



# PARADISE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Final Plan  
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All right reserved, 2019.

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**Paradise Recreation & Open Space**  
Master Plan

## Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
	Purpose	2
<b>2</b>	<b>Context</b>	<b>5</b>
	Demographics	6
	Recreation Trends	8
	Planning Context	10
	Best Practices	12
<b>3</b>	<b>Recreation Assets &amp; Services</b>	<b>15</b>
	Facility and Open Space Inventory	16
	Program Delivery Assessment	38
	Budget and Fee Structures	40
	Policies	42
<b>4</b>	<b>Community Engagement</b>	<b>44</b>
	Consultation Activities	45
	Current Recreation Participation	46
	Desired Improvements	49
<b>5</b>	<b>Action Plan</b>	<b>53</b>
	Community Recreation Needs and Gaps	54
	Facility and Open Space Action Plans	56
	Program Development Strategy	77
	Volunteer Strategy	78
	Rates, Fees and Funding	79
	Partnerships	80
	Facility Recommendations	81
	Facility Development Map (FDM)	79
	Policies	86
	Implementation and Review	87

## Appendix



# 1 Introduction



# 1.1 Purpose

The Town of Paradise has seen much change since its incorporation in 1971. Regional expansion of water and sewer servicing and construction of the regional road network have contributed greatly to the desirability of the town for residential and economic growth. The oil economy of the past decade increased the pace of growth beyond what anyone had expected. The result was a community tasked to keep up with the demands for infrastructure and services of the growing community. In the past five years, the Town has invested in several initiatives to address the issues caused by the fast pace of growth, and to improve its position as a desirable place to live and do business, within the Northeast Avalon region.

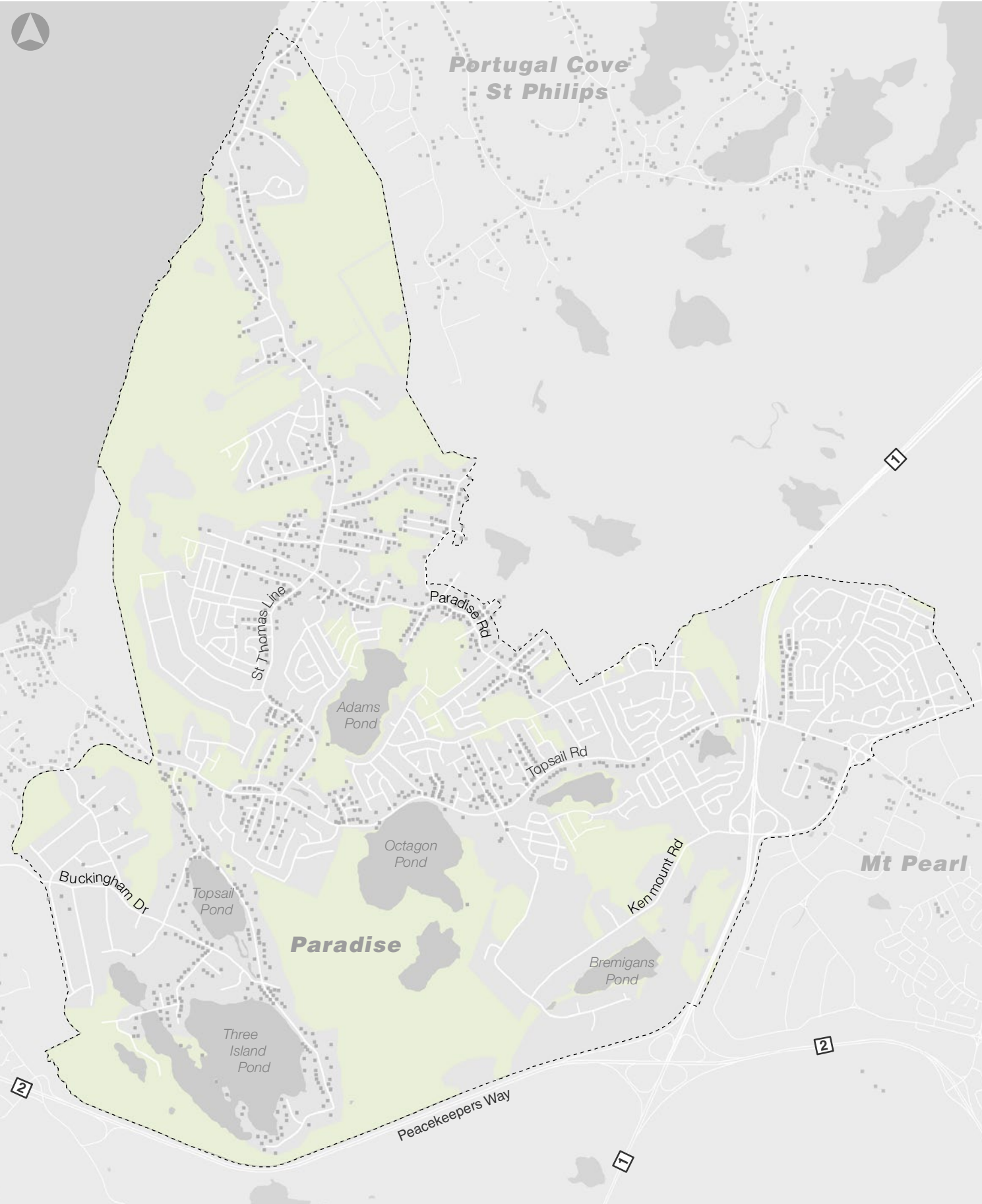
The Municipal Plan includes a commitment by the Town to carry out the preparation of a Parks and Open Space System Plan to consider future open space needs, and how an overall system could be developed to improve connectivity, preserve and restore natural areas. The Plan commits the Town to consider the feasibility of a library as part of the Town's facilities, and the siting of schools to provide greater access to recreation facilities and opportunities for program and facility sharing.

The Recreation and Open Space Master Plan for the Town of Paradise will serve as a blueprint that will set the course for recreation, sports and healthy living within the Town by determining current recreation supply and trends, and by identifying deficiencies and opportunities for infrastructure and strategic position.

