Lot width:** • **Less than 9m: 3 m Maximum Driveway Width** • **9m or more: 6m Maximum Driveway Width**
Staff comment: City Planning staff are recommending these driveway widths to ensure that the front and street side of the lots are not a continuous impervious surface. This will allow for a balance between paved and green surfaces as well as ensure transportation safety concerning road access.		
Encroachments	N/A	• Porches are permitted to encroach a maximum distance of 1.5 m into the required front yard and required street side yard. • Balconies are permitted only in a front yard or street side yard, or in a side yard abutting an Open Space zone or Park zone. • Balconies on a wall facing the front or street side, or side

		abutting an Open Space or Park zone, may project up to 2.5 m beyond the wall of a building, up to 1.5 m of the property line. • A bay window, balcony, vestibule, fire escape, or open stairway may not project into a required side yard.
Staff comment: City Planning staff are recommending encroachment provisions to ensure that the built form is setback from the front yard and street yard to protect the pedestrian realm.		
Building Height	Minimum Height: 2-storeys Maximum Height: 3-storeys	Minimum Height: 2-storeys Maximum Height: 3-storeys
Staff comment: No modification to the applicant's proposed rezoning is recommended.		

Zoning Regulation	**Proposed RBC2**	**Staff Recommended RBC2**
Permitted Uses	N/A	• **Townhouse** • **Street Townhouse** • **Additional Residential Units**
Lot Width	N/A	**Street Townhouse:** • **5.5m**
Lot Area	N/A	**Street Townhouse:** • **120sqm**
Front Yard and Street Side Yard	N/A	**Street Townhouse:** • **3m**
Rear Yard	N/A	**Street Townhouse:** • **For a Rear Yard abutting a street**

		with a deemed width of 18 m or greater, the Rear Yard shall be 3 m for a dwelling and 6 m for a garage. • **For a Rear Yard abutting a laneway, the Rear Yard shall be 2 m.**
Side Yard	N/A	**Street Townhouse:** • **1.2m, interior side yard 0m**
Street Side Yard	N/A	**Street Townhouse:** • **3m**
Driveways and Walkways	N/A	**Street Townhouse with Rear Yard abutting a street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater:** • **Less than 9m: 3 m** • **9m or greater: 6 m** **Street Townhouse with Rear Yard abutting a public or common-element laneway** • **Maximum Driveway Width:** o **6m**
Encroachments	N/A	• **Porches are permitted to encroach a maximum distance of 1.5 m into the required front yard, Landscape Area and required street side yard.**

		• **Balconies may project up to 2.5 m beyond the wall of a building, up to 1.5 m of the property line.** • **A bay window, balcony, vestibule, or fire escape, or open stairway may not project into a required side yard.**
Building Height	N/A	**Minimum Height: 2-storeys** **Maximum Height: 3-storeys**
Accessory Buildings and Structures	N/A	• **for all accessory buildings the minimum setback from a lot line abutting any street shall be 3 m** • **for all accessory structures the minimum setback from a rear lot line shall be 1 m**
Fencing and Privacy Screens	N/A	**Fences and Walls:** • **Maximum height in a front yard, street side yard, and rear yard: 1 m** • **Minimum setback from a lot line abutting a laneway or rear street line: 1 m** **Privacy Screens:**

		• **Privacy screens only permitted on:** • **a balcony,** • **the side or street side elevations of a deck,** • **the side (excluding street side) elevations of a porch.**
Landscape Area	N/A	• **Landscape Area abutting a front lot line or street side lot line: 3 m** • **Landscape Area abutting a rear lot line that abuts a street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater: 3 m**
Staff comment: City Planning staff are recommending an additional zone be added to the Meadows Neighbourhood Community. This encompasses the medium density townhouse blocks along “Street A” or the Corporate Drive extension.		

Zoning Regulation	**Proposed MXC**	**Staff Recommended MXG**
Prohibited Uses	N/A	• **All Automotive uses** • **Drive-through facilities** • **Night Club**
Staff comment: City Planning staff are recommending that the above uses be prohibited in the area at the corner of Sutton Drive and Upper Middle Road due to their adjacency to the surrounding proposed residential uses in the proposed RBC1 zone.		

Additional Permitted Uses	In addition to the uses permitted in a Mixed Use Corridor Zone by Table 5.2.1, the following uses are permitted and may be located within 25 metres of a public street having a deemed width of 26 metres or greater: • Townhouses • Stacked Townhouses • Back-to-Back Townhouses	• **Public Service Facility as defined in the applicable Provincial Planning Statement** • **For buildings located within 25 metres of Sutton Drive:** o **The building shall contain a minimum of two permitted uses.** o **Regulation a. above shall not apply to a building containing a permitted institutional use, public service facility, or daycare use.** o **Dwelling units and residential amenity areas shall be prohibited on the ground floor facing Sutton Drive, with the exception of a lobby or stairwell**

		providing access to permitted residential uses above the ground floor. • **Notwithstanding Table 5.4.1, for a building with a height of 3 storeys or less, the yard abutting a residential zone shall be 3 m.**
Staff comment: City Planning staff are of the opinion that the Mixed Use Corridor – General (MXG) zone is more appropriate than the Mixed Use Corridor – Commercial (MXC) zone as it permits less intensive uses. Staff are of the opinion that the MXG zone is more compatible with the surrounding residential uses.		
Yard abutting a Residential Zone	Yard abutting a residential zone: 12m unless the residential boundary is along a street, in which case the minimum yard abutting a street shall apply	**Floors 1 to 3: 12 m** **Floors 4 and 5: 15 m** **Floor 6: 18 m**
Staff comment: City Planning staff have maintained the base zoning setbacks in the Zoning By-law which include stepbacks on upper floors. This aligns with the Mid-rise Design Guidelines (2019).		
Building Height	• The minimum permitted height of an office/apartment building or other use shall be two (2) storeys. • The maximum permitted height of an office/apartment building or other use	For Apartment buildings, Long-Term Care Facility, Retirement Homes, and Office buildings: • Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys • Maximum number of storeys: 8 storeys

	shall be eight (8) storeys. • The maximum building height for ground-oriented dwellings shall be 3 storeys.	For all Townhouses: • Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys • Maximum number of storeys: 3 storeys • No minimum floor area for the third storey For all other uses: • Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys • Maximum number of storeys: 5 storeys
Staff comment: City Planning staff have modified the wording, however, the minimum of 2-storeys and maximum of 8-storeys continues to be captured as well as the maximum 3-storeys for ground-oriented dwellings.		
Minimum Floor Area	The minimum floor area for uses above the first storey, except standalone residential buildings, shall be 500 square metres.	**In MXG , MXC, and MXT zones, the floor area of the second, third, and fourth storeys of a building containing more than one storey must be at least 50% of the floor area of the first storey.**
Staff comment: City Planning staff have proposed that the existing section of the MXG zone apply as the applicant's proposed amendment represents a major reduction.		
Landscape Buffer	Landscape Buffer Abutting a Residential Zone: 3m	Abutting a Residential Zone: 3 m
Staff comment: No modification to the applicant's proposed rezoning is recommended.		
Bicycle Parking	N/A	**Residential Bicycle Parking for Apartment Building:** • **Short-term: 0.1 bicycle parking spaces per unit**

		• **Long-term: 0.5 bicycle parking spaces per unit** • **For the purpose of Bicycle parking regulations:** o **Long-term bicycle parking spaces are bicycle parking spaces for use by the occupants, employees or tenants of a building, and must be located in a building. Required long-term bicycle parking spaces in apartment buildings may not be in a dwelling unit, on a balcony or in a storage locker.** o **Short-term bicycle parking spaces are bicycle parking spaces for use by visitors to a building. Short-term bicycle parking spaces are to be located close to a building entrance and**

		sheltered from the elements.
Staff comment: City Planning staff are recommending that bicycle parking be included to capture an additional mode of transportation. Bicycle lanes are proposed along Neighbourhood Connectors, Minor Connectors, and Character Streets that will support cyclists.		

Zoning Regulation	Proposed MXE	Staff Recommended MXE
Prohibited Uses	Automotive uses	• **Drive-through facilities** • All Automotive uses
Staff comment: City Planning staff have added Drive-through facilities to the list of prohibited uses as it may be an incompatible use with the surrounding uses in the Mainway Institutional designation which is anticipated to include sensitive uses.		
Permitted Uses	• Long-Term Care Facilities, Retirement Home • Public and Private Hospitals, Public Health Care, Health Care Facility, Social Services • Private Medical Clinic, Medical Offices • Training Centre or other place of learning including accessory buildings • School: Post Secondary, Business, Commercial, Trade • Day Care Centre • Places of Worship • Recreational Establishment	• **Retirement Homes, as per MXG zone** • **Day Cares, as per Part 1, Section 2.25(f)** • **Long Term Care Facility, as per Part 1, Section 2.25(b)** • **Public and Private Hospitals, Public Health Care, Social Services, as Per Part 1, Section 2.21(c)** • **Places of Worship, as per Part 1, Section 2.21(d)** • **Residential Social Services, as per Part 1, Section 2.21(j)**

	• Retail and service commercial uses within a mixed-use building • Wholesale Trade • Construction and Trade Contractors • Wholesale Building and Construction Materials • Warehouse and Logistics • Training Centre • Research and Development • Information and Data Processing • Knowledge-Based & High Technology • Other Industrial Operations – General manufacturing, processing, fabricating, and/or assembly facility • Institutional Uses, Community Institutions and Public Service Facilities • Office uses • Apartment Building for Affordable and/or Attainable Housing Units, to a maximum of 400 units total within the MXE-XXX zone.	• **Public Service Facility as defined in the applicable Provincial Planning Statement** **Permitted Industrial Uses:** • **Training Centre** • **Research and Development** • **Information and Data Processing** • **Knowledge-Based & High Technology** • **Pharmaceutical & Medicines**
Staff comment:		

<table>
<tr><td colspan="3">City Planning staff have refined the list of uses in the proposed MXE zone to reflect the character of the Mainway Institutional District in the Land Use and Built Form Strategy prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026. In this submitted document, the Mainway Institutional District is described as an opportunity to integrate various health and social service providers, educational institutions, and commercial entities to create a cohesive campus environment.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Uses Subject to holding</td><td>Long-Term Care Facilities, Retirement Home
Public and Private Hospitals, Public Health Care, Health Care Facility, Social Services
Private Medical Clinic
School: Post Secondary, Business, Commercial, Trade
Day Care Centre
Recreational Establishment
Institutional Uses, Community Institutions and Public Service Facilities
Office uses
Retail and service commercial uses within a mixed use building
Apartment Building for Affordable and/or Attainable Housing Units, to a maximum of 400 units total within the MXE-XXX zone.</td><td>a Land Use Compatibility Study and other studies deemed necessary by the City, demonstrating that any proposed land uses are compatible with those existing and planned on site and in the surrounding area.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Staff comment:
City Planning staff are recommending a modified holding to more broadly require a Land Use Compatibility Study once development is proposed in the Mainway Institutional District.</td></tr>
</table>

Building Height	N/A	**Minimum: 2 storeys** **Maximum: 8 storeys**
Staff comment: The applicant did not propose a minimum or maximum building height. City Planning staff are recommending 2-storeys to 8-storeys to provide for low-rise and mid-rise development to occur in the Mainway Institutional District which aligns with the Land Use and Built Form Strategy prepared by NAK Design Strategies dated February 2026.		

AMENDMENT NO. 11 TO THE OFFICIAL PLAN
OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON PLANNING AREA

CONSTITUTIONAL STATEMENT

The details of the Amendment, as contained in Part B of this text, constitute Amendment No. 11 to the Official Plan of the Burlington Planning Area, as amended.

PART A – PREAMBLE

1. PURPOSE OF THE AMENDMENT

The purpose of this Amendment is to redesignate the lands at 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway in accordance with the Schedules to this amendment and to delete and replace site specific policies within Official Plan Amendment 4 (Area Specific Plan) to clarify language and update housing targets.

2. SITE AND LOCATION

The subject lands are municipally known as 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway and are located on the west side of Burloak Drive, south side of Upper Middle Road, and north side of Mainway. The lands are irregular in shape and have a total lot area of 123.7 hectares.

3. BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

On May 20, 2025, Burlington City Council voted unanimously to adopt OPA4 which sets out a planning framework and is a guide for future study, to support development and growth within Bronte Creek Meadows.

OPA4 established an Area Specific Plan for the Bronte Creek Meadows development and provides policies requirements and guidance specific to the area to guide how the community is development.

Since the approval of OPA4 and the use of the amendment in practice, four separate clauses have been identified as needing further amending in order for development to proceed in an orderly fashion. The subject Official Plan Amendment will address these policies.

The proposed development supports the City’s objective to broaden the range of housing forms and supply to meet City needs in a manner that is compatible with surrounding land uses. It also adds new employment opportunities that will help the City and Region achieve its economic development goals.

The applicant submitted technical studies and reports that provide adequate and appropriate information to support the development.

PART B – THE AMENDMENT

1. DETAILS OF THE AMENDMENT

Map Changes:

None

Text Change:

The text of the City of Burlington Official Plan, 2020, as amended, is hereby amended as follows:

Item No.	Section	Replacement Text
1	8.8.2(6.6)(j)	Amend policy 8.8.2(6.6)(j) by adding the underlined text after the word "City": In accordance with long-term Official Plan direction as shown on Schedule O-1 and established in Table 2, of this Plan, a crossing over Sheldon Creek to facilitate the extension of Corporate Drive to Burloak Drive as shown on Schedule S *shall* be required to the satisfaction of the *City* prior to *development* occurring within the Burloak Commons District as shown on Schedule S of this Plan, with the exception of *development* for the purposes of stormwater management.
2	8.8.2(6.6)(p)	Add policy 8.8.2(6.6)(p) with the following: Notwithstanding policy 8.8.2(6.6)(f) of this Plan, where a local street is adjacent to and runs parallel with a utility corridor, and is deemed by the *City* not to require sidewalks on both sides of the street, the local street *shall* have a minimum right-of-way width of 16 metres.
3	8.8.2(6.8)(c)	Add policy 8.8.2(6.8)(c) with the following: Notwithstanding policy 8.8.2(6.6)(f) of this Plan, where a laneway is proposed to be dedicated to the *City* as a public right-of-way, the laneway right-of-way width *shall* have a minimum width of 9 metres and *should* meet the design requirements of the *City*, including:

		(i) that the laneway be designed to accommodate emergency vehicles, winter maintenance vehicles, and waste collection vehicles; and (ii) the provision of adequate space for snow storage.
4	8.8.2 (12.3) e)	Add Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) e) with the following: In addition to Policy 8.8.2 (12.3) (b) and notwithstanding Policy 8.8.2(6.3)(c) of this Plan, applications for Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Subdivision may be submitted to the *City* for the Meadows Neighbourhood District, the portion of the Mainway Institutional District located west of Sutton Drive, and lands within the Burloak Commons District for the purpose of stormwater management.

2. INTERPRETATION

This Official Plan Amendment shall be interpreted in accordance with the “Interpretation” policies of Part VI, Implementation, Section 3.0, Interpretation, of the Official Plan of the Burlington Planning Area.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

This Official Plan Amendment will be implemented in accordance with the appropriate “Implementation” policies of Part VI of the Official Plan of the Burlington Planning Area.

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON
BY-LAW NUMBER 2020.520

A By-law to amend By-law 2020, as amended; for 5164, 5366, 5470 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway, Burlington

File No.: 520-02/26

WHEREAS Section 34(1) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 13, as amended, states that Zoning By-laws may be passed by the councils of local municipalities;

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Burlington approved Recommendation DGM-38-26 on June 23, 2026 to amend by the City's existing Zoning By-law 2020, as amended, to permit the development of Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, being a mixed-use complete community consisting of a variety of residential, commercial, institutional and employment uses for the lands located at 5164, 5366 and 5900 Upper Middle Road and 5201 Mainway, Burlington.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BURLINGTON HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Zoning Map Number 28 to By-law 2020, as amended, is hereby amended as shown on Schedule "A" attached to this By-law.

2. The lands identified as "A" on Schedule "A" attached hereto are hereby rezoned from 'H-GE1-354', 'GE1-354', H-GE2-354', 'GE2-354', 'GE2-373', 'O2', and 'O3' to 'S', 'P', 'O2', 'O3', 'RBC1', 'RBC2', 'H-RBC1', 'H-RBC2', 'H-MXG-574', and 'H-MXE-575'.

3. Part 1 of By-law 2020, as amended, General Conditions and Provisions, is amended by revising Subsection 2.12, "Visibility Triangles", Table 1.2.5, to include "RBC1" and "RBC2" zones:

Table 1.2.5

Zone	Visibility Triangle
RAL1	6 m x 6 m
RAL2	6 m x 6 m
RAL3	6 m x 6 m
RAL4	6 m x 6 m
RO1	6 m x 6 m
RO2	6 m x 6 m
RO3	6 m x 6 m
RO4	3 m x 3 m
REV1	6 m x 6 m
REV2	6 m x 6 m
REV3	6 m x 6 m
RBC1	**6 m x 6 m**
RBC2	**6 m x 6 m**
RM5	6 m x 6 m
UCR1-81	6 m x 6 m
DC, DW, DL-A, DL-B, DL-C, DRH, DRM	6 m x 6 m
Other Zones	9 m x 9 m

4. Part 1 of By-law 2020, as amended, General Conditions and Provisions, is amended by revising Subsection 2.21(u), "Uses Permitted in All Zones", "Additional Residential Units, bullet point #1, to include "RBC1", "RBC2" zones:

   (i) Permitted in the R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, RM1, RM2, RM3, RM4, RM5, RH1, RH2, RH4, RH5, RO1, RO2, RO3, RO4, RAL1, RAL2, RAL3, RAL4, REV1, REV2, REV3**, RBC1, RBC2,** MXG, MXC, MXT, DRM, DRL, UCR1, UCR2, UCR3, URH, URM, RNA1, RNA2, RNA3, SNA, ONA, and DNA zones, and any exception numbers associated with these zones, and in the O2-195, O2-196, and O3-196 zones.

5. Part 1 of By-law 2020, as amended, General Conditions and Provisions, is amended by revising Subsection 2.28 "Classification of Roads" to modify Schedule 'B' East "Classification of Roads" by showing the extension of Sutton Drive from Mainway to Upper Middle Road as shown on Schedule "B" of this By-law.

6. Part 1 of By-law 2020, as amended, General Conditions and Provisions, is amended by revising Subsection 2.36 "Setbacks Abutting Creek Blocks, O2 Zones, O3 Zones and RG Zones", to add the words "and "Bronte Creek Meadows Community" after "Evergreen Community":

2.36 SETBACKS ABUTTING CREEK BLOCKS, O2 ZONES, O3 ZONES, AND RG ZONES

Notwithstanding the other provisions of this By-law, all buildings and structures, including:

- dwellings and garages;
- above-ground and in-ground swimming pools;
- patios, decks, sheds, sunrooms, gazebos, unitary equipment;
- paved walkways;
- at-grade parking areas or above- or below-grade parking structures;

shall maintain the following setbacks from a creek block, O2 zone, O3 zone, or RG zone:

- 15 m for those areas located on Zoning Maps 1-W, 1-E, 2-W, 2-E, 3-W north of Plains Road West, 3-E north of the CNR railway, 4-W and 4-E; those areas zoned O3 on Maps 29-E, 30-W and 30-E, and those areas zoned RG on Maps 31-E and 32-E;
- 7.5 m for all other areas; 4.5 m if block includes a 3 m buffer.

The above provision shall not apply to Uptown Centre, Orchard Community, Alton Community, Evergreen Community, **Bronte Creek Meadows Community** zones, where only the setbacks of the base zoning apply.

The above setbacks may be reduced to the applicable setback requirement contained in the base zoning, provided the approval of Conservation Halton is obtained.

7. Part 2 of By-law 2020, as amended, Residential Zones, is amended by adding the following Section 30, "RBC Zone Permitted Uses (Bronte Creek Meadows Community)."

The uses permitted in all Residential 'RBC' Zones shall be in accordance with Table 2.30.1:

30 RBC ZONE PERMITTED USES (BRONTE CREEK MEADOWS COMMUNITY)

The uses permitted in all Residential 'RBC' Zones shall be in accordance with Table 2.30.1:

Table 2.30.1

USE	BRONTE CREEK MEADOWS COMMUNITY ZONES	
	RBC1	RBC2
Detached Dwelling	✓	
Semi-Detached Dwelling	✓	
Street Townhouse	✓	✓
Townhouse	✓ **(a)**	✓ **(c)**
Additional Residential Units	✓**(b)**	✓**(b)**

Footnotes to Table 2.30.1:

(a) Subject to Part 5, Section 5
(b) Subject to Part 1, Subsection 2.21(u), except where amended by Part 2, Section 31.6, Additional Residential Units or Part 2, Section 32.7 Additional Residential Units
(c) Subject to Part 5, Section 5, except as amended by Part 2, Section 32

8. Part 2 of By-law 2020, as amended, Residential Zones, is amended by adding the following Section 31, "RBC1 Zone Regulations."

31. RBC1 ZONE REGULATIONS

31.1 LOT WIDTH, AREA, YARDS

Table 2.31.1

Dwelling	Lot Width	Lot Area	Front Yard and Street Side Yard	Rear Yard	Side Yard
Detached Dwelling	10 m	270 m^2	3 m dwelling 6 m garage	7 m	1.2 m, 0.6 m other side
Semi-Detached Dwelling	7.5 m	250 m^2	3 m dwelling 6 m garage	7 m	1.2 m, interior side yard 0 m
Street Townhouse	5.5 m	120 m^2	3 m dwelling 6 m garage	6 m	1.2 m, interior side yard 0 m

(a) Notwithstanding Part 1, section 2.11.1, For purposes of determining a front lot line, or side lot line abutting a street, a daylight triangle is deemed not to exist, provided the minimum distance of any building or structure from the hypotenuse of a daylight triangle is 2.1 m.

