







THE TOWNSHIP OF

PUSLINCH

RECREATION & PARKS MASTER PLAN

MGA
MCQUEEN GALLOWAY ASSOCIATES

DILLON

PUSLINCH RECREATION AND PARKS MASTER PLAN

At-A-Glance

The Recreation and Parks Master Plan provides the new term of Council and staff with a practical framework to guide decision-making and establish priorities for community services over the next decade.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION & ENGAGEMENT

- Staff Interviews
- Site Visits
- Online Community Survey
- Community Pop-Up Events
- User Groups & Permit Holder Workshop
- Recreation & Wellness Advisory Workshop
- Youth Workshop
- Council Presentation
- Community Open House
- Online Community Feedback Survey

56 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11 Service Delivery
- 5 Indoor Facilities
- 2 Administration & Policies
- 12 Outdoor Facilities
- 26 Parks & Park Amenities

123 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY RESPONSES

MOST USED RECREATION FACILITIES

- Trails/Parks & Open Spaces
- Optimist Recreation Centre (Rink & Gym)
- Tennis/Pickleball Courts
- Playgrounds

Top ranked **NEW PARK AMENITIES** residents would like to have in Puslinch:

- WALKING TRACK
- SPLASHPAD
- PLAYGROUNDS
- ALL-SEASON TRAILS

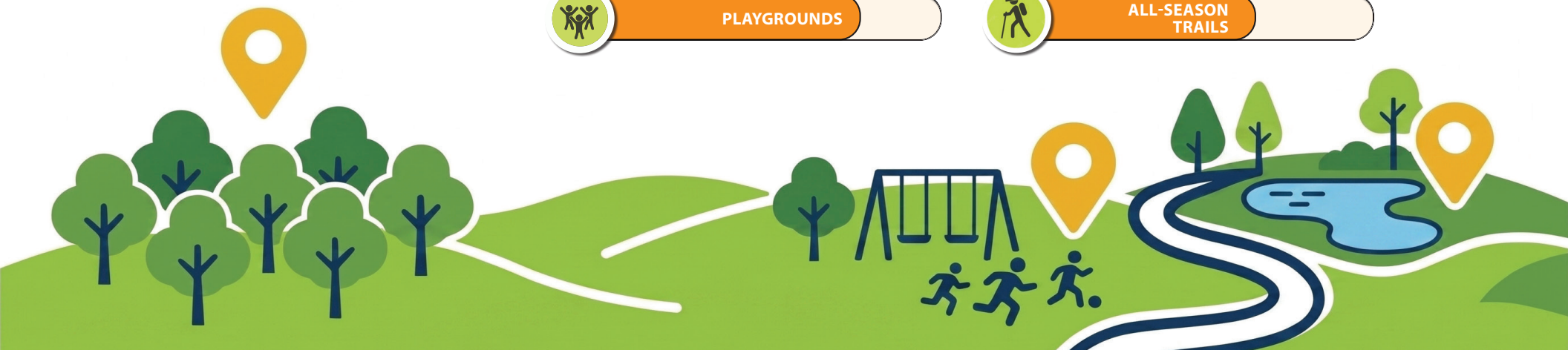


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WHY A RECREATION AND PARKS MASTER PLAN?

The Township of Puslinch (Puslinch) should be recognized for undertaking a Recreation and Parks Master Plan (Plan) at an important time in the municipal cycle. The Plan provides the new term of Council and staff with a practical framework to guide decision-making and establish priorities for community services over the next decade.

THE RECREATION AND PARKS MASTER PLAN:

1. ESTABLISHES A CLEAR DIRECTION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Plan provides a strategic framework to guide future decisions related to parks, recreation facilities, programs, community spaces, trails, open spaces and other community services.

2. RESPONDS TO CHANGING COMMUNITY NEEDS

Demographic changes, recreation trends, changing volunteer capacity and evolving expectations for municipal services require the Township of Puslinch to regularly review how services are planned and delivered.

3. PROVIDES AN EVIDENCE-BASED FRAMEWORK FOR DECISION-MAKING

The Plan brings together quantitative information, financial and asset information, facility and park assessments, utilization information, trends and community input to support informed decisions.

4. SUPPORTS RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL PLANNING

Puslinch faces the same financial pressures experienced by many smaller municipalities, including aging infrastructure, increasing operating costs and competing demands for limited tax resources. The Plan identifies priorities that can be considered within Puslinch's financial capacity and long-term asset management requirements.



5. IDENTIFIES PRIORITIES FOR EXISTING FACILITIES AND PARKS

The Plan recognizes that maintaining and maximizing existing community assets is an important priority. It identifies opportunities for improvements, accessibility, lifecycle planning, utilization and service delivery before significant new infrastructure is considered.

6. STRENGTHENS PARTNERSHIPS AND VOLUNTEER CAPACITY

Volunteers and community organizations have historically played an important role in delivering recreation, sports, programs and parks throughout Puslinch. The Plan identifies opportunities for the Community Services Department to strengthen these relationships and provide the support necessary for community organizations to remain sustainable.

7. IMPLEMENTATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Recommendations are prioritized according to short-, medium- and long-term implementation and identify the resources and strategic alignment required to move priorities forward.

8. FRAMEWORK TO MONITOR AND UPDATE

A Master Plan is not intended to remain static. Priorities may need to change as demographics, participation, funding opportunities, staffing, volunteer capacity and other community conditions change. The Plan therefore provides a framework that Council and staff can use and revisit over time.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Sources: 2021 Census and Wellington County Planning Profile

2051
10,000
residents

26%

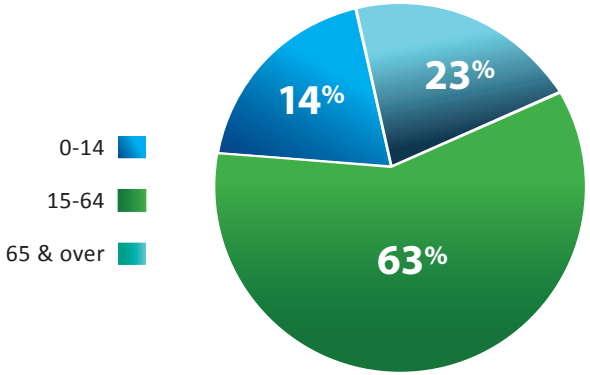
2021
7,944
residents

PUSLINCH POPULATION PROJECTION

Puslinch is expected to grow from a population of 7,944 in 2021 to 10,000 by 2051. This represents **an increase of 2,056 net new residents or a population increase of 26%.**

THE AGE PROFILE OF PUSLINCH IS UNIQUE

from the provincial age profile **showing consistently high age cohort of adults.**



$221,400
The **average household income for Puslinch**.

- Puslinch is **experiencing population growth at a rate of 8.3%,** which is higher than the National average (5.2%).
- **Median resident age:** 49.2 years
- **Average household size:** 2.8 people
- **Average number of children per household:** 1.8

STRATEGICALLY POSITIONED

Puslinch sits at the crossroads between the Greater Toronto Area, Guelph and Kitchener-Waterloo, creating unique growth pressures as well as opportunities.

of residents have completed secondary or post-secondary education

88%

AVERAGE COMMUTE TIME

has decreased by 12% (-3.3 min) since 2016.

24.6 MINUTES

A shift to hybrid and home-based work, as well as strong County employment opportunities are contributing factors.

THE RECREATION AND PARKS MASTER PLAN PROCESS

The Puslinch Recreation and Parks Master Plan is grounded in a proven, evidence-based methodology. The process brings together background research and quantitative analysis, community and stakeholder engagement, current trends and best practices, facility and park assessments, financial considerations and ongoing validation through input received.



The development of the Recreation and Parks Master Plan included four broad phases:

1 BACKGROUND ANALYSIS

Review of existing municipal information, demographics, financial information, asset management, facilities, parks, programs, operations, policies, trends and service delivery.

2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Consultation with staff, residents, youth, community organizations, service clubs, sports organizations, school boards, Conservation Authorities, City of Guelph representation, and other key stakeholders to understand current experiences, needs, priorities and opportunities. The community-wide survey provided additional input on recreation programs, parks, trails, facilities satisfaction and importance, as well as future priorities.

3 DRAFTING THE PLAN

The findings from the background analysis and engagement process were reviewed together to identify common themes, service gaps, opportunities and priorities.

4 FINALIZING THE PLAN

Recommendations were developed based on the identified needs and opportunities and organized by subject area. Each recommendation considers the appropriate timing, operating and capital financial implications, strategic alignment, and resources required for implementation.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

This section summarizes the public engagement activities undertaken to inform the Recreation and Parks Master Plan. Engagement activities were conducted specifically for the Plan. Additionally, the Township of Puslinch shared relevant engagement findings from the recently completed 2026-2030 Strategic Plan which contained recreation and parks related feedback.

SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT METHODS

A variety of engagement approaches were used to capture community perspectives. Key methods included:

INTERACTIVE WORKSHOPS (JULY 8, 2026):

These back-to-back interactive sessions were held with the following groups;

- Youth Advisory Committee
- Recreation and Community Wellness Advisory Committee
- User Groups/Sports Groups
- Optimist Club of Puslinch
- Aberfoyle Agricultural Society

The evening featured a "S.O.A.R." (Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations, Recommendations) exercise and a collaborative "Build your Future Park or Indoor/Outdoor Facilities" design activity.

POP-UP ENGAGEMENT EVENT

MGA attended the Puslinch Fire Open House on July 11th to engage with residents and gather input on the indoor and outdoor recreation amenities they feel are currently missing or would like to see in the future.

The event also served to raise awareness of the Recreation and Parks Master Plan and encourage residents to participate in the online community survey, helping to broaden public engagement and ensure the plan reflects broader community needs and priorities.

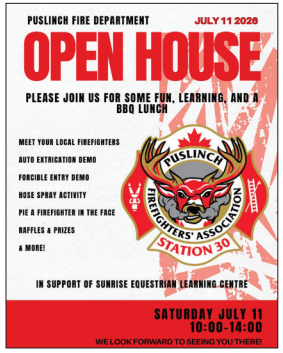
ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEYS:

Digital surveys deployed through Engage Puslinch captured feedback from the public, community groups, and the development community. The survey was available for 17 days from July 10th to July 27th. The survey was promoted within the community through various methods. A total of 123 surveys were submitted.

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE:

A public open house is scheduled for September 2026 to present the key findings and recommendations from the Recreation and Parks Master Plan. The Open House represents the final opportunity for public comments.











SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK

The engagement activities outlined above produced a variety of comments, findings, and recommendations from individuals and groups. It is important to note that while every comment was considered by the consultants, not every comment translates into a recommendation. The consultants look for common themes from various sources which serve to uncover common issues and needs. The following are key findings from the collective engagement process.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING DESIRES:

Fitness & Exercise Classes
Drop-in/pick-up, yoga, zumba, stretching, walking

Programming for Seniors
Fitness, recreation, social, educational

Youth & Teen Programming
Drop-in, hobbies and STEM clubs, camps, leadership

TOP RECREATION FACILITIES

- Trails/Parks & Open Spaces
- Optimist Recreation Centre (Rink & Gym)
- Tennis/Pickleball Courts
- Playgrounds

62%
TOP PRIORITY
INVEST IN IMPROVING EXISTING PARKS



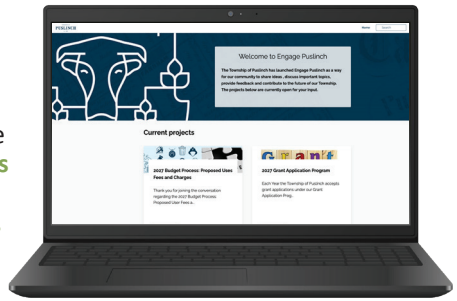
85% of survey respondents chose the **PUSLINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE PARK** as the park their household uses most often.