## Community Planning Context

In 2017, a new Municipal Plan was put in place. This Plan sets out a framework for how the community will grow over the next decade, with a concentration of commercial, recreational, civic and residential development in the central area of the Town. The Plan emphasizes connectivity for active transportation within residential neighbourhoods and community services and recreation facilities. Connectivity to regional networks and facilities, including trails, are identified as important pieces to be considered as the community continues to grow. Accessibility is also reflected in policies to encourage universal design in new developments.

In 2018, the time had come to review the Town's parks, recreation and open space system. A previous plan is now over 10 years old, the Town has a new growth strategy and population dynamics are changing, as are trends in parks and recreation programming and facility needs. The Town's new Strategic Plan has as its vision to "Create a Paradise for Everyone". Recreation, leisure and access to parks and open space play a key role in creating a sense of place and inclusion for everyone and increase quality of life. A re-examination of recreation and leisure programs and facilities provides an opportunity to check in with the community, to consider how things have, and are, changing and identify ways to improve upon current programs and facilities to continue to meet the needs of citizens.





## Benefits

The benefits of recreation are well documented. Recreation, parks, sports, fitness, active living, arts and cultural services are essential to personal health and well-being, building strong families and healthy communities, reducing health care, social service, and justice costs, and are significant economic generators. Recreation has the potential to address socio-demographic challenges and troubling issues such as increases in sedentary behavior and obesity, decreased contact with nature, threats to the environment, and inequities that limit participation. These challenges can become opportunities but addressing them requires a commitment to a shared vision, values and goals, as well as the development and implementation of effective action plans (from “Pathways to Wellbeing”).

With the development of “Pathways to Wellbeing”, provincial and territorial governments across Canada, along with the recreation sector, have come together in a call to action to create quality recreation and sport opportunities for all Canadians.

## Opportunities

The Town of Paradise has responded to that call to action in an effort to bolster recreation participation by initiating a long term vision reflective of the recreational assets and opportunities in the town. This is an important and progressive step towards achieving the ambitious vision of meaningful, inclusive and accessible recreation opportunities for all citizens of Paradise. The first steps toward that vision will be realized through this project as together we create a roadmap to strategic planning and decision making. Working with a broad range of people, stakeholders and groups who are part of, or influence, the recreation and sport field is essential to increasing the capacity of the recreation delivery system, increasing local recreation opportunities and increasing participation levels in a sustainable manner.

As Paradise continues to change and evolve, so too does outdoor recreation and sport participation. Recreation participation reflects many elements: recreation preferences, the diversity of the town’s population, the variety of recreation landscapes available throughout the town, and the increasing barriers placed upon the average recreationalist.

Taken as a whole, these factors contribute to a diverse range of recreational activity preferences and demands throughout the Paradise. As recreation providers attempt to accommodate these various needs, proactive planning will become increasingly important to ensure that recreation in the town remains inclusive, accessible and adaptable to the needs of its population.

In recent years, the Town of Paradise has undertaken a number of initiatives to broaden the recreational opportunities for its residents. It has improved the open space behind the Community Centre, creating space for outdoor activities with playgrounds, a dog park and bandstand, connected to trails around Octagon Pond. Trails are being constructed at Adam’s Pond and future sites are planned for Piccos Ridge as that area becomes developed. The Town has also constructed a new community centre to serve residents in the north of the community in the St. Thomas area.

With recreational opportunities that are the envy of many other municipalities - TRailway Park, Grand Concourse Trail network, Peter Barry Duff Park, East Coast Trail, Adams, Octagon and Neils Ponds, Beach areas in St. Thomas, and centrally located sports and recreation facilities, the Town, through this master plan, has an opportunity to bolster recreation participation and healthy lifestyles by initiating a long term vision reflective of its recreational assets and the needs of its fast-growing and comparatively young and active population.



## 2 Context



## 2.1 Demographics

One of this plan's primary aims is to assess current recreation supply and demand to steer strategic decision-making on municipal recreation amenities. Towards this goal, understanding Paradise's demographic profile, its trajectory and life-stage composition, is important. Preferences and participation levels shift according to a population's profile, so overlaying Paradise's population dynamics and with sport and recreation trends will inform an effective, sustainable recreation plan.

### Population Trends

Paradise is enjoying a period of tremendous growth. The town was the 4th most populous community in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2016, and it experienced the highest growth rate (2011-2016) of any provincial community over 5,000 people. The town's enumerated population was 21,400 in 2016, representing a 21% increase from 2011 (17,680 people). Relative to the provincial growth average (1%) and the national average (5%), Paradise's high-growth is particularly noteworthy. The community sustained strong growth over 15 years as, overall, Paradise's population increased 124% between 2001 and 2016. Through this period, substantial growth in the aggregated professional-age cohort 20-64 years (120%) may reflect Paradise's increasing popularity as a bedroom community to St. John's.

### Growth in Senior Cohorts & Families

Over this 15-year period, Paradise's saw significant growth in the population aged 65+ (247% cohort increase). The town's senior population increased 59% from 2001 to 2006, and another 50% in the subsequent five years. The trend accelerated again between 2011 and 2016, as Paradise's 21% population growth was distributed 25% within cohort 0-19, 17% within cohort 20-64, and 46% within cohort 65+.