Table 2.31.2

Other Yards	Requirement
Yard abutting a Creek Block	7.5 m
Yard abutting a Pipeline Easement	7 m

31.2 LOT COVERAGE

31.2.1 Maximum lot coverage, including all accessory buildings, shall be as follows:

a) Detached Dwelling: 55%
b) Semi-detached Dwelling: 55%
c) Street Townhouse: 60%

31.3 DRIVEWAYS AND WALKWAYS

31.3.1 Driveways and walkways shall be in accordance with Part 1, Subsection 2.24, except as amended by the following:

Table 2.31.3

Lot Type	Front or Street Side Lot Width	Maximum Driveway Width
Detached Dwelling, Semi-Detached Dwelling, or Street Townhouse	Less than 9 m	3 m
	9 m or more	6 m

(a) In addition to the above maximum driveway width, a walkway with a maximum width of 1.5m shall be permitted.

(b) The remaining lot area between a street line and a building elevation facing a street shall be Landscaped Open Space Area.

(c) A maximum of one driveway shall be provided for each property.

31.4 ENCROACHMENTS

31.4.1 Part 1, Subsections 2.3 and 2.13 apply except as amended by the following:

(a) Porches are permitted to encroach a maximum distance of 1.5 m into the required front yard and required street side yard.

(b) Balconies are permitted only in a front yard or street side yard, or in a side yard abutting an Open Space zone or Park zone.

(c) Balconies on a wall facing the front or street side, or side abutting an Open Space or Park zone, may project up to 2.5 m beyond the wall of a building, up to 1.5 m of the property line.

(d) A bay window, balcony, vestibule, fire escape, or open stairway may not project into a required side yard.

31.5 BUILDING HEIGHT AND BUILT FORM

(a) Residential building height shall be provided in accordance with Part 1, Subsection 2.31, “Residential Building Height”, except as amended by the following:

(i) Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys
(ii) Maximum number of storeys: 3 storeys

(b) The width of a front-loading garage shall not exceed 55% of the width of the building elevation.
(c) For Detached and Semi-Detached dwellings, an exterior entrance providing access to an interior staircase shall be provided on a side building elevation or street-side building elevation where the side yard is 1.2 m or greater.

31.6 ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL UNITS

(a) Notwithstanding any regulation to the contrary in Part 1, Subsection 2.21(u), where an Additional Residential Unit is accessed from an exterior entrance located within a side yard, the minimum interior side yard where the exterior entrance is located is required to be 1.2 metres.
(b) Notwithstanding Part 1, Subsection 2.21(u)(v), for a building containing an Additional Residential Unit, a maximum of two exterior entrances are permitted on each elevation of the principal building facing a street.

9. Part 2 of By-law 2020, as amended, Residential Zones, is amended by adding the following Section 28, “RBC2 Zone Regulations.”

32. RBC2 ZONE REGULATIONS

32.1 LOT WIDTH, AREA, YARDS

Table 2.32.1

Dwelling	Lot Width	Lot Area	Front Yard (a)	Rear Yard	Side Yard	Street Side Yard
Street Townhouse	5.5 m	120 m^2	3 m	(b) (c)	1.2 m, interior side yard 0 m	3 m
Townhouse	25 m	750 m^2	3 m	(b) (c)	1.2 m	3 m

Footnote to Table 2.32.1

(a) For the purposes of determining the Front Lot Line, notwithstanding Part 16 Definitions, Lot Line, Front, the following regulations shall apply whether or not such abutting or adjacent streets have 0.3 m reserves:
  (i) for Through Lots abutting Sutton Drive and Corporate Drive:
    i. the Street Line on Sutton Drive and Corporate Drive shall be deemed to be front lot line; and
  (ii) for all other Through Lots:
    i. the Street Line on a street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater shall be deemed to be the front lot line
(b) For a Rear Yard abutting a street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater, the Rear Yard shall be 3 m for a dwelling and 6 m for a garage.
(c) For a Rear Yard abutting a laneway, the Rear Yard shall be 2 m.
(d) Notwithstanding Part 1, section 2.11.1, For purposes of determining a front lot line, or side lot line abutting a street, a daylight triangle is deemed not to exist, provided the minimum distance of any building or structure from the hypotenuse of a daylight triangle is 2.1 m.

32.2 DRIVEWAYS AND WALKWAYS

32.2.1 Driveways and walkways shall be in accordance with Part 1, Subsection 2.24, except as amended by the following:

Table 2.32.2

Lot Type	Rear Street Line	Maximum Driveway Width
Street Townhouse with Rear Yard abutting a street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater	Less than 9 m 9 m or greater	3 m 6 m
Street Townhouse with Rear Yard abutting a public or common-element laneway	---	6 m
Townhouse with Rear Yard abutting a street	---	3 m for each dwelling unit
Townhouse with Rear Yard abutting a public or common-element laneway	---	6 m for each dwelling unit

(a) In addition to the above maximum driveway width, a walkway with a maximum width of 1.5m shall be permitted in a rear yard.
(b) The remaining lot area between the rear street line and a building elevation facing a street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater shall be Landscaped Open Space Area.
(c) Within a front yard or street side yard:
    a. Driveways and parking are prohibited.
    b. A walkway with a maximum width of 1.5m shall be permitted.
    c. The remaining lot area between the front or street side lot line and a building elevation facing the street shall be Landscape Area.
(d) For Street Townhouse, a maximum of one driveway shall be provided for each property.
(e) For Townhouse, a maximum of one driveway shall be provided for each dwelling unit.

32.3 ENCROACHMENTS:

32.3.1 Part 1, Subsections 2.3 and 2.13 apply except as amended by the following:

(a) Porches are permitted to encroach a maximum distance of 1.5 m into the required front yard, Landscape Area and required street side yard.

(b) Balconies may project up to 2.5 m beyond the wall of a building, up to 1.5 m of the property line.

(c) A bay window, balcony, vestibule, or fire escape, or open stairway may not project into a required side yard.

32.4 BUILDING HEIGHT AND BUILT FORM

(a) Residential building height shall be provided in accordance with Part 1, Subsection 2.31, “Residential Building Height”, except as amended by the following:

For Townhouses and Street Townhouses:

(i) Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys
(ii) Maximum number of storeys: 3 storeys

(b) For Through Lots abutting Corporate Drive and Sutton Drive:

(i) Units shall present a front building elevation with an exterior entrance towards one or more of: Corporate Drive, Sutton Drive, or a side street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater.
(ii) Vehicle access is prohibited on Sutton Drive or Corporate Drive

(c) On Through Lots abutting any other street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater:

(i) Units shall present a front building elevation with an exterior entrance towards one or more of: the front street line or a side street with a deemed width of 18 m or greater.
(ii) Vehicle Access is prohibited on a street with a deemed with of 18 m or greater

32.5 ACCESSORY BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

(a) Notwithstanding Part 1, Section 2.2:

(i) for all accessory buildings the minimum setback from a lot line abutting any street shall be 3 m
(ii) for all accessory structures the minimum setback from a rear lot line shall be 1 m

32.6 FENCING AND PRIVACY SCREENS

(a) Fences and walls shall be subject to Part 1, Subsection 2.4.1 of this By-law except as amended by the following:

(i) Maximum height in a front yard, street side yard, and rear yard: 1 m
(ii) Minimum setback from a lot line abutting a laneway or rear street line: 1 m

(b) Privacy screens shall be subject to Part 1, Subsection 2.4.1 of this By-law except as amended by the following:

(i) Privacy screens only permitted on:

i. a balcony,
ii. the side or street side elevations of a deck,
iii. the side (excluding street side) elevations of a porch.

32.7 ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL UNITS

(a) In addition to Part 1, Subsection 2.21(u), Where an Additional Residential Unit is accessed from an exterior entrance located within a side yard, the minimum interior side yard where the exterior entrance is located in is required to be 1.2 metres.
(b) Notwithstanding Part 1, Subsection 2.21(u)(v), for a building containing an Additional Residential Unit, a maximum of two exterior entrances are permitted on each elevation of the principal building facing a street.

10. Part 11, Appendix A, of By-law 2020, as amended, Holding Zone Provisions, is amended by adding Site-Specific Requirement 109 for Removal of an "H" Holding Symbol, as follows:

109.	**H-MXG-574**	**Map 28**	**Resolution:**
That prior to the lifting of the H, the Owner shall have addressed the following requirements for all the residential units proposed for development to the satisfaction of the Region of Halton. The Region of Halton shall provide written confirmation to the City of Burlington that these matters have been addressed: (a) The Owner shall secure the appropriate amount of water and wastewater Servicing Allocation under the Region of Halton Allocation Program; (b) The Owner shall have signed the applicable Allocation Agreement or any required Amending Agreements; (c) The Owner shall have made all required payments associated with the Allocation Program; and, (d) The Owner shall be in receipt of the Region of Halton Public Works Commissioner's Notice (PWCN) letter.			

11. Part 11, Appendix A, of By-law 2020, as amended, Holding Zone Provisions, is amended by adding Site-Specific Requirement 110 for Removal of an "H" Holding Symbol, as follows:

110.	**H-MXE-575**	**Map 28**	**Resolution:**
That prior to the lifting of the H, the Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington Director of Community Planning: a. a Land Use Compatibility Study and other studies deemed necessary by the City, demonstrating that any proposed land uses are compatible with those existing and planned on site and in the surrounding area; and b. The owner shall provide the City with relevant archaeological analysis and supporting documentation to demonstrate that the owner has obtained consent from the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act,* to develop the subject lands in accordance with this By-law.			

12. Part 11, Appendix A, of By-law 2020, as amended, Holding Zone Provisions, is amended by adding Site-Specific Requirement 108 for Removal of an "H" Holding Symbol, as follows:

108.	H-RBC1 and H-RBC-2	Map 28	Resolution:
That prior to the lifting of the H, the Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington Director of Community Planning: a. The owner shall provide the City with relevant archaeological analysis and supporting documentation to demonstrate that the owner has obtained consent from the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act,* to develop the subject lands in accordance with this By-law.			

13. Part 14 of By-law 2020, as amended, Exceptions to Zone Designations is amended by adding Exception 574 as follows:

Exception 574	Zone H-MXG	Map 28-W & 28-E	Amendment	Enacted

1. **Additional Prohibited Uses:**

   (a) All Automotive uses
   (b) Drive-through facilities
   (c) Night Club

2. **Additional Permitted Uses:**

   (a) Public Service Facilities
      a. Definition of Public Service Facilities: means land, buildings, and structures for the provision of programs and services provided or subsidized by a government or other body, such as social assistance, recreation, police and fire protection, health and educational programs, long-term care services, and cultural services. Public service facilities do not include infrastructure.

3. **Additional Regulations for all permitted uses:**

   (a) For buildings located within 25 metres of Sutton Drive:
      a. The building shall contain a minimum of two permitted uses.
      b. Regulation a. above shall not apply to a building containing a permitted Community Institution, Place of Worship, School, Long-term care facility, Public Service Facilities, or Day Care use.
      c. Dwelling units and residential amenity areas shall be prohibited on the ground floor facing Sutton Drive.
   (b) Notwithstanding Table 5.4.1,
      a. for a building with a height of 3 storeys or less, the yard abutting a residential zone shall be 3 m.

b. for a building with a height greater than 3 storeys, the Yard abutting a residential zone shall be:
    i. Floors 1 to 3: 12 m
    ii. Floors 4 and higher: 15 m

(c) BUILDING HEIGHT:

(i) For Apartment buildings, Long-Term Care Facility, Retirement Homes, and Office buildings:
    i. Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys
    ii. Maximum number of storeys: 8 storeys

(ii) For all Townhouses:
    (a) Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys
    (b) Maximum number of storeys: 3 storeys
    (c) No minimum floor area for the third storey

(iii) For all other uses:
    (i) Minimum number of storeys: 2 storeys
    (ii) Maximum number of storeys: 5 storeys

(d) Landscape Buffer:

(i) Abutting a Residential Zone: 3 m

(e) Residential Bicycle Parking for Apartment Building:

(i) Short-term: 0.1 bicycle parking spaces per unit

(ii) Long-term: 0.5 bicycle parking spaces per unit

(iii) For the purpose of Bicycle parking regulations:

i. Long-term bicycle parking spaces are bicycle parking spaces for use by the occupants, employees or tenants of a building, and must be located in a building. Required long-term bicycle parking spaces in apartment buildings may not be in a dwelling unit, on a balcony or in a storage locker.

ii. Short-term bicycle parking spaces are bicycle parking spaces for use by visitors to a building. Short-term bicycle parking spaces are to be located close to a building entrance and sheltered from the elements.

Except as amended herein, all other provisions of this By-law, as amended, shall apply.

14. Part 14 of By-law 2020, as amended, Exceptions to Zone Designations, is amended by adding Exception 575 as follows:

Exception 575	Zone H-MXE	Map 28-W & 28-E	Amendment	Enacted

1. Additional Prohibited Uses:
    a. Drive-through facilities
    b. All Automotive uses
2. Additional Permitted Uses:
    a. Retirement Homes, as per MXG zone

b. Long Term Care Facility, as per Part 1, Section 2.21(b)
c. Public and Private Hospitals, Public Health Care, Social Services, as Per Part 1, Section 2.21(c)
d. Places of Worship, as per Part 1, Section 2.21(d)
e. Day Care Centre, as per Part 1, Section 2.21(f)
f. Residential Social Services, as per Part 1, Section 2.21(j)
g. Public Service Facilities
    i. Definition of Public Service Facilities: means land, buildings, and structures for the provision of programs and services provided or subsidized by a government or other body, such as social assistance, recreation, police and fire protection, health and educational programs, long-term care services, and cultural services. Public service facilities do not include infrastructure.

3. Permitted Industrial Uses only:
   Notwithstanding Part 5, Table 5.2.1, only the following Industrial Uses permitted in a GE2 zone are permitted:
    a. Training Centre
    b. Research and Development
    c. Information and Data Processing
    d. Knowledge-Based & High Technology
    e. Pharmaceutical & Medicines
4. Outside Storage for all Industrial Uses:

   Notwithstanding Part 5, Table 5.2.1 footnote (j), Outside Storage associated with permitted Industrial Uses are subject to the Outside Storage regulations in Part 5, Section 4.7 regulations only.

5. Retail and Service Commercial Uses
    a. Permitted retail and service commercial uses are only permitted on the ground floor of a building containing a permitted Office use, Industrial use, Retirement Home, Long-term care facility, Public and Private Hospital, Public Health Care use, Social Services use, Place of Worship, Day Care Centre, Residential Social Services, Public Service Facilities, Community Institution, or School use.
    b. A maximum of 50% of Floor Area shall be used for permitted retail and service commercial uses.
6. Building Height

   Minimum: 2 storeys

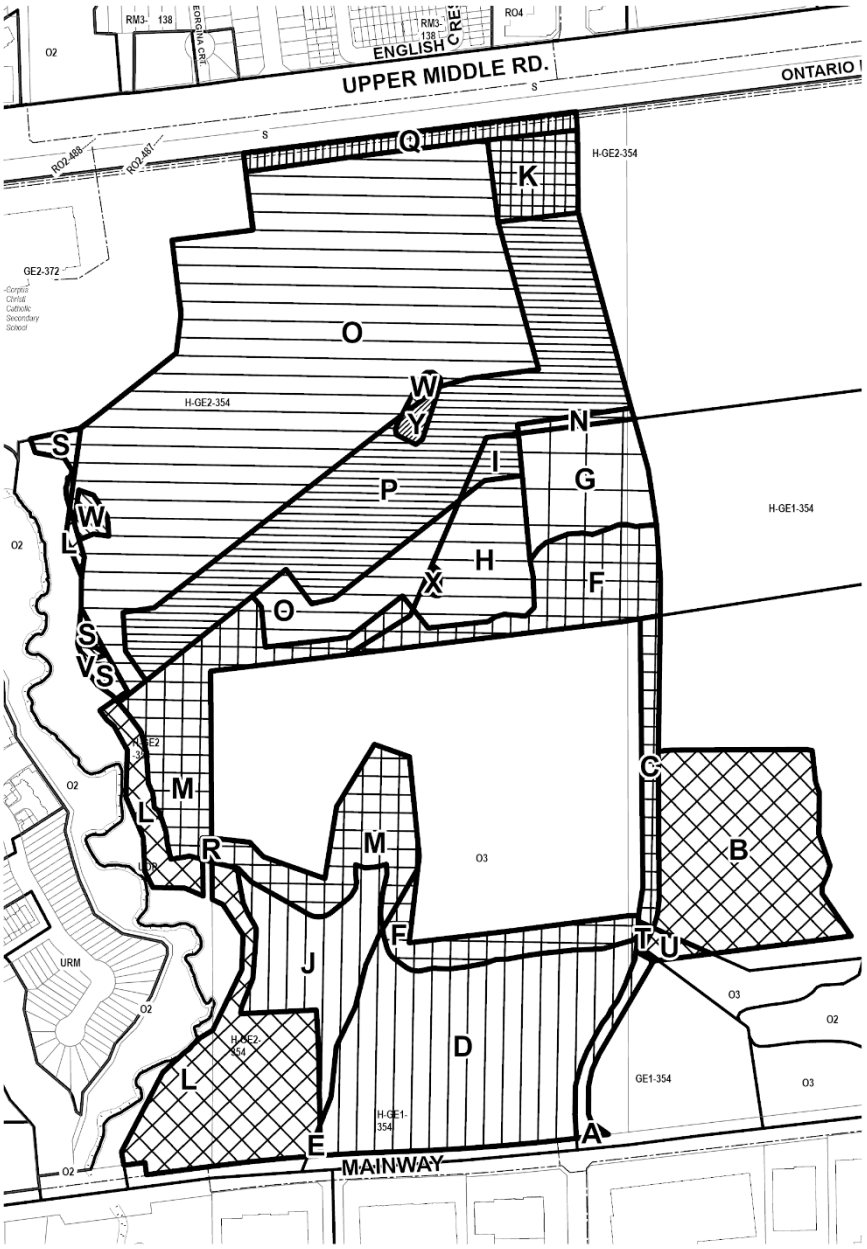
   Maximum: 8 storeys

7. Other regulations:
    a. Notwithstanding Part 1, 2.21(a), a School is not required to abut a Major Arterial, Multi-Purpose Arterial, Minor Arterial, or Collector Road.
    b. Notwithstanding Part 1, 2.21(b)(i), a Long-Term Care Facility is not required to abut a Major Arterial, Multi-Purpose Arterial, Minor Arterial, or Collector Road.

c. Notwithstanding Part 1, 2.21(c)(iii), a Public and Private Hospital, Public Health Care, Social Services use is not required to have a front or side lot line in common with a Major Arterial, Multi-Purpose Arterial, Minor Arterial, or Collector Road.
d. Notwithstanding Part 1, 2.21(d), a Place of Worship is not required to abut a Major Arterial, Multi-Purpose Arterial, Minor Arterial, or Collector Road.
e. Notwithstanding Part 1, 2.21(f), a Day Care Centre is not required to abut a Major Arterial, Multi-Purpose Arterial, Minor Arterial, or Collector Road.
f. Notwithstanding Part 1, 2.21(j)(iii), a Residential Social Services use is not required to have a front or side lot line in common with a Major Arterial, Multi-Purpose Arterial, or Minor Arterial Road.

Except as amended herein, all other provisions of this By-law, as amended, shall apply.

