

2.4 RACQUET RECREATION (Refer to Map 1C, Page 38)

Racquet Recreation combines: Tennis and Racquetball. Existing use and facilities currently meet the demand. Existing facilities are of a good quality and provide sufficient opportunities for the user groups. There is an opportunity within Tennis to provide more opportunities for recreational (ie. non-club based) use. These additional courts should be considered within the Recreational Hub model.

1. TENNIS (T)

User Groups

- Wheat City Tennis Club
- Recreation Use

Future Growth

- There is no significant increase anticipated in this sport however due to the low cost of entry associated with it, there will continue to be a demand for community facilities.

Facility Requirements

- 6 – Competitive Play Courts
 - Lighting
- Recreation Courts

Present Facility Locations / Amenities

- 4 – Competitive Play Courts – Queen Elizabeth Park
- 4 – Competitive Play Courts – Wheat City Recreation Centre
 - Lighting
 - Change room Access
- 2 – Recreation Play Courts – Stanley Park

Challenges

- Additional courts are needed in some areas to accommodate the recreation hubs

RECOMMENDATION

- **Develop additional recreation courts to support the recreation hub strategy:**
 - 2 Courts - Rideau Park

2. RACQUETBALL (RB)

User Groups

- Wheat City Racquetball Club

Future Growth

- There is no significant increase anticipated in this sport

Facility Requirements

- 6 – Competitive Play Courts
 - Lighting
- Recreation Courts

Present Facility Locations / Amenities

- 1 – Racquetball Court – YMCA
- 3 – Racquetball Courts – Sportsplex
- 2 – Squash Courts at Park Avenue Squash & Fitness Club

Government Funding

- Government subsidized facility at the Sportsplex
- Some funding provided to the YMCA as part of an annual grant

Challenges

- The racquetball courts are under utilized and need to be considered for alternate opportunities that will utilize the space while allowing them to be converted back to courts for tournament play.

RECOMMENDATION

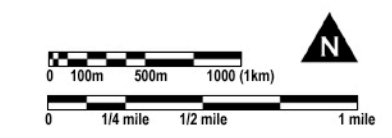
- **Convert two of the courts at the Sportsplex to multi-use courts (i.e. to also be used for indoor volleyball, dry land training, yoga, etc.)**



**THE CITY OF BRANDON
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- CITY OF BRANDON LIMITS
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 - 1 CANADA GAMES SPORTSPLEX
 - 2 WHEAT CITY RECREATION CENTRE
 - 3 BRANDON UNIVERSITY (GYM) and KINSMEN STADIUM
 - 4 YMCA
 - 5 ASSINIBOINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE (GYM)
 - 6 KEYSTONE CENTRE
- SCHOOL / COMMUNITY CENTRE GROUNDS
- SCHOOLS
- COMMUNITY CENTRES
- DEVELOPED GREEN / PARK SPACE
- NATURAL GREENSPACE
- EXISTING MULTI-USE TRAILS - PAVED / CONCRETE
- EXISTING MULTI-USE TRAILS - UNPAVED
- EXISTING SKI TRAILS - RECREATIONAL



