



## Report to County Council

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**From:** Michele Harris, Director of Homes and Seniors Services

**Date:** August 13, 2024

**Subject:** Homes – Terrace Lodge Pool

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### Recommendation(s):

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THAT the report titled “Homes – Terrace Lodge Pool” from the Director of Homes and Seniors Services dated August 13, 2024, be received and filed; and

THAT Council authorize staff to sign the one (1) year agreement with YWCA St. Thomas-Elgin for the use of the Terrace Lodge pool.

### Introduction:

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The Terrace Lodge pool was closed at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, for change room renovations and addition of change room(s) available for attendees of the pool programs. Renovations are now complete; the pool has been provided with the required maintenance, and arrangements have been made for inspection, as per regulations, by Southwestern Public Health. Applicable policy and procedures have been reviewed and updated as required.

Terrace Lodge maintenance staff has recently completed the required pool maintenance training providing for a total of five (5) facilities staff across the Corporation with the required training.

Orientation to the pool and emergency action plan policy and procedures will be provided to all Terrace Lodge managers and registered staff; Terrace Lodge recreationist staff leading the weekly Life After Stroke aquatic therapy program; and the YWCA.

### Background and Discussion:

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Prior to the pandemic and pool change room renovations, the Terrace Lodge pool was utilized by the St. Thomas-Elgin YWCA for community supervised aquatic programs for many years; and by the Elgin-St. Thomas Life After Stroke Adult Day Program for aquatic therapy.

Residents of Terrace Lodge have a long-standing history of enjoyment watching youth participants come and go through the Home to attend swimming lessons, often being present in the lobby before and after meals for potential opportunity for interactions.

Ministry funding is provided to the County of Elgin through the Multi-Sector Service Accountability agreement for the use of the pool/provision of aquatic therapy by the Elgin-St. Thomas Life After Stroke Adult Day Program.

The prior pool rental agreement between the Corporation of the County of Elgin (Terrace Lodge) and YWCA St. Thomas-Elgin expired during the course of the pandemic.

County legal staff, the Director of Homes and Seniors Services and the Manager of Procurement and Risk reviewed the prior agreement and insurance documents and provided recommendations for change which include amendments to the participant waiver, inclusion of requirements as per the emergency measures policy and procedure; a provision outlining Elgin's ability to recover costs related to damage to or contamination of the facilities (e.g. fee for after hours maintenance servicing of the pool if required) and other minor recommendations for change.

Affordable community access to the Terrace Lodge pool supports health and wellness, drowning prevention and water safety for individuals. As such, a recommendation of a 2 % increase (from the 2020 agreement) to the annual fees paid by YWCA for the period of this agreement is being proposed.

Negotiations with YWCA St. Thomas-Elgin and the Director of Homes and Seniors Services were successful in securing the recommendations for change.

### **Financial Implications:**

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A modest increase of 2 % for pool rental fees supports the resumption of pool services that will benefit the community.

### **Alignment with Strategic Priorities:**

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Serving Elgin	Growing Elgin	Investing in Elgin
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensuring alignment of current programs and services with community need.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exploring different ways of addressing community need.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engaging with our community and other stakeholders.	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning for and facilitating commercial, industrial, residential, and agricultural growth.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fostering a healthy environment.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhancing quality of place.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensuring we have the necessary tools, resources, and infrastructure to deliver programs and services now and in the future.  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delivering mandated programs and services efficiently and effectively.

**Local Municipal Partner Impact:**

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Affordable community access to the Terrace Lodge pool supports health and wellness, drowning prevention and water safety for individuals.

**Communication Requirements:**

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YWCA will communicate the reopening of the pool and promote the resumption of community programs as per the agreement.

Terrace Lodge staff will be informed of the resumption of pool services and provided with the required orientation and training.

**Conclusion:**

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Staff is recommending a one (1) year agreement with changes as recommended with YWCA St. Thomas-Elgin for the period of September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025.

All of which is Respectfully Submitted

Approved for Submission

Michele Harris  
Director of Homes and Seniors Services

Blaine Parkin  
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk