

Citizen Delegations



Request for Recommendation Priorities Committee





Type of Decision									
Meeting	October 18, 2006				Report Date	October 12, 2006			
Decision Requested	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
	Direction Only				Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed

Report Title
Lively Ski Hill

Budget Impact / Policy Implication		Recommendation
X	This report has been reviewed by the Finance Division and the funding source has been identified.	
<p>There is sufficient funding within the Community Development budget to absorb this initiative.</p>		<p>That Council approve the realignment of \$13,360 within the existing Leisure Services operating budget to fund the Lively Ski Hill Operation.</p>
X	Background Attached	Recommendation Continued

Recommended by the Department	Recommended by the C.A.O.
 Catherine Matheson General Manager, Community Development	 Mark Mieto Chief Administrative Officer

Report Prepared By	Division Review
 Chris Gore Manager of Community Partnerships	 Rob Garre Director of Leisure Services

The Lively Ski Hill was operated by a group of local volunteers for many years with the support of the Town of Walden. The ski hill served as a neighbourhood focal point providing healthy outdoor winter activity for youth and families living in the vicinity. The ski hill was home to a dynamic ski club which provided training and competition for local skiing enthusiasts. Due to rising costs, condition of equipment and volunteer support, the ski hill became inactive after the 2003 season and has not operated since.

The Walden CAN (Community Action Networks) which was formed in November 2005 identified several action projects to be implemented. One of the action projects identified was the Lively Ski Hill. A committee chair was selected along with interested residents in order to initiate the process.

In 2006, a group of interested residents initiated the process to re-activate the ski hill for the enjoyment and pleasure of local residents. During the 2006 Budget Process, City Council approved the allocation of \$50,000 from the City of Greater Sudbury Leisure Services Capital envelope for the Lively ski hill. An additional \$ 25,000 from the budget surplus and \$32,496 from the Ward 1 C.I.P. fund from Councillors Gainer and Kett were allocated to the Lively Ski Hill Capital Project for a total of \$107,496.

A full assessment of the platter lift at the site was undertaken and the repairs necessary to ensure the safe, reliable operation of the lift were determined. The estimated cost of the repairs fell within the funds which had been allocated to the project. The repairs are proceeding well and the lift will be ready for operation this season. The support facilities including lights, chalet and additional buildings have been inspected and are being repaired as required with the funds allocated for the project.

Ski Hill Operation

The Ski Hill Committee will assist with the preparation for the 06/07 season by clearing the brush on the ski hill and assisting with cosmetic improvements to the chalet on site. The volunteers on the Ski Hill Committee will formally establish a ski club in the near future. The Ski Club will focus on developing skiing services such as racing events and lessons along with fundraising for future capital needs at the ski hill versus operating the lift as was the past practice.

It is proposed that the ski hill will operate on Wednesday and Friday evenings from 6 pm to 9 pm and on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm. The operations at the ski hill including lift operations will be run by the City of Greater Sudbury using City staff. The ski hill will operate for an 8 to 10 week season depending on the snowfall as a result of the lack of snow making equipment at the facility.

The user fees for the ski hill for the upcoming season will be as follows:

Lively Ski Hill User Rates			
	Adults > 14 yrs.	Students < 14 yrs.	Seniors
Week Nights 6 - 9 pm	\$ 7.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00
Full Day Weekends 10 am - 4 pm	\$ 12.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
½ Days 10 am - 1 pm or 1 pm - 4pm	\$ 7.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00

The proposed operating budget required for the Lively Ski Hill upcoming season is as follows:

Operational Budget 06/07 Lively Ski Hill	
Expenditures	
Staffing	\$ 16,900
Supplies	\$ 1,400
Concessions Supplies	\$ 2,000
Utilities	\$ 3,700
Site Maintenance	\$ 4,200
	\$ 28,200
Revenues	
Lift Tickets	\$ 11,840
Concession	\$ 3,000
	\$ 14,840
Net Operating Cost	\$ 13,360

This budget is similar in nature to the operational budget for the Capreol Ski Hill facility. The number of operating days is dependent on the prevailing weather conditions and snow accumulation. Operational costs and revenues may be affected by poor weather conditions.

The re-opening of the Lively Ski Hill is clearly in line with Council's priority of creating a healthy community. It will contribute to this process through the support of another partnership with a community group, and for the opportunity for a healthy outdoor activity within the community.