MAP #1C

EXISTING RACQUET RECREATION FACILITIES

DEVELOPED BY:
**THE CITY OF BRANDON
OPERATIONAL SERVICES**

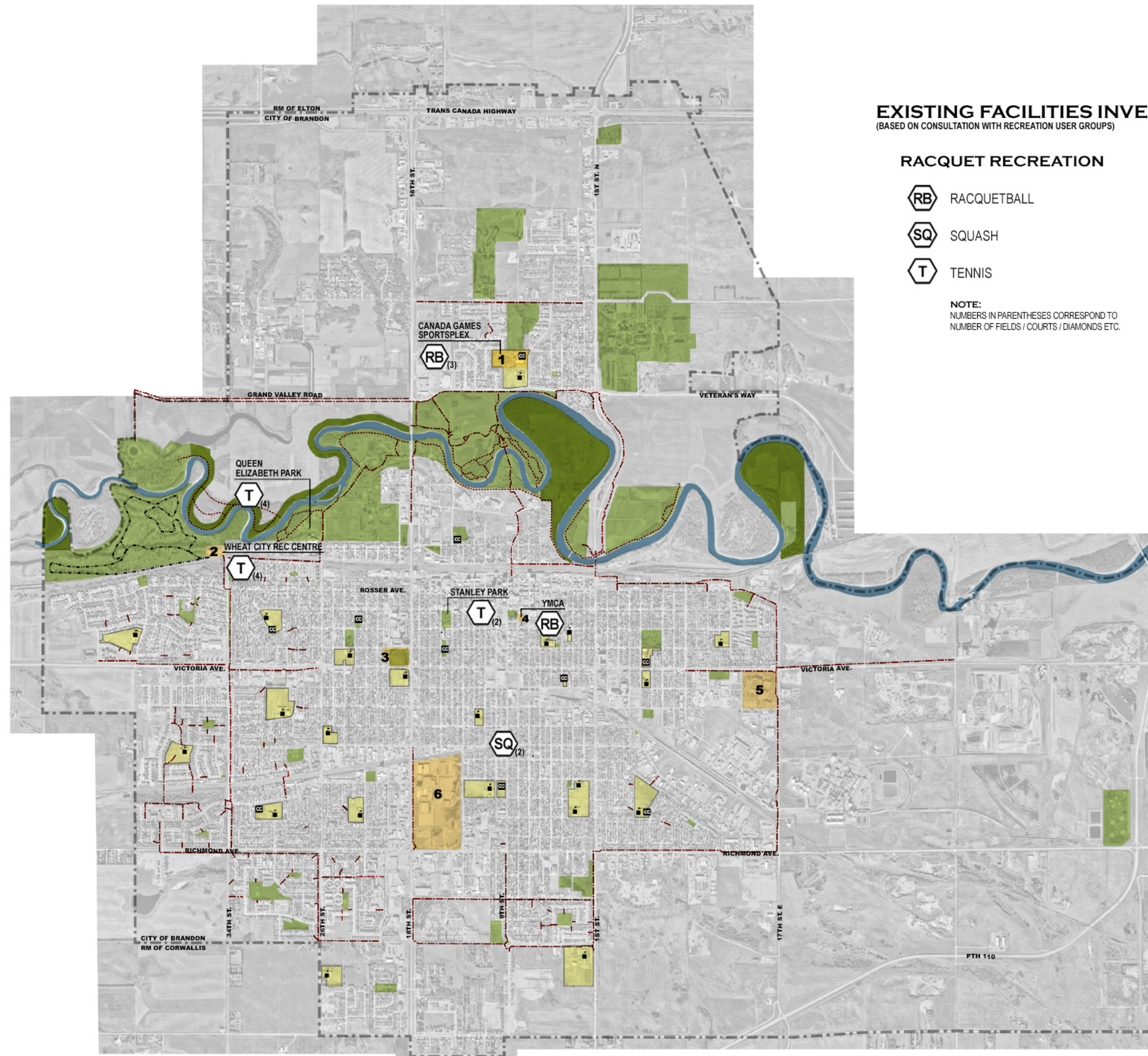
WITH ASSISTANCE FROM
SCATLIFF + MILLER + MURRAY
J. HARPER & ASSOCIATES

EXISTING FACILITIES INVENTORY
(BASED ON CONSULTATION WITH RECREATION USER GROUPS)

RACQUET RECREATION

- RACQUETBALL
- SQUASH
- TENNIS

NOTE:
NUMBERS IN PARENTHESES CORRESPOND TO
NUMBER OF FIELDS / COURTS / DIAMONDS ETC.



Air Photo and Base Map Information Courtesy of The City of Brandon. Information Regarding Existing Recreation Facilities Courtesy of The City of Brandon and Greenspace Master Plan (2002)

2.5 WATER RECREATION (Refer to Map 1D, Page 45)

Water Recreation combines both indoor and outdoor opportunities: Boat Launch/Docks, Spray Parks, Outdoor Pools, and the Indoor Pool. Most facilities are showing signs of their age and are in need of annual capital investments to maintain service.

In Brandon, the Assiniboine River is perceived to be a great asset as a public amenity and the City owns most of the land adjacent to the river as public reserve land. Over the years, the focus on outdoor recreation development has shifted to this area and, either naturally or as a result of this, activity both on and adjacent to the river has seen a significant increase. Riverboat tours, private watercraft and many more activities have created a need for the City to provide adequate boat launch and docking facilities that will hopefully spin off into economic development around them. This passive/unstructured use of the river shall be embraced and built upon in the future.