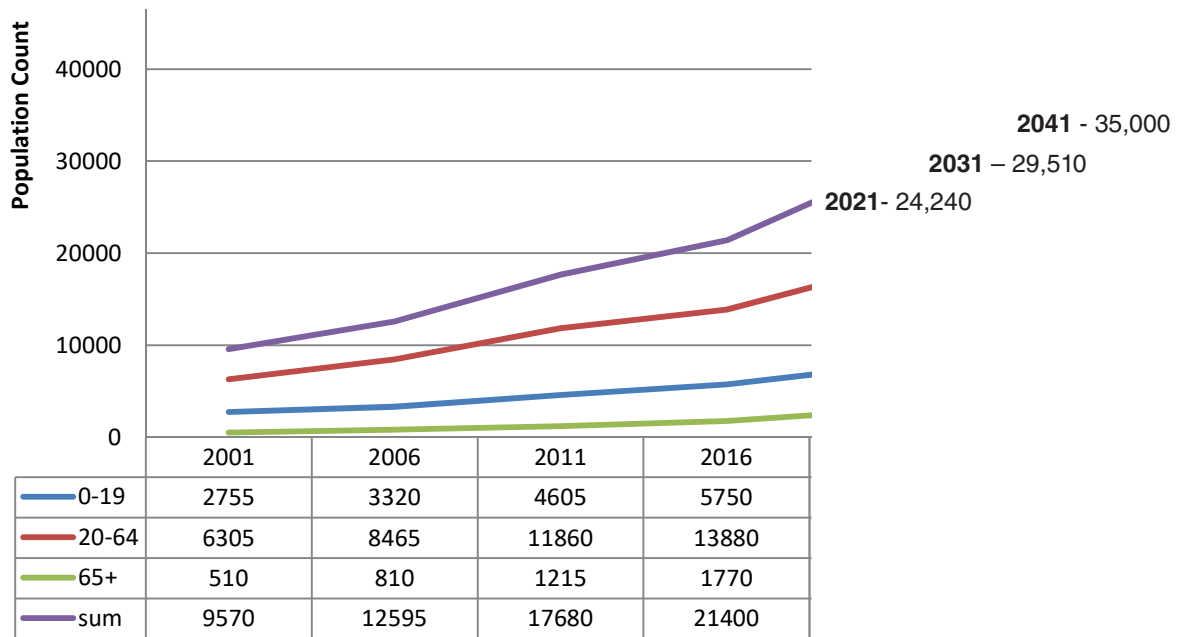
Despite this trend, the town's median age (35.7 years) is 5.5 years younger than the national median. Household incomes tend to be higher, and rates of poverty lower, than the provincial average. In 2016, approximately 41% of Paradise residents reported moving within the previous five years. Compared to Newfoundland's modest migration (29% total movers - 8.7% intraprovincial), recent intraprovincial movers to Paradise accounted for 17% of residents. Collectively, these data trends reinforce Paradise's attractiveness as a destination for young professionals, families, and retirees alike.

### Population Projections

Over the next 15 years, Paradise's population is projected to sustain significant growth. High scenario projections developed for the Town in 2015 predict the town reaching 24,240 by 2021, 29,510 by 2031 and 35,000 by 2041.<sup>1</sup>

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1 Metroeconomics (2015)



Growth Rates by Cohort			
	2001-2006	2006-2011	2011-2016
<b>0-19</b>	21%	39%	25%
<b>20-64</b>	34%	40%	17%
<b>65+</b>	59%	50%	46%

## 2.2 Recreation Trends

### National and Provincial

Sport participation in Canada has continuously declined over the last two decades. In 1998, 34% of Canadians age 15 and older (8.3 million people) participated in sport and active recreation. That number decreased to 28% of the population in 2005, and by 2010, only 26% of Canadians (7.2 million people) reported participating in sport on a regular basis.<sup>1</sup> Although youth remain the most active cohorts, in 2015, only 5% of young Canadians age 5 to 19 years met the daily recommendation of at least 60 minutes of moderate physical activity.<sup>2</sup>

Nationally, sport participation and its decline reflect a gender gap. While the participation rate amongst males remained relatively stable between 2005 and 2010 (35%), female participation dropped from 20% to 16%. As cohorts during this period, women ages 15 to 19 and 20 to 24 years reported the sharpest participation declines at 13% and 14% respectively. Proportionately, fewer women are (and remain) active throughout their lifetime, prompting the Government of Canada to renew targeted sport policy in 2009. The 'Actively Engaged' policy on sport for women and girls includes an action plan designed to foster quality experiences (from playground to podium) and equitable organizational support for female athletes and recreational participants.<sup>3</sup>

Despite overall decline in sport participation, Canadians remain involved in several key sports. While regional trends may vary, overall participation in baseball, tennis, and ice hockey dropped as soccer became the most practiced sport by Canadian children.<sup>4</sup> Recent reports indicate

growing interest in emerging sports, pickleball, rugby, and ultimate frisbee. Golf was the most practiced sport in Canada between 1998 and 2010. Although 1.5 million adult Canadians participated in golf in 2010, 76% of participants were male, and the sport's popularity amongst younger cohorts wanes.<sup>5</sup>

Canada's aging population partially explains this downward trend and correlates with shifting preferences in recreational activity. Participation in sport tends to diminish as Canadians get older. This dynamic is particularly apparent in Newfoundland and Labrador; its population is older than the national average,<sup>6</sup> predicating its 50% decline in sport participation from 1992 to 2010.<sup>7</sup> Rather, Canadian adults and seniors increasingly engage in casual, active leisure pursuits including walking, cycling, gardening, and yoga etc.<sup>8</sup>

The rise in leisure physical activity reflects a need to expand traditional definitions of recreation. Effective, sustainable recreation planning concerns creating inclusive opportunities to develop healthy, engaged citizens, active communities, and spaces that facilitate physical, social, intellectual, creative and spiritual pursuits.<sup>9</sup> In Newfoundland and Labrador, especially as life expectancies increase and the population ages, prioritizing attractive amenities and multidisciplinary programming for adults and seniors that enhance individual and community wellbeing is important.

1 Canada. Canadian Heritage, Sport Participation 2010, February 2013. p.14.

2 ParticipACTION. The 2015 ParticipACTION Report Card on Physical Activity for Children and Youth, 2015. p.12.

3 Canada. Canadian Heritage, Actively Engaged: A Policy on Sport for Women and Girls, 2009.

4 Canada. Sport in Canada; 2017

5 Canada. Canadian Heritage, Sport Participation 2010, February 2013. p.30.

6 Canada. Statistics Canada, Census Profile: Newfoundland and Labrador; 2016.

7 Canada. Canadian Heritage, Sport Participation 2010, February 2013. p.27.

8 Ibid., p.17.

9 Canadian Parks and Recreation Association. A Framework for Recreation in Canada: Pathways to Wellbeing. 2015. p.8.

Art, music, theatre, and language offerings, along with planned excursions to local attractions, are popular complements to physical activities offered in some recreational spaces.