Top ranked **NEW PARK AMENITIES** residents would like to have in Puslinch:

- WALKING TRACK
- SPLASHPAD
- PLAYGROUNDS
- ALL-SEASON TRAILS

**Shaded seating at sports fields/diamonds, safety netting and risky play elements were shared as suggestions in the 'Other' category.*

70%
of respondents believe the Township of Puslinch **shares information** in a **timely, accurate & effective way.**



Throughout this Plan, specific references to engagement findings will be highlighted under "**What we heard**" to offer supporting rationale for associated recommendations.

THE RECREATION AND PARKS MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations in this Recreation and Parks Master Plan are intentionally grouped by subject area. Each section provides the context and analysis supporting the recommendations and identifies the opportunities and challenges that should be considered by Council and staff, including both capital and operating implications.

TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
	INDOOR FACILITIES		
SHORT/ ONGOING HIGH/ MEDIUM	**2. Maximize capital budgets for modernization of facilities** Upgrades to interior finishes (such as floor replacement) and technology (audio-visual/ Wifi improvements) to ensure the facilities continue to meet community needs and remain financially sustainable.	**Internal A, Finance** **Cost Estimate: increase of $50,000 annually** [audio-visual improvements: $10,000;	Strategic Plan

The recommendations are intended to provide direction rather than prescribe a fixed course of action. Implementation should be responsive to changing community needs, funding opportunities, staff capacity, volunteer support, asset conditions and other factors that may influence municipal priorities. Township staff are in control of how they implement the recommendations based on available resources.

For implementation purposes, recommendations are identified by timeline and resources, including both capital and operating implications:

RESOURCES LEGEND

Internal A – Existing Staffing Resources
(Recommendation can be implemented with current staffing resources)
Internal B – Additional Staffing Resources
(Recommendation requires additional staffing resources to implement)
External – Initial Cost and Operating Cost *(*2026 current dollar estimates)*

TIMING LEGEND

Short = 1-3 years **Medium =** 4-7 years **Long =** 8+ years **Ongoing**

The timing of recommendations may be adjusted as conditions change. Council and staff should continue to monitor trends, participation, financial capacity, funding programs, asset conditions, staffing resources and community priorities to ensure that the Recreation and Parks Master Plan remains relevant and responsive.

Ultimately, the Recreation and Parks Master Plan is intended to provide Puslinch with a practical and sustainable roadmap for the next decade—one that builds on the community's existing strengths, recognizes its rural character and strong volunteer base, protects and maximizes existing investments, and establishes priorities that will enhance the quality of life and enjoyment for current and future residents.

FUNDING THE PLAN

To support the recommendations and associated capital and operating costs identified in this Plan, Puslinch should pursue a diversified funding strategy that maximizes opportunities for growth-related revenues, government funding, sponsorships, service club support and strategic partnerships, while minimizing impacts on the tax base.

Development Charges should continue to be maximized for eligible growth-related parks and recreation projects. Puslinch's Development Charges By-law, passed in September 2024, provides an important funding source for eligible growth-related recreation facilities, park development, trails, vehicles and equipment. Future Development Charges Background Studies should continue to identify eligible recreation infrastructure associated with Puslinch's anticipated growth and the next background study should incorporate the recommendations that Council endorses as part of this Plan.

Parkland Dedication and cash-in-lieu should continue to be maximized to support the acquisition and development of parks and open spaces and any recreation related infrastructure. This approach will help to ensure that new growth contributes to the additional recreational opportunities it generates.

Provincial and Federal funding should be actively pursued for priority projects. The Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF) is particularly relevant to Puslinch, with funding opportunities that can support improvements such as HVAC, accessibility, arena upgrades and the renewal of existing recreation facilities, as well as larger new or transformative projects. Puslinch should continue to maintain a current inventory of government funding opportunities and ensure priority projects are sufficiently planned and costed to respond when funding programs become available.

Sponsorships, service clubs, community fundraising and partnerships should also continue to be explored for recreation facilities, parks, programs, events and amenities. Puslinch should identify appropriate sponsorship opportunities and develop partnerships with local businesses, organizations and service clubs to leverage community investment in recreation.

Finally, tax-supported reserves and continued annual contributions to the Asset Management Discretionary Reserve will remain essential to address the lifecycle, rehabilitation and replacement needs of Puslinch's existing recreation infrastructure. A strong reserve strategy, combined with external funding and growth-related revenues, will help Puslinch implement the capital priorities identified in this Plan while managing the long-term impact on taxpayers.



TRENDS

Trends relevant to Puslinch



AGING POPULATION AND ACTIVE AGING

Ontario's older adult population continues to grow, but today's seniors are healthier and more active than previous generations. Rather than passive recreation, there is increasing demand for wellness programming, social recreation, outdoor activities, lifelong learning and volunteer opportunities.

CONSIDERATION FOR PUSLINCH

Continue to work with Wellington County and community partners to explore opportunities for healthy aging programs, such as walking clubs, pickleball, low-impact fitness, educational workshops, outdoor recreation and volunteer leadership opportunities that encourage social connection and help reduce isolation.



OUTDOOR RECREATION CONTINUES TO GROW

Since COVID-19, participation in outdoor recreation has remained consistently high. Residents continue to value trails, natural areas, waterfronts, parks and outdoor gathering spaces more than ever before.

CONSIDERATION FOR PUSLINCH

Consider how future planning and investment can prioritize outdoor amenities that reflect these preferences, support year-round use and respond to changing community needs.



FLEXIBILE PROGRAMMING

Residents increasingly prefer shorter, drop-in and seasonal programs rather than committing to long sessions. Pop-up programming allows municipalities to test new ideas before making permanent investments.

CONSIDERATION FOR PUSLINCH

These types of opportunities can help build community awareness, encourage participation and provide insight into what activities and locations resonate with residents.



TECHNOLOGY AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

Residents increasingly expect convenient online registration, facility booking systems and software, digital communication, ease of payment and access to real-time program information.

CONSIDERATION FOR PUSLINCH

Consider how staff can stay informed of emerging tools and changing resident needs to ensure its recreation services remain accessible, convenient and responsive.



FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Many municipalities are facing increasing operating costs, aging infrastructure and limited tax capacity. This has resulted in greater emphasis on maximizing existing assets before constructing new facilities.

CONSIDERATION FOR PUSLINCH

Consider the value of maximizing existing facilities and infrastructure in the context of rising operating costs, aging assets and limited tax capacity.

TRENDS



RURAL COMMUNITY HUBS

Across Ontario, municipalities are repositioning community centres, libraries, arenas and parks as multi-service community hubs. Rather than focusing solely on recreation, these facilities are becoming places where residents can participate in recreation, social programs, health initiatives, education, cultural activities and community events.

CONSIDERATION FOR PUSLINCH

Consider the importance of continued investment in community centres as welcoming, flexible spaces that support recreation, social connection and a range of community uses.



PARTNERSHIPS ARE BECOMING ESSENTIAL

Municipalities increasingly rely on partnerships with school boards, service clubs, conservation authorities, libraries, health organizations and community groups to deliver recreation opportunities more efficiently.

CONSIDERATION FOR PUSLINCH

Consider the role that partnerships with volunteers, community organizations, service clubs and other agencies can play in supporting recreation opportunities and community services.



YOUTH RETENTION THROUGH RECREATION

Smaller municipalities are recognizing recreation as an important strategy for retaining youth and attracting young families. Youth are seeking places to gather informally, participate in recreation and feel connected to their communities.

CONSIDERATION FOR PUSLINCH

Consider youth voices and perspectives as part of future recreation planning, particularly when shaping spaces, amenities and programs that reflect the interests and needs of younger residents.



VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

Volunteerism continues to evolve across Ontario as municipalities face increasing challenges recruiting and retaining volunteers. An aging volunteer base, changing lifestyles, competing time commitments and volunteer burnout have reduced the capacity of many community organizations to sustain programs, events and facilities. In response, municipalities are investing in volunteer recruitment, training, recognition, succession planning and leadership development to help build long-term organizational capacity. There is also a growing emphasis on offering flexible and short-term volunteer opportunities that appeal to younger generations and busy families.

CONSIDERATION FOR PUSLINCH

Consider the changing volunteer landscape and its impact on the capacity of community organizations to sustain recreation and community opportunities.

SERVICE DELIVERY

Puslinch provides access to a range of recreation opportunities that reflect its rural character, available facilities, and staffing resources. These opportunities are centered primarily at the Optimist Recreation Centre and the Puslinch Community Centre and include seasonal public ice skating, roller skating, inline shinny, seniors' drop-in euchre, open gym, and other seasonal opportunities. Puslinch's role is primarily to provide facility space, designated drop-in time, and limited equipment to support community participation.

The Township of Puslinch also provides access to a variety of parks and recreation facilities including the gymnasium, outdoor tennis/pickleball courts, basketball court, sports fields, baseball diamonds, playgrounds, walking trails, community hall, and meeting room that support both municipal programming and community-led activities.



ARENA FLOOR OPPORTUNITIES

The arena floor presents an opportunity to increase community recreation by adopting an "open door" approach for informal, drop-in play when the facility is not booked, particularly during traditionally low-utilization periods. Drop-in times are recommended to be scheduled during regularly staffed hours, allowing the community to access available space with appropriate staffing, supervision, and ensuring operational considerations are maintained. Public drop-in times should be posted online and at the facility with 'Rules of Play', so residents know when the space is available and activity type.

Adding multi-sport court lines to the arena floor, walking lanes, portable basketball standards, and other recreation equipment will reduce barriers to participation and encourage spontaneous physical activity for residents of all ages. This approach maximizes facility use while creating a welcoming and flexible community recreation hub.

DROP-IN PROGRAMS OFFERED AT THE OPTIMIST RECREATION CENTRE (NON-ICE ARENA FLOOR):

SEASON	INLINE SHINNY	ROLLER-SKATING
Spring **Fall** (weather dependent)	3 hrs/week	3 hrs/week
Summer	3 hrs/week	3 hrs/week

What We Heard — Community Feedback

Residents emphasized the importance of **affordable programs, convenient scheduling, and opportunities that encourage social connections** while maintaining Puslinch's strong sense of community.

DROP-IN GYM

Parent & Tot: 2 hrs/week

Youth Drop-in: 1 hr/week

Professional Activity Days (UGDSB and WCDSB): 2hrs/day

March Break Programming: hours vary/daily

PUSLINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Senior Drop-in Programming: 2hrs/week (current activity is Euchre)

The Township of Puslinch offers a number of unorganized drop-in programs as outlined above. Currently Puslinch is only running one organized program that is currently a pilot program. Additional recreation opportunities are supported through community organizations, private facility rentals, and self-directed use of recreation facilities. This service delivery approach is appropriate given the Township of Puslinch's population and financial resources; however, it also limits the variety and frequency of recreation opportunities available to residents. While Puslinch may not have the resources to directly deliver a broad range of recreation programs, it is well positioned to leverage partnerships with neighbouring municipalities, private providers, and non-profit organizations to expand programming opportunities and improve access for residents.





What We Heard — Community Feedback

The community survey indicates that while residents appreciate the recreation opportunities currently available, they would like to see a broader range of programs offered. **Many respondents indicated they travel to neighbouring municipalities to participate in programs that are not available locally** or they are unaware of the offerings available.

Survey respondents expressed interest in expanding programs for all age groups, particularly:

- Fitness and wellness programs
- Children and youth recreation programs
- Seniors' social and active living programs
- Arts, culture, and creative programs
- Indoor walking and wellness opportunities
- Expanded pickleball opportunities
- Additional community events and family programming

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

With limited existing staff resources, Puslinch relies on the support of community partners, including the Optimist Club of Puslinch, Puslinch Minor Soccer Club, Puslinch Minor Baseball and other local Baseball Clubs, and not-for-profit organizations such as the Aberfoyle Agricultural Society, Whistle Stop Cooperative Preschool, and active community members to deliver many recreation programs and services.