Water recreation in both leisure and structured swimming has evolved over time. Facilities in Brandon, like many other municipalities in Canada, were constructed many years ago and are in need of significant, capital improvements to reflect the changing nature of aquatic recreation. The City currently has an abundance of outdoor aquatic facilities that are declining in use and require significant resources in order to maintain them.

Indoor swimming facilities currently meet the demand for programmed and public-access swimming; the facilities themselves do not significantly facilitate leisure opportunities. The facilities are older and do require significant investment of resources to adapt to the growing need for zero-depth entry and leisure opportunities.

1. BOAT LAUNCH / DOCKS (BLD)

User Groups

- Rowing Club
- Water Ski Club
- Recreation Use

Future Growth

- The use of the river for recreation use will continue to be popular

Facility Requirements

- 2 – Launch Sites
- Multiple Docks

Present Facility Locations / Amenities

- 3 – Launch Sites
 - Dinsdale Park
 - Kirkcaldy Drive
 - Queen Elizabeth Park – new in 2006
- 3 – Docks
 - Riverbank Discovery Centre – Kayak and River Boat (Commercial)
 - Dinsdale Park – Waterskiing and Rowing
 - Queen Elizabeth Park – new in 2006

Government Funding

- City provides gift in kind support for the removal & installation of docks on a yearly basis
- Riverbank Inc. is supported through a contract/grant from the City (contract expires 2008) and matching capital contribution from the City (expires 2007)

Challenges

- There is a need to develop new docks in order to accommodate fishing enthusiasts

RECOMMENDATION

- **To formally close the boat launch at Kirkcaldy Drive due to the poor condition of the site**
- **Explore opportunities to have a minimum of two additional docks established along the corridor (potentially further east) so that recreation use such as fishing can take place**

2. SPRAY PARKS (SP)

User Groups

- Recreation Use
- Daycare Operators

Future Growth

- Access to no admission water play continues to be in strong demand in the summer months.

Facility Requirements

- Spray Park

Present Facility Locations / Amenities

- 1 – Spray Park – Stanley Park
- 10 – Paddle Pools
 - Argyle Courts
 - East End
 - Green Acres
 - Kinsmen Kiddies Corner
 - Kirkcaldy Heights
 - Patmore Park
 - Riverheights
 - South End
 - Valleyview
 - Westridge

Existing Partnerships

- Currently there is a partnership with the YMCA to operate and program all the existing paddling pools and spray parks. The City of Brandon is responsible for the startup, shutdown and maintenance activities

Government Funding

- City provides yearly maintenance of the paddle pools (start-up, seasonal, and winterizing)
- City provides programming funding to the YMCA to operate the paddle pools

Challenges

- The existing paddle pools are in deplorable condition, many with significant safety concerns
- There are astronomical costs associated to maintaining and programming the pools, and in some cases the facilities are grossly under-utilized
- The existing spray park is heavily utilized and there is pressure by the community to have additional facilities of this nature implemented in other areas of the community

RECOMMENDATION

- **Develop additional spray parks as multi-use & multi-generational greenspace to support the recreation hub strategy:**
 - 1 Spray Park - Rideau Park
 - 1 Spray Park – 3rd & Aberdeen
 - 1 Spray Park – Valleyview
 - 1 Spray Park – Sir Winston Churchill Park
 - 1 Spray Park - Westridge
- **Closing under-utilized paddle pools and channel those operating funds into the removal of those infrastructures**
- **As the additional spray parks are developed, close the paddling pools and remove the infrastructure in the hub catchment's area**
- **Before a spray park is developed at Sir Winston Churchill Park, consideration should be given to whether or not, in the long term plan, the major outdoor water park will be located at the Riverbank Discovery Centre, thereby fulfilling both needs**

3. OUTDOOR POOLS (OP)

User Groups

- Recreation Use

Future Growth

- There is a high demand for access to these facilities in the summer and as the City continues to grow there will continue to be a high demand for this type of facility

Facility Requirements

- 1 Large Community Pool / Water Park or 2 Smaller Community Pools / Water Parks
- A new facility would combine the latest in innovative water recreation and would include water spray amenities, swimming pool, paddle pools, change rooms, washrooms, large play structure, and lighting. This facility would not only serve the residents in our community but also the surrounding rural community. The water park would include a fee for service but the fees could be set up to be affordable for everyone in the community