## Multi-Purpose Facilities

The development or repurposing of facilities as part of complexes or “hubs” is increasingly considered an effective and efficient use of community resources. Facilities should include flexible spaces conducive to organized and casual use, and attractive for key and emerging sports, arts, cultural, and intellectual programming.

## Environment

Canadians increasingly demand environmentally-sensitive management of sports facilities. In many communities, this extends to effective planning and leveraging of natural recreational assets - particularly trails and waterways. Investment in infrastructure for active leisure and transportation activities (including walking and cycling) should be prioritized.

## Sports Tourism

Investing in recreational capacity is an effective form of community economic development. Spending on recreation creates jobs, fosters tourism, and makes communities more attractive places to live, learn, work, play and visit.<sup>10</sup> Canadians spent \$14.5 billion on nature-based recreational activities in 2012, of which \$8.3 billion spent on recreational fishing contributed to local economies.<sup>11</sup> Provincially, and despite its declining popularity with younger generations, golf contributed an estimated \$123 million to Newfoundland and Labrador's GDP in 2014.<sup>12</sup> Many communities are strategically positioned to further develop and capitalize on existing hiking, fishing, and golf amenities, so more effectively leveraging their outdoor attractions.

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10 Ibid., p.14.

11 Ibid.

12 National Allied Golf Associations. Economic Impact of Golf in Canada, 2014. p.16.

## 2.3 Planning Context

### Town of Paradise Municipal Plan - 2016

#### What is it?

The Municipal Plan aims to guide Paradise's development over the next ten years. Its primary objective is facilitating and managing growth for the benefit of all residents and commercial stakeholders within the town and the Northeast Avalon Region. The plan serves as a functional framework for sustainable growth and land development, establishing a common vision for land use projects and conscientious social, economic, and environmental initiatives.

#### What relates to recreation and how?

The Municipal Plan recognizes that a healthy community is predicated on a full array of public and private services, facilities, and infrastructure. The Plan emphasizes how municipal spaces should be recreational places; the built environment should invite the artistic, cultural, institutional, and educational uses integral to Paradise's continued development as an active sub-regional centre.

The Municipal Plan strives to balance environmental conservation with economic development, recognizing these pursuits are not mutually-exclusive. Rather, and in supporting recreational tourism, the Plan prioritizes improving connectivity between the hiking/bike networks, parks, and green spaces within the municipality. Its recommendations for expanding Open Space designations (and associated Recreation zoning) highlights the municipality's commitment and responsiveness to meeting its evolving recreational needs with innovative planning tools.

### Town of Paradise Strategic Plan - 2015

#### What is it?

The Strategic Plan is not policy, but rather a guiding document capturing the community's wants, needs, and priorities. As a complement to the Municipal Plan, the Strategic Plan sets six categorical intentions to orient and move the community towards its long term, strategic vision:

- Traffic and Transportation
- Prudent Fiscal Management and Accountability
- Infrastructure
- Environmentally Friendly Building and Development
- Facilities
- Communications

The Strategic Plan showcases Paradise's quality of life and regional connectivity. It places a premium on the town's strong economic base and its young, civically engaged population. Notably, Council welcomes sustainable, conscientious development while acknowledging the fiscal challenges associated with Paradise's continued growth and provincial economic uncertainty.

#### What relates to recreation plan and how?

The Strategic Plan states the town's cautious desire to develop new, modern recreation facilities. The document emphasizes how effectively prioritizing needs is critical to ensuring large-scale capital projects are viable and maximize investments for the overall good of the town. Specifically, the Strategic Plan cites the importance of exploring options in managing conflicting priorities associated with the proposed community center for the St. Thomas' Line area, an aquatics center, and investment in an artificial turf soccer field.

The 2015 Strategic Plan's three year time frame ended in 2018 and the Town has embarked on a new Strategic Plan.

## Town of Paradise: Economic Development Strategy - 2015

### What is it?

The Town of Paradise Economic Development Strategy identifies opportunities and goals for the future prosperity of the Town of Paradise. The Strategy provides an understanding of the town's economy; it examines the challenges and opportunities Paradise faces, and contextualizes findings with a focus on improving investment readiness. To this end, the Strategy outlines key principles for the Town and its partners for optimizing its economic development potential:

- Adopt an explicit culture of 'customer first' service within the municipality
- Promote strategic business and residential growth, not growth for its own sake
- Improve residents' quality of life by fostering a strong local sense of place
- Ensure the Town of Paradise's fiscal sustainability
- Seek to diversify the local economy and business composition
- Pursue inter-municipal collaboration to further economic development goals

### What relates to recreation and how?

Paradise proactively planned and developed a series of new recreation programs and facilities. Recent investment in its walking trails and a new arena improved residents' quality of life and Paradise's attractiveness to recreational tourists and associated businesses. The town recognizes the economic potential attached to strategic recreation planning, and the Recreation Master Plan should orient and advance initiatives with potential for financial returns.

## Our Avalon 2017 - Northeast Avalon Regional Plan: Background Report

### What is it?

Our Avalon 2017 is the background report that supports the process of creating a new Regional Plan for the Northeast Avalon. As a reference for participants in the regional planning process, it provides information on the communities that comprise the region, their challenges and aspirations. The document identifies regional strengths in Northeast Avalon's skilled workforce, quality of life and attractions. However, it also recognizes weaknesses including a lack of coordination for regional economic development and jurisdictional silos. The Our Avalon 2017 Background Report has not been adopted by the participating municipalities but nevertheless contains a wealth of useful information related to Paradise.

### What relates to recreation and how?

Given Paradise's central location, coastline and water access, the town is strategically important in building coordinated, regional active transportation and recreation infrastructure. Our Avalon 2017 delivers a broader recreational framework for the region, positioning Paradise's recreation plan to contextualize community assets and determine a localized, sustainable model for developing scalable recreational infrastructure attractive to local and destination-minded tourists.



## 2.4 Best Practices

### Volunteer Resources and Management

#### Youth

Youth recruitment and engagement is critical to ensuring a sustainable voluntary sector. Although seniors are currently the most active volunteers in Canada, as they age, their volunteer participation will decline. Fortunately, Paradise enjoys a large youth population and prospective volunteer-base, but effective techniques for youth recruitment are crucial as the most engaged volunteer cohort – seniors – begins to retire from their volunteer careers.

