

A NEW

POOL

FOR
COWICHAN

Referendum June 24, 2006

District of North Cowichan and City of Duncan

A legacy for you, your children and your grandchildren

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES

We invite you to attend any of the following community open house events to view facility drawings, ask questions and share your comments:

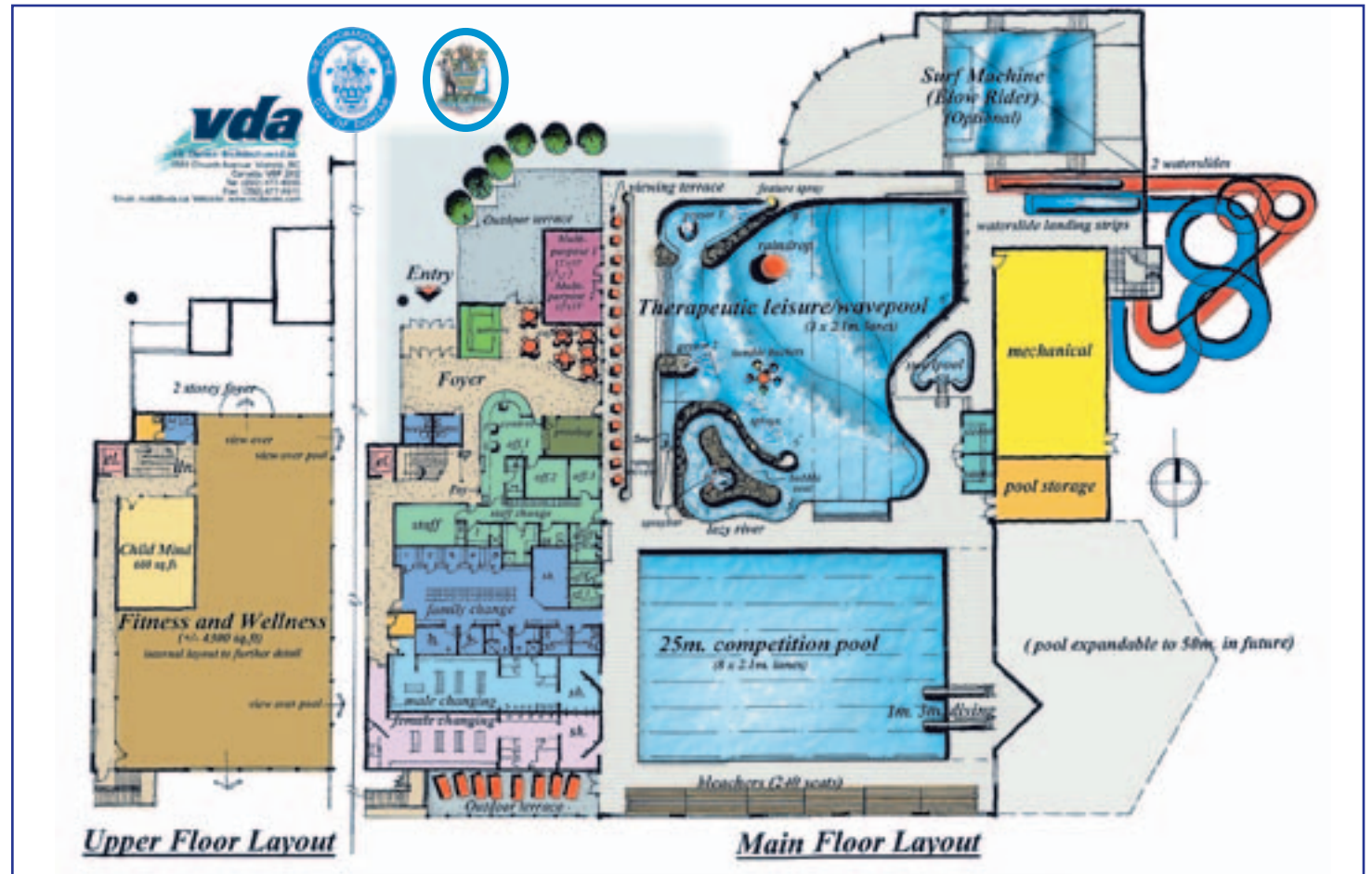
WEDNESDAY, MAY 24 (4 - 8 pm)
Mt. Prevost Middle School
6177 Somenos Road

MONDAY, MAY 29 (4 - 8 pm)
Chemainus Seniors Drop In Centre
9824 Willow Street

THURSDAY, JUNE 1 (4 - 8 pm)
Crofton Community Centre
8104 Musgrave Street

TUESDAY, JUNE 6 (4 - 8 pm)
Cowichan Centre (West Lobby)
2687 James Street

THURSDAY, JUNE 8 (4 - 8 pm)
Hiie'yu Lelum House of Friendship
205 - 5462 Trans-Canada Hwy.