Present Facility Locations / Amenities

- Keystone Pool – Keystone Centre Grounds (Keystone Centre owned facility but operated through City of Brandon operating funds)
- Kinsmen Pool – Rideau Park (City owned)
- Curran Park - privately owned

Existing Partnerships

- The YMCA currently operates the existing outdoor pools for the City of Brandon

Government Funding

- The City of Brandon funds the operation of these two pools
- The City of Brandon provides grass-cutting, start-up, seasonal and winterizing of pools

Challenges

- New government regulations which control the lifeguard/swimmer ratio for the pool area, however, at the outdoor pools the people are often sunbathing and are not actually in the pool
- High maintenance costs associated with operating aging pool facilities
- Substantial capital costs are required to upgrade the facilities
- Vandalism increases at park sites that have poor site lines
- The community needs for this type of recreation are changing. Trends in other communities indicate that citizens want large modern facilities. There are some residents that are going outside of the community in order to visit outdoor water attractions in other communities (i.e. Splash Island in Portage la Prairie)
- Demographics change in neighbourhoods contributing to changes in the use of these facilities

RECOMMENDATION

- **Begin the process of investing funds to build a multi-use outdoor water park within the next 10 years**
- **Before a spray park is developed at Sir Winston Churchill Park, consideration should be given to whether or not, in the long term plan, the major outdoor water park will be located at the Riverbank Discovery Centre, thereby fulfilling both needs**

4. INDOOR POOL (IP)

User Groups

- Swim Lessons / Water Programming (YMCA)
- Swim Lessons / Water Programming (Sportsplex)
- Brandon Bluefins Swim Club
- Recreation Use

Future Growth

- There is a strong demand for swim lessons in our community. Growth in this area is expected from growth in the community. There is, in addition, an increasing demand for recreational water where participants can enjoy the water without specific programming (i.e. lap swimming, free swim, etc.)

Facility Requirements

- 1 Large Community Pool (8 lanes – 25 meters)
- 1 Indoor Community Recreation Pool
- Family Change rooms
- Zero Entry Water

Present Facility Locations / Amenities

- Sportsplex – 6 Lane – 50 meter pool
 - General Change rooms
 - Lifting Capability
- YMCA – 4 Lane – 25 meter pool
 - General Change rooms
 - Lifting Capability

Government Funding

- The City of Brandon operates the Sportsplex and provides a tax off-setting grant to the YMCA

Challenges

- The YMCA requires a new facility in order to meet the needs of their membership
- The Sportsplex Pool will require some significant capital improvements over the next few years to replace the waterslide, the pool liner and the filtering system
- There is duplication in costs associated with operating two pools in the community and these costs are continuing to escalate for both facilities due to the aging infrastructure and older technologies employed at both facilities
- The existing pools do not meet the overall recreation needs of the community however they more than exceed the requirements for swim lesson capacity / speed swimming needs
- The Brandon Blue Fins use the 50 meter pool once a year for a swim meet. Other than this, there is no requirement for a 50 meter pool in the community
- The Sportsplex meets the needs of the community beyond just the pool and as a result the entire facility offerings need to be considered in making a decision regarding the pool

RECOMMENDATION

- **To explore the opportunity of partnering with Brandon University and the YMCA in building and operating a joint pool facility**
- **Convert the existing pool space into an indoor field house to support the recommendation in that area**
- **Ensure that, at a minimum, the current square footage of aquatic space and user capacity available in the City of Brandon be maintained now and in the future and available at comparable user rates and fees to those in other communities with similar economic situations**
- **Ensure that the goals and principles related to public use and access be maintained in a joint development of aquatic and recreation space with Brandon University and the YMCA and that any agreement include, but not be limited to, the following issues and conditions:**
 - Ownership of the land and building
 - Portion of capital costs contributed by each partner
 - Responsibility for long-term capital upgrading, repairs and improvements
 - Annual operating costs and revenues
 - Governance, management and operation of the building

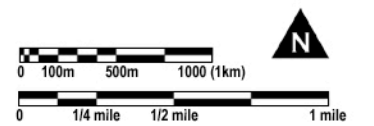
- Space and facility requirements including exclusive, joint and shared space for each party to the agreement
- Public access to space and programs and proposed user rates and fees
- **Maintain Aquatic facilities at the Sportsplex until such time as replacement aquatic space is available**
- **Negotiations and decisions with Assiniboine Community College will follow rather than precede completion of negotiations and decisions regarding the joint YMCA and Brandon University project**
- **Explore the feasibility of an outdoor leisure aquatic facility in the future in another strategic location in order to slowly phase the existing outdoor pools out of service**
- **Phase out of existing paddle pools - schedule based on overall usage numbers and is to coincide with the opening of the proposed spray parks incorporated into the strategically located Recreation Hubs**



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MAP #1D

**EXISTING WATER
RECREATION
FACILITIES**

DEVELOPED BY:
**THE CITY OF BRANDON
OPERATIONAL SERVICES**

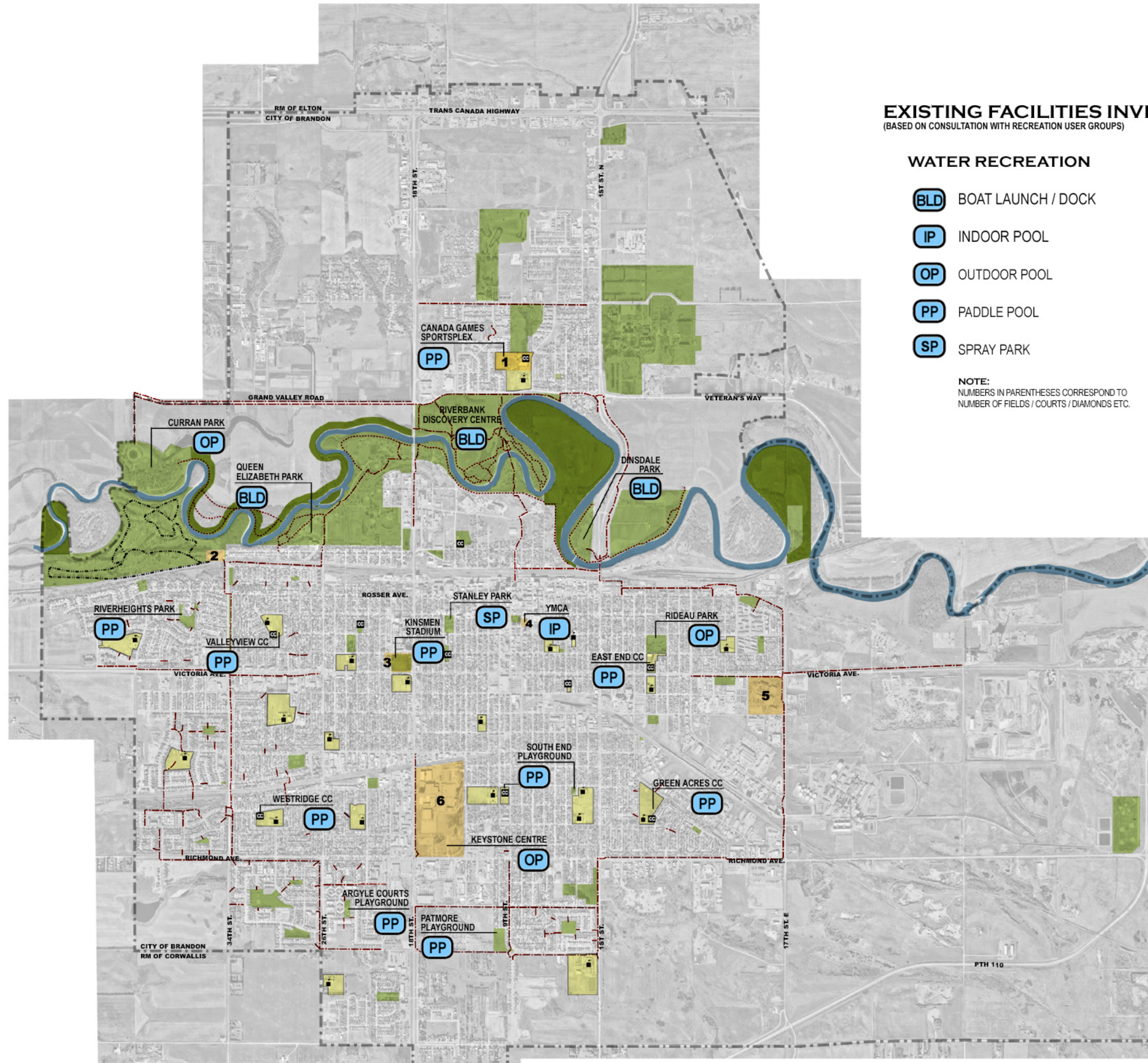
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EXISTING FACILITIES INVENTORY
(BASED ON CONSULTATION WITH RECREATION USER GROUPS)

