



# **SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT**



## **SPECIAL BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE BOARDROOM OF THE SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT OFFICES AT 1975 FIELD ROAD, SECHELT, B.C.**

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022**

### **AGENDA**

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**CALL TO ORDER 1:00 p.m.**

#### **AGENDA**

1. Adoption of agenda

#### **MINUTES**

#### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

#### **REPORTS**

2. Request for ice at Sunshine Coast Arena

Annex A  
Report to  
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#### **ADJOURNMENT**

## SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

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**TO:** SCRD Board – November 15, 2022

**AUTHORS:** Dean McKinley, Chief Administrative Officer

**SUBJECT:** Request for Ice at Sunshine Coast Arena During State of Local Emergency

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### RECOMMENDATION

1. **THAT the Sunshine Coast Arena continue to be as a 'booking only' dry floor until the SOLE is lifted, Or;**
2. **THAT Staff initiate Sunshine Coast Arena operations using water from another source outside of the Chapman system;**

**AND THAT staff provide a more comprehensive report at an upcoming meeting that provides details on the proposed strategy as well as the financial implications of option 2, including required financial plan amendment, Or;**

3. **THAT Staff initiate Sunshine Coast Arena operations using water from the Chapman system;**

**AND THAT the SCRD Board request the Board Chair and District of Sechelt Mayor to amend the Water Use Restriction Order 2 to facilitate operating the Sunshine Coast Arena with water from the Chapman system.**

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### BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to request Board direction on whether to install ice and operate the Sunshine Coast Arena during the current State of Local Emergency.

The Chapman water system has either been under Stage 4 Water Conservation Regulations in accordance with SCRD's Drought Management Plan or under a State of Local Emergency (SOLE) through the Sunshine Coast Regional Emergency Operations Centre since August 31, 2022.

As early as Stage 3 Water Conservation Regulations, the Sunshine Coast Regional District has been required to take steps to manage water consumption and water use, including:

- No irrigation of Sports fields
- Closing the hot tub at the Sechelt Aquatic Centre
- Closing the water park at Shirley Macey Park
- No longer washing fleet vehicles including buses
- The annual water main flushing program was postponed in the Chapman water system area.

In response to stage 4 Water Conservation Regulations, implemented August 31<sup>st</sup>, in order to manage our own water consumption and water use, it is the SCRD's practice to not install ice at the Sunshine Coast Arena. Ice is normally installed for use starting the fourth week of September.

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On November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the second order issued under the state of local emergency prohibited the installation and maintenance of ice at the Sunshine Coast Arena using the Chapman system.

Over the past week, SCRD and District of Sechelt staff and board/council members have received a number of requests to get ice installed at the Sunshine Coast Arena to benefit all ice users at the facility. Further, there is a tournament scheduled for the weekend of November 25-27 that would be dependent on having ice at the Sunshine Coast Arena.

An important factor to consider is at the Q3 financial variance report, a shortfall in revenue was noted for the regional Recreation service, and it is anticipated that this shortfall will likely continue to grow, likely resulting in a deficit at year end.

## **DISCUSSION**

SCRD staff recognize there is difficult balance between the provision of valuable recreation opportunities for Sunshine Coast residents and the need to conserve as much water as possible for human consumption during this extended and unprecedented State of Local Emergency.

### **Water Requirements for Facility Operation:**

There are three main factors to consider when looking at water requirements for the installation and maintenance of ice in an arena:

1. Water required for the initial ice installation (~80,000 litres)
2. The water required to operate the refrigeration plant (~50,000-70,000 litres/week)
3. Water required daily for flooding or maintaining the ice (~40,000-50,000 litres/week)

Ice installation takes approximately 8-10 days.

Staff are presenting the following options for Board consideration:

**Option One:** Continue to operate the Sunshine Coast Arena as a 'booking only' dry floor until the SOLE is lifted.

This option would be consistent with the SOLE and Water Use Restriction Order 2 that is in place and helps to conserve as much water as possible within the Chapman system, however, it would not allow for ice arena operations during the SOLE and would not facilitate the tournament planned for the weekend of November 25-27.

**Option Two:** Direct staff to operate the Sunshine Coast Arena using water from another source outside of the Chapman system.

This option would also be consistent with the SOLE and Water Use Restriction Order 2 that is in place and would not put additional strain on the Chapman water system. This option would also require a financial plan amendment and potentially a 2023 budget proposal.

Should the Board select this option, it would likely mean that the ice could not be installed in time for the tournament. It would also require additional work by staff on several fronts, including, but not limited to:

- a. Identifying a suitable alternate source of water. Early indications based on preliminary staff investigation indicate that there are potential alternative sources of water that could be utilized, including the Water Resource Centre in Sechelt. Once the ice is initially in place, the amount of water required each week would be approximately 110,000 -120,000 litres.
- b. Ensuring that the water sourced meets the operational requirements for ice making, for running the ice plant and to meet Worksafe BC requirements. Preliminary investigation indicates that there will be one or more alternate sources that '**could**' suitably be used to operate the arena.
- c. Sourcing transportation to get the water from an alternate source(s) to the arena. There have been 'potential' transportation methods identified, including contracting water trucks and/or using fire trucks/water tenders to assist with hauling water for arena use. Factors to consider include ensuring that our procurement process is followed which would require advertising the opportunity for water provision. There has also been an offer from the community to donate trucking and storage to assist in the install and maintenance of the ice, however details have not been confirmed.
- d. Finding a suitable storage solution for the water once transported to the facility. Staff have investigated the use of an outdoor swimming pool, emergency water totes and other possible solutions but there is no finalized plan in place at this time.
- e. Identifying and implementing any other additional infrastructure modifications that may be required to operationalize the use of water trucked in from other sources. This would include ice plant prep and modification, pumping infrastructure and additional storage solution requirements, among others.
- f. Completing more detailed analysis of the financial implications of operating the facility with water from an external source. As this has never been done before, there are still many unknowns as to the incremental costs that would be incurred. These types of costs are not factored into current approved budgeted expenses and any additional costs would result in a higher deficit at year end. While staff would make best efforts to ensure success, there is no guarantee that this option would be successful as it has not been attempted before and there are still several unknowns to navigate.

**Option Three:** Direct staff to operate the Sunshine Coast arena using water from the Chapman system.

This option would be in direct contrast to the SOLE and Water Use Restriction Order 2 that is in place and would have an additional impact of ~110,000 – 120,000 litres/week on the Chapman water system. This option would, however, be the most financially cost effective and logistically expedient option to get the Sunshine Coast Arena operational.

Should the Board select this option, the existing Water Use Restriction Order 2 would have to be modified by the Board chair and Mayor of Sechelt to remove the restrictions on using Chapman system water for Sunshine Coast Arena operations. Additional considerations include:

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- a. This option would not be supported by the Emergency Operations Centre.
  - b. This option could result in the perception of an uneven playing field if further restrictions are required on other users and/or businesses during the State of Local Emergency.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

In addition to ongoing weekly operational costs, there will be some start-up costs, some of which are not known at this time. Options one and three do not have the same potential financial implications of option 2. For option two, more work would be required to provide financial implications with a high level of confidence, however, an initial projection could be ~\$5,000-\$10,000 / week of operations.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Staff are requesting Board direction on whether to install ice and operate the Sunshine Coast Arena during the current State of Local Emergency. Staff are prepared make best efforts to operationalize Board direction in as expediated a manner as possible.

Reviewed by:			
Manager		Finance	X – T. Perreault
GM CS	X – S. Gagnon	Legislative	X – S. Reid
CAO	X – D. McKinley	Other	