Architect's concept of the proposed new aquatics complex for the Cowichan Centre



The proposed new facility will include these features:

- an 8 lane, 25 metre pool (expandable to 50 metres) of sufficient depth to allow both 1 metre and 3 metre diving boards;
- a large (25 metre) exciting entertainment and therapeutic leisure/wavepool, including lazy river, a variety of spray elements, two water slides, and an additional 3 lanes for length swimming;
- support space that includes meeting rooms, reception, and offices;

- change rooms, and family change rooms to accommodate families and those with disabilities;
- a hot / swirl pool, sauna, and steam room;
- retail shop for pool, fitness and leisure products;
- a fitness and wellness area;
- space for public viewing of swim lessons, as well as competitions;
- a child minding area;
- a "flow rider (surf machine)" is an optional feature depending on

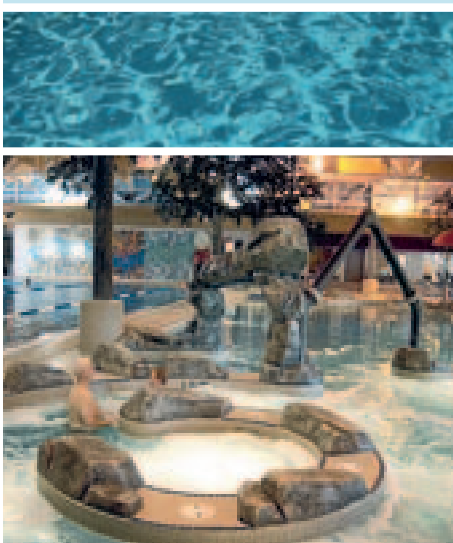
public opinion received on June 24th and success in securing additional funding.

"I am very pleased that the Aquatics facility vision is finally moving forward. This is a bold undertaking that ultimately will be an excellent investment in our community. The services and social benefits will be long lasting and far reaching."

Pat Duncan:

North Cowichan resident and Principal, Cowichan Secondary School

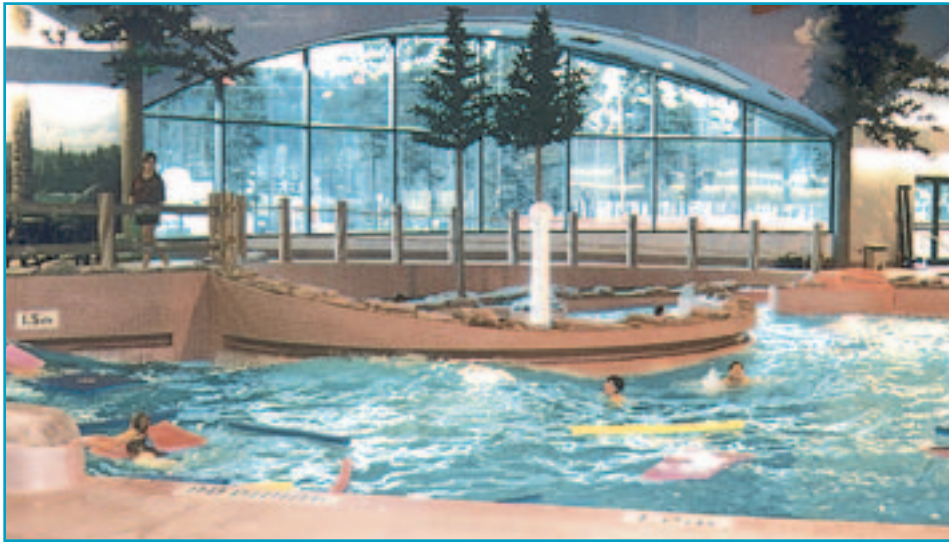
catch the wave





Artists concept of South elevation, proposed aquatics centre

Referendum June 24, 2006



State of the existing pool

The Aquannis Pool, built in 1974, is beyond its useful service life and will soon have to be shut down.