The Township of Puslinch's role should be to strengthen these partnerships by providing coordination of events, promotion, and support, while delivering programs directly only where community needs or service gaps exist.



What We Heard — Community Feedback

The survey findings suggest there is an opportunity to **gradually expand recreation programming through partnerships**, program instructors, volunteers, and neighbouring municipalities rather than creating a large municipally operated recreation department.



VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers and community organizations are an essential part of life in Puslinch. Community groups, service clubs, sports organizations, cultural groups, event committees, and other local organizations contribute time and effort to deliver programs, events and activities, support parks and recreation, and bring residents together.

Many of the opportunities and community initiatives enjoyed by Puslinch residents would not be possible without this volunteer contribution. These organizations also provide important local knowledge, leadership, and a strong sense of community.

Volunteer organizations are facing increasing challenges in recruiting and retaining volunteers. Long-time volunteers are aging and retiring, while younger residents are balancing work, family and other commitments. At the same time, governance, insurance, risk management and legislative requirements can make volunteer roles more complex.

Puslinch staff are already doing great work to support Puslinch's volunteers and community organizations, including through the Annual Appreciation Night, Senior of the Year Award, Volunteer Appreciation Award, the Puslinch Community Showcase, the Puslinch Community Guide and Business Directory, Township Welcome Package on their website, and ongoing assistance to community groups. The Township of Puslinch should continue to build on these efforts by strengthening and supporting Puslinch's volunteer and community organizations, rather than replacing their role. This includes:

- **Promoting** and supporting volunteer opportunities;
- **Providing** orientation, support and resources;
- **Supporting** facility bookings, equipment, and administrative needs where appropriate;
- **Promoting** grant opportunities, fundraising initiatives, and community partnerships;
- **Recognizing** and celebrating volunteer contributions; and
- **Creating** opportunities for community groups to connect, collaborate, and share resources.

Effective volunteer support requires significant municipal staff time and resources. As volunteer capacity changes, the Township of Puslinch will need to work collaboratively with community organizations to ensure they have the tools, information, and support necessary to remain sustainable.





Top image: Provided by the Township

PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

TIMING LEGEND

Short = 1-3 years **Medium =** 4-7 years **Long =** 8+ years **Ongoing**

RESOURCES LEGEND

Internal A – Existing Staffing Resources
(Recommendation can be implemented with current staffing resources)
Internal B – Additional Staffing Resources
(Recommendation requires additional staffing resources to implement)
External – Initial Cost and Operating Cost *(*2026 current dollar estimates)*

TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
	SERVICE DELIVERY		
SHORT **MEDIUM PRIORITY**	**1. Hire a Community Development Coordinator*** Hire a Community Development Coordinator to increase recreation participation by expanding programming, building partnerships, improving facility utilization, exploring partnership opportunities with instructors and volunteers, and fostering relationships with community organizations, local leaders, and private providers to encourage the delivery of recreation opportunities throughout the Township of Puslinch.	**Internal B** **Cost Estimate: $80,000**	Strategic Plan
SHORT **MEDIUM PRIORITY**	**2. Diversify drop-in recreation opportunities at the Optimist Recreation Centre (indoor and outdoor)** Offer additional activities within facility operating hours, such as basketball, soccer, pickleball, and family recreation during traditionally low-utilization periods, and school holidays to encourage casual participation and maximize facility utilization. This would require part-time staff to monitor the activity.	**Internal A*** **Ongoing Cost: $30/hr**	Strategic Plan
MEDIUM **MEDIUM PRIORITY**	**3. Establish partnerships with organizations such as Equip Sport and the Wellington County Library** Make storage and recreation equipment—including soccer balls, basketballs, pickleball paddles, balls, and other portable equipment like playboxes—available for public use.	**Internal A* or External** **Cost Estimate: $2,000 to $4,000** [storage solution: $1,000; annual replacement: $350]	Strategic Plan
SHORT **MEDIUM PRIORITY**	**4. Develop a Recreation Programming and Instructor Recruitment Strategy** Explore opportunities with instructors, coaches, community organizations, neighbouring municipalities, and private providers (i.e., YMCA's, senior organizations and agencies) to expand local recreation programming and introduce services such as summer camps, fitness, wellness, senior's and children's programs that are not currently available in Puslinch.	**Internal A***	Strategic Plan

* Current staff would not be able to fulfill the recommendations to their fullest without the hiring of a Community Development Coordinator.

PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

TIMING LEGEND

Short = 1-3 years **Medium =** 4-7 years **Long =** 8+ years **Ongoing**

RESOURCES LEGEND

Internal A – Existing Staffing Resources
(Recommendation can be implemented with current staffing resources)
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(Recommendation requires additional staffing resources to implement)
External – Initial Cost and Operating Cost *(*2026 current dollar estimates)*

TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
SHORT/ ONGOING HIGH PRIORITY	**5. Develop partnership opportunities** Staff should actively promote partnership opportunities, provide facility-use and marketing support, and provide administrative support to encourage new program offerings and broaden recreation opportunities without significantly increasing municipal staffing.	**Internal A** **Ongoing Cost: $200** (advertising)	Strategic Plan
MEDIUM LOWER PRIORITY	**6. Expand neighbouring partnerships** Continue to strengthen partnerships with neighbouring municipalities to improve access to recreation programs and facilities that cannot be reasonably provided within Puslinch (i.e., swimming lessons). This may include reciprocal registration agreements, subsidized resident rates, shared programming opportunities, and coordinated marketing of regional recreation services.	**Internal A** **Cost Estimate: $50,000+** depending on agreement or MOU. Many variables	Strategic Plan
SHORT MEDIUM PRIORITY	**7. Increase awareness of recreation opportunities** To improve awareness of recreation opportunities, recognizing that increasing awareness of programs emerged as a key theme from the community survey. Promote all programs and events—that wish to be publicized—through multiple communication channels, including the Township of Puslinch website, social media, arena displays, the digital sign at the Puslinch Community Centre, community bulletin boards, and seasonal program guides. The Township of Puslinch should also partner with the Youth Advisory Committee to create engaging social media content that helps reach younger audiences and promotes local recreation opportunities within Puslinch's policies on Social Media.	**Internal A***	Strategic Plan

* Current staff would not be able to fulfill the recommendations to their fullest without the hiring of a Community Development Coordinator.

PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

TIMING LEGEND

Short = 1-3 years **Medium =** 4-7 years **Long =** 8+ years **Ongoing**

RESOURCES LEGEND

Internal A – Existing Staffing Resources
(Recommendation can be implemented with current staffing resources)
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(Recommendation requires additional staffing resources to implement)
External – Initial Cost and Operating Cost *(*2026 current dollar estimates)*

TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
SHORT/ ONGOING MEDIUM PRIORITY	**8. Establish an annual Community Recreation/General Interest Partnership Workshop** The Township of Puslinch should establish an annual Community Recreation/General Interest Partnership Workshop that brings together service clubs, minor sport organizations, and community groups to share information on grant opportunities, volunteer recruitment and retention, governance, risk management, marketing, and partnership opportunities.	**Internal A*** **Cost Estimate: $300/annually**	Strategic Plan
SHORT/ MEDIUM MEDIUM PRIORITY	**9. Develop a Volunteer Framework** Provide opportunities for municipal-led orientation, support, and appreciation opportunities for Puslinch volunteers and community groups.	**Internal A***	Strategic Plan
ONGOING LOWER PRIORITY	**10. Stay current with recreation trends** Staff to continue to stay informed of the emerging recreation trends and changing community expectations through ongoing training, participation in conferences (such as PRO) to ensure proactive responses to community needs.	**Internal A** **Cost Estimate: $1,000/annually**	Strategic Plan
ONGOING HIGH PRIORITY	**11. Annual user groups meetings** Director of Community Services/Human Resources to continue to meet with all user groups (i.e., minor sports, Agricultural Society, etc) on an annual basis based on staff capacity.	**Internal A**	Strategic Plan







Center image: Shey Smith

INDOOR FACILITIES

INDOOR FACILITY INVENTORY

The Township of Puslinch has two indoor recreation facilities including the **Optimist Recreation Centre** and the **Puslinch Community Centre.**

The Optimist Recreation Centre, built in **2010,** is Puslinch's largest multi-use recreation facility and serves as a flexible community recreation hub. The facility includes a gymnasium, a covered outdoor arena, a small activity/party room, four change rooms, and accessible washrooms. The gymnasium accommodates a broad range of recreational programming, including volleyball, basketball, pickleball, fitness classes, children's programs, and community events. The activity room accommodates approximately 15 to 20 people and is available as additional space when renting the gymnasium.

Attached to the Optimist Recreation Centre is a covered outdoor arena with four dressing rooms. The refrigerated rink is smaller than a standard ice pad (approximately 20 m × 43 m) and operates as an ice surface during the winter season, typically from January through March, weather permitting. During the spring, summer, and fall, the facility is converted for non-ice activities such as ball hockey, roller skating, and other community programming and rentals.

The Puslinch Community Centre compliments the Optimist Recreation Centre on the same property by serving as the community's primary indoor gathering place for community events and rentals. The facility includes the **Archie MacRobbie Hall,** a large meeting and social hall with a commercial kitchen and outdoor patio that can accommodate approximately 120 people, making it suitable for weddings, banquets, community events, and celebrations. The facility also includes the **Alf Hales Room,** a smaller meeting space accommodating approximately 30 people with a kitchenette, refrigerator, and sink, providing an ideal venue for meetings, workshops, and family gatherings. Accessible washrooms are available throughout the facility.

INDOOR FACILITY SERVICE PROVISION

Based on the Township of Puslinch's current population of approximately **8,550 residents,** Puslinch meets or exceeds recognized provincial service level provision guidelines for most indoor recreation facilities.

INDOOR FACILITY	PUSLINCH SERVICE LEVEL	RECOGNIZED PROVINCIAL SERVICE LEVEL
Indoor Arena (0)	0	1:15,000
Outdoor Arena	1	No provision
Gymnasium	1:8,550	1:30,000
Community Hall	1:8,550	1:5,000
Multi-Purpose Room	1:8,550	1:5,000
Multi-Sport Indoor	0	1:30,000

While the Township of Puslinch exceeds recognized provincial service level benchmarks, it is important to recognize that these benchmarks measure the **quantity** of facilities rather than the overall quality or functionality. By example, while Puslinch has a gymnasium, the facility has limitations related to run-off space, entrance and viewing areas, and seating capacity. The lack of these amenities limits Puslinch in accommodating league play, tournaments, and other competitive sporting events.

Similarly, the covered outdoor arena is smaller than a standard ice surface and operates only seasonally, restricting the range of programming and events that can be accommodated. Most notably, it cannot accommodate minor hockey games or figure skating sanctioned competitions, but can accommodate all sanctioned practices and skill development opportunities.

Together, the Optimist Recreation Centre and the Puslinch Community Centre provide the Township of Puslinch with a solid foundation of indoor recreation and community gathering space. However, while Puslinch meets or exceeds provincial service level benchmarks, the limited size and functionality of the existing recreation amenities—particularly the gymnasium and covered outdoor arena—constrain opportunities for expanded programming, competitive sport, and tournament hosting.

INDOOR FACILITY CONDITION

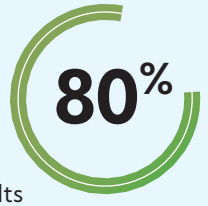
The Optimist Recreation Centre is generally in good condition and is well maintained by Township staff. Despite being only **16 years old,** the facility is experiencing significant HVAC-related issues that have resulted in excessive humidity levels, condensation, and water dripping from the ceiling. These issues have affected the reliability of the facility, resulting in cancelled bookings and a loss of rental revenue. The facility's refrigeration system, which is used to cool and preserve the ice during the winter months, is also limited in the temperature it can maintain. During periods of warmer winter weather, the system may be unable to maintain the required ice conditions, resulting in facility closures



and the cancellation of programming and private rentals. Beyond the immediate financial impacts, the ongoing moisture concerns increase the risk of premature deterioration of building components and reduce user comfort. Prioritizing improvements to the HVAC system will help protect the Township of Puslinch's investment, enhance facility reliability and user comfort, and support the continued success of facility bookings and programming.