Youth's motivations for volunteering are professional, social, and personal. Increasingly, this cohort perceives volunteering as contributing to their job search by providing opportunities to network, improve professional skills, and become more competitive among potential employers.

#### **Leveraging Youth Volunteers: Barriers & Opportunities**

Youth experience many barriers to volunteering. Often this cohort feels they are not respected, their insights are not valued, or they are given menial tasks. Given their age and scholastic commitments, youth volunteers sometimes struggle with scheduling volunteer opportunities and their inability to make long-term volunteering commitments. While growth trends and provincial high school requirements for volunteerism will ensure a consistent youth volunteer-base over time, organizations must also overcome perceptions that youth primarily need and access services. Rather, organizations should adopt the view that youth offer add-value to service provision and actively explore new connections and opportunities to engage younger cohorts.

#### **How to Improve Youth Volunteer Experience:**

- *Promote volunteerism where youth will see it* – such as via social media and at youth and community centres, high schools etc..
- *Build meaningful relationships* – get to know the individual needs and talents of youth volunteers. Encourage and mentor them.
- *Seek input from youth* – frequently consult the municipality's Youth Advisory Committee.
- *Capitalize on technology* – offer virtual opportunities for engagement and volunteerism.
- *Be sensitive to differences* – respect gender, culture, language, and especially age. Avoid the perception of age discrimination and recognize youths' unique skills.
- *Be respectful in roles assigned to youth* – avoid tasking youth disproportionately with unskilled or 'grunt work'.
- *Be flexible and accommodating* – many youth juggle time commitments for school or part-time work.
- *Offer benefits and incentives* – such as volunteer appreciation events, transportation and participation subsidies etc.
- *Communicate expectations and feedback clearly, regularly, and constructively* – recognize volunteer efforts in a positive manner, helping youth learn, grow, and equally gain from their volunteer experience.
- *Clearly outline the purpose of proposed activities* – explain how it will make a difference, and follow up with youth volunteers detailing the impact of their time, energy, and skills.

## Sport & Community Groups

Paradise's strong sports and recreation culture is anchored by community organizations and their dedicated volunteers. Volunteers serve as coaches, officials, organizers and Board members etc., and work collectively to provide opportunities for active living for residents of all ages. As community-based program and service providers, these groups are valuable municipal resources and potential partners in successful sport and recreation development.

### **Instrumental Value of Volunteer Groups**

Importantly, these volunteer groups manage organizations that enhance the value and cost-effectiveness of municipal facilities. Competitive hockey and soccer clubs, for example, attract and incentivize facility use beyond municipal offerings. These organizations and their respective associations represent reliable sources of facility revenue and are potentially instrumental to cost-recovery. At the municipal level, sports and recreation volunteers are often overlooked and poorly leveraged towards mutual benefit. Staff should further expand ways to empower and effectively partner with these sports and recreation groups to build organizational capacity, improve programming, and increase revenues. The lighting projects for both minor baseball and soccer are successful examples of such collaborations in Paradise.

### **How to Improve Community Partnerships**

The Department should employ a cooperative outreach approach to sport and recreation development in Paradise. As part of this approach, and where some organizations struggle with administrative and operational capacity, Staff should prioritize developing formalized channels, policies, and procedures for supporting and engaging community groups. The Department might consider designating Staff liaisons for all sport and recreation organizations to

facilitate communication and improve coordination across stakeholders and municipal facilities. In this role, Staff liaisons bring professional competencies and higher-level, strategic vision for developing sport and recreation. By sharing information, expertise, and cultivating working partnerships with community groups, Staff might prevent redundancies with municipal programming, identify and address service-gaps and complementary services.

More specifically, Staff may support sport and recreation volunteers by:

- Coordinating seasonal scheduling sessions (municipal facilities)
- Providing administration and volunteer management training
- Encouraging the development of sport and recreation councils to enhance coordination and joint advocacy among groups
- Continue electronic distribution of Departmental communications materials (seasonal leisure guides etc.) to showcase and list group contacts and registration dates
- Continue supporting group meetings or registrations with subsidized facility rentals
- Continue with community grants and hold external funding workshops

## Gender Equity

Barriers to participation in sport and recreation are intersectional, and many identity groups face challenges to active living. While all intersections of oppression and disadvantage deserve remediate and progressive action, the collective experience of gender equity issues warrants specific attention.

### **Definition**

Gender Equity is the principle and practice of fair and balanced allocation of resources and opportunities to individuals regardless of gender identity or expression. In this context, it also includes providing reasonable accommodations or special measures to ameliorate any programs, services, and infrastructures which prevent full participation in recreation due to gender. It begets working to identify and redress inequities and imbalances in opportunities to participate in active living.

### **Policy & Best Practices**

Gender Equity policy should prioritize identifying and addressing inequities experienced by Users. Using gender as a criterion for allocation of public recreational spaces, resources, and opportunities will reduce a significant barrier to participation. Best practices and proactive work to remediate gender inequities in sport encompass the following themes:

#### ***Program Development:***

Staff should plan, promote, and implement sport and recreational programming which provides choice and encourages residents' participation, especially for those Users who are not receiving an equitable allocation of space and resources. At a minimum, activities should be grounded in Paradise's demographic profile and current trends.

Equitable program development includes:

- Gender balanced program offerings
- Equitable distribution of facilities, facility types, prime and non-prime hours (based on program need)
- Introductory sport and recreation programs
- Supporting staff and volunteer training and quality assurance approaches

#### ***Welcoming Environments:***

Staff must ensure that all participants are provided safe and welcoming sport and recreation environments regardless of gender identity or expression. Welcoming environments prioritize the safety and security of participants, employ helpful and encouraging staff and volunteers, and demonstrate consideration of participants' needs across the gender spectrum.

#### ***Promotion, Communications & Representation:***

Staff should actively work towards equitable gender representation in all Department-sponsored and Council-supported project and operations teams, Boards, and Committees related to sport and recreation. Towards promoting equity as normalcy, Staff and volunteers should occupy non-traditional roles, use gender neutral language in publications, and incorporate a balance of genders/representative backgrounds in visual and promotional materials.