It does not meet acceptable safety and building code standards nor does it meet current seismic code requirements. The boiler has burst and been replaced. Air handling and other mechanical equipment is rusted and efficiency is seriously compromised.

In 2004 an engineering consultants report ruled renovation and repair of existing facilities as impractical and not cost effective. Costs to repair and retrofit the existing facility would be \$6.5 million and would require a complete shut down for 6-8 months during construction.

The bottom line: a replacement aquatics facility is required. Now.

Benefits of the new aquatics centre

- Increased enjoyment of aquatic sports and recreation for all age groups throughout the Cowichan Region
- Offering the opportunity for Cowichan residents to enjoy state of the art aquatic sports and recreation closer to home
- Therapeutic components of the facility (such as the lazy river, bubble seat, massage jets, sauna, steam room and hot / swirl pool) for recreation and rehabilitation, particularly enjoyed by seniors
- Personal health and wellness, and improved physical and psychological health
- Building on synergies of other facilities and programs offered or planned in and around the Cowichan Centre
- Attracting companies, industries and new residents to enhance our economic health and well-being
- With a modern leisure, swim and dive facility, we will have an enhanced ability to attract both recreational and competitive sports tourists to the Cowichan Valley
- The ability to offer more and better programs for everyone

"We all know how important salads are for us. This new aquatics facility is an essential ingredient to our recreational salad. It is not a luxury, but a vital ingredient to our well being. I fully endorse moving ahead. Let's get it done!!!"

Bill Keserich: North Cowichan resident, parent, grandparent, President of Cowichan Valley Soccer Association.

"With the Cowichan Sportsplex, we have seen what this community can do when people drive a vision to create a world class facility. We deserve the same level of facility when it comes to water-based sports and recreation. My hat's off to North Cowichan and Duncan Councils for having the guts to go through with this while we can still afford the facility. Everyday we wait only drives the price up even more.

Andy Hutchins: Maple Bay resident, parent, grandparent and Former Maple Bay Fire Chief



"My family and I have used the Aquannis centre over the years both for recreation and therapy. It is too old and tired to meet the needs of the community anymore. We really need a new aquatics facility for Cowichan; a place where children, youth, seniors and families can go and all have a great time."

Donna Brooks: Crofton resident and President of the Crofton Community Centre Society



District of North Cowichan and City of Duncan

Artists concept of North elevation, proposed aquatics centre

Costs and tax implications

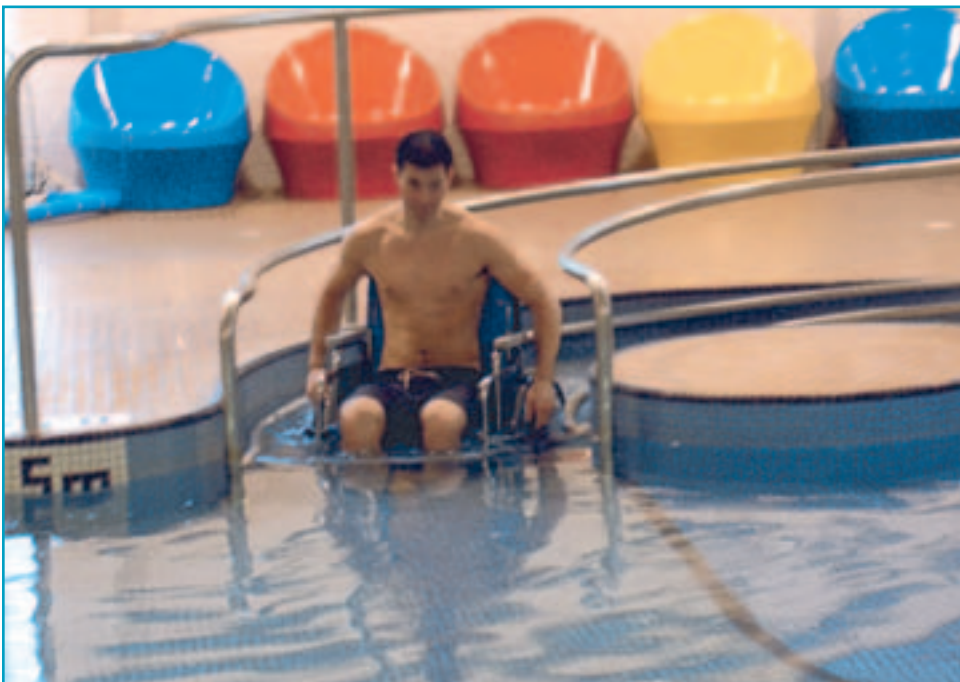
The District of North Cowichan is asking for voter support to borrow up to \$15 million and the City of Duncan is asking for voter support to borrow up to \$1.5 million for a total amount borrowed of \$16.5 million to pay for capital costs for a replacement aquatics facility. Success in securing federal/provincial grants and additional sponsorships and donations will allow for

