

Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services

2017 Budget Briefing Note

Description

The goal of the Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services (RCFS) department is to provide access to high quality recreation and cultural services, in collaboration with the community, in well maintained spaces to contribute to Ottawa's quality of life, vibrancy and cultural identity and to improve health and economic well-being. In meeting this goal RCFS:

- Develops and delivers recreation and cultural programs in arenas, pools, parks, sports fields, recreation and cultural facilities, and community centres;
- Maintains and ensures facility cleanliness and good repair;
- Adheres to clear service standards
- Structures services around community needs
- Ensures that legislative and safety requirements are implemented and adhered to;
- Provides opportunities for participation in, and access to, Ottawa's arts, culture and heritage;
- Works with community recreation, sport and cultural groups to maximize access and opportunities for recreation, cultural, and heritage programs/activities;
- Plans, develops and redevelops recreation and cultural facilities, parks and sports fields
- Invests in local cultural initiatives and assets to sustain municipal and community infrastructure and programs;

Programs/Services Offered

The Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services Department:

- Delivers registered recreation and cultural programs to more than 215,000 participants annually;
- Promotes Ottawa's rich network of multi-use pathways and bike routes, through almost 1,200 parks;

- Operates and manages : 11 major recreation complexes, over 100 community centres/field houses, 21 indoor pools, 9 outdoor pools, 44 indoor ice surfaces, 550+ sports fields, 350+ ball diamonds, 4 senior centres, 56 wading pools, 117 splash pads and 4 beaches;
- Operates a wide variety of Summer and March Break camps for children and youth;
- Operates specialized and therapeutic recreation programs for more than 2,900 children, youth and adults with disabilities and an integration support service to facilitate access to all programs;
- Operates 26 cultural facilities across the city including: 4 theatres, 5 museums, 7 art galleries, two instructional art centres, three artist studios and two multi-disciplinary facilities – including Arts Court;
- Researches, develops and delivers local museum educational programs to meet school curriculum requirements;
- Allocates space for over 244,000 community facility rentals annually;
- Supports, oversees and allocated: more than 505 sports fields and 283 ball diamonds; 115 tennis facilities, 250 outdoor basketball courts, 16 skateboard parks, 58 sledding hills, and provides track and field opportunities at the Terry Fox Athletic Facility;
- Maintains City buildings and grounds including 9.4 million square feet in 867 buildings
- Operates 33 arenas with a total of 44 indoor ice surfaces, 10 curling sheets, and coordinates more than 400 outdoor ice surfaces at over 255 locations;
- Provides oversight and contract compliance monitoring for 8 Public-Private Partnership agreements, including 2 sports domes, 3 arenas with 9 ice surfaces, a multi-disciplinary cultural facility, the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority Headquarters, and Lansdowne;
- Supports over 295 not-for-profit cultural organizations that service over 3.2 million participants and visitors;
- Provides \$10M in financial support to more than 140 community recreation organizations and to more than 250 local not-for-profit cultural organizations to support the creation, production and presentation of arts, festivals, fairs and heritage activities, recreation and cultural programs and services for residents and visitors alike; and,
- Offers over 600 hours per week (Fall/Winter) for public skating and public swimming and other sport drop-in programs to citizens of all ages.