#### ***Awareness of Legislation & Proactive Approaches:***

Staff should be aware of all legislative responsibilities for providing equitable services, activities, and embracing the principle of gender equity. Potential actions and approaches might include:

- Formal equity training and support to community and sport groups
- Communicating legislative requirements, anti-harassment practices, supporting policies and proactive approaches

# 3 Recreation Assets & Services



## 3.1 Facility and Open Space Inventory

### Indoor Facilities

The Town of Paradise has the following six indoor facilities managed by the Recreation Department:

- Paradise Double Ice Complex
- Rotary Paradise Youth, Community Centre
- St. Thomas Community Centre
- Milton Road Ball Field Club House
- Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park Clubhouse
- Dianne Whalen Soccer Complex Clubhouse

For all Town-owned buildings but the brand-new St. Thomas Community Centre, a condition assessment and functional layout review was completed in 2015.<sup>1</sup> The assessment determined the current condition of the buildings, as well as all relevant aspects of functionality including structural, architectural, mechanical, electrical, hazardous materials, indoor air quality, thermography (thermal imaging) and relevant code issues. The functional review identified the needs of current and potential users and completed an analysis of exiting spaces to determine what action is required to allow the Town to maintain desired levels of service for its operations and develop a strategical plan of renovation, expansion and, where necessary, construction of new facilities.

The determination of necessary maintenance in this report relies on the 2015 Building Assessment and Management Plan. For detailed maintenance recommendations, please refer to the referenced report.

### Paradise Double Ice Complex

#### Description

Offering two NHL-sized ice surfaces, a 4000 square foot fully-accessible fitness centre, a full service canteen, a multi-purpose room, office space and meeting areas, the Paradise Double Ice Complex is the Town's recreational cornerstone. The Complex is home to a variety of Town and community events and programs, as well as provides a wide array of usage opportunities to organizations, groups and individuals. The Paradise Double Ice Complex also acts as the main entrance to the Paradise Rotary Youth and Community Centre.<sup>2</sup>

#### Condition

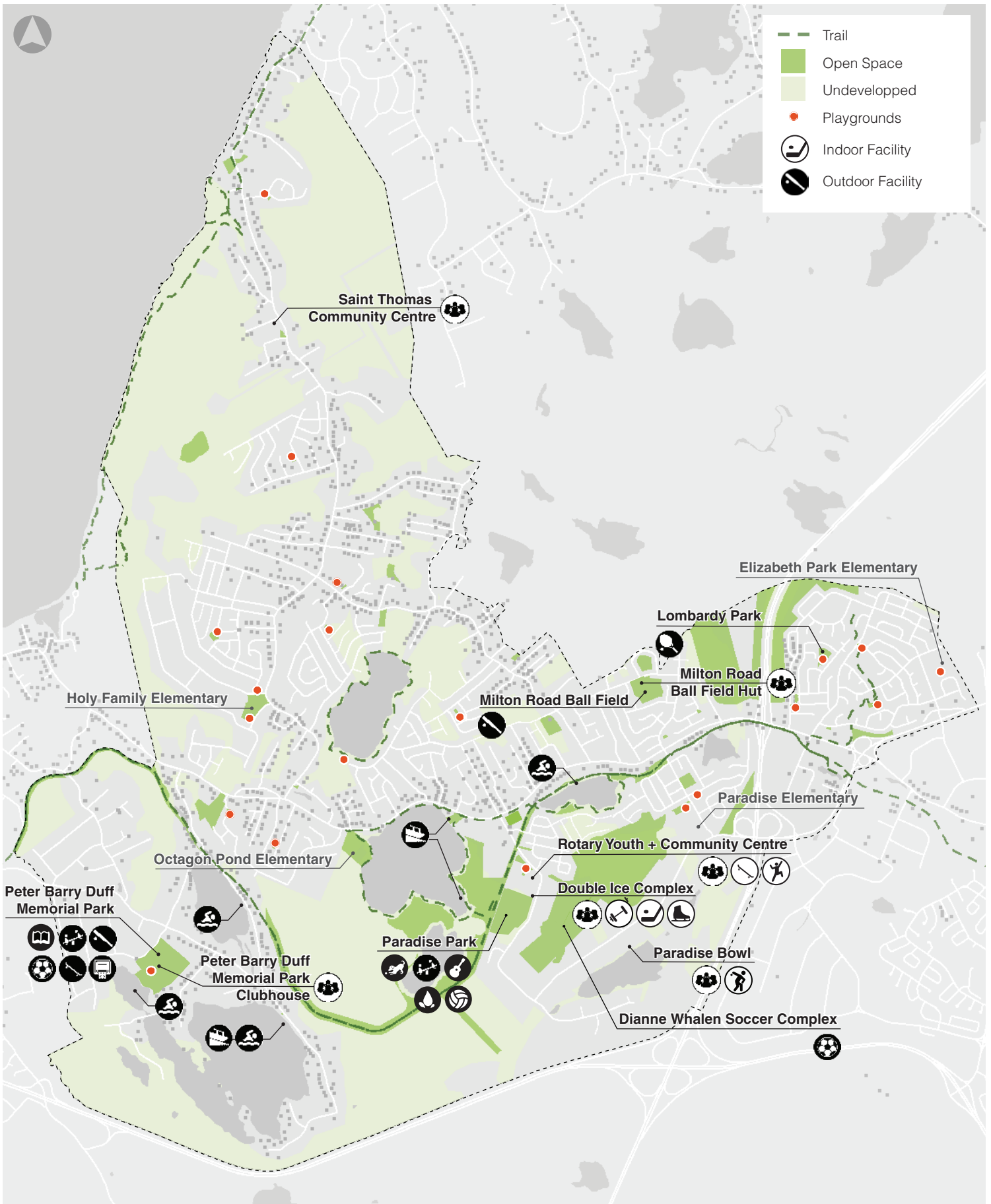
Paradise Double Ice Complex and the Rotary Paradise Youth and Community Centre building was assessed in unison. The community centre is a pre-engineered building that was constructed in 2008 and a second floor added in 2010. The facility was expanded in 2014 to include a double ice surface stadium for public use. In the 2015 Building Assessment, the building was found to satisfy the current and future occupant needs with respect to spatial requirements for increases in staff. However, storage space for operational items including maintenance equipment, ice surface cover and a scissor lift was considered inadequate.