either adding more facilities, such as the “flow-rider (surf machine)”, reducing debt, or a combination of both depending upon the amount of funding added from these sources and public opinion received at the June 24th referendum. Borrowing for major capital projects is paid through tax increases. The table below details amounts for North Cowichan and Duncan.

	North Cowichan	Duncan
Amount to be financed:	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 1,500,000
Increase in taxation to cover construction and operating costs:	\$ 1,310,926	\$ 101,268
Annual tax increase for a \$200,000 home:	\$ 96	\$ 45
Annual tax increase for a \$200,000 business:	\$ 204	\$ 74

“A new aquatics centre will make an improvement to our quality of life and will appeal to everyone, from young to old. It will also bring us up to par with most other communities in the province and allow us to draw residents and visitors alike, which makes economic sense.”

Jeff Downey: Duncan resident and business owner



“Imagine a wheelchair bound child able to do somersaults and handstands or a stroke victim able to walk—impossible to do on dry land. Results achieved in water exercise are absolutely astounding. The new aquatics facility will allow community members of all ages, stages and abilities to access the water with dignity enabling all to achieve great goals.”

Laura Harris: North Cowichan resident, Neurological Rehabilitation Physiotherapist



“The new aquatics centre fully supports the concept of wellness and prevention. Those of us living in smaller communities would love to have such a facility, but something this big needs to be centrally located, so everyone has access to it.”

Rondeau Fenton: Chemainus resident

“It’s a winning move to build a new aquatics center for a healthier community. This center can only help build better habits amongst our families. Our area is growing so there is no time like the present.”

Danny Henry: Executive Director, Coast Salish Employment and Training Society

“The existing pool facility does not meet the needs of the community, it is time to move ahead. I have visited many of these new aquatics facilities not only on Vancouver Island, but in Ireland and England. These are wonderful, true leisure complexes for all ages to enjoy.”

Barkley Logan: Chemainus resident, Former Principal, School District 79



POOL REFERENDUM VOTING DAY

SATURDAY JUNE 24, 2006

Advance Voting Opportunities June 14 and June 20



REFERENDUM QUESTIONS

NORTH COWICHAN BALLOT

Are you in favour of Council adopting "Pool Loan Authorization Bylaw 2006", No. 3259, which would authorize the Municipality of North Cowichan to borrow up to fifteen million dollars to build a new aquatics facility?

YES
 NO

DUNCAN BALLOT

Are you in favour of Council adopting "Pool Loan Authorization Bylaw 2006", No. 2004, 2006 which would authorize the City of Duncan to borrow up to \$1,500,000 to build a new aquatics facility?"

YES
 NO

OPINION QUESTION

If sufficient additional grants or private donations are received, which of the following uses should be made of the additional funds? (Choose only one)

- Add a "flow-rider (surf machine)" to the pool, or
 Reduce the amount to be borrowed for the pool

"As a regular user of the Aquannis Centre, I am thrilled at the opportunity to have a new, modern facility in which to train and compete. During the recent Seniors' Games, I was embarrassed by the state of our facilities. With improved change room facilities and warm up and cool down areas for competitions, swim classes and Aqua Fit, the new aquatics facility will better meet the needs of competitive swimmers and recreational users alike."

Eulah Varty: Chemainus resident, senior citizen, member of Cowichan Aquannis Masters Swim Team, international competitor.

"The existing pool is old and congested. We need a larger facility with more features for recreational, therapeutic and competitive use. I believe a better pool will mean a better life for all of us."