SCHEDULE "A"



- Area 'A' from GE1-354 to H-MXE-575
- Area 'B' from GE1-354 to O2
- Area 'C' from GE1-354 to O3
- Area 'D' from H-GE1-354 to H-MXE-575
- Area 'E' from H-GE1-354 to O2
- Area 'F' from H-GE1-354 to O3
- Area 'G' from H-GE1-354 to P
- Area 'H' from H-GE1-354 to RBC1
- Area 'I' from H-GE1-354 to RBC2
- Area 'J' from H-GE2-354 to H-MXE-575
- Area 'K' from H-GE2-354 to H-MXG-574
- Area 'L' from H-GE2-354 to O2
- Area 'M' from H-GE2-354 to O3
- Area 'N' from H-GE2-354 to P
- Area 'O' from H-GE2-354 to RBC1
- Area 'P' from H-GE2-354 to RBC2
- Area 'Q' from H-GE2-354 to S
- Area 'R' from O2 to O3
- Area 'S' from O2 to RBC1
- Area 'T' from O3 to H-MXE-575
- Area 'U' from O3 to O2
- Area 'V' from O2 to H-RBC1
- Area 'W' from H-GE2-354 to H-RBC1
- Area 'X' from H-GE1-354 to H-RBC1
- Area 'Y' from H-GE2-354 to H-RBC2

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2020.520 AMENDING MAP NOs. 28W & 28E PART 15, BY-LAW 2020 AS AMENDED.
PASSED THE 23rd DAY OF JUNE, 2026

MAYOR

CITY CLERK

TERANET Burlington
Community Planning Department

Schedule B

Schedule 'B' - East
CLASSIFICATION OF ROADS
Reference Line
NO. 1 SIDE RD.
GUELPH LINE
WALKER'S LINE
HWY. No. 407
APPLEBY LINE
C.N.R.
UPPER MIDDLE RD.
MAINWAY
Q.E.W.
HARVESTER ROAD
FAIRVIEW ST.
GUELPH LINE
WALKER'S LINE
APPLEBY LINE
NEW ST.
BURLOAK DRIVE
LAKESHORE RD.
See Map inset above for Downtown Area
LAKE ONTARIO

CONDITIONS APPLYING TO THE APPROVAL OF THE FINAL

PLAN FOR REGISTRATION OF PLAN OF SUBDIVISION BY:

Alinea – Bronte Creek Meadows Community Phase 1

FILE: 510-01/26

The Conditions which shall be fulfilled prior to final approval of this Plan of Subdivision are as follows:

1. This approval applies to the Draft Plan of Subdivision prepared by Bousfields Inc., dated May 21, 2026, consisting of 181 “Low Density Residential” lots, 16 “On-Street Townhouse” blocks, 13 “Double Frontage Townhouse” blocks, one “Medium Density Mixed Use Block”, one “Employment Block”, one “Park” block, two “Stormwater Management Ponds” blocks, three “Open Space Blocks”, two “Easement Blocks”, two “Natural Heritage Blocks”, four “Potential Enhancement Blocks”, five “Development Blocks”, one “Potential Creek Crossing Block”, one “Road Widening” block, and Roads identified as “26.0m Public R.O.W.”, “18m Public R.O.W.”, and “7.5m Public Lane”.
2. Prior to final approval, the owner shall sign the City of Burlington’s Subdivision Agreement and any other necessary agreement(s) in effect on the date of signing thereof, in a form satisfactory to the Commissioner, Legal and Legislative Services/City Solicitor, within three years of the date of draft approval; and acknowledge the implications of the standard conditions contained in the City’s Standard Subdivision Agreement, failing which, the draft approval shall lapse.
3. **The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, Director of Engineering Services, Director of Transportation Services, Manager of Parks Design and Construction, and in a form satisfactory to the Commissioner of Legal and Legislative Services/City Solicitor:**
    a. Dedicate to the City of Burlington free of charge, including all legal and survey costs, the following as identified on the Draft Plan of Subdivision (as may be modified/revised based on final detailed design):
        i. Park Block 215 (1.102 ha);
        ii. Stormwater Management Pond Blocks 216 and 217 (combined area of 4.068 ha);
        iii. Open Space Blocks 218-220 (combined area of 0.051 ha);
        iv. Easement Blocks 221 and 222 (combined area of 0.539 ha);

v. Natural Heritage Blocks 223 and 224 (combined area of 13.675 ha);
vi. Potential Enhancement Blocks 225-228 (combined area of 0.918 ha);
vii. Potential Crossing Block 235 (0.252 ha);
viii. Road Widening Block 236 (0.090 ha);

b. Dedicate to the City of Burlington and/or the Region of Halton free of charge, including all legal and survey costs, the following as identified on the Draft Plan of Subdivision (as may be modified/revised based on final detailed design):
   i. Rights-of-way widenings:
      1. Approximate widening of 1-2 m along Mainway, adjacent to the subject lands, the exact widening which shall be determined/identified by the Applicant/Owner's Ontario Land Surveyor (OLS)
      2. Any and all rights-of-way widenings identified by the Region of Halton.
   ii. 26.0 m rights-of-way for Neighbourhood Connector Streets 'A' and 'B' (4.193 ha);
   iii. 18.0 m rights-of-way for Local Streets 'C', 'D', 'E', F', 'G', 'H', 'I', 'J', 'K', L', 'M', 'N', and 'O';
   iv. 18.0 m rights-of-way for two north-south segments of Street 'P' perpendicular to Street 'O';
   v. 16.0 m right-of-way for east-west segment of Street 'P' parallel to Street 'O';
   vi. 9.0 m right-of-way for public laneway, Lane 'A' (0.156 ha);
   vii. 15 m x 15 m daylight triangles at Region of Halton intersection:
      1. Upper Middle Road and Street 'B (aka Sutton Drive Extension)
      2. Upper Middle Road and Street "I"
   viii. 5 m x 5 m daylight triangles at intersection of:
      1. Mainway and Street 'B' (aka Sutton Drive Extension)
      2. Street 'A' (aka Corporate Drive Extension) and Street 'B' (aka Sutton Drive Extension)
      3. Street 'A' (aka Corporate Drive Extension) with all intersecting Local Streets
      4. Street 'B' (aka Sutton Drive Extension) and Street 'O'
   ix. 3 m x 3 m daylight triangles at all intersections of:
      1. Local Streets and Local Streets
   x. 3 m x 3 m daylight triangles at intersections of:

1. Lane ‘A’ and Street ‘L’, Street ‘N’ and Street ‘O’
2. Subject to discretion of Directors of Transportation Services or Engineering Services or their designates.

xi. All easements identified on the approved draft plan and through detailed engineering design, to the satisfaction of the City and the Region.

c. Dedicate to the City of Burlington and/or the Region of Halton free of charge, including all legal and survey costs, the following to be identified through revisions to the Draft Plan of Subdivision, as needed, subject to approval of final detailed design to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington and the Region of Halton:

i. Additional right-of-way widths for street segments, in accordance with the final approved Transportation Impact Study which may include but not be limited to:

1. Street ‘B’ between Upper Middle Road and Street ‘O’;
2. Street ‘B’ between Mainway and Stormwater Management Pond Block 217;
3. Street ‘I’ between Upper Middle Road and Street ‘O’;
4. Street ‘P’ east-west segment parallel to Street ‘O’;

ii. All 0.3 m reserves to the satisfaction of the City and the Region including but not limited to those listed in Condition 8.h.ix.

iii. Additional Open Space blocks for the purpose of entry features at locations that are gateways to the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, identified in the final approval Tertiary Plan and Urban Design Strategy, which may include but not be limited to:

1. Adjacent to Street ‘B’ in proximity to Upper Middle Road, the Hydro corridor, and/or Easement Block 222;
2. Adjacent to Street ‘I’ in proximity to Upper Middle Road, the Hydro corridor, and/or Easement Block 221;
3. Adjacent to Street ‘B’ in proximity to Mainway;
4. Adjacent to Street ‘A’ in proximity to Potential Crossing Block 235.

d. Prepare and deposit all reference plans required for the foregoing dedications and a reference plan showing the boundaries of the property to UTM, NAD 83 Datum and provide the City a digital copy of the plan in .dwg format with all points and line work on separate layers.

e. Dedicate the foregoing lands to the City of Burlington with free title (free and clear of encumbrances).

i. Notwithstanding condition 3.e., the following blocks and rights-of-way may be encumbered by easements in favour of Enbridge and/or the Region of Halton, and may be dedicated to the City with such encumbrances at the discretion of the City of Burlington Commissioner of Legal and Legislative Services/City Solicitor:

1. Easement Blocks 221 and 222,
2. portions of Streets ‘B’ and ‘I’,
3. Park Block 215, and
4. Natural Heritage System Block 224.

f. Submit a copy of the updated parcel register when survey plans are submitted for the preparation of the Subdivision Agreement.

g. Pay for the cost of lifting 0.3 metre reserves, as may be required.

h. Pay for the cost of dismissing/amending existing easements, as may be required.

4. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to pre-grading or pre-servicing and prior to the first formal engineering submission:

a. Submit an updated **Scoped Subwatershed Study** that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton, the City of Burlington, and the City’s peer reviewers, pertaining to Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, and agree to implement all recommendations contained within the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study pertaining to Phase 1, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the Director of Community Planning.

b. Submit an updated **Master Environmental Servicing Plan** that addresses all comments from the City pertaining to Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community and is consistent with the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study as approved by Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington for the purposes of Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the Director of Community Planning.

c. Submit an updated **Land Use & Built Form Strategy** that

i. addresses all comments from the City pertaining to Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, and lands outside of Phase 1 that drain towards stormwater management facilities/infrastructure within Phase 1, and

ii. is consistent with the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study as approved by Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington for the purposes of Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community

to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning.

d. Agree to implement all recommendations contained within the updated Land Use and Built Form Strategy to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning.
e. Remove statutory notice signs that were required to be posted on the subject lands or in adjacent rights-of-way in relation to applications for Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision for Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community.

5. Upon obtaining written confirmation from the Director of Community Planning that the required updates to the Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, and Land Use and Built Form Strategy have been completed to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the Director of Community Planning as required by conditions 4(a), 4(b), and 4(c), the Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to pre-grading or pre-servicing and prior to the first formal engineering submission:

a. Submit to the City, and obtain the written approval of the Director of Community Planning for, a revised Tertiary Plan, Urban Design Strategy/Guidelines, and Urban Design Concepts, and Streetscape Plan that:
    i. Have been developed in consultation with the Burlington Urban Design (BUD) Panel and includes written responses to the feedback provided by BUD (BUD consultation to be scoped to matters still outstanding after draft plan approval);
    ii. Address the policy requirements of the City's Official Plan for tertiary planning and urban design of the Meadows Neighbourhood District and Mainway Institutional District in the Bronte Creek Meadows Community;
    iii. Respond to all comments provided to date by the City and other agencies on previously submitted version(s) of the Tertiary Plan; and
    iv. Are consistent with and implement the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study and Land Use and Built Form Strategy.
b. Agree to implement the approved Tertiary Plan, Urban Design Strategy/Guidelines, and Urban Design Concepts, and Streetscape Plan and the design policies of the City's Official Plan in the detailed design of the subdivision, to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning.
c. Submit to the City a revised Phase 1 Environmental Impact Assessment that
    i. addresses all comments of the City of Burlington, the City's environmental peer reviewer, and Conservation Halton, to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, including mitigation and enhancement measures needed to address negative impacts to the NHS from all proposed uses; and

ii. and is consistent with and implements the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, and Land Use and Built Form Strategy.

d. Submit to the City a detailed Buffer, Enhancement Area, and Trail Design Plan that is consistent with and implements the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study, Land Use and Built Form Strategy, and Environmental Impact Assessment, and determines the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning:
   i. the appropriate buffer width for the southern edge of the City-owned Woodlot surrounded by Open Space Block 224;
   ii. the design of all buffers of the natural heritage system within Phase 1;
   iii. the detailed design plan for all enhancement areas (including the wildlife crossing associated with Street B, the proposed enhancement areas in the Environmental Impact Assessment, and non-naturalized components of the natural heritage system associated with hazard lands); and
   iv. the design of trails that are located within or adjacent to the natural heritage system,

   that will achieve the goal of no negative impact to woodland and wetland ecological function, including interior habitat, edge conditions, and hydrologic regime (e.g., limiting unplanned encroachments, habitat protection and enhancements, water quality protections during unanticipated events, noise control particularly from road infrastructure, light impacts, and salt/fertilizer contamination), consistent with the Provincial Planning Statement.
e. Submit a Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan by a Certified Ecologist for lands to be conserved, restored and protected in a post development setting to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning. The plan should include but not be limited to:
   i. recommended actions to be implemented during pre-construction, construction, and post construction stages of the development;
   ii. detailed explanations of necessary monitoring and adaptive management required to (1) address/prevent invasive species, (2) ensure success/establishment of restoration area, buffers, and wildlife enhancement designs; and (3) detect and further mitigate woodland edge effects and wetland impacts (e.g., hydroperiod monitoring) to ensure their continued and improved ecological roles.
f. Submit a detailed Stormwater Management plan that achieves the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning:
   i. Is consistent with and implements the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study, including the water budget and supply recommendations within the Scoped Subwatershed Study; and
   ii. Is consistent with and implements the approved Land Use and Built Form Strategy, including the approved development concept, land

use, built form, densities, and imperviousness of development in all lands that will drain to the stormwater management facilities in Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community.

g. Submit an updated Conceptual Transit Routes Plan as needed to demonstrate consistency with the approved Tertiary Plan and updated Transportation and Mobility Impact Study, to the satisfaction of the Director of Transit, Director of Transportation Services, and Director of Community Planning;
h. Submit an updated Active Transportation Network Plan and a detailed Trails Plan that achieve the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, Director of Transportation Services, and Manager of Parks Design and Construction:
    i. Are consistent with the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study, Land Use and Built Form Strategy, Environmental Impact Assessment, and Tertiary Plan;
    ii. Are in accordance with the in-effect version of the City's Community Trail Strategy;
    iii. Are consistent with the detailed Buffer and Trail Design Plan and detailed design of enhancement blocks;
    iv. Are consistent with the approved Transportation and Mobility Impact Study and the Landscape Construction Drawings;
    v. Identify any needed revisions to the draft plan of subdivision to implement the Active Transportation Network Plan and Trails Plan.

6. Upon obtaining written confirmation from the Director of Community Planning that the requirements of conditions 5(a) to 5(f) have been completed to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, the Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to pre-grading or pre-servicing:

a. Submit a detailed Erosion and Sediment Control and Soil Management plan with associated monitoring and management requirements to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, the Director of Engineering Services, the Manager of Forestry, and the Manager of Parks and Open Space;
b. Submit a construction management plan and associated construction plans (e.g., exclusionary fencing) for the management and protection of wildlife during construction to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning;
c. Submit DFO permitting correspondences and conditions in-water works (or registration commitments) if applicable; and
d. Submit provincial and federal permitting correspondences and conditions for impacts to species at risk and their habitat, if applicable.

7. Prior to site alteration, servicing or grading of the site, the Owner shall carry out additional Stage 3 archaeological assessments, as per the recommendations of the Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment Report dated 7 August 2025, prepared

by Archaeological Services Inc., and, if recommended, mitigate/salvage/excavate any significant resources to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturism. No grading or other soil disturbance shall take place on the subject property prior to the letter of the Ministry Acknowledgement Letter, to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning.

8. **The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to obtaining approvals for earthworks or servicing:**
    a. Submit an updated Planning Justification Report that:
        i. responds to and reflects the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Land Use and Built Form Strategy, Environmental Impact Assessment, Tertiary Plan, Urban Design Strategy/Guidelines, and Urban Design Brief; and
        ii. responds to comments provided by the City on previous versions of the Planning Justification Report;
        iii. explains how the revised draft plan of subdivision implements the recommendations of the approved technical studies referenced in these conditions of draft plan approval; and
        iv. demonstrates how the revised proposed development of Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community conforms to the applicable Provincial Planning Statement, Official Plan(s) of the City of Burlington, and Zoning By-law of the City of Burlington, and implements the approved vision and objectives of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community.
    b. Submit an updated Functional Servicing Report that is consistent with and implements the approved Area Servicing Plan, Scoped Subwatershed Study, and Master Environmental Servicing Plan, to the satisfaction of the Director of Engineering Services, the Region of Halton, and the Director of Community Planning;
    c. Submit an update or addendum to the Transportation and Mobility Impact Study that implements the approved Land Use and Built Form Strategy and Tertiary Plan and addresses the comments provided by the City of Burlington, Region of Halton, and Ministry of Transportation;
    d. Submit an updated Tree Canopy Statement that demonstrates how the urban forestry objectives of the City's Official Plan and Urban Forest Management Plan will be addressed through the proposed development;
    e. Submit a revised design for Lane A to the City for review and approval by the Director of Community Planning, in accordance with the following:
        i. The revised design submission for Lane A shall include the following materials and information completed by relevant qualified professional(s): cross-section drawings, plan drawings, and an accompanying functional justification report/brief, and such additional materials and information as the Director of Community

Planning may require, which may include stormwater management analysis, lighting plan and photometric details, urban design brief, waste management plan, vehicle turning movement diagrams and swept path analysis, landscape plan, signage plan, and/or written response to comments by City staff and/or Burlington Urban Design Panel.

ii. The revised design shall address the City's requirements, including the public laneway design requirements of the City communicated by Community Planning staff to the Owner's planning consultant by email on February 10, 2026, and as may be further clarified or revised by the Director of Community Planning in consultation with the Director of Engineering Services, Director of Transportation Services, Director of Roads Parks and Forestry, Fire Department, Region of Halton, or utility providers.

iii. The Owner further agrees to revise the draft plan of subdivision to reflect the design for Lane A and abutting blocks and streets approved by the Director of Community Planning

f. Submit to the City a Hydro Corridor Land Use Application or equivalent documentation demonstrating that the Owner has consulted with Hydro One and initiated the process(es) required by Hydro One to confirm the feasibility of the proposed road crossings of the Hydro One corridor (Streets B and I) and any other proposed development or site alteration within the hydro corridor.

g. Submit to the City documentation demonstrating that the Owner has consulted with Enbridge and initiated the process(es) required by Enbridge to confirm the feasibility of the proposed road crossings of the Enbridge pipeline corridor (Streets B and I), the proposed development adjacent to the Enbridge pipeline corridor (Street P and Blocks 213 and 229-232) and any other proposed development or site alteration within the Enbridge pipeline corridor.

h. Revise the draft plan of subdivision as needed to address, implement, and be consistent with the approved technical studies and reports referenced in these conditions of Draft Plan approval, to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning. The Owner agrees that revisions to the draft plan of subdivision may be required to include, but not be limited to, the following:

i. Revisions to align blocks and lots with approved zoning boundaries and achieve conformity with the Zoning By-law;

ii. Revisions to Lots 1 through 18, Employment Block 214, Stormwater Management Pond Blocks 216 and 217, Open Space Block 219, Natural Heritage System Blocks 223 and 224, Enhancement Blocks 225-228, for the purpose of directing development away from hazards and providing appropriate buffers to the Natural Heritage

System, in accordance with the approved Subwatershed Study and Environmental Impact Assessment;

iii. Revisions to Lane A, Open Space block 220, and Development Blocks 233 and 234 to reflect an approved laneway design and lotting pattern for lands to be accessed by the laneway. These revisions may be required to include the provision of a “bump-out” of the Lane A right-of-way or the creation of an additional Open Space block for snow storage or stormwater management purposes.

iv. Revisions to the right-of-way width of Street P to 18 metres minimum if it is determined by the Director of Transportation that sidewalks are required on both sides of the window street;

v. Revisions to the right-of-way width of Streets I and B in proximity to Upper Middle Road, and of Street B in proximity to Mainway, if it is determined by the Region of Halton and/or the Director of Transportation that additional right-of-way width will be required in these locations;

vi. Revisions to Stormwater Management Pond Blocks 216 and 217 as needed to ensure adequate sizing and design of stormwater management facilities/infrastructure, in accordance with an approved Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Land Use and Built Form Study, Environmental Impact Assessment, and Stormwater Management Report;

vii. Revisions to provide a minimum 5 m wide easement or block conveyance as required by the City for storm sewer crossing(s) between Street H and Enhancement Block 228

viii. Revisions to create additional blocks to be dedicated gratuitously to the City for the purpose of providing entry features at gateways to the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, in accordance with an approved Tertiary Plan and where determined to be feasible and appropriate by the City in consultation with Hydro One, Enbridge, and the Region of Halton.

ix. Revisions to provide 0.3 metre reserve blocks where required by the City or Region of Halton, which:

    1. shall include but not be limited to:
        a. the side street frontage of Lot 153 abutting Street A;
        b. the frontages of Blocks 199-212 abutting Streets A, C, G, H, I, and J;
        c. the frontages of Block 233 abutting Streets N and O;
        d. the frontages of Block 234 abutting Streets A, B, and O; and
    2. may also include but not be limited to:

a. the eastern edge of Street B abutting lands not part of this application,
b. the frontages of Employment Block 214 abutting Mainway and/or abutting Street B in proximity to Mainway,
c. the frontage of Medium-Density Mixed-Use Block 213 abutting Street B and/or Street O;
d. portions of Street I north of Street O.

x. Revisions to the Roads Schedule to correct the current wording “7.5m Public Lane” to reflect the approved width and area of the Lane A right-of-way;
xi. Revisions to remove the word “potential” from the labeling of “Potential Enhancement Blocks” 225-228 and “Potential Crossing Block” 235 on the draft plan of subdivision and in the Land Use – Area Table.
xii. Revisions to the naming of “Employment Block” 214 to be more reflective of the approved Official Plan designation and zoning permissions applying to this block.
xiii. Revisions to the rear lot lines of Lots 153 and 154 where determined by the City that such revision would be desirable or necessary to provide a more regular lot shape for these lots while also maintaining the size of, and maintaining or improving the function of, Enhancement Block 225 in accordance with an approved Environmental Impact Study. Such revision may require a minor adjustment to the boundaries of the applicable zones through the appropriate Zoning Bylaw Amendment process in order to maintain conformity with the Zoning Bylaw.

9. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to entering into a subdivision agreement:

a. Submit to the City a revised Housing Impact Statement that addresses comments provided by the Community Planning Department.
b. Submit to the City a revised Land Use Compatibility study that addresses the comments provided by Pinchin dated March 27, 2026.
c. Agree to include the following clauses in the subdivision agreement:

    i. The Owner’s certified consultant(s) to complete all required implementation and monitoring work in accordance with the Adaptive Management and Monitoring Plan at the sole cost of the Owner, to the satisfaction of the City.

d. Agree to provide the necessary security deposits for all the works as required by the City of Burlington and agencies, in accordance with the approved plans/drawings.

e. Agree to provide a stormwater management easement in favour of the City of Burlington across other lands owned by the applicant for the purpose of conveying stormwater and drainage flows from the outlet of Stormwater Management Pond Block 217 to the Mainway right-of-way, if deemed by the City to be required.

f. Agree to provide and install at the Owner's expense such signage as the City deems necessary in the Lane A right-of-way;

g. Agree to register such warning clauses as the Director of Community Planning may deem necessary on title of blocks or lots abutting Lane A;

h. Agree to convey such maintenance access easements in favour of the City on portions of Blocks 233 and 234 as the City may require for the purpose of ensuring maintenance access for infrastructure within the Lane A right-of-way.

i. Agree to provide any public-access easements on private property that the City may require for the purpose of improving neighbourhood connectivity and multi-modal mobility and supporting and promoting active transportation on a neighbourhood scale.

j. The Owner shall acknowledge and agree that in addition to submitting a revised Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Land Use and Built Form Strategy, and Area Servicing Plan to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning, Conservation Halton, and Region of Halton to the extent required for the purposes of obtaining final approvals for Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, the Owner shall also be responsible for further updating the Scoped Subwatershed Study, Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Land Use and Built Form Strategy, and Area Servicing Plan, and obtaining comprehensive final approvals for these studies from the Director of Community Planning, Conservation Halton, and the Region of Halton, prior to approval of any future applications for Draft Plan of Subdivision and/or Zoning By-law Amendment for any subsequent phase of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community.

k. Provide the Director of Community Planning with a letter signed by the Owner that confirms in writing the Owner's acknowledgement and agreement that it shall be the responsibility of the Owner to construct a crossing over Sheldon Creek to facilitate the multi-modal extension of Corporate Drive to Burloak Drive prior to approval of subsequent phases of development east of Sutton Drive.

l. Agree to include in all offers of purchase and sale for all residential lots and blocks abutting Open Space Blocks 218-220, and approved public trail locations, the following clause:

    i. "Purchasers are advised that these open space/walkway areas will be used for general active and passive public recreation and leisure uses, including walkways/bikeways."

m. Agree to display a copy of the approved draft plan and draft plan conditions in the sales office for the information of purchasers;

n. Agree to provide copies of the draft plan conditions for the review of purchasers, if requested;

o. Agree to make available to all purchasers a copy of an Information Sheet for New Home Buyers to be developed and provided to the Owner by the City, or to be developed by the Owner and approved by the City, as determined by the Director of Community Planning;

p. Agree to provide all new home purchasers in the subdivision with an information brochure, approved by the Director of Community Planning, that contains information on the ecological value and function of the natural areas within the community to be preserved, and appropriate stewardship behaviour such as domestic pet control, no debris/garbage dumping, no vegetation control and no pedestrian access except at specified trail locations.

q. Agree to make any excess parcel which is unsuitable for development, available for assembly with the adjacent developments or with adjacent open space lands.