The 2015 Building Assessment found the building to be solidly constructed but required the expenditure of monies to upgrade the facility and ensure it achieves 5 years of reliable usage before major upgrades were required.

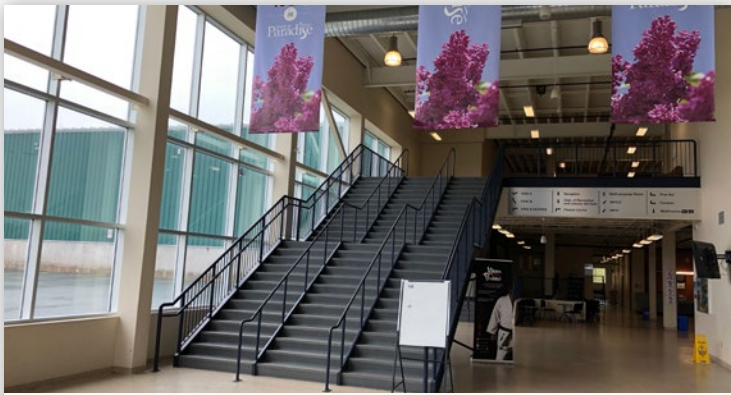
1 SNC Lavalin, Building Assessment and Management Plan June 5, 2015

2 <http://www.paradise.ca/en/play/Paradise-Double-Ice-Complex.aspx>

# Recreation Assets







Paradise Double Ice Complex



Rotary Paradise Youth and Community Centre

## Rotary Paradise Youth and Community Centre

### Description

The Rotary Paradise Youth and Community Centre offers a multitude of use options and is home to a 24 foot indoor rock climbing wall, the Rona SK8 Park, the Ches Penney Youth Centre, a fitness studio, municipal enforcement office space, community group office space, storage areas and two resource rooms.

### Condition

The Rotary Paradise Youth and Community Centre and Paradise Double Ice Complex and the building was assessed in unison.

## St. Thomas Community Centre

### Description

The St. Thomas Community Centre is a new open concept facility for community rentals, events, and activities. The Centre includes a large meeting room that accommodates up to 91 people seated and 147 people standing, a large kitchen area to support social functions, and a variety of other amenities designed to provide dynamic opportunities for community programming.

### Condition

The St. Thomas Community Centre opened in 2017 and there are no known issues with the building.

## Milton Road Ball Field Club House

### Description

The softball facility is a two storey, wood framed building, located on 68 Milton Road in Paradise, NL. It was constructed in 1991 and comprises a total combined floor area of approximately 253 m<sup>2</sup> (2,726 sf). The club house can host small social events, child birthday parties, or adult functions. The facility is equipped with a kitchenette, restrooms, a large deck, and a main meeting room that is 600 square feet and has a 35 person capacity.

### Condition

The 2015 Building Assessment found the building to be solidly constructed but required the expenditure of monies to upgrade the facility and ensure it achieves 5 years of reliable usage before major upgrades were required.

## Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park Club House

### Description

The facility is a single storey service building located at 171-211 Topsail Pond Road in Paradise, NL. It was constructed in 2012 and comprises a floor area of approximately 205.34 m<sup>2</sup> (2,206 sf). The club house can host meetings, birthday parties, and youth activities. The facility is equipped with public and patron restrooms, a full kitchen, and a 1200 square foot meeting room with a 60 person capacity.

### Condition

The 2015 Building Assessment found the building to be solidly constructed but required the expenditure of monies to upgrade the facility and ensure it achieves 5 years of reliable usage before major upgrades were required.





St. Thomas Community Centre



Dianne Whalen Soccer Complex Clubhouse

## Dianne Whalen Soccer Complex Clubhouse

### Description

The Dianne Whalen Memorial Soccer Complex clubhouse can host meetings, birthday parties, and other functions. The facility is equipped with public washrooms, patron washrooms, a kitchenette, and has a 600 square foot meeting room with a 35 person capacity.

### Condition

The building was constructed in 2002 and its condition was assessed in 2014.<sup>3</sup> The building condition assessment recommended a list of architectural, civil, electrical, and mechanical upgrades. In 2017, the Town invested \$175,000 in several building upgrades, site grading, landscaping and a new detached garage.

3 Fougere Menchton Architecture Inc, Building Assessment Town of Paradise Soccer Building, August 12, 2014

## Recreation Facility Standards

To gain a broad sense of the adequacy of the recreation facilities supply in Paradise, the number of available facilities were assessed against recreations standards developed by the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation (OMCR).<sup>1</sup> In the absence of comprehensive Canadian standards, the Ontario recreation standards are commonly applied across Canadian municipalities.

<sup>1</sup> Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation, Sports and Fitness Division, Guidelines for Developing, Public Recreation Facility Standards, 2004

**Table 3-1** provides a summary of the facilities in Paradise per 10,000 residents and compares it to the standards as defined by OMCR for each facility type. Whether a facility type is over-supplied or under-supplied is indicated in the last column of the table. Dark green indicates a facility type with a significant over-supply; light green indicates facilities that are somewhat over-supplied; yellow indicates facilities where the need is met. Red indicates facilities that are under-supplied and do not meet the needs of Paradise's 21,400 residents.

Included in the summary are not only Town-owned facilities but rather all facilities to which residents have access within Paradise. Not owned by the Town are four playgrounds and one soccer field on elementary school grounds (NL School District), the bowling facility (Paradise Bowl) and the marina (Sea Cadet Sail Centre).