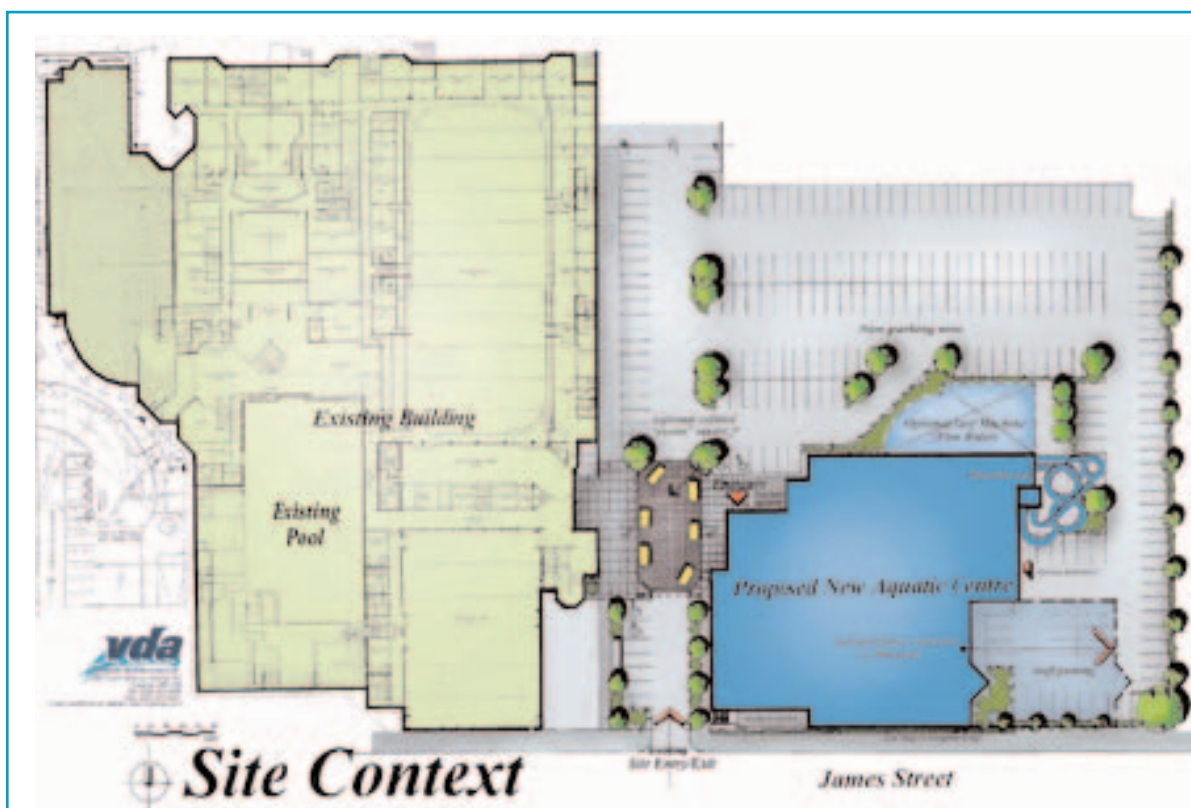
Hazura Sangha: North Cowichan resident, senior citizen

"I use the existing pool a few times per week and would really enjoy a larger pool with better change room facilities. I fully support having a two-tiered user fee system whereby users from areas that do not support the aquatics centre via taxes have to pay higher admission rates."

Ruth Bloomfield: North Cowichan resident, senior citizen, winner of 5 gold medals - 2005 Seniors' Games

"In the words of my six-year old son, the Nanaimo pool is "awesome". I am so tired of my kids asking to go to the Nanaimo pool. They enjoy it much more than the Aquannis Centre as it is new and offers so many more entertaining features. We will definitely use the new aquatics centre more, especially with all we will save on gas traveling to the Nanaimo pool. Having family change rooms will be so much more practical, especially when you have young children."

Gwen Thompson: North Cowichan resident, parent of 2 children and one on the way



The new aquatics centre would be situated on the east side of the existing Cowichan

Centre and feature an outdoor courtyard and 200 replacement parking spaces.

HAVE QUESTIONS? NEED MORE INFORMATION?



THE CORPORATION OF
THE DISTRICT OF
NORTH COWICHAN

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