The Puslinch Community Centre has benefited from recent capital improvements, including upgrades to the commercial kitchen and accessible washrooms, enhancing the functionality and accessibility of the facility. The building is well maintained by Township staff and remains in good overall condition. To maintain its appeal as the community's primary community gathering space, the facility would benefit from cosmetic improvements to the interior décor and furnishings, such as floor replacement. Upgrades to amenities such as the sound system, audio-visual equipment, presentation technology and the current bar area improvements will enhance the user experience and better support community events, meetings, banquets, and rentals. These improvements would modernize the facility while complimenting the recent investments made in the building.

What We Heard — Community Feedback



Residents consistently identified the Optimist Recreation Centre and Puslinch Community Centre as valued community assets that support recreation, community gatherings, and special events. Survey results indicate that both facilities are well used and considered important to the Township of Puslinch, with **more than 80% of respondents rating the Optimist Recreation Centre's outdoor arena and gymnasium as important,** and approximately three-quarters recognizing the importance of the community hall at the Puslinch Community Centre. Satisfaction with these facilities is generally high, reflecting their significant role in serving the community.



ASSET MANAGEMENT

Investing in preventative maintenance, energy efficiency initiatives, lifecycle renewal, and operational improvements are critical to support the long-term sustainability of these important community assets. Additionally, investments in customer focused amenity improvements are important to maintaining and growing utilization and associated revenues.

Both facilities have significant infrastructure needs that require more immediate attention. At the Optimist Recreation Centre, mechanical systems, including the HVAC system, are approaching the point where major investment will be required, while the Puslinch Community Centre requires upgrades to its septic system. The existing septic system has sufficient capacity to support the Puslinch Community Centre. To support continued facility operations and minimize potential impacts on bookings, the Township of Puslinch should increase its operating maintenance budget to allow for more frequent inspections and pump-outs.

These projects should be identified and prioritized in the long-term capital budget. Proactive investment in these critical systems will help minimize the risk of unexpected failures, avoid costly emergency repairs, reduce service disruptions, and protect the Township of Puslinch's investment in these valued community facilities.

What We Heard — Community Feedback

While **residents value the Township of Puslinch's indoor facilities,** engagement participants also identified opportunities to improve their functionality and long-term sustainability.

Priorities included enclosing and enhancing the outdoor rink with spectator seating, modernizing facilities through improved Wi-Fi and audio-visual technology, addressing aging building systems, and incorporating energy-efficient and sustainable building features into future upgrades. Participants also highlighted the need to address the septic system limitations at the Puslinch Community Centre, which may impact event bookings. Overall, **residents expressed a desire for more flexible, accessible, and functional indoor facilities that can better support year-round recreation, community programming, and events** while continuing to meet the needs of a growing community.





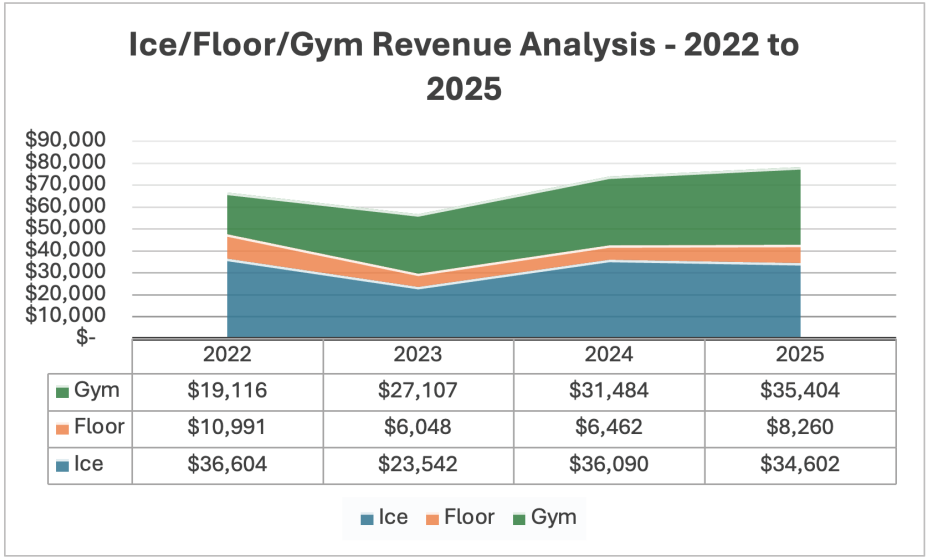


INDOOR FACILITY UTILIZATION ANALYSIS*

In the absence of detailed utilization data from registration and permitting software, an analysis of revenues was conducted as an indicator of use. Annual revenue increases are not strictly related to utilization as there could be a compounding effect from fee increases. Conversely, revenue decreases are more clear indicators of decreased utilization.

The chart below is a consolidation of gymnasium, floor, and ice rental actual revenues between 2022 - 2025. Indoor facilities were still subject to Covid-19 restrictions in the first quarter of 2022.

The 2022 gymnasium revenues were substantially lower than subsequent years (2023-2025). This may have been a result of residual indoor facility restrictions and the subsequent uptake in outdoor facilities during the Pandemic. Gymnasium revenues continue to increase year-over-year from 2023 – 2025. Ice utilization appeared to decrease substantively in 2023 yet recovered in 2024 and 2025 closer to 2022 levels.

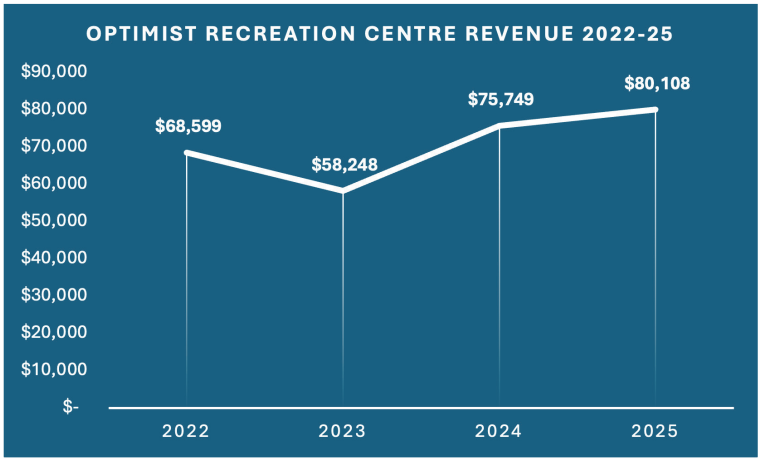


	2022	2023	2024	2025
Gym	$19,116	$27,107	$31,484	$35,404
Floor	$10,991	$6,048	$6,462	$8,260
Ice	$36,604	$23,542	$36,090	$34,602

Further utilization analysis was conducted by focussing on revenues within each of the indoor facilities.

OPTIMIST RECREATION CENTRE

Total facility revenues have increased by approximately **16.7%, from $68,599 in 2022** to **$80,108 in 2025,** reflecting growing demand for recreation programming and facility rentals. Revenue generated through facility bookings also demonstrates increasing demand, particularly for gymnasium and ice rentals, reinforcing the Optimist Recreation Centre's role as the community's primary indoor recreation hub.



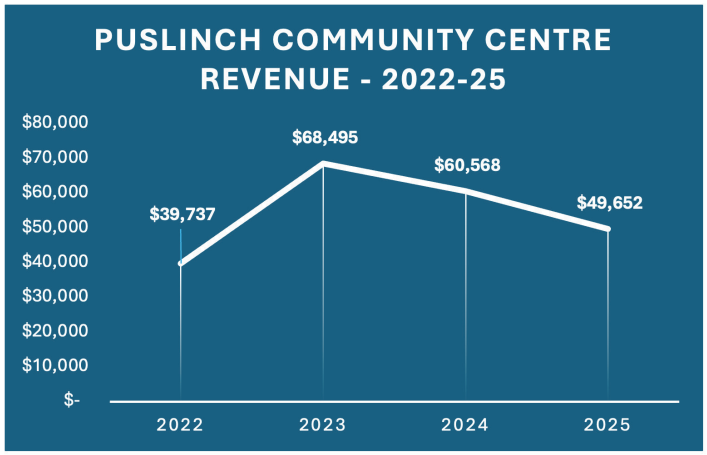
PUSLINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Puslinch Community Centre experienced a steady decline in revenues from a high of **$68,495 in 2023** which was **$28,758 (72%) higher than 2022 revenues**. Residual restrictions from the Pandemic in the first quarter of 2022 may have contributed to this lower revenue, as outdoor recreation activities remained an accessible option for the public.

* Data supplied by the Township of Puslinch



Revenues have decreased by **$18,843 since 2023** which is a concerning trend. Staff will need to complete a more thorough review of user experiences and fee trending through User Fees and Charges annual review processes to address shortfalls in this decline.



GYMNASIUM UTILIZATION

An analysis of current gymnasium use was undertaken to identify utilization patterns and opportunities for optimization. Pickleball is currently the dominant use of the gymnasium and is one of the fastest-growing sports, with participation extending across all age groups. The demand for pickleball is expected to continue to grow, and participants will increasingly look for better-quality, dedicated and year-round facilities to support their participation.

The Township of Puslinch needs to monitor gymnasium use from different perspectives; addressing gaps in activities and promoting use of the gymnasium for new purposes, and leveraging activities that provide strong community benefit and optimize facility revenues. As participation trends continue to evolve, the Township of Puslinch should consider how its existing facilities and future capital investments can respond to growing demand for year-round recreation opportunities.



Top image: Sardhar Katha

REGIONAL RECREATION PARTNERSHIPS

It is important to look at indoor recreation facilities from a regional perspective for Puslinch as it is surrounded by larger municipalities i.e., Milton, Cambridge and Guelph. The City of Guelph (South End Community Centre) has recently opened twin ice pads, aquatic centre with a lap and leisure pool, double gymnasium, a walking track and multi-purpose rooms that is less than a 5-minute drive from Puslinch Community Centre Park facilities. Puslinch should continue to explore opportunities to work with neighbouring municipalities to pursue joint investment in regional recreation facilities. Partnering on high-cost amenities, indoor turf facilities, dedicated pickleball courts and fieldhouses, will improve resident access while sharing capital and operating costs with neighbouring municipalities. Any partnership agreement should clearly define funding, governance, operating costs, resident access and shared benefits to ensure the arrangement is equitable for all participating municipalities.