10. The Owner / Applicant shall complete the following for Phase I of the subdivision to the satisfaction of the Director of Engineering Services of the City of Burlington:

a. Agree to complete all design works, including but not limited to site grading, servicing, roads, sidewalks, boulevards, street lighting, driveway locations, (including the restoration of all disturbed municipal property and infrastructure).

b. Agree to provide the necessary security deposit for all the works, all in accordance with all agency's requirements and the approved engineering drawings.

c. Prior to registration of any portion of the subdivision, the owner shall submit a comprehensive phasing plan indicating the sequence of development, the land area in hectares, the number of lots and blocks for each phase, the proposed use of all blocks including the proposed number of units, and how comprehensive development is to proceed, including construction of public services and creek block work.

d. Prior to the registration of each phase, dedicate to the City free of charge the following:
    i. any easements over the subject property required for access, drainage, services and/or utilities;
    ii. any easements over adjacent properties as required to accommodate access, services, Creek Blocks, and/or overland flow swales.

e. Prepare and deposit all reference plans required for the foregoing dedications and a reference plan showing the boundaries of the property

to UTM, NAD 83 Datum and provide the City a digital copy of the plan in .dwg format with all points and line work on separate layers.

f. Submit a copy of the updated parcel register when survey plans are submitted for the preparation of the Subdivision Agreements.
g. Agree that prior to any land being conveyed to the City of Burlington, including but not limited to roads, road widening, stormwater management facilities, open space, parks, creek blocks and buffers that the owner undertake an environmental audit and will not be accepted with a Certificate of Property Use. Agree to undertake any work to clean the site of soil contamination to make the land suitable for the use proposed.
h. Acknowledge that the suitability of the land for the proposed use is the responsibility of the landowner, and that prior to registration of each phase, the Owner shall undertake an environmental assessment performed by a Qualified Person to ensure that the land is suitable for the proposed use. If in the opinion of the Qualified Person, the environmental site assessment indicates the land may not be suitable for the proposed use, the Qualified Person must so advise the Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks and the City of Burlington. The Owner undertakes to do further investigative studies and to do all works required to make the lands suitable for the proposed use. The Owner shall also agree to make available for inspection to all prospective purchaser's copies of the completed Environmental Site Assessment and Record of Site Condition, if applicable.
i. Agree that if during ongoing road construction, as well as subdivision and/or related site plan works, the land is determined not to be suitable for the proposed use, to undertake further investigative studies and perform all necessary works required to make the land suitable for the proposed use, all at expense of the owner, if applicable.
j. Agree to submit an amended Geotechnical Study and to implement the recommendations of the approved Geotechnical Study for road construction as well as subdivision and/or related site plan servicing works.
k. Agree to submit an amended Functional Servicing Report/Stormwater Management Report including but not limited to Grading, Servicing and Stormwater Management and to implement the necessary stormwater management recommendations of the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study /Master Environmental Servicing Plan. The Owner shall also agree to make any revisions to the draft plan necessary to implement the approved recommendations.
l. Agree that foundation drainage shall discharge directly into the storm sewer either by gravity or sump pump installation. Connections by gravity will not be permitted unless hydraulic grade line analysis confirms that

surcharging of the storm sewer during a 100-year design storm will not result in any underground parking or foundation damage.

m. Agree to submit an Erosion and Siltation Control Plan, for approval, and implementation during all phases of construction, including servicing and building construction.
n. Submit and obtain City approval for a Construction & Mobility Management Plan (CMMP) which includes but is not limited to:
    i. Installation of temporary street lighting, street name, stop signs and other traffic control measures on streets throughout the development after placement of base asphalt and prior to building permits being issued and maintain the signs until such time as the permanent installations have been completed by the City.
o. Agree to submit an amended Environmental Noise and Vibration Study, for approval, and to implement the recommendations of the approved Environmental Noise and Vibration Study.
p. Agree to make provisions in all Offers, Leases, Tenancy, Sales, and Reservations Agreements inserting the necessary environmental noise and vibrations warning of the approved Environmental Noise and Vibration Study.
q. Agree to provide certification by an Acoustical Engineer that the builder's plans are in conformance with the approved recommendations of the Environmental Noise and Vibration Study prior to the issuance of building permits. The Owner shall also agree that all affected blocks will be deemed unbuildable until such certification is received and accepted by the City.
r. Agree to verify the actual indoor and outdoor environmental sound levels on-site and provide certification by an Acoustical Engineer that the approved recommendations of the Environmental Noise and Vibration Study have been implemented and satisfy the criteria of the City and the MECP prior to the release of the related securities.
s. Agree to pay for any alterations to existing utilities, pavement and services that may be necessary to accommodate the proposed subdivision.
t. Agree to install all servicing and utilities (including hydro) underground throughout the development.
u. Submit an overall Utility Coordination Plan for approval and implementation, addressing the location (shared or otherwise), timing and phasing of all required utilities (on-grade, below-grade, or above-grade), including street lighting, gas, electrical, telecommunications, water, wastewater, and stormwater services. Such Utility Coordination Plan shall be to the satisfaction of all utility providers and shall be approved by the City prior to construction of any of the required utilities.
v. Agree to obtain a Municipal Consent Permit for any works on public lands, including but not limited to daylighting, temporary staging, grading,

servicing, construction, or disturbance of vegetation. Fees for a Municipal Consent Permit shall be in accordance with the City's Rates and Fees By-law, as amended.

w. Agree to construct the necessary fencing between all boundaries abutting either open space/creek blocks, parks, walkway blocks, or Employment blocks abutting either open space/creek blocks or transit corridor block if applicable.
x. Agree to comply with the City Policy in effect at the time of the subdivision registrations with respect to the following conditions:
    i. Agree to provide a cash deposit to be used by the City for contracted or in-house expenses for dealing with non-compliance with City requirements for control of grading issues, weeds, mud, dust and debris on roads and further agree that inspection staff time for invoicing on work undertaken will be charged at double the normal rate.
    ii. Agree to hire a contractor on retainer to deal with after hour problems related to unsafe situations in active subdivisions and provide the City with the contractor's 24 hour/7 days a week emergency contact phone number.
    iii. Agree to install "Illegal Dumping Prohibited" signs at all lots/blocks intended for future development.
    iv. Agree to regrade with topsoil and seed within 7 days, and cut weeds and remove debris within 48 hours, of a request by the City on any undeveloped blocks as may be requested.
y. Agree to provide written certification by the Civil Engineer prior to final assumption of the subdivision works including underground services (i.e. storm sewers, CCTV Inspection, etc.) and aboveground services (i.e. roads, sidewalks, boulevards, etc.), has been constructed in conformance to the City standards and the approved engineering drawings.
z. Agree to design, construct, and implement all stormwater management facilities, outfalls, creek and associated works in accordance with the approved Scoped Subwatershed Study, Functional Servicing and Stormwater Management Report, and applicable municipal, provincial and conservation authority standards. The Owner shall ensure that adequate maintenance access is provided to all stormwater management facilities and associated infrastructure.

11. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Directors of Engineering Services and the Manager of Parks Design and Construction of the City of Burlington:

a. The Owner shall submit detailed Landscape Construction Drawings to the satisfaction of the City, prepared and stamped by a full member of the Ontario Association of Landscape Architects (OALA) in good standing. The Landscape Construction Drawings shall be completed in accordance

with the City of Burlington Official Plan, any associated secondary plans, tertiary plans, City of Burlington Development Standards, Tertiary Plans, general or site-specific Guidelines and industry best practices.

b. Landscape drawings shall include, but are not limited to:
    i. landscaping and signage in and around the stormwater retention pond blocks;
    ii. entry features;
    iii. Conceptual street tree plantings;
    iv. trails (including any associated assets e.g. signs, fencing);
    v. measures to protect existing vegetation to be retained, permanent and during construction;
    vi. naturalization of buffers to key features, including forest edge remediation if and where needed;
    vii. naturalization and/or habitat creation in enhancements to key features;
    viii. fencing for the delineation between City, public and private owned lands.
c. Agree to submit detailed cost estimate(s) that relate to the landscape drawings for review and approval by the City.
d. Agree to provide securities for the landscape works as specified in Condition 1c above. The Owner agrees that the City may draw on the securities to undertake those landscape works which the Owner fails to provide within a reasonable time, provided that the Owner is given a reasonable opportunity by the City to remedy the failure.
e. Agree to coordinate with City staff on the development of a Park Concept Plan(s) to determine the locations of servicing for the park base conditions. Following the submission of an AutoCAD of the Park Concept Plan from the Owner to the City, the City will provide to the Owner a detailed park plan which will be used to implement required park base conditions, including related grading and servicing plans and utility coordination plans, at the Owners expense.
f. Agree to be responsible for the design, construction and installation of the required park base conditions at the sole cost of the Owner. The park base conditions shall include:
    i. Coordination, consistency, and implementation of the recommendations of the approved Arborist Report(s), Tree Preservation Plans, Forest Management Plans, Forest Edge Management Plans and any other associated documents.
    ii. Coordination with all other associated engineering drawings to ensure all proposed private infrastructure (e.g. utilities, utility cabinets, servicing, fire access or turn-around lanes) remain outside Park Block 215
    iii. Grading within Park Block 215 to result in a minimum 2% slope to ensure adequate drainage. The Owner agrees that any grading or drainage requirements for the subdivision infringing on Park Block

215 requires the written approval of the Director of Engineering Services, prior to commencement of the works.

iv. Coordination and provision of all proposed park catch basins with a minimum 3 levels of 2” (50mm) concrete rings. Proposed catch basins and storm sewers must be located on future City-owned lands.

v. Supply and installation of all servicing of Park Block 215 in accordance with City and Region standards including:
    1. Appropriately sized hydro/electrical connection(s) to the property line;
    2. Appropriately sized water connection(s) (min 50mm) to the property line, with curb stop and valve box;
    3. Appropriately sized storm sewer connection(s) with one or more catch basin(s)
    4. Appropriately sized above grade service cabinet complete with Regional water meter and backflow preventor; and
    5. Appropriately size culvert(s)

g. Supply and installation of all engineered fill and all backfill material used to grade Park Block 215. All engineered fill and backfill material shall be compacted to the City’s standards and shall be selected material from excavation or other sources for the use intended, unfrozen and free of rocks larger than 75 mm, cinders, ashes, sod, refuse or other deleterious materials.

h. Supply and installation of approved finished elevations of Park Block 215. Approved elevations are to include a minimum 20 cm topsoil depth and match the proposed finished grade at all property lines for all abutting land uses.

i. Where parkland, NHS blocks, stormwater management facilities and pedestrian walkway blocks abut non-municipal lands, supply and installation of permanent chain link fencing, noise walls, privacy fencing or alternative approved fencing consistent with City standards.

j. Supply and installation of temporary post, page wire fencing and erosion sediment control (ESC) measures, with gate access points along the perimeter of Park Block 215 where it abuts road allowances or other potential access points, to prohibit access to such lands until such time as parkland improvements proceed. Page wire fencing, ESC measures and all components are to be kept in good order until assumption. If the construction of the park (by the City) is planned beyond the date of official assumption, the City will accept maintenance responsibilities of the fence and/or erosion control measures.

k. Following completion of the grading and servicing works and prior to application of the topsoil, the Owner agrees to provide the City with post-grading geotechnical soil tests, and a topographic survey that meets City requirements, confirming that the grading and servicing of Park Block 215 are consistent with the approved plans. The Owner shall consult with the

City regarding the parameters and quantity of geotechnical soil tests, prior to commencement.

l. Agree to provide topsoil on Park Block 215 to City standards and only in locations of future softscape. Prior to application of the topsoil, agree to provide the City with the results of a topsoil fertility analysis and topsoil depth verification confirming that the topsoil to be applied to the park meets City standards. The Owner agrees to consult with the City regarding the quantity of samples required for topsoil analysis and depths. If amendments are required of the topsoil, a pre-and-post testing analysis report shall be provided. Following application of the topsoil to Park Block 215, the Owner agrees to provide the City with a finished grade topographical survey consistent with City requirements.

m. Agree to sod and/or seed Park Block 215 as directed by the City. The Owner shall consult with the City prior to site alteration on the requirements of seeding vs sodding.

n. Agree to install a sign on Park Block 215 notifying residents of the future park planned for the site and include language that no dumping is permitted on the future park lands.

o. Agree to complete all landscaping works in accordance with the approved landscape drawings, at the sole cost of the Owner, to the satisfaction of the City.

p. Agree, prior to registration, to convey to the City Block 215 pursuant to the provisions of the Planning Act with the balance of any under dedication to be provided as cash in lieu of parkland dedication. Any parkland dedication over and above the minimum requirements shall be dedicated gratuitously to the City.

q. Agree to submit, prior to the registration of the plan, a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) that includes all future City lands along with Block 215. The Owner shall certify that the Phase 1 ESA is prepared in accordance with the Canadian Standards Association Standard Z768-01.

r. The Owner shall implement the recommendations of the Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessments including the undertaking of a Phase II ESA and/or preparation of a remediation plan, and if recommended, the implementation of the remediation prior to registration of the phase of development within which the remediation is to occur. The Owner shall be responsible to pay for all costs associated with the preparation of the plan and implementation. Any required ESA/Remedial Plan should not contain a limitation upon the right of the City to rely upon it and/or the information contained therein.

s. Agree to remove, prior to conveyance to the City of future City owned lands within the subdivision, any debris and refuse, and restore the lands to the satisfaction of the City.

t. Agree to remove, prior to conveyance, any debris and refuse from the Natural Heritage lands within the subdivision

u. Agree to maintain Park Block 215 including grass cutting and debris removal until park construction commences or until time of Assumption by the City, whichever occurs first.
v. Agree that no stockpiling of material or construction staging shall occur on Park Block 215 without the written approval of the Director of Engineering Services. Such approval will stipulate timing of removal of all material from Park Block 215 for the construction of the park. Such approval shall also require posting of applicable securities based upon an approved cost estimate provided to by the Owner to the satisfaction of the City.
w. Agree to provide written certification from the Landscape Architect prior to final assumption of the subdivision that the landscape plantings have been installed in accordance with the landscape drawings pursuant to Condition 1b. Certification shall be accompanied with as-constructed drawings and all applicable certifications, to the satisfaction of the City.
x. Agree to submit prior to parkland dedication and conveyance of land to the City:
    i. A stamped and signed certification letter from the consulting Engineer verifying that the park base conditions have been implemented as per the approved park base condition requirements in conjunction with the Park Concept Plan.
    The certification letter is to note as-built top of grate and pipe invert elevations for all catch basins and manholes. In addition, an Auto-CAD drawing is to be submitted showing the as-constructed survey of all finished (compacted) sub-grades, finished (topsoil) grades and servicing information overlayed on top of the proposed grading information. The drawing is to include 0.5m contour intervals and spot elevations at key points on site (eg. catch basin rim elevations, high point swales and ridges).
    ii. A Record of Site Condition to ensure the proposed parkland and woodlot blocks are clean and free of contaminants prior to dedication
    iii. A Record of Site Condition and/or Risk Assessment for Natural Heritage System Blocks 223 and 224 prior to dedication.
y. Prior to parkland dedication and conveyance of land to the City, the Owner shall ensure all approved submission documents reflect no community mailboxes located within the Park Block 215 or within adjacent boulevards.
z. Agree to include the following warning clauses in all Offers, Agreements of Purchase and Sale, Lease and Reservation Agreements and those Registered on Title:
    i. “Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that trail development may occur in the Natural Heritage System Blocks, Natural Heritage Enhancement Blocks, vegetative protection zone buffer areas and/or other areas as deemed appropriate by the City.”
    ii. “Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that chain link (or approved equal) fencing along the lines of Lots and/or Blocks abutting

publicly owned lands is a requirement of the Subdivision Agreement. All required fencing, with the exception of noise fence and privacy fence, shall be constructed with all fencing materials, including foundations, entirely on public property as shown on the approved construction drawings. The fencing installed shall not be altered in any way, including the addition of gates. Any costs to repair modifications will be the responsibility of the Owner."

12. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Roads, Parks & Forestry of the City of Burlington:

a. Prepare an Arborist Report and Tree Inventory and Preservation Plan, by a Certified Arborist to the satisfaction of the City. The report and plans shall document and inventory all existing trees (minimum 10cm dbh) within and adjacent to the subject lands (6.0m beyond property line) and provide an assessment of significant trees to be preserved, removed, or monitored together with the proposed methods of tree protection and preservation of endangered species and the removal of invasive species. The report shall be prepared in accordance with the City's guidelines and indicate if a subsequent hazard tree monitoring report is required.

b. Agree to submit detailed cost estimate(s) that relate to the arborist report and tree preservation drawings for review and approval by the City.

c. Agree to provide securities for the tree preservation/removal works as specified in Condition 2b above. The Owner agrees that the City may draw on the securities to undertake those park works which the Owner fails to provide within a reasonable time, provided that the Owner is given a reasonable opportunity by the City to remedy the failure.

d. Agree to prepare a Forest Edge Management Plan and Report in conjunction with the Sheldon Creek Woodlot Buffer landscaping plans, by a Certified Arborist or Registered Professional Forester, with qualifications as a tree risk assessor as certified by the ISA, to the satisfaction of the City. The plan should include but not be limited to details such as evaluation of potential impacts related to the installation of the trail in this buffer and proposed mitigative measures to address these impacts including monitoring measures/ requirements.

e. Agree to prepare a Forest Management Plan and Report in conjunction with the Sheldon Creek Woodlot Buffer landscaping plans, by a Certified Arborist or Registered Professional Forester, with qualifications as a tree risk assessor as certified by the ISA, to the satisfaction of the City.

f. Prior to tree removals, the Owner agrees to complete the following:
    i. enter into any applicable agreement(s) with the City,
    ii. post all necessary securities and pay all necessary fees as required by the City, and
    iii. obtain the necessary clearances for all other applicable draft plan conditions associated with the agreement(s).

g. Agree to include the following clauses in the subdivision agreement:
    i. From the commencement of site grading until assumption of future rights-of-way, stormwater facilities and trails by the City, the Owner

shall be responsible for ongoing maintenance (excluding snow removal), repairs and replacement of same, to the satisfaction of the City.

ii. The Owner's Certified Arborist shall carry out, or cause to carry out, in a timely manner, the recommendations set out in the Arborist Report(s), Tree Preservation Plans and any other associated documents to the satisfaction of the City. The consultant is required to certify in writing, that the removals have been completed as per the approved Arborist Report(s), Tree Preservation Plans and any other associated documents. An additional certification from the same Certified Arborist shall be required prior to assumption, confirming that any long-term requirements and recommendations in the rfeport(s), plan(s) and document(s) have been carried out, to the satisfaction of the City.
In the event that trees, vegetation, or environmentally significant features are removed or altered without the written consent of the City, the Owner shall restore the lands and/or provide compensation to the satisfaction of the City.

iii. The Owner's certified consultant(s) to complete all required implementation works in accordance with the Forest Edge management Plan and Report, and Forest Management Plan at the sole cost of the Owner, to the satisfaction of the City.

iv. The Owner's certified consultant(s) to complete all required implementation and monitoring works in accordance with the Forest Management Plan at the sole cost of the Owner, to the satisfaction of the City.

v. It is the sole responsibility of the Owner for ongoing maintenance and repairs to tree protection fencing to the satisfaction of the City until assumption.

vi. Tree protection fencing and associated measures shall be inspected regularly in conjunction with ESC inspections (e.g., weekly during active construction and monthly outside the active construction window) by the Owner or Owner's designate, with all noted deficiencies rectified within 72 hours (exclusive of weekends) of them being documented and Owner being notified in writing, to the satisfaction of the City. All tree protection fencing and tree protection measures are to remain in place on site until written permission for removal is granted by the City.

vii. Agree to provide topsoil on all boulevards to a minimum depth of 1.0m to City Standards only in locations where future street tree planting is proposed. prior to application of the topsoil, agree to provide City with topsoil fertility analysis and topsoil depth verification confirming the topsoil to be applied to the boulevards meets City standards. The Owner agrees to consult with the City regarding the quantity of samples required for topsoil analysis and

depths. If amendments are required of the topsoil, a pre-and-post testing analysis report shall be provided.

viii. Agree to include the following warning clauses in all Offers, Agreements of Purchase and Sale, Lease and Reservation Agreements and those Registered on Title:

1. “Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that publicly owned open spaces, woodlots, natural features and stormwater management facilities will be left in a naturally vegetated condition. In accordance with Ontario Regular 162/06, these areas will not be manicured and shall receive minimal maintenance. Uses such as private picnics, barbequing, garden areas, storage of materials, dumping of refuse, snow storage or erection of structure shall not be permitted on these lands.”
2. “Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that unauthorized encroachment onto natural heritage and vegetative protection blocks shall not be permitted. Furthermore, vehicle and machinery access through the natural heritage and vegetative protection blocks shall not be permitted.”
3. “Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that street tree planting is a requirement of the subdivision agreement and will be completed by the City after formal assumption is granted. The City of Burlington will not accept requests for changes to tree species, sizes or the elimination of any planting. The locations of utilities, driveways, and associated setbacks may cause landscape modification or deletions within the road-of-way and upon City owned lands. Purchasers and/or tenants are advised to confirm with the City of Burlington for proposed final locations of plant material and landscape features.
4. “Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that existing trees retained on private residential lots are the sole responsibility of the lot owner and/or tenant to maintain. These trees shall be subject to the City of Burlington’s Private Tree By-law for alteration and/or removal.”

