

2008
Recreation

RECREATION SERVICES UPDATE

2008



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Recreation Services

- Today's purpose is to provide Council a snapshot of current activities and events in Recreation Services
- June the department celebrated Parks and Recreation Month through the offering of the Annual Try it Month
- Try It Month offered 76 free activities for residents to try a new recreation activity
- 828 residents participated in the various activities which ranged from fitness classes, dance , martial art , recreation swims to preschool programs and many more



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Aquatics

- 2008 – 29,410 participants in registered swim lessons
- In April a Markham Lifeguard team participated in the Canadian Lifeguard Championships in Ottawa and placed 13th overall
- Town hosted the Provincial Lifeguard Championships August 1 to 4;
- 30 teams from across the Province participated; one of the three teams from Markham placed 10th overall
- 1558 participated in the Swim to Survive Program in partnership with York Region and the School Boards at Markham Pools



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Programs

Community Engagement

- In April - Three new Family drop in programs were offered in partnership with Healthy York Region at Ellen Fairclough, Wilcay Public School and Highgate Public School
- Martha Neely /James Cairns were recognized at the Healthy Schools Conference for their contribution as a key partner in the success of the Healthy Schools program in East Markham
- Healthy School partnership with local Schools and Public Health has grown from 6 schools in 2007 to 13 schools in 2008
- In partnership with the Board of Education Staff are contributing to the development of the Healthy School Policy for York Region Public schools
- 2008 Spring and Summer Program
10,993 registrations



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Summer Camps



- Offered 26 day camp programs and employed 287 students to lead the camps
- 2008 Summer Camp registrations
10,568 participants

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Special Needs

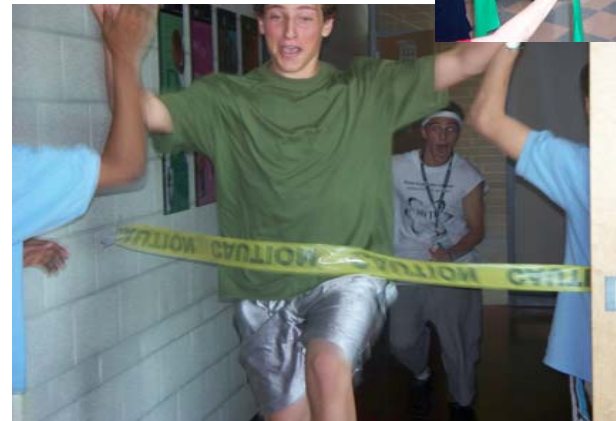
- Parent Advisory Committee for Special Needs focused on Recreation formed in the Spring of 2008
- Special Needs Games Night for Youth at Angus Glen now in it's third year continues to attract 15 – 20 participants plus parents
- Introduced targeted programs as of the Fall 2008 for the Special Need Participants such as the Wheel chair skate program



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Fitness

- Current Fitness Memberships
 - As of October 3,593
- 2008 Group Fitness programs
 - 2008 – 10,509 registrations
- Youth Fitness memberships for Spring and Summer increased by 28%:
 - 2007 – 515 youth memberships
 - 2008 – 660 youth memberships with a substantial increase at the Centennial Fitness centre



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Community Centres



- The four major Community Centres – Angus Glen , Centennial, Milliken and Thornhill participated in the Conservation Challenge for the period of July 29 to August 26 they saved a total of 77,000 kWh which equates to enough power for 80 Markham homes
- 62 capital projects – 40 have been completed to date
- January to August we had a total of 3,523,999 customers through the following the Community Centres – Angus Glen, Armadale, Centennial, Clatworthy, Crosby, Markham Village Milliken , Mount Joy and Thornhill
- Commercial was filmed at Angus Glen for Kelloggs featuring NHL stars Joe Thornton and Martin St. Louis
- Ice Allocation accommodated 4,000 participants through the Minor Sport Organizations
- 2008 – 2009 Ice season Per week there is 68% fill rate of Non- Prime hours 520 available – 356 utilized and 97% fill rate of Prime time hours – 670 available and 647 utilized.
- Public Skate attendance is on the increase as of the Fall 2008

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Older Adults



The following are highlights of the many events and activities the Older Adults are planning and participating in:

- Older Adult Clubs hosted many special events at the various locations throughout the year ranging from theme luncheons to celebrate St. Patrick's day to Oktoberfest Pub nights ,Remembrance Day concert, weekly barbeques ,social dances and so forth
- Interclub activities continue to attract members participating in activities outside of their home clubs ranging from badminton Tournament ; Inter club barbeque held at Heritage Center to Bridge and Euchre tournaments
- April 13 to 15 - 3 day Art Show at Thornhill and in cooperation with Varley Art Gallery hosted a 3 day Art show at the Katherine McKay house in November.
- On Monday October 20th hosted the 10 Annual Senior's Extravaganza which is planned and organized by Seniors for Seniors

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Youth

Many youth events were held with much success throughout the year;

April 9 – 200 High School students attended the Ecological Action Conference featuring Justin Trudeau as the keynote speaker

New for 2008 Youth week were preview events:

April 18th – Battle of the Bands at Milliken Mills C.C. – 15 bands from across Markham participated with 600 in attendance; proceeds raised were donated to Pathways of York Region

April 19th – Stomp the Yard – Dance Competition – 16 acts and attended by 400 participants.



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Youth cont'd

- **Youth Week May 4 to 11th featured:**
 - Kick off at Markville Mall attended by 400 participants
 - May 6 – Friendly Feud hosted by Markham Village Youth Council
 - May 7 – Science and Innovation youth conference – attended by 148 elementary students
 - May 9 – Youth Chill Night hosted by Thornhill Youth Council
 - May 10th – Amazing Markham Race with 60 participants which raised approximately \$5000 and was donated to Pathways of York Region to assist youth in need in Markham; 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament at Armadale; Road Hockey Tournament at Milliken; Youth Carnival at Angus Glen
 - May 14 – First Annual Golf Tournament which had 55 participants representing 6 High Schools in Markham
 - May 30 – Markham Idol 3 hosted by the Unionville Youth Council with 22 contestants and 160 in attendance
 - June 29th Fashion4cause hosted by Thornhill Youth Council
 - Fall 2008 there over 100 youth participating on the Area Youth Councils



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Sports fields

- Recreation Service assumed the sport field administration in the Fall of 2007 in preparation for the 2008 season.
- In 2008 406 permits were issued for Milne Park and Sport fields (Soccer, Ball Diamonds and Cricket Pitches) which accounted for 62, 606 hours of use

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THANK YOU



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