Image: Rendering of Guelph South End Arena

PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

TIMING LEGEND

Short = 1-3 years **Medium =** 4-7 years **Long =** 8+ years **Ongoing**

RESOURCES LEGEND

Internal A – Existing Staffing Resources
(Recommendation can be implemented with current staffing resources)
Internal B – Additional Staffing Resources
(Recommendation requires additional staffing resources to implement)
External – Initial Cost and Operating Cost *(*2026 current dollar estimates)*

TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
	INDOOR FACILITIES		
SHORT/ ONGOING HIGH PRIORITY	**1. Improve existing indoor facilities through asset management** Continue investing in the Optimist Recreation Centre and Puslinch Community Centre through lifecycle renewal and modernization. Prioritize upgrades to mechanical systems, septic system, accessibility, HVAC, refrigeration compressor, and energy efficiency.	**Internal A, Finance** **Cost Estimate: $500,000–Millions** [compressor: $100,000; septic: $350,000; accessibility improvements: $300,000+; HVAC/mechanical systems: $300,000+; energy efficiency: $200,000] **External** **Ongoing Trade Services: $100/hr**	Asset Management Plan
SHORT/ ONGOING HIGH/ MEDIUM PRIORITY	**2. Maximize capital budgets for modernization of facilities** Upgrades to interior finishes (such as floor replacement) and technology (audio-visual/ Wifi improvements) to ensure the facilities continue to meet community needs and remain financially sustainable.	**Internal A, Finance** **Cost Estimate: increase of $50,000 annually** [audio-visual improvements: $10,000; floor replacement: approx. $12-20 sq/ft]	Strategic Plan Asset Management Plan
SHORT - PHASE A LONG - PHASE B PHASE A - HIGH PRIORITY PHASE B - LOWER PRIORITY	**3. Enhance the Optimist Recreation Centre rink for multi-season use** Investigate opportunities to enhance the Optimist Recreation Centre covered outdoor arena, or improved netting, multi-sport court lines to the arena floor, walking lanes, portable basketball standards, for improved multi-season functionality.	**Phase A – Internal B** **Cost Estimate:** sport lines/basketball standards: $17,000 **Phase B – External** **Cost Estimate: $75,000** (netting) **to 5 million** (enclosing the rink)	Asset Management Plan

PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

TIMING LEGEND

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Internal B – Additional Staffing Resources
(Recommendation requires additional staffing resources to implement)
External – Initial Cost and Operating Cost *(*2026 current dollar estimates)*

TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
MEDIUM/ LONG LOWER PRIORITY	**4. Optimist Recreation Centre rink enclosure and expansion** The Township should undertake a feasibility study to assess the operating and capital costs of enclosing and expanding the existing Optimist Recreation Centre rink to create a more functional, year-round recreation and community facility.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $30,000**	Strategic Plan Asset Management Plan
LONG LOWER PRIORITY	**5. Regional recreation opportunities** Explore opportunities with neighbouring municipalities to identify opportunities for shared recreation infrastructure and services like dedicated pickleball courts, indoor turf, and other specialized facilities.	**Internal, External, Finance** **Cost Estimate: $50,000 to Millions** (with potential operational costs)	Asset Management Plan; County Official Plan; Strategic Plan

ADMINISTRATION & POLICIES

The Township of Puslinch has several agreements in place with local organizations, including the Optimist Club of Puslinch, Puslinch Minor Baseball, Puslinch Minor Soccer Club, Seniors' Pickleball Group, Aberfoyle Agricultural Society, and Whistle Stop Cooperative Preschool. These agreements provide a clear framework for managing facility rentals, storage and shed arrangements and are a positive practice, as they help clarify responsibilities and mitigate potential risks.

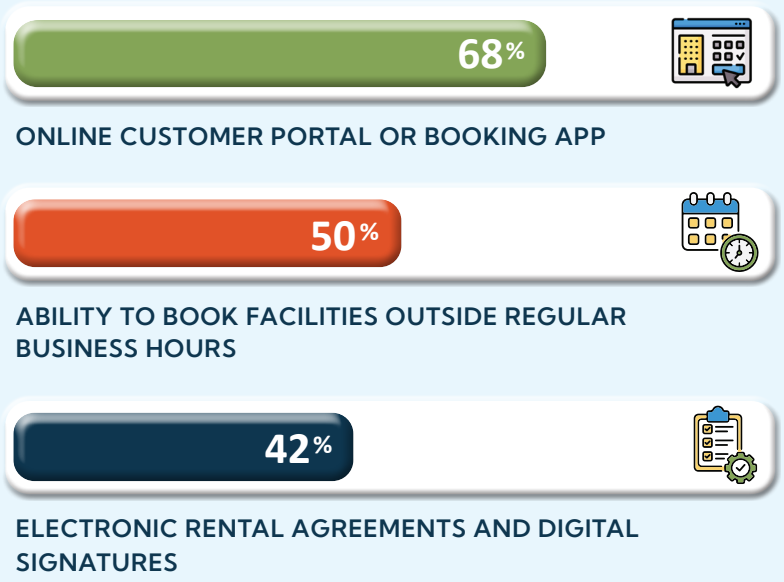
There is no formal allocation policy for ice, floor, gymnasiums or community centre space. Currently, requests are generally processed based on availability, with users completing a rental request form, providing required documentation (including proof of insurance), and submitting payment. A formal allocation process would provide greater transparency and consistency when there are competing requests. Priority should generally be given to local programs, youth and seniors, community-based not-for-profit groups open to the broader community, closed-membership organizations and, finally, private rentals. It will be important to have a well-balanced program and financial mix, as currently, there is a reduced rate for many of these programs.

Two formal allocation periods each year would allow staff to review requests collectively and confirm allocations within a defined timeframe. Improved recreation management software could also streamline online bookings, payments, permits and recurring rentals.

Currently the Township of Puslinch's booking software is limited, and staff should look into alternative software that can assist with improved online customer experience and expanded data collection.

What We Heard — Community Feedback

The TOP THREE additional features or improvements survey respondents would most like as **part of the rental process** are:



There was also interest in modifying/canceling bookings online and receiving booking updates electronically.

PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

TIMING LEGEND

Short = 1-3 years **Medium =** 4-7 years **Long =** 8+ years **Ongoing**

RESOURCES LEGEND

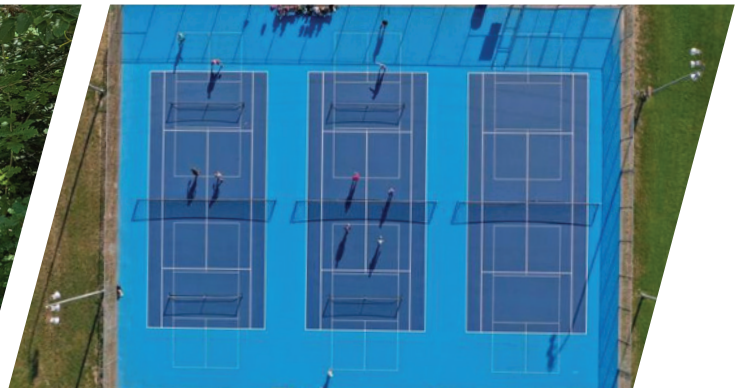
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(Recommendation can be implemented with current staffing resources)
Internal B – Additional Staffing Resources
(Recommendation requires additional staffing resources to implement)
External – Initial Cost and Operating Cost *(*2026 current dollar estimates)*

TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
	ADMINISTRATION AND POLICIES		
SHORT **MEDIUM PRIORITY**	**1. Develop a formal Facility Allocation Policy** Establish a formal allocation policy that identifies priority levels, eligibility requirements and criteria for resolving competing requests for facilities. Implement two annual allocation periods for regular user groups, with defined application deadlines, review criteria and confirmation timelines.	**Internal B***	Strategic Plan
SHORT **HIGH PRIORITY**	**2. Explore recreation management software options** Explore different recreation management software products (i.e., ActiveNet, PerfectMind, Xplor Recreation, PickUpHub) to determine the most appropriate system for administration, with consideration given to online bookings, payments, permits, insurance tracking, recurring rentals and facility utilization reporting.	**Internal A, External** **Cost Estimate: $40,000** (initial); **$8,000** (ongoing license)	Strategic Plan

* Current staff would not be able to fulfill the recommendations to their fullest without the hiring of a Community Development Coordinator.







OUTDOOR FACILITIES

OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITY INVENTORY AND PROVISION

Puslinch has a variety of outdoor recreation facilities that are found within five of their eight park spaces.

The following table denotes the facilities; how many the Township of Puslinch owns and where they are located and explores the service level provision. Based on the Puslinch's current population of approximately **8,550 residents**, the Township of Puslinch meets or exceeds recognized provincial service level provision guidelines for most outdoor recreation facilities. These targets are based on quantity of facilities and population.



OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITY TYPE	TOTAL QUANTITY	PRIMARY LOCATIONS	TOTAL FACILITIES (UNLIT EQUIVALENT 1 LIT = 1.5 UNLIT)	EXISTING TOWNSHIP SERVICE LEVEL	RECOGNIZED PROVINCIAL SERVICE LEVEL
Senior Soccer Fields (11v11)*	2	Badenoch Field (1) unlit field Puslinch Community Centre Park (1) lit field	3.5	1:2,443	1:5,000
Youth Soccer Fields (7v7)**	1	Puslinch Community Centre Park (1) unlit field			
Senior Ball Diamonds	3	Puslinch Community Centre Park (1) lit. Old Morriston Ball Field (1) lit. Morriston Meadows (1) unlit	5	1:1,710	1:4,000
Junior / Practice Ball Diamonds	1	Morriston Meadows (1) unlit			
Batting Cages	2	Old Morriston Ball Field: 1 batting cage Puslinch Community Centre Park: 1 batting cage	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tennis Courts/Pickleball Courts	3 (tennis) 7(pickleball)	Puslinch Community Centre Park: 3 lit tennis courts; 6 lit pickleball courts Boreham Park (1) unlit, lined onto basketball court	4.5 (tennis) 10 (pickleball)	1:1,900 (tennis) 1:855 (pickleball)	1:5000 (both)
Basketball / Multi-Use Courts	2	Morriston Meadows (1) full-size unlit asphalt court Boreham Park (1) full-size unlit asphalt court	2	1:4,725	1:5,000

*Senior Fields – Width (45 to 90 metres) & Length (90 to 120 metres)

**Youth Fields – Width (30 to 36 metres) & Length (40 to 55 metres)[1]

[1]Canada Soccer Grassroots Standards. Retrieved on 09.03.2026 from https://canadasoccer.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/2026-CS-GrassrootsStandards-EN_final91.pdf

The mini pitch (horse paddock) field at the Puslinch Community Centre Park, may be used for informal soccer play, however due to its size it cannot be categorized as a standard soccer field and also is not included in this inventory.



NON-MUNICIPAL OUTDOOR FACILITIES

Currently, Puslinch does not have agreements with private land owners for the use of their outdoor recreation facilities, therefore, their facilities are not included in this inventory. However, there are several facilities to note that are currently accessible to the public to rent through non-municipal organizations including:

- One senior and two youth soccer fields rented privately from Calvary Baptist Church.
- One baseball diamond and three basketball courts available at Aberfoyle Public School.

These facilities, while not municipally owned or secured through a long-term agreement are not necessarily counted as guaranteed municipal capacity for long-term service-level planning, however they still warrant being identified and considered when assessing the recreation amenities that are currently available to Puslinch residents.

OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITY CONDITIONS

OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITY	FACILITY CONDITION
SOCCER FIELDS 	**THE PUSLINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE SENIOR SOCCER FIELD** was the most recently constructed with players benches and spectator bleachers as well as new lights installed in 2023. The youth soccer field was also reconstructed at this time and is unlit. Visually, there do not appear to be issues with the field. Weed growth observed in the playing field surface. **The fields are in good condition.** **BADENOCH SOCCER FIELD** also contains spectator bleachers, an older single light pole (not fully lit) and a portable washroom facility. **The field appears to be in good condition.**
BASEBALL DIAMONDS   	At the **MORRISTON MEADOWS BASEBALL DIAMONDS,** the infield and outfield for **both the adult and junior diamonds appear to be in good condition.** There is no lighting for either diamond at this park. The senior diamond features spectator seating which was recently upgraded as well as covered dugouts for both teams. The diamond is also fenced and features a warning track. The junior diamond has unshaded players benches and older spectator seating, both of which are in very poor condition as per the recent visual inspection conducted for this Plan. The outfield is not fenced. The junior diamond (T-ball field) does not contain a warning track. Morriston Meadows contains a washroom and concession stand (access provided to renters only) in good to fair condition. There is no formal accessible route from the parking lot to the diamonds and there is significant grade differences between the parking lot and the two diamonds. Weed growth observed in the outfields. The **OLD MORRISTON BASEBALL DIAMOND** is sized for adult play, is fully fenced with unshaded players benches and recently upgraded spectator seating. The diamond is in **fair to good condition** and has recently upgraded field lighting. The diamond also features a washroom and concession stand (access provided to renters only) in good to fair condition. This amenity is also complemented by a batting cage in fair condition, and the field contains a warning track. The parking area for this diamond is informal with visitors parking on the open grass area to the northeast of the diamond. Weed growth observed in the maintained areas and outfields. **PUSLINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE PARK** baseball diamond appears to be **in good condition.** The lighting was recently upgraded at the same time of the senior soccer field upgrades. The spectator bleachers on the west side of the diamond appear to be recently constructed with metal on a concrete pad. The opposite team side however, has yet to be upgraded. The seating is deteriorating and there is no accessible route on this side. The diamond is fully fenced and features a warning track as well as a concession stand. Weed growth observed in the maintained areas and outfields.

OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITY	FACILITY CONDITION
TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL COURTS	The combined tennis/pickleball courts underwent recent renovations in 2024. They are considered to be in **very good condition** and are fully fenced, are lit and feature seating within the fenced area.
BASKETBALL / MULTI USE-COURTS 	**BOREHAM PARK BASKETBALL / MULTI-USE COURT** was constructed as early as 2018. During the site inspections conducted for this Plan, the paving is considered to be **in good condition** (no major distresses), but the linework has faded somewhat. The net posts are considered to be in good condition as well. **THE MORRISTON MEADOWS BASKETBALL COURT** consists of asphalt paving with hoops and backboards mounted on posts. This court is not lined. This court is considered to be in **fair to good condition.**

What We Heard — Community Feedback

- Respondents were looking for **lines to be painted at Morriston Meadows Basketball Court** for basketball as it is currently unlined.
- Sports groups mentioned **unsafe fields which could injure players**, and that regular maintenance (mowing/rolling/infield dragging) does not seem to adequately preserve the quality of the fields.
- The **quality of the players benches and bleachers** at the junior/practise ball diamond at Morriston Meadows **are very poor.**
- **High-quality sports fields** were the **fourth most popular** answer for **existing valued park amenities** (29%), compared to **Upkeep/maintenance/beautification** (33%), **Playgrounds** (34%), and **Public Washrooms** (68%).



OUTDOOR UTILIZATION ANALYSIS

SOCCER FIELDS – HOURS*

Assuming all lit fields are rentable between the hours of 5PM–10:00PM Monday to Friday and 8AM–10PM Saturday and Sunday between May to October (approximately 24 weeks), the following table demonstrates the amount of hours fields were booked compared to total available hours. Unlit soccer fields are rentable between the hours of 5PM–8:30PM Monday to Friday, and 8AM–8:30PM Saturday and Sunday. Currently, the fields are available for bookings via facilities@puslinch.ca or Puslinch.ca/rentalrequest.



SOCCER FIELD	2022 (HOURS)	2023 (HOURS)	2024 (HOURS)	2025 (HOURS)	TOTAL AVAILABLE HOURS IN 2025
Puslinch Community Centre Park Youth Soccer Field(Unlit)	343.00	85.00	275.50	233.00	1,140
Puslinch Community Centre Park Senior Soccer Field (Lit)	–	–	307.50	286.50	1,272
Badenoch Soccer Field (Unlit)	237.50	223.50	209.50	142	1,140

SOCCER FIELDS – REVENUE*

SOCCER FIELD	2022 REVENUE	2023 REVENUE	2024 REVENUE	2025 REVENUE
Total Soccer Field Revenue	$4,102	$2,213	$6,102	$5,513

Both Puslinch Community Centre Park soccer fields exhibit the highest usage volumes overall and are used heavily by Puslinch Minor Soccer Club. Bookings begin in mid-May and run through late October.



* Data supplied by the Township of Puslinch

BASEBALL DIAMONDS – HOURS*

Assuming all lit diamonds are rentable between the hours of 5PM–10:00PM Monday to Friday, and between 8AM–10:00PM Saturday and Sunday between May to October (approximately 24 weeks), the following table demonstrates the amount of hours diamonds were booked compared to total available hours. Unlit diamonds are rentable between the hours of 5PM–8:30PM Monday to Friday, and between 8AM–8:30PM Saturday and Sunday. Currently, the diamonds are available for bookings via facilities@puslinch.ca or Puslinch.ca/rentalrequest.



BASEBALL DIAMOND	2022 (HOURS)	2023 (HOURS)	2024 (HOURS)	2025 (HOURS)	TOTAL AVAILABLE HOURS IN 2025
Puslinch Community Centre Park Ball Diamond (Lit)	196.80	252.50	210.50	231.00	1,272
Morriston Meadows Ball Diamonds (Unlit)	105.30	124	188.50	259.50	1,140
Old Morriston Ball Diamond (Lit)	81.30	209.50	289.00	208.50	1,272

Old Morriston and Puslinch Community Centre Park ball diamonds, as the only two lit diamonds allow for extended evening bookings, particularly for adult leagues. Puslinch Community Centre Park Ball Diamond is the most heavily used asset.

BASEBALL DIAMONDS – REVENUE*

BASEBALL DIAMOND	2022 REVENUE	2023 REVENUE	2024 REVENUE	2025 REVENUE
Puslinch Community Centre Park Ball Diamond	$4,837	$5,696	$5,686	$6,724
Morriston Meadows Ball Diamond	$1,518	$1,776	$3,396	$5,304
Old Morriston Ball Diamond	$1,523	$2,496	$3,547	$2,960
Total Ball Diamond Revenue	$7,878	$9,968	$12,628	$14,988

Puslinch Community Centre Park Ball Diamond is the Township's highest revenue ball diamond asset, generating nearly $7,000 in 2025. Morriston Meadows exhibits a high concentration of bookings in June and July and also experiences seasonal tournament bookings and consecutive league play.

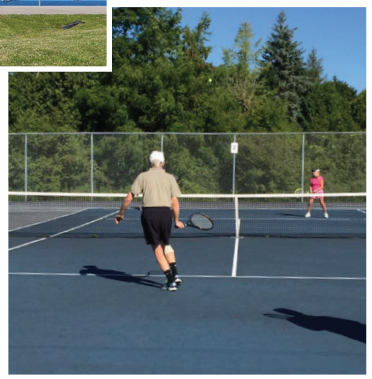
* Data supplied by the Township of Puslinch

TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL COURTS – HOURS*

Courts are bookable from 8:00 AM–10:00 PM Monday to Sunday between May to October (24 weeks), the following table demonstrates the amount of hours courts were booked compared to total available hours.

COURT NAME	2024 (HOURS)	2025 (HOURS)	TOTAL AVAILABLE HOURS
Court 1 (Multi-Use / Lined)	164.50	185.00	2,352
Court 2 (Multi-Use / Lined)	117.00	169.00	2,352
Court 3 (Public Access/Unlined)	32.00	49.00	2,352





TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL COURTS - REVENUE*

COURT NAME	2024 REVENUE*	2025 REVENUE
Court 1 (Multi-Use / Lined)	$1,806	$612
Court 2 (Multi-Use / Lined)	$657	$408
Court 3 (Public Access / Unlined)	$271	$420
Total Tennis and Pickleball Revenue	$2,734	$1,440

*Courts were exclusively used by Puslinch Tennis Club with no public access in 2023 and previous years.

The multi-use upgrades were completed in 2023, which added pickleball lining to the tennis courts, for more rental opportunities. Courts 1 and 2 accounted for the majority of the outdoor court rentals. Court 3 accommodates extensive spontaneous un-booked recreational play by the public. The season for bookings is restricted to May through October with peak bookings in June and July.



* Data supplied by the Township of Puslinch





Images left to right: Market Square, Guelph (image: City of Guelph); Bismark Park, Cambridge (image: City of Cambridge); and Milton Community Park, Milton (photo: Town of Milton)

AMENITIES NOT PRESENT TO CONSIDER

The Township of Puslinch's existing parks have created a baseline of services that have provided the community with numerous recreation and programming features for residents to enjoy. Some gaps or opportunities that have been mentioned during engagement include: disc golf, beach volleyball, skate parks, splash pads and off-leash areas.

OUTDOOR AMENITIES IN ADJACENT COMMUNITIES

It is important to highlight, that though Puslinch doesn't offer some of the amenities that have been requested, residents do enjoy convenient access to extensive outdoor recreation amenities such as parks, hiking trails, sports fields, and open spaces—in neighbouring municipalities such as Guelph, Cambridge, and Milton. These municipalities do offer some of the larger more intensive amenities that were noted in the previous section.

The table below highlights key outdoor facilities available in these surrounding communities.

OUTDOOR RECOMMENDATIONS

As a note, higher-cost recommendations should be considered for implementation as third-party funding opportunities become available recognizing that timing may be influenced by grant eligibility, partnership/ fundraising opportunities, municipal financial capacity, and other competing capital priorities. Significant capital investments will require more operational resources (staff, maintenance budgets, etc.).

MUNICIPALITY	SOCCER FIELDS	BALL DIAMONDS	TENNIS COURTS	MULTIPURPOSE / BASKETBALL COURTS	PLAYGROUNDS	SPLASH PADS	LEASH-FREE AREAS	SKATE PARK
Guelph	38	44	25	30	86	9	10	1
Cambridge	30	45	14	12	70	12	1	1
Milton	39	28	13	17	60	16	2	2

PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

TIMING LEGEND

Short = 1-3 years **Medium =** 4-7 years **Long =** 8+ years **Ongoing**

RESOURCES LEGEND

Internal A – Existing Staffing Resources
(Recommendation can be implemented with current staffing resources)
Internal B – Additional Staffing Resources
(Recommendation requires additional staffing resources to implement)
External – Initial Cost and Operating Cost *(*2026 current dollar estimates)*

TIMELINE PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
	OUTDOOR FACILITIES – GENERAL		
SHORT HIGH PRIORITY	**1. Complete a Peer Review of the Public Works, Parks, and Facilities Level of Service Policy** To evaluate the effectiveness of the policy due to feedback related to quality of sports fields (and maintenance of park spaces), the existing policy should be reviewed.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $10,000 to $20,000**	
SHORT MEDIUM PRIORITY	**2. Maintenance-in-lieu Agreements** Partner with sports groups (local baseball or soccer clubs) for collaborations / partnerships with routine, game-day maintenance activities such as field lining, diamond dragging, minor cleanup and post-game litter removal, while the Township of Puslinch would continue to be responsible for major maintenance, inspections, repairs and safety-related work. This shared approach could improve field quality and service levels while reducing municipal staff requirements.	**Internal A**	Strategic Plan
MEDIUM MEDIUM PRIORITY	**3. Work with the User Groups to develop a Turf Action Plan for the sports field spaces to improve quality of playing surfaces for user satisfaction and safety.** Turf Action Plans look at visual condition audits, capacity and booking reviews, standard turf maintenance protocols (mowing, aeration, overseeding schedules).	**External** **Cost Estimate: $15,000 to $25,000**	
LONG LOWER PRIORITY	**4. Explore municipal partnerships for the shared use of parkland and recreation facilities** As neighbouring municipalities face increasing demands for parkland associated with future development, opportunities to make Puslinch assets available for their recreation programming and rentals should be explored.	**Internal A**	Strategic Plan

PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

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TIMELINE PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
LONG LOWER PRIORITY	**5. Consider co-investment matching models** Potential to require sports associations to co-fund minor capital upgrades such as covered dugouts, scoreboards, bench upgrades lighting etc. in exchange for multi-year priority booking access etc.	**Internal A**	Strategic Plan
MEDIUM LOWER PRIORITY	**6. Non-sport field permits** Rent field spaces during low-demand windows for commercial uses such as fitness boot camps, dog training groups, corporate team building events, etc.	**Internal A**	Strategic Plan
	OUTDOOR FACILITIES – SOCCER FIELDS		
LONG LOWER PRIORITY	**1. Badenoch Soccer Field upgrades** Replace the single lighting pole with standard soccer field lighting and construct permanent washroom facilities at Badenoch Soccer Field to allow for more intense use and play.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $300,000 to $1M+** [lighting: $300,000; washroom: $500,000]	Asset Management Plan
MEDIUM MEDIUM PRIORITY	**2. Puslinch Community Centre flooding resiliency upgrades** Consider constructing a berm between the Youth Soccer Field and the creek to mitigate the impacts of flooding. The granular trail and field flood regularly, remove granular trail and replace with berm instead.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $50,000 to $150,000**	Asset Management Plan
LONG+ LOWER PRIORITY	**3. Artificial turf feasibility study** Conduct a Feasibility Study to consider upgrading one soccer pitch to artificial turf to accommodate a higher intensity of use and longer season.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $20,000 for Feasibility Study**	Asset Management Plan

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(Recommendation requires additional staffing resources to implement)
External – Initial Cost and Operating Cost *(*2026 current dollar estimates)*

TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
	OUTDOOR FACILITIES – BASEBALL DIAMONDS		
MEDIUM MEDIUM PRIORITY	**1. Morriston Meadows lighting upgrades** Consider adding lighting to Morriston Meadows Baseball Diamond to further increase the amount of playable hours available to sports groups and the public.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $200,000 to $350,000**	Asset Management Plan
	OUTDOOR FACILITIES – BASKETBALL		
SHORT HIGH PRIORITY	**1. Morriston Meadows basketball court lining** Provide new court lining for Morriston Meadows basketball court. Consider also lining for pickleball to provide additional facilities. Options include simple line painting to full acrylic coating.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $3,500 to $14,000**	Asset Management Plan
	ADDITIONAL AMENITIES		
LONG MEDIUM PRIORITY	**1. Conduct a splash pad feasibility study** Puslinch should consider the development of one splash pad as part of its future recreation inventory. Given the servicing constraints associated with providing this type of amenity in Puslinch, a feasibility study should be undertaken as a first step to assess servicing options, capital and operating requirements, potential locations, and the overall viability of a splash pad within the Township.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $15,000 to $40,000 for feasibility study** [Construction of a splash pad ranges from $20,000 to $45,000 for a <300 sq. ft. – 1 spray nozzle/head basic setup to $150,000 to $350,000 for a <1,500 sq. ft. – 3 to 5 nozzle/1-2 post/bucket setup.] Prices vary depending on the number of features, the finish on the pavement and the water collection/disposal used.	







PARKS AND PARK AMENITIES

PARKLAND SUPPLY

The Township of Puslinch has eight parks within their inventory which total 21.6 hectares. The following table summarizes the inventory of the parks.

PARK NAME	CLASSIFICATION	ACRES*	HECTARES
Puslinch Community Centre Park	Community Park	23.2	9.4
Morriston Meadows Park	Community Park	6.1	2.5
Old Morriston Park	Community Park	6.1	2.5
Badenoch Soccer Field	Neighbourhood Park	5.5	2.2
Fox Run Park and Trail	Neighbourhood Park	5.7	2.3
Boreham Park	Neighbourhood Park	2.1	0.9
Historic Corner Block Park	Parkette	0.3	0.1
Telfer Glen Park (Trail Area)	Natural Park	4.3	1.8
	TOTAL	**53.3**	**21.6**

*2024 Development Charges Background Study



EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATION MAP



FILE LOCATION: K:\2026\263707\Product\Client\Report_Figures\263707_Puslinch_reportfigures\263707_Puslinch_reportfigures.aprx; LAYOUT: Fig1_ExistingParksAndRec

Township of Puslinch

Puslinch recreation and Parks Master Plan

Existing Parks and Recreation Map

Figure 1

- Puslinch Boundary
- Park
- Conservation Land
- Settlement Boundary
- Parkland Catchment Area (800m Buffer)
- Trail
- Road
- 1 Puslinch Community Centre Park
- 2 Morriston Meadows Park
- 3 Old Morriston Park
- 4 Puslinch Tract
- 5 Badenoch Park
- 6 Fox Run Park
- 7 Boreham Park
- 8 Historic Corner Block Park
- 9 Telfer Glen Park Trail
- 10 Starkey Hill Conservation Lands
- 11 Mountsberg Conservation Area



Map Drawing Information:
Data Provided by ESRI, Wellington County

Scale 1:80,000

0 1 2 4 KM

N

Created By: RR	Project: 26-3707
Checked By: MK	Status: DRAFT
Map Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 17N	Date: 2026-10-09

DILLON

TRAILS SUPPLY

In addition to the parks, Puslinch also has a number of trails in its inventory which complement the recreational amenities by providing passive recreational opportunities. Trails owned by Puslinch include:

TRAIL NAME	LOCATION	LINEAR METRES
Fox Run Trail	Fox Run Park, Fox Run Drive	400
Telfer Glen Trail	Telfer Glen Park Trail, Calfass Road	270
Wayne Stokley Trail	Puslinch Community Centre Park	450
	TOTAL	**1,120**

There are also a number of trails within Puslinch that are owned and maintained by others:

- Starkey Hill Conservation Area, Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA)
- Smith Side Trail – Radial Line Trail, GRCA
- Little Tract Trail, County of Wellington
- Speed River Trail, GRCA
- Badenoch Tract, County of Wellington
- Quarry Trail – Fletcher Ecological Preserve, Hamilton Conservation Authority
- Lakeshore Lookout Trail – Mountsberg Conservation Area, Conservation Halton

Municipalities of similar size have varying parkland provision targets. Larger municipalities have less available land for parks and larger populations which leads to lower provision targets. The following table summarizes comparative parkland provision targets.

MUNICIPALITY	LOCATION	2026 POPULATION ESTIMATES	PARKLAND PROVISION TARGET / STANDARD (PER 1,000 RESIDENTS)
Township of Puslinch	Rural / Wellington County	8,550[2]	3.0 ha
Guelph/Eramosa Township	Rural / Wellington County	14,540[3]	3.5 – 3.9 ha
Town of Erin	Rural / Wellington County	14,940[4]	3.5 ha
Township of Wilmot	Semi-Rural / Waterloo Region	22,500[5]	3.0 ha – 3.5 ha
Township of Woolwich	Semi-Rural / Waterloo Region	30,000[6]	2.5 ha
Township of Centre Wellington	Semi-Rural / Wellington County	35,520[7]	3.0 ha



[2] Current Population and Households. Wellington County. Retrieved on 09.04.2026 from: https://www.wellington.ca/business-development/planning-development/current-population-and-households

[3] Current Population and Households. Wellington County. Retrieved on 09.04.2026 from: https://www.wellington.ca/business-development/planning-development/current-population-and-households

[4] Current Population and Households. Wellington County. Retrieved on 09.04.2026 from: https://www.wellington.ca/business-development/planning-development/current-population-and-households

[5] Community Profile. Township of Wilmot. Retrieved on 09.04.2026 from: https://www.wilmot.ca/business-and-development/community-profile/

[6] Demographics. Woolwich Township. Retrieved on 09.04.2026 from: https://www.woolwich.ca/build-invest/demographics/

[7] Current Population and Households. Wellington County. Retrieved on 09.04.2026 from: https://www.wellington.ca/business-development/planning-development/current-population-and-households

Based on the Township of Puslinch's current population of approximately 8,550 and an existing municipal parkland supply of 21.6 hectares, Puslinch currently provides approximately 2.5 hectares of parkland per 1,000 residents. A parkland provision target of 3.0 hectares per 1,000 residents is recommended, generally aligning with the provision targets identified for comparable municipalities in the geographical area. At the current population, approximately 25.7 hectares would be required to achieve the recommended target, representing a current shortfall of approximately 4.1 hectares. According to the 2021 Census and Wellington County Planning Profile, Puslinch is expected to grow to 10,000 residents by 2051. At that population, approximately 30.0 hectares of parkland would be required to maintain the recommended provision target. If Puslinch's municipal parkland supply remains at 21. 6 hectares, an additional approximately 8.4 hectares of parkland would therefore be required by 2051.

The Township of Puslinch recently acquired approximately 107-hectare Puslinch Tract, located in the southwest area of Puslinch, south of Highway 401, west of County Road 32 and north of Concession Road 2. The property includes naturalized forest plantations, deciduous and coniferous forests, meadows, ponds and wetlands. The acquisition represents a significant addition to the Township of Puslinch's publicly owned open space and recreational land base, and helps address an identified geographic gap in access to municipal recreation and open space opportunities in the western area of Puslinch.

Council is considering a multi-use vision for the Puslinch Tract that protects its natural character while supporting compatible recreation, including hiking and mountain biking, environmental education, and community use. Council is considering a potential setting for a science and environmental education centre or similar "living laboratory" opportunity, where research, ecological learning and public education can be integrated with the natural landscape. Any such use should complement, rather than



displace, existing recreational opportunities and should be appropriately scaled and designed to maintain ecological integrity and the site's rural character. Future improvements should enhance accessibility for people of different ages and abilities while protecting ecological integrity, natural character and sensitive habitats. Any expansion of uses should proceed through a phased approach that considers transportation, parking, infrastructure, impacts on the surrounding community, and all other relevant environmental and land use planning considerations.

If the full 107 hectares is classified as municipal parkland, the total parkland inventory would increase from approximately 21.6 hectares to 128.6 hectares. This would equate to approximately 15.0 hectares per 1,000 residents based on the current population of 8,550, and approximately 12.9 hectares per 1,000 residents based on the projected population of 10,000.

Given the predominantly natural character of the Puslinch Tract, however, its contribution to the community parkland supply should be considered separately from the provision of active and developed parkland. Acquisition of the property significantly enhances opportunities for passive recreation, trails, nature appreciation and conservation.

PARKS AMENITIES INVENTORY

Outside of outdoor recreational facilities, there are also a number of other amenities that comprise the Township of Puslinch's park areas. The following table summarizes the Parks Amenities.

AMENITY TYPE	PARK / LOCATION	TOTAL QUANTITY
Playgrounds & Play Spaces	Puslinch Community Centre Park (1 accessible); Morriston Meadows Park (1); Boreham Park (1 accessible)	3
Picnic Pavilions	Morriston Meadows Park	1
Shade Structures	Puslinch Community Centre Park (2); Boreham Park (1)	3
Gardens / Horticultural Displays	Puslinch Community Centre Park (Millennium Garden); Historic Corner Block Park	2

PARKS AMENITIES SERVICE PROVISION

Parks amenities are slightly different than those for outdoor recreation facilities. The following table outlines comparable service levels for amenities found within the Township of Puslinch's inventory.

EXAMPLE MUNICIPALITY	AMENITY TYPE	PRIMARY TARGET MODEL	TYPICAL TARGET BENCHMARK
Centre Wellington/ Wilmot	Playgrounds & Play Spaces	Geographic Radius (Service Area)	1 per 800-metre walking distance radius
Erin / Halton Hills	Picnic Pavilions (Bookable)	Park Hierarchy/ Classification	1 per Community Park

The target for playgrounds and play spaces should be 1 playground per 800-metre radius of residential areas within the settlement boundaries. Puslinch's current playgrounds appear to adequately service the settlement areas within an 800-metre catchment radius for Arkell, Aberfoyle and Morriston.

The target for Picnic Pavilions or bookable picnic areas should be 1 per Community Park.

Shade structures, while prominent features in parks do not typically have a target. They are considered supporting amenities rather than standalone destination facilities. That said, due to the aging population and the effects of climate change with longer stretches of higher temperature days, shade structures should be included in both new and existing parks where destination amenities are present.