13. The Applicant/Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation Services of the City of Burlington:

a. Submit written agreement to include the following in a registered portion of the Subdivision Agreement and agree to ensure that warning clauses to this effect are included in all offers to purchase and sale and reservation agreements, and within the Condominium Declaration, for all residential units:

i. “Purchasers/tenants are advised that a concrete sidewalk shall be constructed adjacent to/close to the property line and that this may limit the parking space in front of the unit to one vehicle in the driveway between the garage and sidewalk. Parked vehicles will not be permitted to overhang the public sidewalk.”

ii. “Purchasers/tenants are advised that the City of Burlington Zoning By-law standards require a minimum number of on-site parking spaces to be provided per dwelling unit, one of which may be provided in the garage. Furthermore, the City of Burlington Parking By-law limits on-street parking to five hours. Purchasers/tenants are advised that City of Burlington Parking and Idling By-law standards do not permit parking on any public street between 1 am and 6 am or beyond 5 hours.”

iii. “Purchasers/tenants are advised that residential on-street parking permits will not be available/approved for this development.”

b. Submit and obtain City approval for updated Draft Plan of Subdivision, as required to reflect detailed design.

c. Submit and obtain City approval for Updates/Addendums to the Tertiary Plan as directed by Transportation Services.

d. Submit and obtain City approval for Updates/Addendums to the Transportation Impact Study, such as but not limited to traffic control measures, PXO’s, traffic calming, etc. and implement recommendations of said Updates/Addendums and/or as directed by Transportation Services.

e. Submit written confirmation that the Region has reviewed and does not require any further updates/revisions to the Transportation Impact Study dated February 2026, as revised.

f. Submit written confirmation that the MTO has reviewed and does not require any further updates/revisions to the Transportation Impact Study dated February 2026, as revised.

g. Submit and obtain City approval for a plan showing proposed traffic control at all intersections and phases of the development within the Plan of Subdivision.

h. Submit and obtain City approval for plan(s) showing the approved road typologies with regards to Multi-Modal Level of Service (MMLOS) and targets and rights-of-way width for Phase 1 of the Subdivision.

i. Submit and obtain City approval for a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) and Implementation Strategy for Phase 1 of the Subdivision including but not limited to review and recommendations for cycle tracks, sidewalks both sides, proposed future transit stops, sidewalk connections to generators, etc.

j. Submit and obtain City approval for vehicle turning plans for typical and atypical public rights-of-ways and roads, and private roads within the subdivision and as directed by Transportation Services with detail design

k. Submit and obtain City approval for detail cross-sections for typical public rights-of-ways and any non-typical rights-of-way within the subdivision.

l. Design, secure for, and install transportation infrastructure improvements, including an updated works cost estimate, based on the findings of the Transportation Impact Study and any requirements of Transportation Services, so long as these requirements have not been addressed elsewhere.

m. Driveway Locations Plan
    i. The Applicant/Owner shall submit and obtain City approval for a Driveway Locations Plan prior to preparing plans/designs for public street rights-of-way abutting proposed detached dwellings, semi-detached dwellings, townhouses, and street townhouses.
    ii. The Applicant/Owner shall prepare and submit to the City a Driveway Locations Plan that will pair driveways to optimize on-street parking and optimize boulevard space within the right-of-way for street trees and infrastructure, to the satisfaction of the Director of Transportation Services.
    iii. The approved Driveway Locations Plan shall be incorporated into the plans/designs for public street rights-of-way, with modifications as required through detailed design.

n. Submit and obtain City approval for a pavement markings, parking, and street sign plan, for each public street, including but not limited to all proposed pedestrian crossings, existing and proposed above ground utilities such as fire hydrants, poles, transit stops, and Canada Post Community Mailbox locations.

o. Submit and obtain City approval for a pavement markings, parking, and street sign plan, for each, private/common element street, including but not limited to all existing and proposed above ground utilities such as fire hydrants, poles, transit stops, and Canada Post Community Mailbox locations.

p. Install temporary street name, stop signs and other traffic control measures on streets throughout the development after placement of base asphalt and prior to building permits being issued and maintain the signs until such time as the permanent installations have been completed by the City.

q. Submit a Utility Coordination Plan, for approval and implementation, addressing the location (shared or otherwise), timing and phasing of all required utilities (above-grade, on-grade, or below-grade), including street lighting, gas, electrical, telecommunications, water, wastewater, and stormwater services. Such Utility Coordination Plan shall be to the satisfaction of all utility providers and shall be approved by the City prior to construction of any of the required utilities.

r. Submit and obtain City approval for Street Lighting Photometric Drawings, Temporary Photometric and Electrical Drawings and final Electrical Drawings, for the municipal public rights-of-way within and abutting this development. Said Street Lighting Plans shall be coordinated with the Street Lighting Plans required by the Region of Halton for Regional Roads and intersections.

s. Agree that should the Applicant/Owner propose that the registration of the development be phased, the City requires that a phasing plan be submitted prior to the registration of the first phase of subdivision. The phasing plan will incorporate an Agreement (to the satisfaction of the Directors of Engineering Services and Transportation Services) that must indicate the timing and sequence of development (including tree removal) for each phase and include securities to guarantee the implementation of the plan.

t. Submit and obtain City approval for Private Property Parking and Fire Route Signage plans.

u. Deposit such Transportation Services securities as are agreed to in the Subdivision Agreement.

v. Submit and obtain City approval for a Construction & Mobility Management Plan (CMMP), which includes but is not limited to:

    i. Installation of temporary street lighting, street name, stop signs and other traffic control measures on streets throughout the development after placement of base asphalt and prior to building permits being issued and maintain the signs until such time as the permanent installations have been completed by the City.

w. Prior to a full security release,

    i. Dedicate to the City and/or the Region free of charge lands in accordance with this Agreement.

    ii. Inspection(s) of the completed Transportation Services works as set out in the agreed terms are necessary for a full security release.

    iii. Inspection(s) of the completed Private Property Parking and Fire Route Signage works are necessary for a full security release.

    iv. Submit written confirmation that warning clauses have been included in all Purchase and/or Lease Agreements and/or Condominium Declarations for any Transportation and Parking related items as specified in Condition XX above.

    v. Applicant/Owner shall provide updated plan(s) showing the approved road classifications and rights-of-way widths for Phase 1 of the Subdivision.

    vi. Applicant/Owner shall provide updated plan(s) showing proposed typologies of all road segments and intersections using Ontario Traffic Council (OTC) Multi-Modal Level of Service (MMLOS) and OTC-MMLOS-Analysis-Tool for Phase 1 of the Subdivision.

x. The Applicant/Owner shall submit and obtain City approval for detail cross-sections for all private roads and laneways.

y. The Applicant/Owner shall submit and obtain City approval for an On-Street Parking Plan that reflects City requirements of 0.5 spaces per residential unit including the following:

i. For calculation of residential on-street parking, parking shall be shown abutting the lands for Rear Lane Towns, Townhouses and Detached Homes. Residential on-street parking shall not abut non-residential lands.

ii. Parking is not permitted within minimum distances of traffic signal installations and pedestrian crossings as set-out within OTM Book 12, Traffic Signals, OTM Book 15, Pedestrian Crossing Treatments, and applicable City of Burlington By-Laws and practices.

iii. Maintains requirements of By–law 39-2016 that regulate parking and idling in the City of Burlington. 039-2016-By-law.pdf

iv. There are trails and paths that require safe road crossings which impact permitted parking locations.

v. There are “no parking areas” at community mailboxes, “no stopping” clearances at fire hydrants.

vi. Driveways and laneways require 1.0 m clearance for on-street parking per City of Burlington By–law 39-2016.

vii. On-street parking is not permitted in a manner that obstructs traffic or bicycle lanes.

viii. A minimum no parking set-back of 9 m from an intersection or bridge

ix. Parking will not be permitted at the top of T intersections to ensure future pedestrian curb depressions are kept clear and unencumbered; a minimum 9 metre set-back from the top of the T must be maintained on both sides of the intersection.

x. No on-street parking shall be permitted/shown on the inside of a curve.

xi. No parking is permitted along the rights-of-way abutting the parks or woodlots unless the City’s Directors of Transportation Services and Engineering Services or their designates have granted approval.

z. Corporate Drive will be terminated at Street ‘C’ or a temporary cul-de-sac at the west terminus of Corporate Drive will be required.

aa. While the construction of the bridge across Sheldon Creek is deferred, the land dedication for the future right-of-way (Corporate Drive extension) must still be secured to ensure future connectivity is protected. Space is reserved on Street ‘A’ to include a future Phase 2 east/west multi-modal transportation connection.

bb. Agree to include the following clauses in the subdivision agreement and offers to purchase and sale and reservation agreements for all residential units:

i. “Purchasers/tenants are advised that due to limited on-street parking, the City of Burlington will not issue driveway curb cut widening permits.”

i. “Purchasers/tenants are advised that the City of Burlington Parking By-Law limits on-street parking to five hours and no on-street parking is permitted between 1:00am and 6:00am.”

cc. Agree to include the following clauses in the subdivision agreement and offers to purchase and sale and reservation agreements for all applicable residential units:

i. “Purchasers/tenants are advised that a concrete sidewalk may be constructed adjacent to the property line and that this will limit the parking space in front of the unit to one vehicle in the driveway between the garage and sidewalk.”

14. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Engineering Services and the Director of Transportation Services:

a. Agree to submit roadway sections for all proposed streets, ensuring that the designs meet the approval of the Directors of Engineering Services, Transportation Services, Community Planning, and Roads Parks and Forestry Departments.

b. Agree to ensure construction access, traffic management and parking are to the satisfaction of the Director of Engineering Services and Director of Transportation Services during all stages of construction and agree to pay for any required signage, barricades, or other measures, as needed.

15. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Manager of Parks Design and Construction and the Director of Transportation Services:

a. Prior to parkland dedication and conveyance of land to the City, the Applicant/Owner shall:

i. agree to amend the On-Street Parking Plan in conjunction with all associated submission materials to remove on-street parking along Park 215 frontages, or as otherwise agreed to by the Manager of Parks Design and Construction

16. This section intentionally left blank.

17. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Transit, Director of Community Planning, and the Director of Transportation Services:

a. On the basis of transit route design and stop locations approved by the Director of Transit, the Applicant/Owner agrees to incorporate transit infrastructure into the design of public street rights-of-way, to the satisfaction of the Directors of Transit, Transportation Services, and Director of Engineering Services.

i. The Applicant/Owner agrees, as follows:

1. prior to servicing, to design transit stops within the street rights-of-way at locations approved by the Director of Transit, and,

2. prior to the assumption of the public works within the subdivision, at the City's discretion either:

a. construct the transit stops, or

b. submit a cost estimate based on the design referred to above and provide such funds as are set out in the cost estimate to allow the City to construct such transit stops.

18. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Region of Halton and Director of Transportation Services:

a. The Applicant/Owner agrees to and will enter into Servicing and/or Subdivision Agreement (through the Development Project Manager), to the satisfaction of Halton Region for the completion of required Works for all development associated road improvements (Upper Middle Road intersection and corridor works (unless completed by Halton Region as part of the Capital Project), including but not limited to:

i. Upper Middle Road interim intersection works at Street 'A' (aka Sutton Drive Extension) must include temporary traffic signals, left & right-turn lanes, and a temporary sidewalk/asphalt pathway and continuous illumination along the south side of Upper Middle Road from Quinte Street/Street 'I' to Burloak Drive.

b. The Applicant/Owner agrees to locate, design, secure for, and install transportation infrastructure improvements at:

i. the new intersection of Street 'B' (aka Sutton Drive Extension) at the south side of Upper Middle Road that aligns centreline to centreline with the existing intersection of Sutton Drive at the north side of Upper Middle Road, any requirements of the City of Burlington Transportation Services Department, so long as these requirements have not been addressed elsewhere.

ii. the new intersection of Street 'I' at the south side of Upper Middle Road that aligns centreline to centreline with the existing intersection of Quinte Street at the north side of Upper Middle Road, any requirements of the City of Burlington Transportation Services Department, so long as these requirements have not been addressed elsewhere.

19. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Canada Post and the Director of Transportation Services:

a. The Applicant/Owner will consult with Canada Post to determine suitable permanent locations for the placement of Community Mailboxes and to indicate these locations on appropriate servicing plans.

b. The Applicant/Owner will confirm to Canada Post that the final secured permanent locations for the Community Mailboxes will not be in conflict with any other utility, including hydro transformers, bell pedestals, cable pedestals, flush to grade communication vaults, landscaping enhancements (tree planting) and bus pads.

c. The Applicant/Owner will install concrete pads at each of the permanent Community Mailbox locations as well as any required walkways across the boulevard and any required curb depressions for wheelchair access as per Canada Post's concrete pad specification drawings.

20. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Halton District School Board and the Director of Transportation Services:

a. The Applicant/Owner agrees that a copy of the approved sidewalk plan, prepared to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington, be submitted to the Halton District School Board

21. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Halton Catholic District School Board and the Director of Transportation Services:

a. That a copy of the sidewalk plan, prepared to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington, shall be provided to the HCDSB.

22. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Transportation and the Director of Transportation Services:

1. Prior to final approval, the Applicant/Owner shall submit to the Ministry of Transportation for their review and approval, a lighting plan with illumination details.

23. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton:

a. That the Owner agrees to redline revise/update the draft plan, as necessary, to address the conditions (listed below) to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.

24. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton prior to pre-grading or pre-servicing:

a. That the Owner submits an updated **Scoped Subwatershed Study** that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington pertaining to Phase 1 of the Bronte Creek Meadows Community and agrees to implement all recommendations contained within the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study pertaining to Phase 1, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.

b. That the Owner submits an updated **Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Area Servicing Plan, and Land Use & Built Form Strategy** to reflect the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study pertaining to Phase 1 of the

Bronte Creek Meadows Community, as necessary, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton, the Region of Halton and the City of Burlington.

c. That the Owner submits an updated **Phase 1 Tertiary Plan** to reflect the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study and development limits, as necessary, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
d. That, prior to the first engineering submission, the Owner submits an updated **Environmental Impact Assessment** that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington and agrees to implement all final recommendations contained within the Environmental Impact Study, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
e. That the Owner submits an updated **Wetland Water Balance** that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
f. That the Owner submits an updated **Fluvial Geomorphological Assessment** that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton.
g. That the Owner submits an updated **Functional Servicing Report** in accordance with the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
h. That the Owner submits an updated **Stormwater Management Report** in accordance with the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
i. That the Owner submits an updated **Planning & Urban Design Rationale** in accordance with the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study that addresses all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
j. That the Owner submits **grading plans** for all lots and blocks that contain or back onto Conservation Halton's regulated area, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
k. That the Owner prepares and implements a plan outlining **erosion and siltation controls measures** required prior to and during the construction of the subdivision to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton (regarding regulated areas) and the City of Burlington. A separate sediment and erosion control plan will be required for the following three phases of construction: a) earthworks b) servicing c) home construction.
l. That the Owner erects a **temporary barrier to work fence** prior to and during construction or regrading along the rear of blocks adjacent to the Open Space blocks, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton (regarding regulated areas) and the City of Burlington.

m. That the Owner submits the required **Adaptive Management and Monitoring Plan** in accordance with the approved Environmental Impact Assessment and the **Pre- During- and Post-Construction Monitoring Plans** in accordance with the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and City of Burlington prior to any site alteration.

n. That the Owner obtains a Permit from Conservation Halton, pursuant to the ***Conservation Authorities Act*** **and Ontario Regulation 41/24**, for any development activities or site alteration within the regulated area associated with pre-grading or pre-servicing.

25. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton prior to registration:

a. That the Owner obtains a Permit from Conservation Halton, pursuant to the ***Conservation Authorities Act*** **and Ontario Regulation 41/24**, for any development activities or site alteration within the regulated area including, but not necessarily limited to, placement or excavation of fill, grading, stormwater outfalls, watercourse alterations or realignments, and watercourse crossings.

b. That the Owner designs, constructs, stabilizes and has in operation all **stormwater management facilities** and stormwater outfalls, or appropriate alternative measures, in accordance with the approved Stormwater Management Plan.

c. That the Owner designs, constructs, stabilizes and has in operation any **alterations to watercourses and natural hazards** to the satisfaction of the Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.

d. That the Owner agrees **to phase the development** of the subject lands to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington if necessary.

e. That the Owner prepares and implements a **landscape restoration and enhancement plan** for the restorative works within Conservation Halton regulated areas, in keeping with Conservation Halton Guidelines for Landscaping and Rehabilitation Plans, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.

f. That the Owner **provides digital copies of the registered plan of subdivision** including all approved natural hazard delineations (e.g., wetland boundaries, stable top of bank, flood plain, meander belt) to Conservation Halton, prior to registration of the plan. Digital data should be delivered in one of the following formats:

   i. ESRI geodatabasev10.x (or newer) feature classes
   ii. ESRI shape file format.
   iii. AutoCAD DWG or DXF Format, version 2019 or earlier

   If the Project Consultant uses ESRI products to produce maps, the matching .mxd will be provided that corresponds to the map figure. Digital data will be provided in UTM NAD 83 Zone 17 NAD 83 datum. Data referencing elevations (e.g., floodplains) shall be referenced to appropriate vertical benchmarks. The datum must be specified as one of Canadian Geodetic

Vertical Datum of 1928 (CGVD28) with 1978 adjustment, or Canadian Geodetic Vertical Datum of 2013 (CGVD2013). Vertical datums must be clearly identified in the survey documentation. Flood plain models used in the delineation of flood hazards must be provided to Conservation Halton and referenced to the above mapping standards.

g. That the Owner pays any **outstanding review fees** to Conservation Halton, if it is determined that a balance is outstanding. Conservation Halton reserves the right to adjust the fees owing based on the current plan review schedule, if time has lapsed since the initial application.
h. That the Owner submits the **final clearance fee** to Conservation Halton, prior to registration of the draft plan. If the development is phased, each phase will require a separate clearance fee.

26. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton prior to execution of the final plan:

a. That the Owner agrees to obtain confirmation from **Conservation Halton** that conditions 23-27 inclusive have been satisfied prior to the execution of the final plan.

27. The owner shall ensure the following are included within the Subdivision Agreement to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton

a. That the Owner agrees that the **Scoped Subwatershed Study** will be updated and finalized for the entire Bronte Creek Meadows Community and will address all comments from Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington relating to development after Phase 1, prior to submission of future applications within the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
b. That the Owner agrees that the **Master Environmental Servicing Plan, Area Servicing Plan, and Land Use & Built Form Strategy** will be updated to reflect the updated and finalized Scoped Subwatershed Study as necessary, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton, the Region of Halton and the City of Burlington, prior to submission of future applications within the Bronte Creek Meadows Community.
c. That the Owner agrees to provide **as-built drawings** for crossings, stormwater outlets, and any watercourse and natural hazard alterations within Conservation Halton regulated areas. Surveys undertaken to delineate any hazards shall be provided to Conservation Halton in digital format. Digital data should be delivered in one of the following formats:
    i. ESRI geodatabasev10.x (or newer) feature classes
    ii. ESRI shape file format.
    iii. AutoCAD DWG or DXF Format, version 2019 or earlier

    If the Project Consultant uses ESRI products to produce maps, the matching .mxd will be provided that corresponds to the map figure. Digital data will be provided in UTM NAD 83 Zone 17 NAD 83 datum. Data referencing elevations (e.g., floodplains) shall be referenced to appropriate vertical benchmarks. The datum must be specified as one of Canadian Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1928 (CGVD28) with 1978 adjustment, or

Canadian Geodetic Vertical Datum of 2013 (CGVD2013). Vertical datums must be clearly identified in the survey documentation. Flood plain models used in the delineation of flood hazards must be provided to Conservation Halton and referenced to the above mapping standards.

d. That the Owner agrees, that should it be determined through detailed design that **grade changes** are required in order to accommodate development of lots/blocks, any grade changes must be accommodated outside of the areas regulated by Conservation Halton that are contained within natural heritage system or watercourse blocks, and the lot lines must be adjusted accordingly, to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton (regarding regulated areas) and the City of Burlington.
e. That the Owner agrees **to phase the development** of the subject lands to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington, if necessary
f. That the Owner agree to implement the **Monitoring and Adaptative Management Plan** as per the approved Environmental Impact Assessment and the **Pre- During- and Post-Construction Monitoring** as per the updated Scoped Subwatershed Study to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington and Conservation Halton (regarding regulated areas).
g. That the Owner agrees to submit monthly (or after significant rainfall equal or greater than 10mm or snowmelt events) **sediment and erosion control reports** during construction to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton and the City of Burlington.
h. That the Owner agrees to post **acceptable securities** with the City of Burlington as part of the subdivision agreement, for the purpose of ensuring the construction and completion of all works identified on the approved plans including the rehabilitation of any Natural Heritage System block or open space areas to the satisfaction of Conservation Halton (regarding regulated areas) and the City of Burlington which may be disturbed during the development of the subdivision.
i. That the Owner agrees that any **exposed soil within a watercourse block**, either as a result of realignment or rehabilitation works, will be seeded or otherwise stabilized in accordance with approved erosion and sediment control plans.
j. That the Owner agrees that no fill from the site may be **dumped on or off-site** in an area regulated by a Conservation Authority without the prior written permission of the appropriate Conservation Authority.
k. That the Owner agrees to not **stockpile fill** within Conservation Halton's regulated area without prior written approval on Conservation Halton.
l. That purchasers and/or tenants of lots that contain areas regulated by Conservation Halton (Lots A4-A18 and B177-B178, and Block 214), are advised in the offers of purchase and sale that a portion of their lot/block may contain areas regulated by Conservation Halton under the Conservation Authorities Act (CA Act) and Ontario Regulation 41/24. Permits are required from Conservation Halton prior to undertaking development activities within the regulated area. For further information

please contact Conservation Halton at chplanning@hrca.on.ca or 905.336.1158.

28. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Halton Region:

a. That prior to registration the Owner is required to provide digital copies of the proposed final m-plan to the satisfaction of the Region of Halton. The plan shall include horizontal co-ordinates of all boundary monuments. These co-ordinates must be to real 60 UTM co-ordinates, NAD 83 datum.

b. That prior to registration Owner shall submit to the City of Burlington digital copies of the final draft plan of subdivision along with applicable Land Registry Office Appendix D form for sign off. Upon acceptance, the City of Burlington will forward these materials to the Region of Halton for final sign off.

c. The Owner agrees that should the development be further phased, a phasing plan shall be submitted prior to registration of the first phase. The phasing plan will indicate the sequence of development, the land area in hectares, the number of lots and blocks for each phase and the proposed use of all blocks including the proposed number of units, the specific lots to be developed, site access to each phase, grading and the construction of public services. The phasing must be reflected in all engineering reports.

d. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Regional Development Review shall be advised by Halton Region that conditions 28.a. through uu. have been carried out to the satisfaction of Halton Region with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

e. That the Owner has addressed all the requirements of the Allocation Program, including, but not limited to, the signing of any additional agreements, provision of any required payments and the issuance of a Region of Halton Public Works Commissioner's Notice (PWCN), to the satisfaction of the Region of Halton.

f. The Owner agrees that until notice from Halton Region's Commissioner of Public Works is given to the Owner that development of these lands is able to proceed by the issuance of a building permit with residential water/wastewater capacity or that units under the Region's Allocation Program will be operational within 12 months, that the Owner shall not seek the issuance of building permits for any development in this phase and:

    i. shall not sell or offer for sale any lot or block or any part thereof within this phase if such sale obligates the Owner or permits the purchaser to construct a residential building on such lot or block; and,

    ii. shall not seek final approval for registration of such lots or blocks or any part thereof.

g. The Owner will provide a revised Allocation Assignment Plan to reflect the correct Allocation Law Files and updated Allocation Allotment approach to the satisfaction of Halton Region.

h. The Owner shall prepare a detailed engineering submission to be submitted to the Regional Development Project Manager for review and approval prior to the preparation of the Regional development agreement.

i. That the Owner acknowledges, in writing, that registration of all or part of this plan of subdivision may not take place until notified by the Region's Development Project Manager that sufficient water capacity exists to accommodate this development.
j. The Owner acknowledges, in writing, that registration of all or part of this plan of subdivision may not take place until notification by the Region's Development Project Manager that sufficient Wastewater Plant capacity exists to accommodate this development.
k. That the Owner acknowledges, in writing, that registration of all or part of this plan of subdivision may not take place until notification by the Region's Development Project Manager that sufficient storage and pumping facilities and associated infrastructure relating to both water and wastewater are in place.
l. That all works which are the responsibility of the Owner to complete shall be supervised during construction by a licensed Professional Engineer of the Province of Ontario with all professional engineering fees paid by the Owner. The Owner's engineer must provide competent full time inspection staff on site during construction activities to obtain the required "as constructed" field information, and to ensure compliance with the approved drawings and the Region's Current Construction and Design Standards.
m. That the Owner agrees to conduct a survey of the static water level and quality of all wells within 500 metres of the plan. The owner further agrees to resolve any claims of well interruption due to the construction of municipal services to the satisfaction of the Region's Development Project Manager.
n. That the Owner agrees to conduct a survey of the property to identify all existing wells related to the former use of the lands. The owner further agrees to decommission any existing wells in accordance with MECP guidelines prior to commencing the development of these lands to the satisfaction of the Region's Development Project Manager.
o. That the Owner agrees to conduct a survey of the property to identify all existing private septic systems related to the former use of the lands. The owner further agrees to decommission any existing private septic systems in accordance with MOE guidelines prior to commencing the development of these lands to the satisfaction of the Region's Development Project Manager.
p. That the development shall be subject to full municipal water and sanitary sewer services to the satisfaction of the Region of Halton.
q. That the Owner shall enter into a development agreement and satisfy all requirements, financial and otherwise, of The Regional Municipality of Halton, including but not limited to, the phasing of the plan for registration, investigation of soil contamination and soil restoration, the provision of roads and the installation of water and sanitary sewer services, utilities and drainage works. This agreement is to be registered on title to the lands.
r. That temporary easements be provided for watermain looping that are internal and/or external to the site that are not located in an existing road right-of-way and that these easements be dedicated to the Region of Halton

for the purpose of watermain protection; these easements shall be dedicated with clear title (free & clear of encumbrances) and a certificate of Title shall be provided, in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services and Corporate Counsel.

s. That the Owner agrees to provide and install individual pressure reducing valves (PRV), where required, at the residential units within the subdivision to meet the requirements of the Ontario Building Code to the satisfaction of the Region's Development Project Manager.

t. That the Owner agrees that warning clauses shall be included in a registered portion of the Regional Subdivision Agreement, and in subsequent offers of purchase and sale on all units within this development and, registered on title regarding potential high and low water pressures within the subdivision.

u. That the Owner is required to submit a revised Functional Servicing Study, in accordance with the standards of the Region of Halton and subject to Halton Region's Development Project Manager, Regional Planning and Public Works Department for review and approval, that includes the following:
    i. water modelling that addresses secondary watermain connections, flows, pressures, fire flow testing of the existing water system, and dead-end watermains.
    ii. an analysis that demonstrates that the existing water and sanitary sewer systems in the surrounding area can accommodate the proposed development including any required infrastructure upgrades or interim measure.
    iii. external drainage from Upper Middle Road will be conveyed into the subdivision storm sewers.

v. That the Owner is required to provide long term mitigation measures for the proposed dead end watermains along Sutton Drive such as a program for flushing of dead end watermains or providing alternative looping to the satisfaction of the Halton Region's Development Project Manager.

w. That the Owner acknowledges that portions of the subdivision, may experience water pressures below the Region's minimum static pressure of 275 kPa (40 psi) during peak hour conditions. The Owner agrees to work with the Region to identify and implement appropriate mitigation measures, which may include but are not limited to PRV connections to higher pressure mains, or the use of booster pumps within specific buildings or blocks. The preferred mitigation strategy shall be confirmed through further consultation with the Region and documented in the detailed design submission to the satisfaction of the Region's Development Project Manager.

x. That the Owner agrees that warning clauses shall be included in a registered portion of the Regional Subdivision Agreement, and in subsequent offers of purchase and sale on all units within this development and, registered on title regarding potential water pressures changes within the subdivision resulting from the realignment of the Region's water

pressure zones from the existing zone condition to the interim and ultimate zone pressure conditions.

y. That the Owner shall agree that pre- and post-development stormwater flows from the site to the existing drainage systems on Upper Middle Road during and after construction, such that there are no adverse impacts to the existing storm drainage systems on these roadways, to the satisfaction of Halton Region's Development Project Manager.

z. The owner/applicant shall dedicate any lands within 23.5 metres of the constructed centre line of the original right-of-way of Upper Middle Road (Regional Road 40) that are part of the subject property to Halton Region prior to registration for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements.

aa. The owner/applicant acknowledges and agrees to dedicate any additional lands that are part of the subject property and have been identified as required for the future widening of Upper Middle Road (Regional Road 40) per a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (MCEA) for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements. If the subdivision is registered before the Upper Middle Road MCEA is completed, then this condition does not apply and will be cleared.

bb. The owner/applicant acknowledges and agrees to dedicate any additional lands that are part of the subject property and have been identified as required for the future widening of Upper Middle Road (Regional Road 40) per a Halton Region Capital Works Detail Design Project (following the MCEA study) for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements. If the subdivision is registered before the Upper Middle Road Detail Design Project is completed, then this condition does not apply and will be cleared.

cc. The owner/applicant shall dedicate a daylight triangle measuring 15 metres along Upper Middle Road (Regional Road 40) and 15 metres along all approved future intersections, based on the ultimate Regional right-of-way requirements, to Halton Region prior to registration for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements.

dd. The owner/applicant shall dedicate any lands within 23.5 metres of the constructed centre line of the original right-of-way of Burloak Drive (Regional Road 21) that are part of the subject property to Halton Region prior to registration for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements.

ee. The owner/applicant acknowledges and agrees to dedicate any additional lands that are part of the subject property and have been identified as required for the future widening of Burloak Drive (Regional Road 21) per a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study (MCEA) for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements. If the subdivision is registered before the Upper Middle Road MCEA is completed, then this condition does not apply and will be cleared.

ff. The owner/applicant acknowledges and agrees to dedicate any additional lands that are part of the subject property and have been identified as

required for the future widening of Burloak Drive (Regional Road 21) per a Halton Region Capital Works Detail Design Project (following the MCEA study) for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements. If the subdivision is registered before the Upper Middle Road Detail Design Project is completed, then this condition does not apply and will be cleared.

gg. The owner/applicant shall dedicate a daylight triangle measuring 15 metres along Burloak Drive (Regional Road 21) and 15 metres along all approved future intersections, based on the ultimate Regional right-of-way requirements, to Halton Region prior to registration for the purpose of road right-of-way widening and future road improvements.

hh. The owner/applicant shall provide a legal survey (detailing land dedication to verify that the adequate property requirements are met), to the satisfaction of Halton Region.

ii. The owner/applicant shall ensure that all lands to be dedicated to Halton Region shall be dedicated with clear title (free and clear of encumbrances) and a Certificate of title shall be provided, in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services or his/her designate.

jj. The owner/applicant acknowledges and agrees that any proposed private signage, landscaping, etc., for the site must be placed outside of the ultimate Regional right-of-way and daylight triangle (on private property). Per Halton Region's Regional Road Landscaping Guidelines & Specifications (2018), only grasses and/or low lying shrubs are to be planted within the Regional ROW daylight triangles. All plantings must have a mature height that does not exceed 1 metre. Species that deviate from this rule can impact the safety of roadway and sidewalk users at intersections by obstructing sightlines.

kk. The owner/applicant shall submit an updated Transportation Impact Study in support of the proposed development that addresses Halton Region's comments submitted as part of this application. The final study, its assumptions and recommendations must be to the satisfaction of Halton Region.

ll. The owner/applicant shall implement all road improvements identified in the approved Transportation Impact Study required to support the subdivision to the satisfaction of Halton Region. The owner/applicant is responsible for all costs associated with the improvements identified.

mm. The owner/applicant shall enter into a Development Agreement (through the Development Project Manager, Halton Region) prior to registration for the completion of the works required as identified in the latest approved Transportation Impact Study.

Detailed design drawings of the works must be completed to Halton Region's satisfaction and submitted to Halton Region's Development Project Manager for review and approval. A design based on the specifications outlined in the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) Geometric Design Guide for Canadian Roads (GDGCR) and approved by Road Operations & Maintenance and/or Engineering, Construction &

Transportation Management must be shown. The detailed design drawings should include road improvements and all associated design details, including but not limited to: grading & cross-sections, Traffic Signal drawings, the location of intersection street signs (advanced & at-intersection) and intersection pavement markings.

nn. The owner/applicant shall submit an updated Noise Feasibility Study in support of the proposed development that addresses Halton Region's comments provided on the previously submitted study. The final study, its assumptions and recommendations must be to the satisfaction of Halton Region. Every effort should be made where possible in planning the development layout so that future Outdoor Living Areas (OLAs) do not require physical mitigation measures from Regional Roads and/or Town roads (i.e. acoustic barrier).

oo. The owner/applicant agrees to implement the noise recommendations of the approved Noise Feasibility Study to support the subdivision to the satisfaction of Halton Region. The owner/applicant is responsible for all costs associated with the improvements identified.

An updated detailed Noise Feasibility Study should be conducted if any proposed grading information has significantly changed to refine the noise assessment and warning clauses.

pp. The owner/applicant shall provide a signed/stamped letter from the development Architect, in conjunction with the Building Permit Application, stating that the recommendations from the approved Noise Feasibility Study will be implemented and have been reflected in the submitted drawings. Halton Region shall receive confirmation of such correspondence.

qq. All updated/amended Warning Clauses must be reviewed and approved by Halton Region and the City of Burlington. All applicable warning clauses shall be listed in the City of Burlington' Site Plan Agreement and also be inserted in the Agreements of Purchase and Sale or Lease.

rr. The owner/applicant agrees to the following, to the satisfaction of Halton Region:

    i. that for all lands, lots or blocks that will be fitted with noise control measures and/or features, the owner/applicant shall instruct its sales staff and agents (in the sales centre or otherwise) to notify all interested or potential purchasers, parties, buyers and/or future owners of the recommendations and warning clauses of the approved Noise Feasibility Study as early in the purchasing process as possible (pre-sale); and,

    ii. that for all lands, lots or blocks that will be fitted with noise control measures and/or features, the recommendations and warning clauses of the approved Noise Feasibility Study shall be registered on title, included in all pre-sales materials and all agreements of purchase and sale.

ss. The owner/applicant shall provide noise easements for all required Regional noise barriers to the satisfaction of Halton Region prior to registration for the purpose of allowing Regional staff access for

maintenance. Halton Region requires a +/-1 metre easement on the inside of the acoustic barriers within the residential lots and a +/-2 metre easement on the outside of the acoustic barriers within any private or City/Town-owned blocks.

tt. The owner/applicant shall ensure that the design of any required Active Transportation connections to Upper Middle Road and Burloak Drive will be designed and constructed to the satisfaction of Halton Region.

uu. The owner/applicant shall obtain a Permit from and/or enter into an Encroachment Agreement with Halton Region (as required by Halton Region) for any shoring/tie-backs, open excavation, crane swing, construction access, etc. proposed within the ultimate Upper Middle Road and Burloak Drive right-of-ways during construction of the proposed development. All construction components (including a detailed Construction Management Plan) must be reviewed and approved by Halton Region and co-ordinated with Halton Region.

29. **The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Halton District School Board:**

    a. The Owner agrees to place the following notification in all offers of purchase and sale for all lots/units and in the City's subdivision agreement, to be registered on title:

        i. Prospective purchasers are advised that schools on sites designated for the Halton District School Board in the community are not guaranteed. Attendance at schools in the area yet to be constructed is also not guaranteed. Pupils may be accommodated in temporary facilities and/or be directed to schools outside of the area. School attendance areas are subject to change and/or redirections can be put into place to address immediate school accommodation pressures.

        ii. Prospective purchasers are advised that the surrounding neighbourhood may not be fully constructed, and will be under construction once the school is in operation. As such, not all sidewalks, roadways, and/or other infrastructure may not be immediately available.

        iii. Prospective purchasers are advised that school buses will not enter cul-de-sacs and pick-up points will be generally located on through streets convenient to the Halton Student Transportation Services. Prospective purchasers are advised that School buses shall not enter new subdivisions (construction areas) until all major construction activity has been completed. School bus stops will be placed at or near the entrance to the new subdivision. Bus stop locations within new subdivisions will be determined by Halton Student Transportation Services upon completed site reviews. It is therefore the responsibility of future purchasers that have students attending an HDSB school to identify a suitable means for home to school transportation requirements (whether walking or bused).

iv. Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that due to the proximity of the adjacent school, sound levels from these facilities may at times be audible.
v. Purchasers and/or tenants are advised that roads adjacent to the Halton District School Board school sites will be subject to higher-than-normal traffic volumes as a result of the school facilities and activities.
vi. Purchasers and/or tenants of lots or units within this subdivision are advised that the Halton District School Board elementary school sports field and play areas may be in use during daytime, evening, and weekends, with operating hours from 7:00 a.m. until nightfall. In the event that an elementary school sports field receives lighting, those hours may be extended from 7:00 am to 11:59 pm. Uses programmed on elementary school sites may generate noise or lights that could affect the occupants of properties adjacent to or nearby this facility.

b. That in cases where offers of purchase and sale have already been executed, the Owner will send a letter to all purchasers, which includes the above statements.
c. The Owner shall provide all required municipal subdivision services necessary to accommodate the construction of a school on the designated school site, as contemplated by the Halton District School Board. Such services shall include, without limitation, storm and sanitary sewers, stormwater management facilities, hydro, water, telephone, natural gas, fibre optics, and cable television, excluding any switchgear. These services must be of sufficient capacity and appropriately designed to support a school of the intended size and shall be made available at the boundary between the school site and the adjacent public roadway, at a location that optimally facilitates the development of the school site.
d. That the Owner will not place nor store any fill or topsoil in the school block without the prior written consent of the Halton District School Board.
e. The Owner agrees that, should the development be phased, a copy of the phasing plan must be submitted prior to final approval to the Halton District School Board. The phasing plan will indicate the sequence of development, the land area, the number of lots and blocks, and units for each phase. The Owner will provide information on the anticipated start of construction and tentative occupancy dates of residential units.
f. That the Owner shall supply, erect, and maintain signs at all major entrances into the new development advising prospective purchasers that pupils may be directed to schools outside of the area. The Owner will make these signs to the specifications of the Halton District School Board and erect them prior to final approval.
g. That a copy of the approved sidewalk plan, prepared to the satisfaction of the Municipality, be submitted to the Halton District School Board.
h. The Owner agrees to discuss with Halton District School Board, student active transportation needs, with possible input and requirements for future

planned conditions of the road network and intersections within the development and the area surrounding the development, and supporting crossing infrastructure.

i. The Owner shall provide Halton District School Board a PDF copy and a geo-referenced AutoCAD file of the Draft Plan of Subdivision, as well as a Draft M-Plan once all Lot and Block numbering has been finalized. Should any changes occur after the initial submission to Lot and Block configuration or numbering on the draft M-Plan, the Owner shall provide a new AutoCAD file and a memo outlining the changes.

30. **The owner shall agree to the following to the satisfaction of Halton Catholic District School Board, to be fulfilled prior to final approval:**
    a. That the Owner agrees in the Subdivision Agreement, to the satisfaction of HCDSB and the City of Burlington, to install appropriate privacy fencing and/or buffering where residential lots are adjacent to school lands, including but not limited to sports fields, domes, play areas, and parking areas, in order to address privacy, safety, and land use compatibility concerns.
    b. The owner agrees to place the following notification in all offers of purchase and sale for all lots/units and in the City's agreements, to be registered on title:
        i. Prospective purchasers are advised that Catholic school accommodation may not be available for students residing in this area, and that you are notified that students may be accommodated in temporary facilities and/or bused to existing facilities outside the area.
        ii. Prospective purchasers are advised that the HCDSB will designate pick up points for the children to meet the bus on roads presently in existence or other pick up areas convenient to the Board, and that you are notified that school busses will not enter cul-de-sacs and private roads.
        iii. Prospective purchasers of lots/units abutting, fronting and adjacent to the HCDSB school site are advised that temporary facilities/portables will be sited on the school site in order to accommodate pupils in excess of the school building capacity.
        iv. The owners of lots adjoining the HCDSB school site are prohibited to install or use, for any purposes, a gate in any boundary line fence adjacent to such school property. In the event a gate is installed, the Board will remove it at the owner's expense.
        v. The owners of lots adjoining the HCDSB school site are advised that noise, lighting, and activity associated with normal school operations, including sports fields and future facilities, may occur.
    c. In cases where offers of purchase and sale have already been executed, the owner is to send a letter to all purchasers which include the above statements.
    d. That the owner agrees to the satisfaction of the HCDSB, to erect and maintain signs at all major entrances into the new development advising

prospective purchasers that if a permanent school is not available alternative accommodation and/or busing will be provided. The owner will make these signs to the specifications of the HCDSB and erect them prior to final approval.

e. That the developer agrees that should the development be phased, a copy of the phasing plan must be submitted prior to final approval to the HCDSB. The phasing plan will indicate the sequence of development, the land area, the number of lots and blocks and units for each phase.
f. That a copy of the approved sidewalk plan, prepared to the satisfaction of the City of Burlington be submitted to the HCDSB.
g. The owner shall provide HCDSB a geo-referenced AutoCAD file of the Draft M-plan once all Lot and Block numbering has been finalized. Should any changes occur after the initial submission to Lot and Block configuration or numbering on the draft M-plan the Owner shall provide a new AutoCAD file and a memo outlining the changes.