WATER RECREATION

- BLD** BOAT LAUNCH / DOCK
- IP** INDOOR POOL
- OP** OUTDOOR POOL
- PP** PADDLE POOL
- SP** SPRAY PARK

NOTE:
NUMBERS IN PARENTHESES CORRESPOND TO
NUMBER OF FIELDS / COURTS / DIAMONDS ETC.



2.6 ICE RECREATION (Refer to Map 1E, Page 51)

Ice Recreation combines both indoor and outdoor opportunities: Curling, Leisure Skating and Ice Hockey. In general, the number of facilities presently meets or in fact, exceeds the demand from a programmed point of view.

Using a centralized booking system will enable the City to monitor use and be able to make decisions about where to place resources more effectively. A similar situation exists for Curling although the amount of use based on capacity is unknown at this time, but should be investigated through monitoring use in the future. If, however, the City wants to ensure this capacity is maintained for event-specific demand fluctuations, this can be accommodated while still allocating resources to be used more efficiently.

1. CURLING (C)

User Groups

- Wheat City Curling Association
- Riverview Curling Association
- Brandon Curling
- Curlettes
- High School Curling League
- Super League
- Recreation Use

Future Growth

- There has been some decline in participation in some of the leagues however participation in the sport remains relatively stable

Facility Requirements

- There are two bonspiels held annually that require the full compliment of ice located in the facility based on current scheduling

Present Facility Locations / Amenities

- 8 Sheets – Brandon Curling Club
- 4 Sheets – Riverview Curling Club
- 6 Sheets – Wheat City Recreation Centre

Existing Partnerships

- Leasing arrangement between the Brandon Curling Club and the Keystone Centre.
- Leasing arrangement between the Wheat City Curling Association and the City of Brandon for the operation of the Wheat City Curling Club in 2006 / 2007

Government Funding

- Funding provided to the Keystone Centre
- The City owns the Wheat City Curling Rink and in turn subsidizes the losses occurred at the facility and the general maintenance and operating costs

Challenges

- The overcapacity of ice in the community has resulted in some of the clubs being less viable than the others
- Duplication of services between the groups resulting in higher costs in the sport

RECOMMENDATION

- Facilitate a discussion about the scheduling of the two major bonspiels and determine that actual number of sheets that are required

2. LEISURE SKATING (LS)

User Groups

- Recreation Use

Future Growth

- There has been a significant increase in the number of people skating in the community with the addition of the skating oval / path skating down in the Riverbank Corridor.

Facility Requirements

- One major outdoor skating facility to service the entire community
- Up to five community sites that have outdoor recreational ice

Present Facility Locations / Amenities

- 1 – Skating Oval / Path Skating
- 9 – 12 Hockey / Recreation Ice sites at the community centres with varying degrees of amenities

Existing Partnerships

- Limited partnerships between the City, Westbran Employment Solutions and community centres

Government Funding

- City maintained Skating Oval / Path Skating
- Community Centre operated ice with some funding from the City
- Central Council of Community Centres applies for Provincial funds each year through the Community Places Program
- City provides funding for the Festive Lights Legacy Project in the Riverbank Corridor – expires in 2010

Challenges

- The introduction of the Skating Oval / Path Skating has increased the number of people skating, but it has also drawn people away from the community centres
- Community centres continue to struggle to find volunteers to install and manage the ice
- Availability of parking at the outdoor skating oval site to accommodate the incredible amount of traffic

RECOMMENDATION

- Facilitate a discussion between all the community centres to identify locations to combine and direct resources towards informal pickup hockey games and leisure skating and how that could be best promoted to the community