PARKS AMENITIES CONDITION

Playgrounds vary in their condition. **THE PUSLINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE PARK** playground was recently modernized in the spring of 2023 and is considered to be in **very good condition.** The old playground was replaced with a fully accessible play structure. **THE BOREHAM PARK** playground was recently upgraded in 2023 and is considered to be **in very good condition.** It was also built for accessibility. **THE MORRISTON MEADOWS PARK** playground is considered to be in **good to fair condition.**

The picnic pavilion at Morriston Meadows Park is considered to be in very good condition. During site visits, it was mentioned by staff that the picnic tables should be replaced in the near term due to their age and condition.

The shade structure and the shaded picnic area within the Puslinch Community Centre Park as well as Boreham Park are also newly constructed and are considered to be in very good condition.

THE MILLENNIUM GARDEN at the Puslinch Community Centre Park is considered to be **in fair condition**. The benches and signage are fairly new; however, the planting beds are considered to be in poor condition due to their weeds. Pathways are also not accessible within the garden itself.

THE HISTORIC CORNER BLOCK PARK is a small parkette located in Morriston. Park entrance (name) signage is new. The pathways and benches are in **poor condition** due to age; pathway widths are not accessible. The plantings and lawn area are in poor condition due to weeds.



What We Heard — Community Feedback

Feedback received during community workshops, as well as feedback received from the survey, indicated **residents are dissatisfied with the quality of the Millennium Garden**, particularly the **weeds and lack of maintenance**.

During the 2026–2030 strategic planning workshops, residents and community groups explicitly highlighted **upgrading the Morriston Meadows Park playground equipment** as a key community priority.

What We Heard — Community Feedback

66% of survey residents **use the parks & trails.**

TOP THREE EXISTING PARK AMENITIES:

- **Public Washrooms** – 68%
- **Playgrounds** – 36%
- **Upkeep/Maintenance/Beautification** – 33%

TOP 10 NEW PARK AMENITIES desired by residents:

1. **Walking Track** – 27%
2. **New Playground**– 25%
3. **Splash Pad** – 24%
4. **All Season Trail** – 20%
5. **Public Washrooms** – 20%
6. **Beach Volleyball Courts** – 18%
7. **Enhancements to Outdoor Rink** – 18%
8. **Multi-use Courts** – 18%
9. **Designated Pickleball Courts** – 14%
10. **Biking Trails** – 11%

TOP THREE PRIORITIES:

The top 3 priorities residents chose for future parks and recreation investment:

- **Invest in new park infrastructure in existing parks** – 62%
- **Invest in more programs / services at recreation facilities** – 49%
- **Improve/upgrade existing park infrastructure** – 44%

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TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
	PARKS & AMENITIES – GENERAL		
SHORT HIGH PRIORITY	**1. Master Plan for Puslinch Tract** Complete a Master Plan for the newly acquired lands in alignment with Council's vision. Set aside enough of the new lands to utilize as active park space to reach the Township of Puslinch's 3.0 hectare per 1,000-person target.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $75,000 to $150,000**	Strategic Plan
MEDIUM LOWER PRIORITY	**2. Interactive parks and recreation map** Develop a digital map illustrating the parks, recreation amenities and trails. It should allow users to search for particular amenities and zoom into specific parks.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $10,000 to $20,000**	Strategic Plan
MEDIUM MEDIUM PRIORITY	**3. Emergency/communication/wayfinding signage** Continue to implement signage for wayfinding and safety. Directional signs as well as posting information in case of emergency as well as providing QR code signs to solicit parks feedback (e.g. broken equipment or reporting wildlife i.e., coyotes). Both can be integrated into a single sign.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $5,000 to $8,000 for 8 parks**	Asset Management Plan
SHORT HIGH PRIORITY	**4. Upgrade picnic tables** Upgrade older picnic tables in park picnic areas (e.g. Puslinch Community Centre Park and Morriston Meadows Park) with new accessible models.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $24,000 to $30,000**	Asset Management Plan
MEDIUM MEDIUM PRIORITY	**5. Agreement with Puslinch Junior Garden Club** Through a partnership model, work with the Puslinch Junior Garden Club to upgrade the existing gardening facilities at the Puslinch Community Centre Park (Puslinch Junior Garden Club storage shed). Also consider adding a new community garden space to allow for public access.	**Internal A, External** **Cost Estimate: $20,000 to $40,000**	Asset Management Plan

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TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
MEDIUM MEDIUM PRIORITY	**6. Stewardship partnership with hiking clubs** Continue to work with local hiking clubs within Puslinch to establish appropriate all-season trail stewardship partnerships where hiking clubs can assist with trail monitoring and maintenance.	**Internal A, External** **Cost Estimate: $5,000 to $10,000** annually	Strategic Plan
MEDIUM MEDIUM PRIORITY	**7. Off-Leash dog park partnership** Explore options for an independent Off-Leash Area location for dogs through a private partnership /sponsorship	**Internal A, External** **Cost Estimate: $15,000 to $20,000** No land acquisition	
	PARKS PROGRAMMING		
SHORT MEDIUM PRIORITY	**1. Park toy boxes** Provide boxes in parks for borrowing things such as kites, sand box toys, chalk, and other toys. Locate boxes in parks with playgrounds including Boreham Park, Puslinch Community Centre Park and Morriston Meadows Park.	**Internal A** **Cost Estimate: $1,000**	
MEDIUM LOWER PRIORITY	**2. Interpretive/interactive signs** Include accessible, and educational signage which can provide the history of Puslinch. Signs could include QR codes to link to additional information, videos, or audio clips and feature local artist's work. Locate in larger community parks: Puslinch Community Centre Park, Morriston Meadows Park, Old Morriston Park and Historic Corner Block Park.	**Internal A, External** **Cost Estimates: $10,000 to $20,000** for 4 signs	

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TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
	PUSLINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE PARK		
MEDIUM HIGH PRIORITY	**1. Paving park pathways** Pave the existing granular park pathways to improve the overall accessibility of the park, including a paved, formalized park loop for a continuous walking track around the senior soccer field. Approximately 600 linear metres of trails.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $15,000 to $20,000**	Asset Management Plan
MEDIUM LOWER PRIORITY	**2. Implement outdoor fitness stations** Develop outdoor fitness stations along the newly paved circuit path at Puslinch Community Centre Park with fitness equipment and a sign with a QR code to a website for instructions on use. One station every 150 metres, approximately 4 stations.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $26,000 to $40,000**	
MEDIUM HIGH PRIORITY	**3. Repurposing horse paddock for additional uses** Consider repurposing the Horse Paddock at the Puslinch Community Centre Park for multiple uses, subject to further engagement with community and park users (e.g. beach volleyball, soccer, event space).	**External** **Cost Estimate: $15,000 to $30,000**	Asset Management Plan
SHORT HIGH PRIORITY	**4. Millennium Garden upgrades** Upgrade the plantings and walkways in the Millennium Garden and include it as a feature of the Puslinch Community Centre Park. Include as part of park maintenance. Develop a Formal Volunteer Agreement or Volunteer Charter to define commitments, approve working hours, safety protocols, plant palettes etc. Provide on-site gardening tools via a lockable storage box.	**Internal A, External** **Cost Estimate: $12,000 to $20,000** [plantings: $5,000 to7,000; walkways: $7,000; toolbox: $500]	Asset Management Plan

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TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
MEDIUM LOWER PRIORITY	**5. Bookable picnic area** Consider creating a formal bookable picnic area at the Puslinch Community Centre Park using the existing shade shelter.	**Internal A, External** In conjunction with new booking software	
LONG LOWER PRIORITY	**6. Explore new improvement amenities** Working with third-party organizations for fundraising, explore new active transportation amenities (i.e., bike racks) and the improvement of safety (i.e., parking lot lighting in the rear parking lot at the Puslinch Community Centre).	**Internal A, External** **Cost Estimate: $10,000 to $80,000** [bike racks: $10,000 to $15,000; lighting: $60,000 to $80,000]	Asset Management Plan
	MORRISTON MEADOWS PARK		
SHORT MEDIUM PRIORITY	**1. Accessible pathway to picnic area** Create an accessible pathway from the parking area to the Picnic Pavilion.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $25,000 to $35,000**	Asset Management Plan
LONG MEDIUM PRIORITY	**2. New accessible playground** Remove the old playground and construct a new playground on the same elevation of the parking lot for improved accessibility. Morriston Meadows playground is the last to be upgraded for accessibility and lifecycle replacement.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $350,000 to $450,000**	Asset Management Plan

PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

TIMING LEGEND

Short = 1-3 years **Medium =** 4-7 years **Long =** 8+ years **Ongoing**

RESOURCES LEGEND

Internal A – Existing Staffing Resources
(Recommendation can be implemented with current staffing resources)
Internal B – Additional Staffing Resources
(Recommendation requires additional staffing resources to implement)
External – Initial Cost and Operating Cost *(*2026 current dollar estimates)*

TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
	OLD MORRISTON PARK		
MEDIUM LOWER PRIORITY	**1. Constructing picnic area** Consider constructing a formal bookable picnic area to align with providing picnic areas at all community parks (e.g. outside of outfield). Would also serve users during tournaments or rentals.	**Internal A, External** **Cost Estimate: $35,000 to $40,000**	
MEDIUM LOWER PRIORITY	**2. Parking lot gravel surfacing** Potentially formalizing the parking area with at least gravel surfacing to be consistent with Morriston Meadows Park.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $25,000 to $35,000**	Asset Management Plan
	BADENOCH SOCCER FIELD		
SHORT MEDIUM PRIORITY	**1. Raptor pole for osprey** Create a specific raptor/osprey perch for nesting to attract birds and deter them from them using the lighting infrastructure at Badenoch Park; and when new parks are developed, consider expanding Osprey nesting opportunities.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $4,000 to $9,000**	
MEDIUM HIGH PRIORITY	**2. Granular walking pathway** Create a walking path around the perimeter of the park around the soccer field and consider creating a connection into the Badenoch Tract trail system.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $40,000 to $80,000**	

PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

TIMING LEGEND

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RESOURCES LEGEND

Internal A – Existing Staffing Resources
(Recommendation can be implemented with current staffing resources)
Internal B – Additional Staffing Resources
(Recommendation requires additional staffing resources to implement)
External – Initial Cost and Operating Cost *(*2026 current dollar estimates)*

TIMELINE/ PRIORITY	RECOMMENDATION	RESOURCES	ALIGNMENT
	FOX RUN PARK		
MEDIUM MEDIUM PRIORITY	**1. Municipal property fencing** Install fencing at municipal property line to eliminate private encroachment on park space in accordance with the Line Fences Act. Approximately 600 linear metres.	**External** **Cost Estimate: $48,000 to $60,000**	
LONG LOWER PRIORITY	**2. New park amenities** Consider installing a new park amenity within the available open space to serve the community (i.e., natural playground, volleyball net).	**External** **Cost Estimate: $10,000 to $50,000** **Annual Cost: $1,500**	
	HISTORIC CORNER BLOCK PARK		
MEDIUM HIGH PRIORITY	**1. Upgrade pathways and seating** Upgrade pathways and seating in Historic Corner Block Park to improve their poor condition and to improve accessibility. Approximately 50 metres of pathways and 2 benches.	**External** **Cost Estimates: $12,000 to $15,000**	Asset Management Plan
	BOREHAM PARK		
SHORT HIGH PRIORITY	**1. Low maintenance plantings** Replace plantings at Boreham Park with low maintenance grasses to reduce the need for maintenance and upkeep.	**External** **Cost Estimates: $1,000 to $5,000**	Asset Management Plan
MEDIUM LOWER PRIORITY	**2. Street parking for Boreham Park** Consider implementing a compacted granular shoulder along the road to create parking along the street. Approximately 50 linear metres along park frontage.	**External** **Cost Estimates: $5,000 to $10,000**	