31. **The owner shall agree to the following to the satisfaction of Canada Post:**
    a. The Developer covenants and agrees to provide the City of Burlington with evidence that satisfactory arrangements have been made with Canada Post Corporation for the installation of Community Mail Boxes (CMB) as required by Canada Post Corporation and as shown on the approved Site Plan, at the time of sidewalk and/or curb installation. The Developer further agrees to provide notice to prospective tenants/purchasers of the locations of the CMBs and that mail service will be via CMBs.
    b. The owner/developer will consult with Canada Post to determine suitable permanent location(s) for the placement of Community Mailboxes and to indicate these locations on appropriate servicing plans confirming that the locations will not be in conflict with any other utility
    c. The owner/developer agrees, prior to offering any of the residential units for sale, to place a "Display Map" on the wall of the sales office in a place readily available to the public which indicates the location of all Canada Post Community Mailbox site locations, as approved by Canada Post and the City of Burlington.
    d. The developer agrees to include in all offers of purchase and sale, a statement which advises the purchaser that mail will be delivered via Community Mail Box. The developer also agrees to note the locations of all Community Mail Boxes within the development, and to notify affected homeowners of any established easements granted to Canada Post to permit access to the Community Mail Box.
    e. Where necessary, the developer will provide a suitable and safe temporary site for a Community Mail Box until curbs, sidewalks and final grading are completed at the permanent Community Mail Box locations.
    f. The developer agrees to provide the following for each Community Mail Box site and to include these requirements on the appropriate servicing plans:
        i. Any required walkway across the boulevard, per municipal standards

ii. Any required curb depressions for wheelchair access, with an opening of at least two meters (consult Canada Post for detailed specifications)

g. In order to ensure mail service is initiated when new homeowners move in, it is the Developer's responsibility to ensure Canada Post is kept up to date on the date of first occupancy providing at least 60 days notice of the first resident moving in.
If required, Canada Post will install the concrete pads at each of the identified locations outlined on the municipally approved Site Plan – the developer will provide access to these sites at the time of installation.

32. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Transportation:

a. The promoter shall submit a revised TIS that addresses the comments identified in MTO's email sent on March 27, 2026. The revised TIS shall be reviewed and accepted by MTO as a condition of Draft Plan approval prior to registration.

33. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Hydro One Inc.:

a. Any proposed secondary land use on the transmission corridor is processed through the Provincial Secondary Land Use Program (PSLUP). The developer must contact Joan Zhao Senior Real Estate Coordinator , Joan.Zhao@HydroOne.com to discuss all aspects of the subdivision design, ensure all of HONI's technical requirements are met to its satisfaction, and acquire the applicable agreements.

b. Prior to HONI providing its final approval, the developer must make arrangements satisfactory to HONI for lot grading and drainage. Digital PDF copies of the lot grading and drainage plans (true scale), showing existing and proposed final grades, must be submitted to HONI for review and approval. The drawings must identify the transmission corridor, location of towers within the corridor and any proposed uses within the transmission corridor. Drainage must be controlled and directed away from the transmission corridor.

c. Any development in conjunction with the subdivision must not block vehicular access to any HONI facilities located on the transmission corridor. During construction, there must be no storage of materials or mounding of earth, snow or other debris on the transmission corridor.

d. At the developer's expense, temporary fencing must be placed along the transmission corridor prior to construction, and permanent fencing must be erected along the common property line after construction is completed.

e. The costs of any relocations or revisions to HONI facilities which are necessary to accommodate this subdivision will be borne by the developer. The developer will be responsible for restoration of any damage to the transmission corridor or HONI facilities thereon resulting from construction of the subdivision.

f. This letter and the conditions contained therein should in no way be construed as permission for or an endorsement of proposed location(s) for any road crossing(s) contemplated for the proposed development. This permission may be specifically granted by OILC under separate agreement(s). Proposals for any secondary land use including road crossings on the transmission corridor are processed through PSLUP. HONI, as OILC's service provider, will review detailed engineering plans for such proposals separately, in order to obtain final approval. Should approval for a road crossing be granted, the developer shall then make arrangements satisfactory to the OILC and HONI for the dedication and transfer of the proposed road allowance directly to the Burlington. Access to, and road construction on the transmission corridor is not to occur until the legal transfer(s) of lands or interests are completed.

34. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Burlington Hydro Incorporated:

a. agree to satisfy all of the conditions and requirements, financial or otherwise, of Burlington Hydro Incorporated;

b. sign Burlington Hydro Incorporated's subdivision agreement and any other agreements required by Burlington Hydro Incorporated; and

c. The Owner agrees to provide/acquire any easements for Burlington Hydro, as required for the provision of hydro services to the subdivision.

35. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Enbridge:

a. Obtain written consent for any ground disturbance activities within the prescribed area (30 m) of the pipeline through Enbridge Crossings and Encroachments application process.

b. Obtain written consent through Enbridge Crossings and Encroachments application process for all above and below ground crossings and encroachments of the pipeline, either temporary or permanent.

c. Obtain written consent for any proposed landscaping or pathways on Enbridge's pipeline right-of-way.

36. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Bell Canada:

a. Prior to commencing any work within the Plan, the owner must confirm that sufficient wire-line communication/telecommunication infrastructure is currently available within the proposed development to provide communication/telecommunication service to the proposed development. In the event that such infrastructure is not available, the owner may be required to pay for the connection to and/or extension of the existing communication/telecommunication infrastructure. If the owner elects not to pay for such connection to and/or extension of the existing communication/ telecommunication infrastructure, the owner shall be required to demonstrate to the municipality that sufficient alternative

communication/telecommunication facilities are available within the proposed development to enable, at a minimum, the effective delivery of communication/ telecommunication services for emergency management services (i.e. 911 Emergency Services).

37. The owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of Rogers Communications Canada Inc.:

a. The Owner shall agree in the Subdivision Agreement to (a) permit all CRTC-licensed telecommunications companies intending to serve the Subdivision (the “Communications Service Providers”) to install their facilities within the Subdivision, and (b) provide joint trenches for such purpose.

b. The Owner shall agree in the Subdivision Agreement to grant, at its own cost, all easements required by the Communications Service Providers to serve the Subdivision, and will cause the registration of all such easements on title to the property.

c. The Owner shall agree in the Subdivision Agreement to coordinate construction activities with the Communications Service Providers and other utilities, and prepare an overall composite utility plan that shows the locations of all utility infrastructure for the Subdivision, as well as the timing and phasing of installation.

d. The Owner shall agree in the Subdivision Agreement that, if the Owner requires any existing Rogers facilities to be relocated, the Owner shall be responsible for the relocation of such facilities and provide where applicable, an easement to Rogers to accommodate the relocated facilities.

38. The Owner agrees to complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning and the Manager of Parks Design and Construction:

a. Revise the Draft Plan of Subdivision to provide additional Open Space blocks for the purpose of providing entry features at gateway locations to the Bronte Creek Meadows Community, and dedicate such Open Space blocks to the City free of charge.

    i. The Open Space blocks shall be located to maximize public visibility at points of entry to the community and shall not be located within any street right-of-way or daylight triangle;

    ii. The Open Space blocks shall be sized to accommodate maintenance access around all sides of the entry features, and/or may require the provision of maintenance access easements in favour of the City of Burlington registered on adjacent private properties;

iii. The Open Space blocks and entry features may require approval of Hydro One and/or Enbridge depending on location.

b. Submit and obtain approval for detailed designs of entry features and associated landscape plans;

c. Agree to construct/install the entry features and landscaping in accordance with the approved designs at the Owner's expense;

d. Agree to provide any cost estimates and/or financial securities as the City may require in association with the approved entry features.

39. Prior to final approval of the draft plan of subdivision, the Director of Community Planning shall be satisfied that the approved pavement markings and street sign plan provides for the design and placement of signage and traffic management measures that are consistent with the recommendations of the approved Environmental Impact Assessment and will enable wildlife cohabitation adjacent to the natural heritage system and within the neighbourhood, particularly to enable connections between the proposed development and the natural areas east of the subject property;

40. The Owner shall complete the following to the satisfaction of the Director of Community Planning prior to final approval:

a. Prior to final approval, provide a list of lot and block widths and areas prepared by an Ontario Land Surveyor, to ensure all blocks conform to Zoning By-law 2020, as amended.

b. Prior to final approval, pay any outstanding City staff processing costs incurred to that date in the processing of the application.

c. prior to final approval, pay the City's per unit registration processing fee;

d. Prior to final approval:

i. Consult Community Planning staff for street naming criteria and process requirements.

ii. Submit to the City proposed street names for all streets in the plan. Community Planning staff will co-ordinate review and approval of street names by relevant stakeholders including Halton Regional Police Service.

iii. Obtain approval from Director of Community Planning for names of all streets in the plan, and update the plan to reflect the approved names.

e. Prior to final approval, the Director of Community Planning shall be satisfied that the Owner has entered into any agreement(s), as the City may be permitted to require, for the provision of funds or the provision of service satisfaction of Council for any funds or services which may be required of any future landowners in order for the development of Bronte Creek Meadows to proceed as planned.

f. Prior to registration of any portion of the subdivision, the owner shall submit a comprehensive phasing plan indicating the sequence of development, the land area in hectares, the number of lots and blocks for each phase, the proposed use of all blocks including the proposed number of units, and how comprehensive development is to proceed, including construction of public services and creek block work.
g. Design, locate and erect signs prior to the sale of any lots and prior to commencement of subdivision construction which provide notification of: the proposed land uses, road pattern, lotting, phasing of the proposed subdivision, the properties abutting the development, location of postal facilities, transit route locations and lots subject to warning clauses. The signs shall be resistant to weathering and vandalism. All lots and blocks shall be deemed unsuitable for building until the above has been satisfied
h. Design, locate and erect signs that are resistant to weathering and vandalism at the end of all stub roads prior to offering any lots for sale. These signs shall provide notice that the stub roads shall be extended at a future date when the adjoining lands are developed.
i. Prior to final approval, and prior to potential submission of building permit applications for model homes, the Owner will submit to the City a letter/brief from an architect or other qualified design professional, certifying that the approved Tertiary Plan and Urban Design Study and the design policies of the City's Official Plan have been complied with on the plans for all development lots/blocks not subject to Site Plan Control.
j. Prior to the approval of engineering and landscape drawings, the Owner agrees to submit a letter from a landscape architect or other qualified design professional certifying that the approved Tertiary Plan and Urban Design Study and the design policies of the City's Official Plan have been complied with and will be implemented as provided for on the engineering drawings.

41. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall be satisfied that conditions 1-9, 38-40, and 42-57 and all subsections thereto, have been satisfied.
42. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Director of Engineering Services of the City of Burlington that conditions 3, 10, 11, and 14 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.
43. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Manager of Parks Design and Construction of the City of Burlington that conditions 3, 11, 15, and 38 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

44. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Director of Roads, Parks, and Forestry of the City of Burlington that condition 12 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

45. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Director of Transportation Services of the City of Burlington that conditions 3 and 13-22 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

46. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Director of Transit Services of the City of Burlington that condition 17 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

47. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Region of Halton that conditions 18 and 28 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

48. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Canada Post that conditions 19 and 31 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

49. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Halton District School Board that conditions 20 and 29 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

50. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Halton Catholic District School Board that conditions 21 and 30 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

51. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from the Ministry of Transportation that conditions 22 and 32 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

52. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Hydro One Inc. that condition 33 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

53. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Burlington Hydro Inc. that condition 34 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.

54. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Enbridge that condition 35 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.
55. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Bell that condition 36 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.
56. Prior to signing the final plan, the Director of Community Planning shall receive written confirmation from Rogers Communications Canada Inc. that condition 37 and all subsections thereto have been carried out to their satisfaction with a brief but complete statement detailing how each condition has been satisfied.
57. **All of the above conditions shall be satisfied within 3 years of the granting of draft approval, being June 23, 2029.**

J. Tellier

Director of Community Planning

Date

If there are no appeals, Draft Approval is deemed to have been made on

June 23, 2026

NOTES:

City of Burlington

1. The owner is advised that additional fees are required by the City of Burlington and the Region of Halton for each Extension to Draft Approval and for Major Revisions to the draft plan or conditions.
2. To request or initiate a consultation with the Burlington Urban Design (BUD) Panel, visit www.burlington.ca/urbandesign and/or contact planning@burlington.ca

3. The owner, its successors and assigns, is hereby notified that City-wide Development Charges may be payable in accordance with the applicable by-law.
4. At any time prior to final approval of the plan for registration, the City may amend, delete or add to the conditions and this may include the need for amended or new studies in accordance with Section 51 (18) of the Planning Act, 1990

Region of Halton

5. Halton Region will have the following requirements at the time of registration of the subdivision:
   a. Final draft M plans signed and dated by the Owner, Surveyor and initialed by the City of Burlington Planner;
   b. Regional Registration fee;
   c. LRO Confirmation Email of LRO Pre-approval and PX number.
6. For more information on how to obtain a Public Works Commissioner's Notice (PWCN), please contact Nicole - Pettenuzzo - Senior Planner, Public Works"

Halton District School Board

7. Education Development Charges (EDC) are payable in accordance with the applicable EDC By-law and are required at the issuance of a building permit. Any building permits that are additional to the maximum unit yield which is specified by the Subdivision Agreement are also subject to EDCs prior to the issuance of a building permit, at the rate in effect on the date of issuance.
8. Additional Dwelling Units (ADU) constructed as part of a primary dwelling unit prior to occupancy are subject to EDCs. For ADUs to be eligible for an exemption, the building permit must be issued after occupancy of the primary unit, and must meet other requirements such as size and number of units relative to the existing unit. For more information on EDCs and ADUs, please reach out to the School Boards.
9. The Board's 2023 EDC by-law provides a limited number of statutory and non-statutory exemptions. School Boards may not exempt a development from the payment of EDCs unless such a development falls squarely within the terms of an exemption provided under an EDC by-law. To qualify for an exemption, an applicant must submit appropriate documentation confirming the intended purpose of the development. Approval of the exemption will be subject to verification and compliance with all relevant legislative and regulatory requirements. For more information on EDCs, please reach out to the School Boards.

Canada Post

10. The owner/developer of any condominiums will be required to provide signature for a License to Occupy Land agreement and provide winter snow clearance at the Community Mailbox locations

11. Enhanced Community Mailbox Sites with roof structures will require additional documentation as per Canada Post Policy
12. There will be no more than one mail delivery point to each unique address assigned by the Municipality
13. Any existing postal coding may not apply, the owner/developer should contact Canada Post to verify postal codes for the project
14. The complete guide to Canada Post's Delivery Standards can be found at: https://www.canadapost.ca/cpo/mc/assets/pdf/business/standardsmanual_en.pdf

Hydro One

15. The transmission lines abutting the subject lands operate at either 500,000, 230,000 or 115,000 volts. Section 188 of Regulation 213/91 pursuant to the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*, require that no object be brought closer than 6 metres (20 feet) to an energized 500 kV conductor. The distance for 230 kV conductors is 4.5 metres (15 feet), and for 115 kV conductors it is 3 metres (10 feet). It is the developer's responsibility to be aware, and to make all personnel on site aware, that all equipment and personnel must come no closer than the distance specified in the *Act*. They should also be aware that the conductors can raise and lower without warning, depending on the electrical demand placed on the line.

Burlington Hydro

16. *Customers and their agents planning and designing for electricity service must refer to all applicable Provincial and Canadian electrical codes, all applicable federal, provincial, municipal laws, regulations, codes and by-laws to ensure compliance. All work, on the BHI distribution system, shall be conducted in accordance with the latest edition of the Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act(OSHA), the Regulations for Construction Projects, the Regulations for Industrial Establishments and the Electrical Utility safety Rules published by the Infrastructure Health And Safety Association(IHSA).*
17. Service is available under B.H.I.'s latest Standard Service Conditions. https://www.burlingtonhydro.com/images/pdfs/BHI-Conditions-of-Service-05272024.pdf
18. Hydro easement (if any) is to remain clear of heavy vehicle traffic and customer is responsible to keep the easement lands free and clear of any trees, fences, buildings, structures or obstructions unless any of forgoing are approved in writing by Burlington Hydro Inc. Further the Customer shall remove the same upon request of Burlington Hydro Inc.
19. **Relocation, modification or removal of existing hydro facilities, if required, shall be at the customer's expense. BHI will refer to Burlington Hydro latest Standards and Regulations if possible issues with the**

clearances appear between existing hydro facilities and existing/proposed building structures

20. Customer to acquire any easements for Burlington Hydro, if requires.
21. Customer is to ensure that B.H.I. has proper access to the hydro facilities.
22. Project must meet City of Burlington Standards.
23. Machine excavation within one meter of underground plant is not permitted.
24. Do not excavate within two meters of hydro poles and anchors with the exception of the termination pole where the duct structure shall be terminated by the customer under the supervision of BHI inspector.
25. Please arrange for underground hydro cable locate(s), prior to beginning construction, by contacting Ontario One Call @ (800) 400-2255.
26. Please refer to the latest edition of the Occupational Health and Safety Act (“OHSA”) and Regulations for Construction Projects when a work is planned to be performed in the proximity of hydro distribution system.
27. Arrange for disconnect and isolation of the power supply if a person or an equipment is to encroach on the minimum distance permitted under the OHSA and OESC.

BRONTE CREEK MEADOWS

PHASE 1

Statutory Public Meeting
JUNE 9 2026

The Planning Process

Proposal Overview & Vision

Public Benefits

Transportation

Response to Comments

Project Team

alinea

Applicant

BOUSFIELDS INC.

Planning and
Community Engagement

NAK design strategies

Urban
Design

paradigm TRANSPORTATION SOLUTIONS LIMITED

Transportation
Planning

Colucent Environmental

Environmental

MTE

Engineering

Bronte Creek Meadows in Context

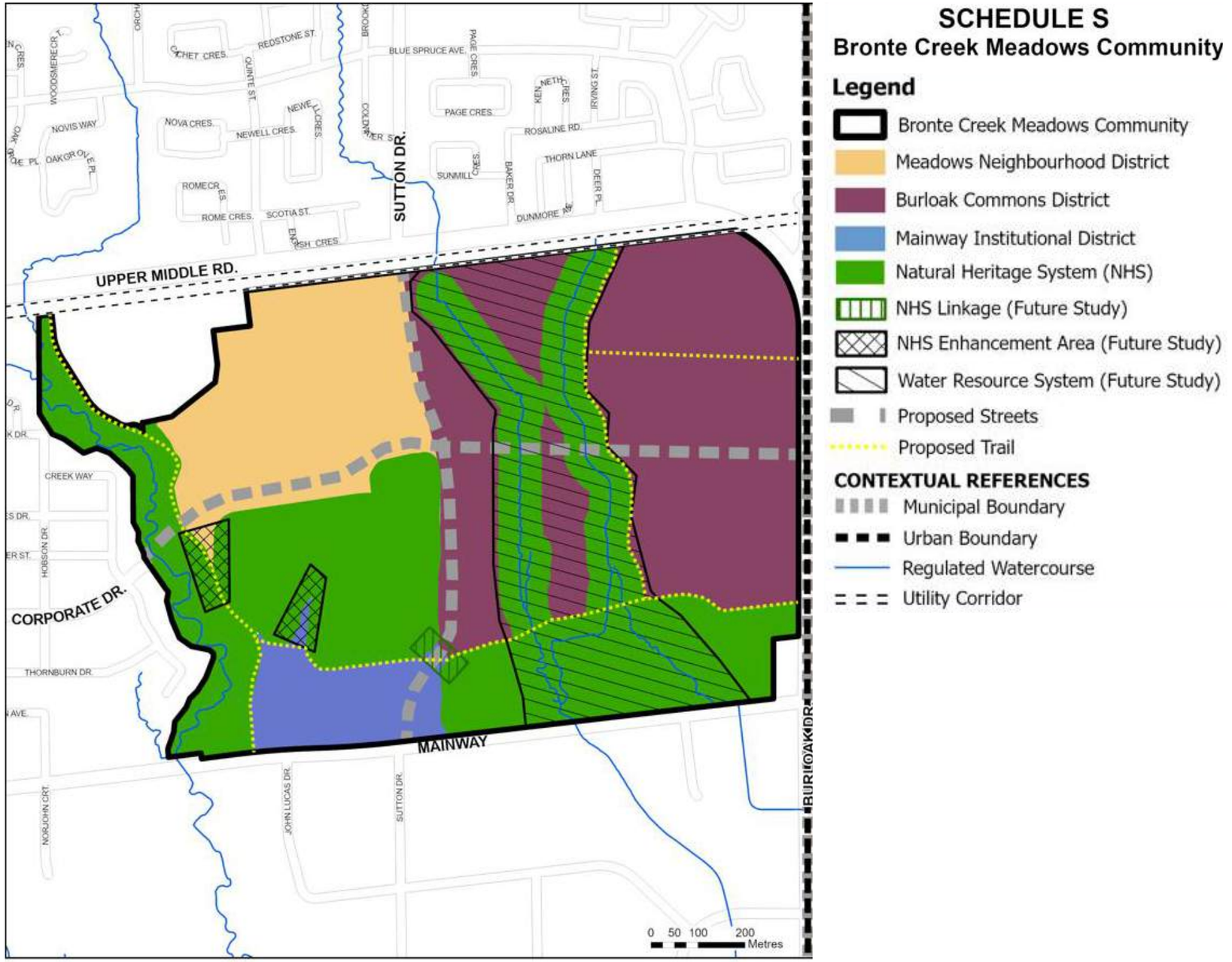
Timeline

WE ARE HERE!
TECHNICAL STUDY SUBMISSION
AUGUST 2024
CITY OPEN HOUSE - OPA4.
FEBRUARY 2025
AREA SPECIFIC PLAN (OPA4) APPROVED
MAY 2025
INFORMAL SUBMISSION
JUNE 2025
COMMUNITY MEETING
OCTOBER 2025
INFORMAL SUBMISSION, INCLUSIVE OF MESP, SSWS, LUBFS, ASP
OCTOBER 2025
FORMAL APPLICATION FOR OPA ZBA & DRAFT PLAN OF SUBDIVISION
FEBRUARY 2026