3. INDOOR HOCKEY ICE (IHI)

User Groups

- Youth Groups - Sportsplex
 - Brandon Youth Hockey
 - Brandon Blades
 - Brandon AAA Midgets
 - 3 on 3
 - Westman Speed skaters
 - Dale McKay PWA Hurricanes
 - Ice Dogs
 - High School Hockey
 - Tournament of Champions
 - AAA Challenge
 - Teetaert's 3 on 3
 - Wildcats
 - Skate Brandon
 - Impact Hockey
 - Trevor Robins Goaltending
 - Vandenberghe Defensive Clinic
 - Dave Lewis Hockey Factory
 - Director's Cup
 - Pee Wee Wolves/Darryl Lamb
 - Krzyzaniak Dawgs
 - Patty Hole Figure skaters
- Adult Groups - Sportsplex
 - Renter Centre
 - Shell Used Oilers
 - Westman Winter League
 - Westman Summer League
 - Brandon Pioneers
 - Sunglass Centre
 - Brandon Teachers
 - Walt's Old Dogs
 - Investors Hockey
 - Thunder Hockey
 - Whettters Group
 - Firefighters Hockey
 - Remax Hockey
 - BRHA and Friends
 - Lisitza Hockey/Orlando's
 - Williamson Hockey
 - Polecats
 - North 40 Old Timers
- Ice Clients – Keystone Centre
 - Tournament of Champions
 - Source for Sports AAA Challenge
 - Skate Brandon
 - Wheat Kings
 - Crocus Plains Hockey
 - Vincent Massey Hockey

- Rising Stars Hockey School
- Westman Summer Hockey
- Westman Winter Hockey
- Brandon Genesis Hockey Tournament
- Brandon Ringette
- First Nations
- North 40 Annual Tournament
- North 40 (recreation team)
- Boyd Bruins Hockey
- Cam Plante
- Flames Hockey
- Kommandos Hockey
- Los Diablos Hockey
- O.V's Hockey
- Re/Max Scavengers
- Wart Hogs Hockey
- Hockey Manitoba
- Mike Sirtonski
- Peter Gerlinger
- Dave Lewis
- Brad Wells
- Laura Lawrence
- Brandon Lady Huskies
- Brandon Youth Hockey Assoc.
- Girls Elite Training
- Neepawa Natives MJHL Hockey
- Dale Coulter
- Assiniboine Community College Hockey

Future Growth

- Hockey enrollment has been relatively stable for the past five years – so some decline followed by some resurgence.

Facility Requirements

- The existing facilities are overall meeting the demand in the community for prime time ice requirements.

Present Facility Locations / Amenities

- Keystone Centre – 3 ice surfaces
- Sportsplex – 1 ice surface

Challenges

- Keystone Centre has no ice available for approximately five weeks of the hockey season. Users book elsewhere – Sportsplex and surrounding communities
- Keystone Centre's main arena will need capital improvements within the next 10 years (ice plant, additional seating).
- Current facilities are maxed during peak times but are often empty during the day.
- As the Keystone continues to work on attracting events to the facility the availability of ice maybe impacted
- Keystone Centre has at least one sheet of ice available for 40 weeks of the year
- The Sportsplex has ice available for 48 weeks of the year

RECOMMENDATION

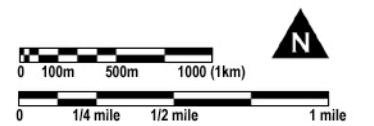
- Closely monitor the existing usage of the ice surfaces and if necessary when a new ice surface is required twin or group together with other like facilities to support economics of scale and expanded use of opportunities



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MAP #1E

**EXISTING ICE
RECREATION
FACILITIES**

DEVELOPED BY:
**THE CITY OF BRANDON
OPERATIONAL SERVICES**

WITH ASSISTANCE FROM
SCATLIFF + MILLER + MURRAY
J. HARPER & ASSOCIATES

EXISTING FACILITIES INVENTORY
(BASED ON CONSULTATION WITH RECREATION USER GROUPS)

WATER RECREATION

- (C) CURLING
- (IH) INDOOR HOCKEY ICE
- (LS) LEISURE SKATING

NOTE:
NUMBERS IN PARENTHESES CORRESPOND TO
NUMBER OF FIELDS / COURTS / DIAMONDS ETC.