Official Plan Amendment 4

SCHEDULE S

- City initiated Area Specific Plan process for Bronte Creek Meadows in 2024
- The Area Specific Plan resulted in an Amendment to the City of Burlington Official Plan, **OPA 4**
- OPA 4 was adopted by City Council on May 20, 2025



Vision for Bronte Creek Meadows

A Mixed-Use Community

Housing, Services, and Public Spaces

A Hub for Living, Learning, and Well-Being

Context

QUINTE STREET
SUTTON DRIVE
BAKER DRIVE
DEER PLACE
BLUE SPRUCE AVE
UPPER MIDDLE ROAD
HYDRO CORRIDOR
CORPUS CHRISTI CSS
NHS - SHELDON CREEK
MEADOWS NEIGHBOURHOOD DISTRICT
BRONTE CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK
IMPERIAL WAY
DESJARDINES PARK
HOBSON DRIVE
BURLOAK COMMONS DISTRICT
Future Corporate Drive Connection / NHS Crossing
CITY BOUNDARY
EXISTING NHS WOODLOT (CITY OF BURLINGTON)
SUTTON DRIVE
BURLOAK DRIVE
CORPORATE DRIVE
NHS - SHELDON CREEK
MAINWAY INSTITUTIONAL DISTRICT
LAMPMAN PARK
LAMPMAN AVE
MAINWAY
LEGEND
Bronte Creek Meadows Community Phase 1
Meadows Neighbourhood District
Burloak Commons District
Mainway Institutional District
0
100M

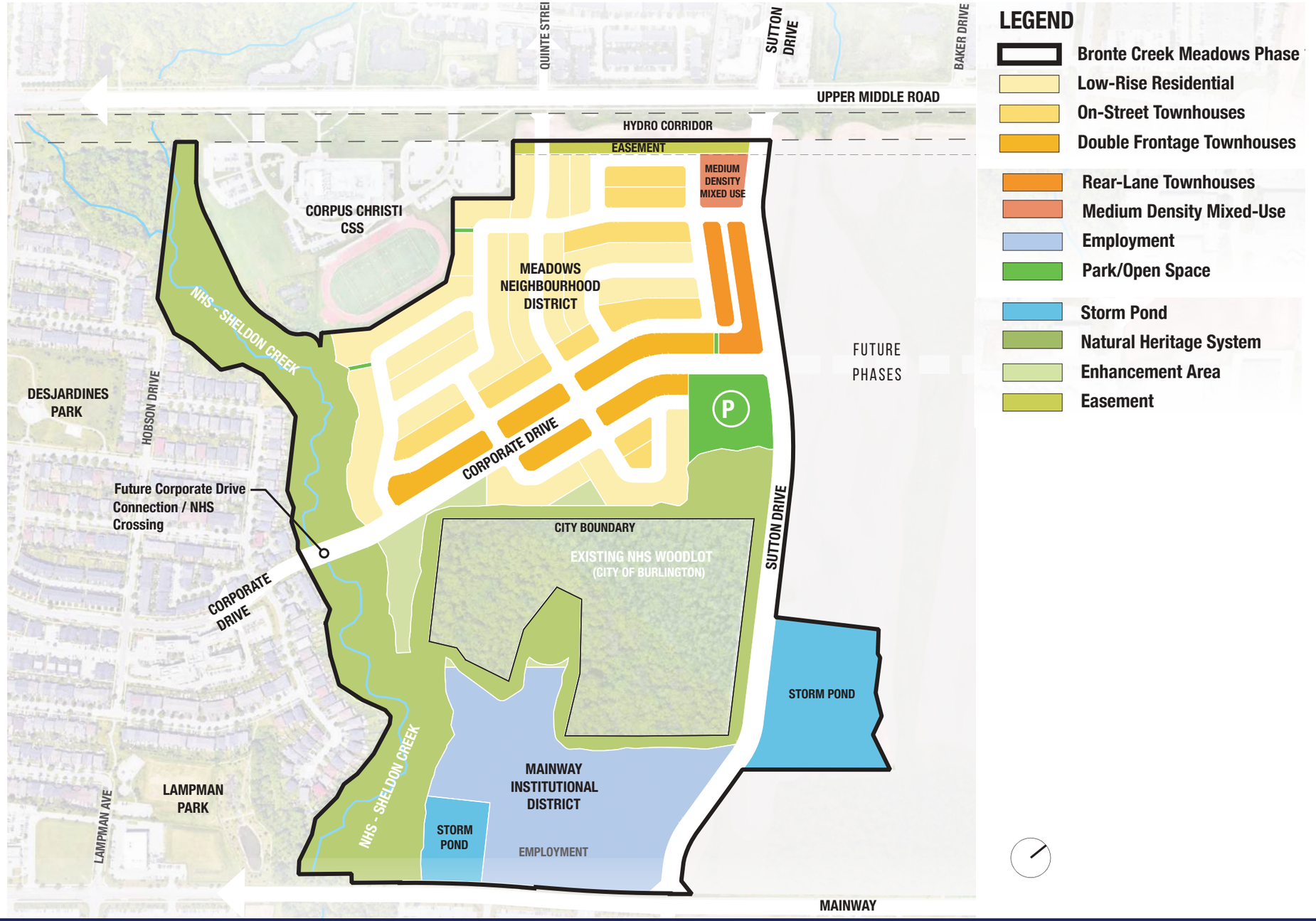
Land Use Plan

Meadows Neighbourhood District

- A new neighbourhood with a wide range of housing types and public spaces, parks and retail uses

Mainway Institutional District

- An innovative healthcare and education campus that focuses on the creation of jobs



ARTISTS RENDERING ONLY. SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

Meadows Neighbourhood Block

OBJECTIVES

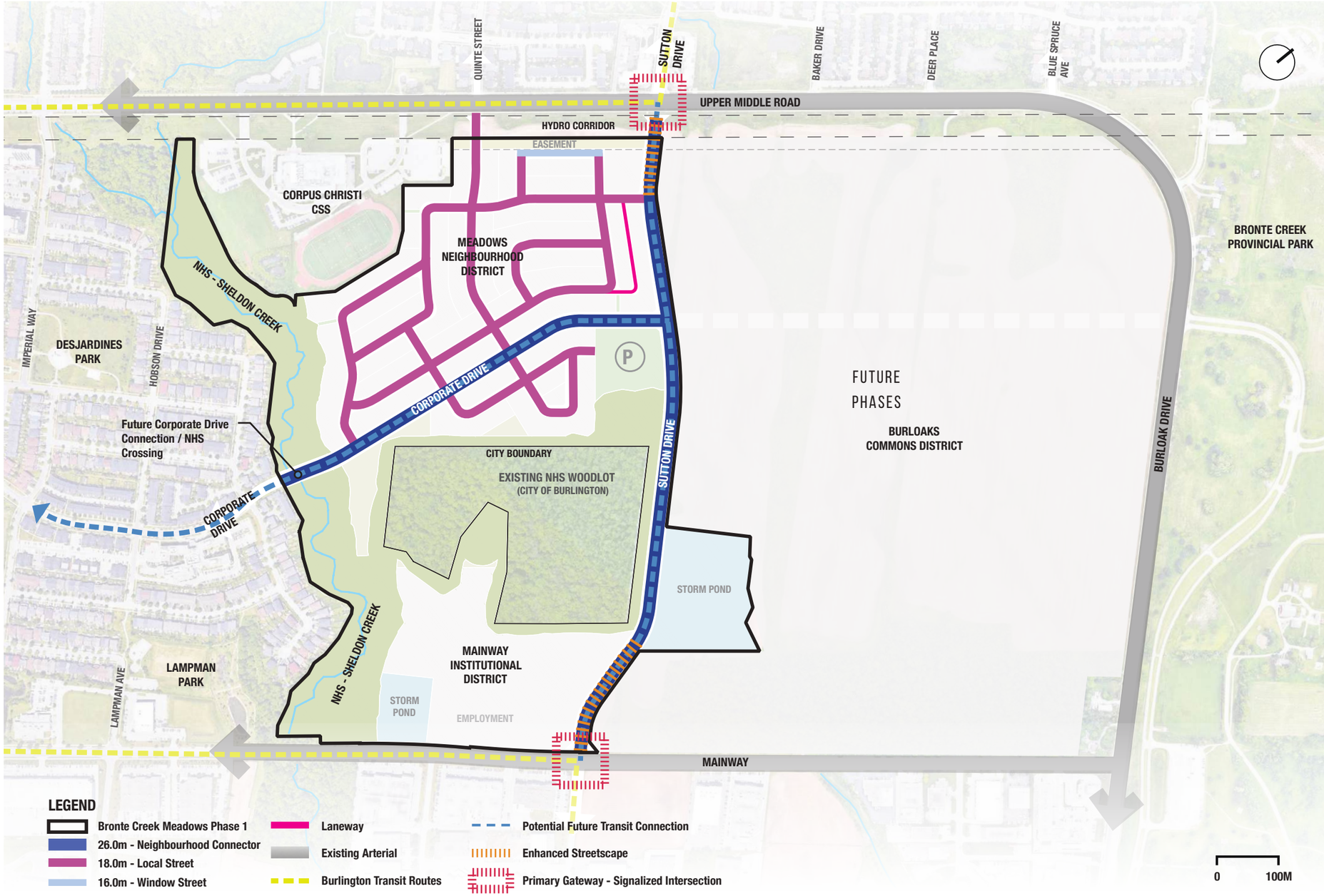
- **New Housing**
  - 437 single detached, and townhouse dwellings
  - Potentially 160 multi-unit dwellings
- **New public, amenities and retail offerings**
- **Integration of public park and extensive natural heritage system and trail network**

Mainway Institutional Block Conceptual Layout

OBJECTIVES

- Introduction of innovative healthcare and educational offerings
- Introduction of new jobs to the area
- Opportunity for integration of attainable housing units

Street Network



Parks and Open Spaces

Phase 1
Public Benefits

- Increased Housing Supply
- Protecting and Expanding the Natural Heritage System
- Supports Multi-Modal Transportation Options
- Urbanizing Vacant Site within the Urban Boundary

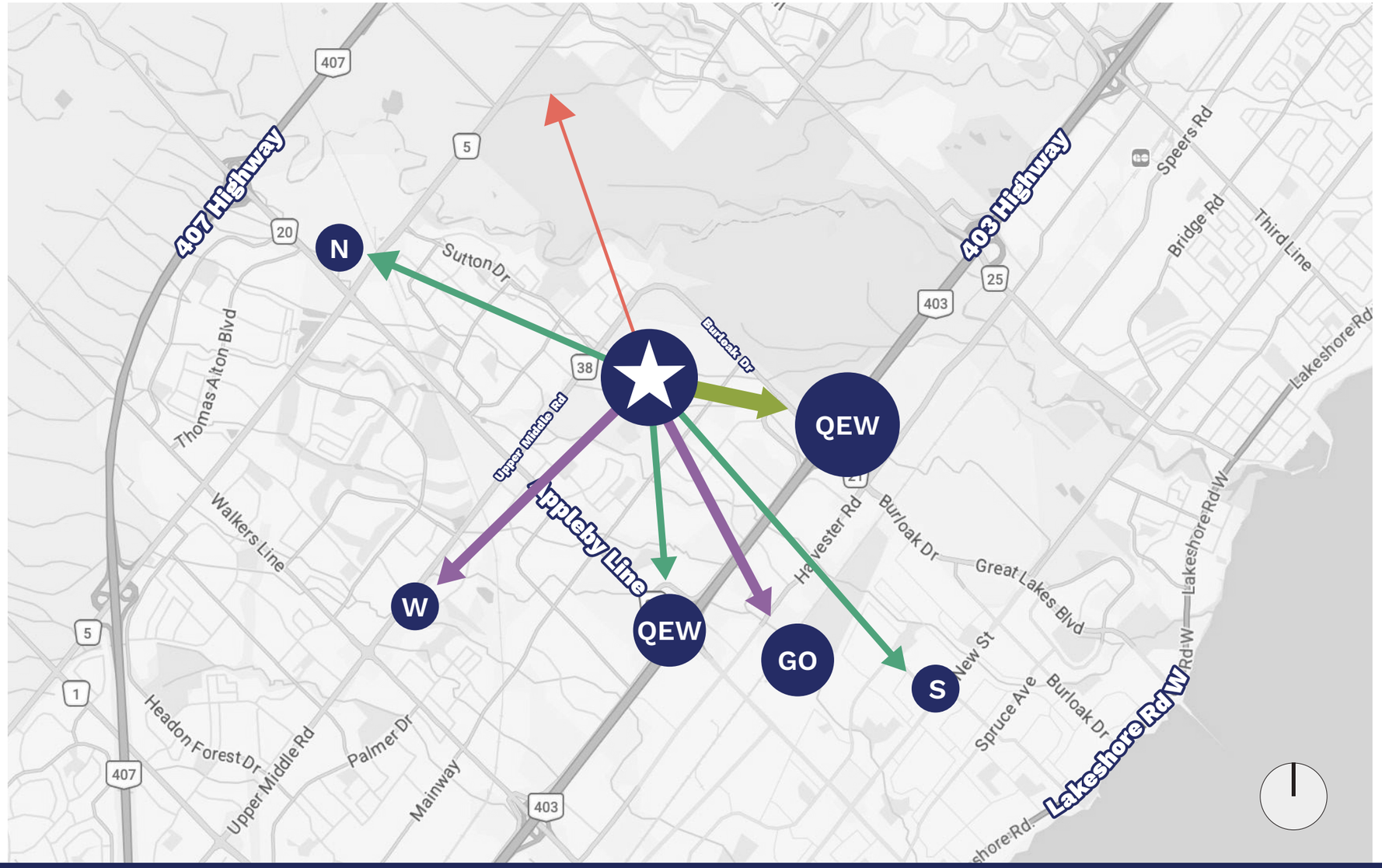
Example Streetscape

Sheldon Creek Natural Heritage System

Transportation

Legend

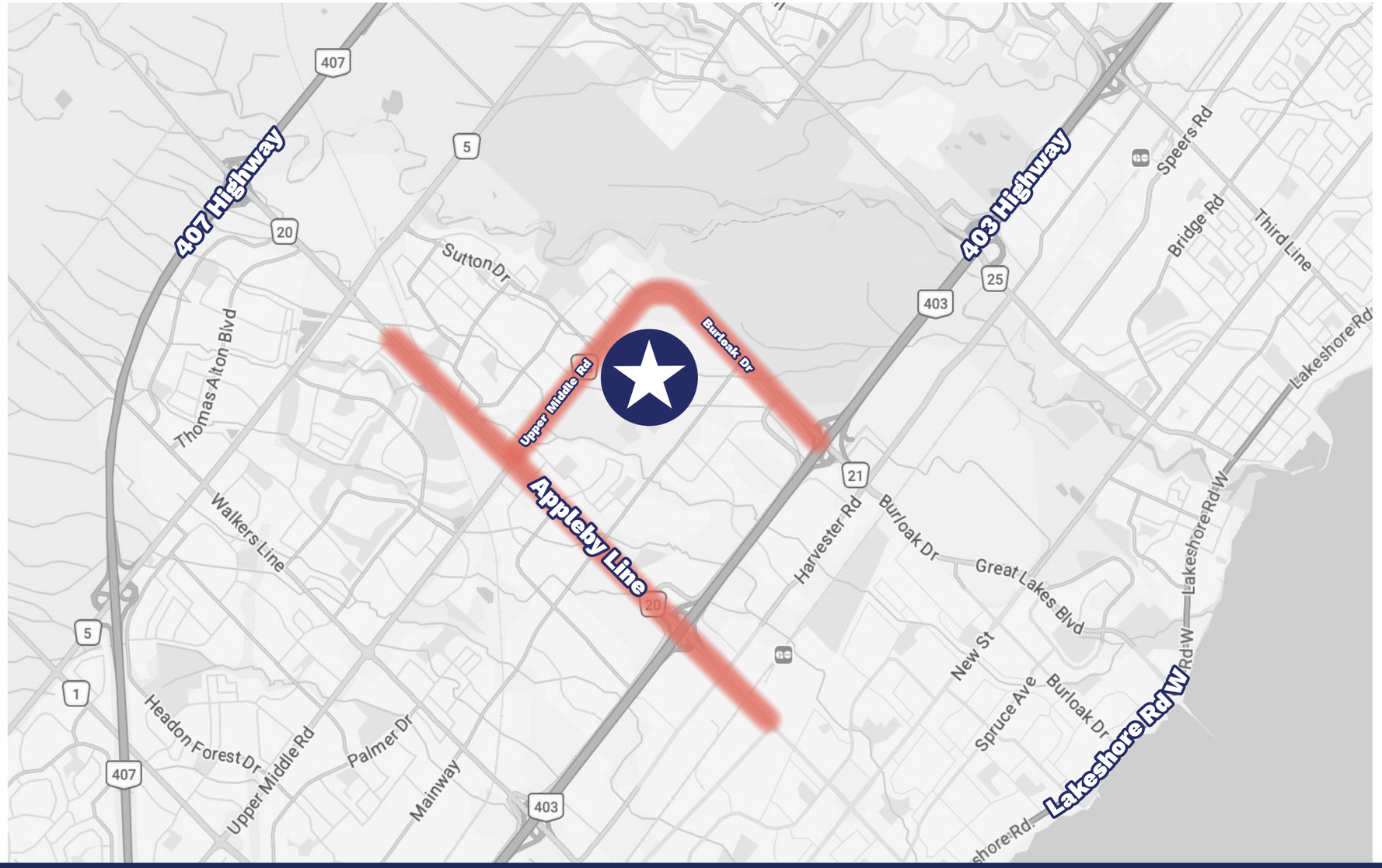
- 5%
- Appleby, South, QEW Appleby - 10%
- GO Station/MTSA and West Upper Middle / Mainway - 15%
- QEW Burloak - 35%



Transportation

Legend

Road Improvements planned by 2031 Widened from 4 to 6 lanes
Potential HOV or BRT Lanes



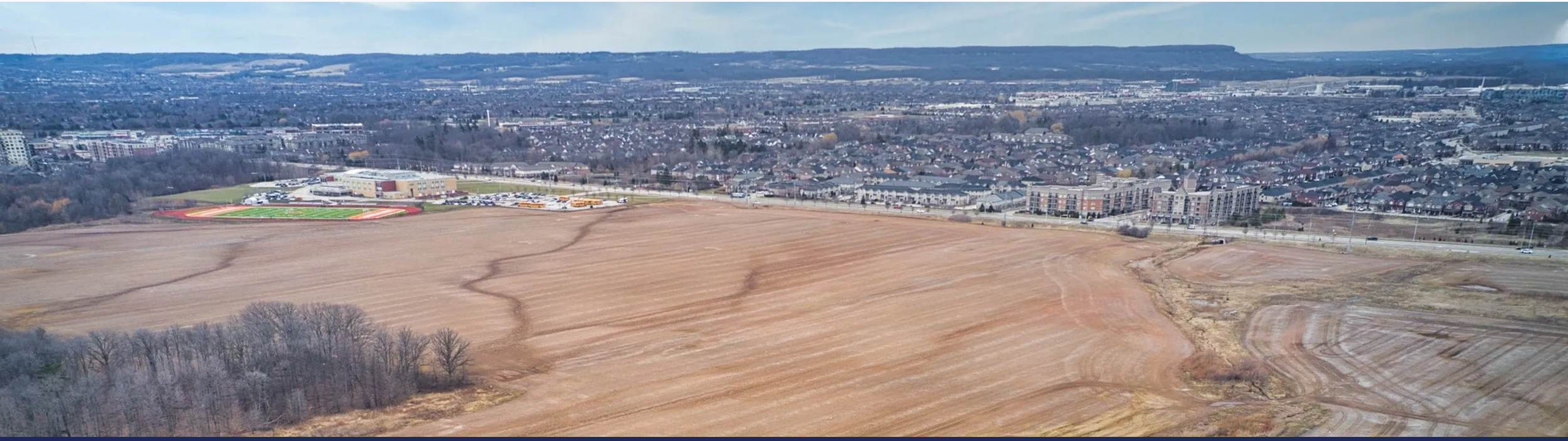
Response to comments

Relocation of school to later phase

Relocation of park adjacent to NHS

Road network revisions

Thank you!



June 8th 2026 Committee of the Whole

Re: Item 13.1 Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments and Draft Plan of Subdivision for Bronte Meadows

To Committee of the Whole,

I am writing to express my support for the "Bronte Creek Meadows – Phase 1" development proposal, with one recommendation. The tertiary plan promotes an "active" neighbourhood where residents can safely walk, cycle, or use public transit, provided that routes 11, 12, or new services are available upon first occupancy.

Land Use

The proximity of employment and commercial zones allows residents to work and shop near their homes, reducing emissions and travel times. These benefits extend to the surrounding Orchard, Uptown, and Sheldon Creek neighbourhoods.

Active Transportation Connections

The plan provides a fine-grained transportation grid with cycling and walking "shortcuts," such as those in Blocks 218 and 219 (Appendix E). The infrastructure incorporates improvements over previous developments: bike lanes are situated within the boulevard; parking does not require crossing active paths; and restricted driveway access on Sutton and Corporate Drive ensures a safer, more pleasant pedestrian realm.

Requested Amendment to Appendix G

I recommend that Appendix G include a requirement for paved paths connecting Street ‘P’ (the window street at Upper Middle) to one or more of the following:

- the Medium Density Mixed Use Block
- Street ‘I’
- Street ‘B’ (the Sutton Dr extension)

- Upper Middle Road

This enhancement may be facilitated within easement blocks 222 and 221, and I trust staff to determine the technical implementation details.

Congestion Concerns

Concerns regarding congestion on Upper Middle Road are mitigated by these active transportation links, the southern access via Mainway, and the planned future connection to Bronte Road.

Conclusion

The proposed development is a valuable addition to Burlington's Uptown area and will enhance the well-being of both current and future residents.

Sincerely,
Nick Morrison