**Table 3-1 Paradise Recreation Facilities Summary**

Facility Type	Paradise Number of Facilities	Paradise Number per 10,000 people	OMCR Standard Number per 10,000 people	Portion of Needs Met (%)
Arena (Hockey Rink)	2	1	0.5	200
Baseball Field	1	0.5	2	25
Softball Field	2	1	2	50
Basketball Court	3	1.5	2	75
Beach Volleyball	1	0.5	2	25
Boat Launch	2	1	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
Bowling	10 lanes	4.5 lanes	4 lanes	112
Community Room	6	3	0.5	600
Fitness Centre	1	0.5	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
Marina	1	0.5	1 per region	100
Outdoor Swimming	3	1.5	2	75
Multi-purpose Paved Court	4	2	2	100

**Table 3-1 Paradise Recreation Facilities Summary (cont'd)**

Facility Type	Paradise	Paradise	OMCR Standard	Portion of Needs Met (%)
	Number of Facilities	Number per 10,000 people	Number per 10,000 people	
Playground	29	13.5	12	112
Skateboard Park (Indoor)	1 (1750 sq ft)	2,375 sq ft	1500 sq ft / 10 users <sup>1</sup>	Capacity: 15 users
Skateboard Park (Outdoor)	1 (625 sq ft)			
Soccer Field	5	2.5	2	125
Splash Pad	1	0.5	2	25
Tennis Court	2	1	2	50
Toboggan Slope	1	1	1	100
Walking Trail	26 km	12km	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
Youth Centre	1	0.5	0.5	100
Badminton Court	0	0	2	0
Curling Rink	0	0	6 sheets	0
Horseshoe Pitch	0	0	2	0
Indoor Pool	0	0	1	0
Lawn Bowling	0	0	1	0
Squash Court	0	0	1	0

<sup>1</sup> Peter Whitley, Public Skatepark Development Guide, 2007

## Regional Capacities

Conclusions about the adequate supply of recreation facilities can of course not be made in isolation from the regional context. The Town of Paradise is embedded within a conglomeration of 15 municipalities in the Northeast Avalon Region, which is the home of over 200,000 people or 40% of the population of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Most of the regional facilities are available and utilized by citizens across the Island for special events, tournaments, school events and more. A number of facility types not present in Paradise, are available elsewhere in the Region. Larger recreation facilities available within a 20-minute drive from the centre of Paradise are mapped in the following pages, as well as their location relative to population densities in the Region. Indoor pools are currently available in the H.G.R. Mews Community Centre, The Works facility at

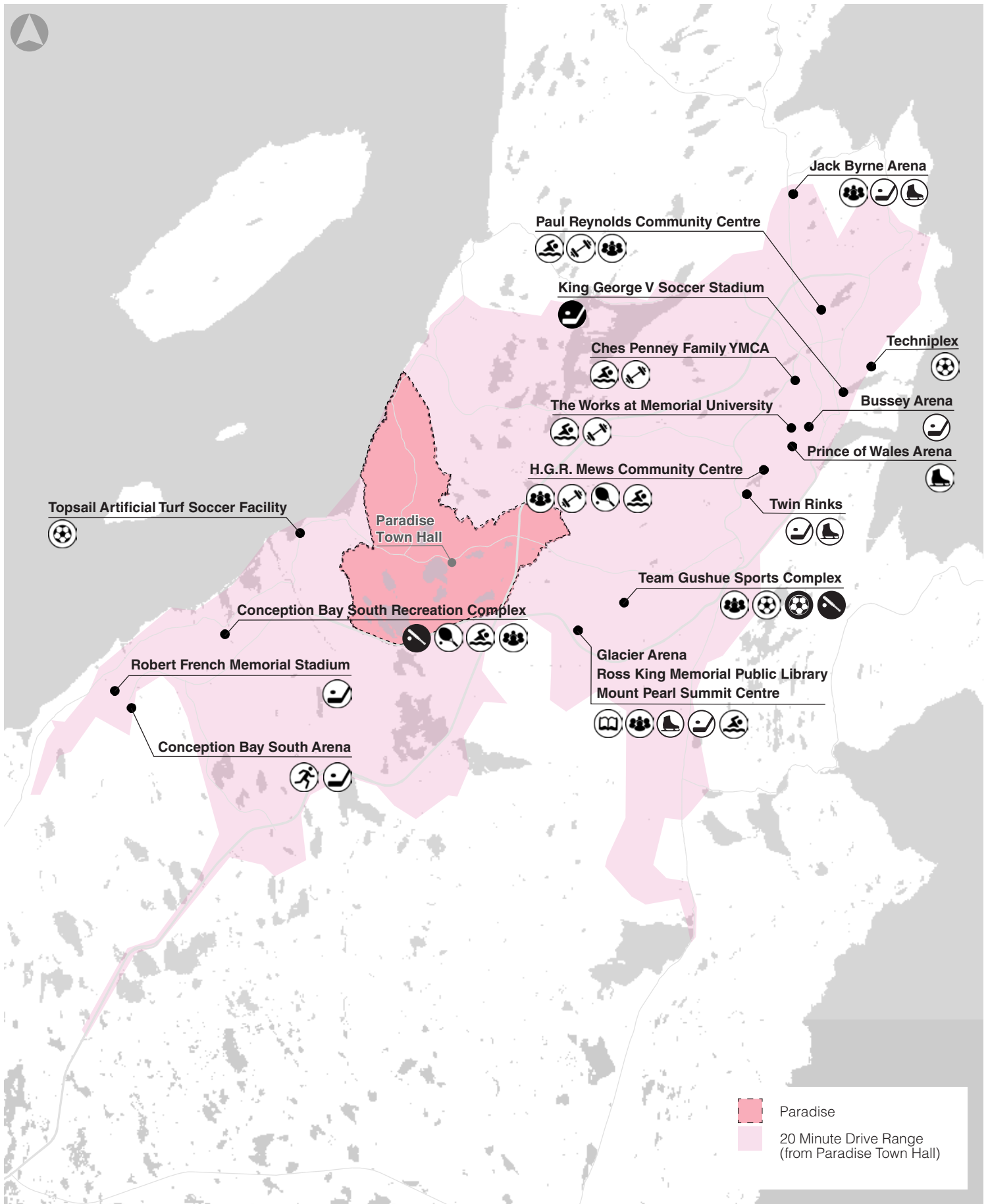
Memorial University, the Ches Penney Family YMCA in St. John's, the Mount Pearl Summit Centre, and the Conception Bay South Recreation Centre.

Without regional coordination however, the supply of recreation facilities and services can be challenging at the Regional level.

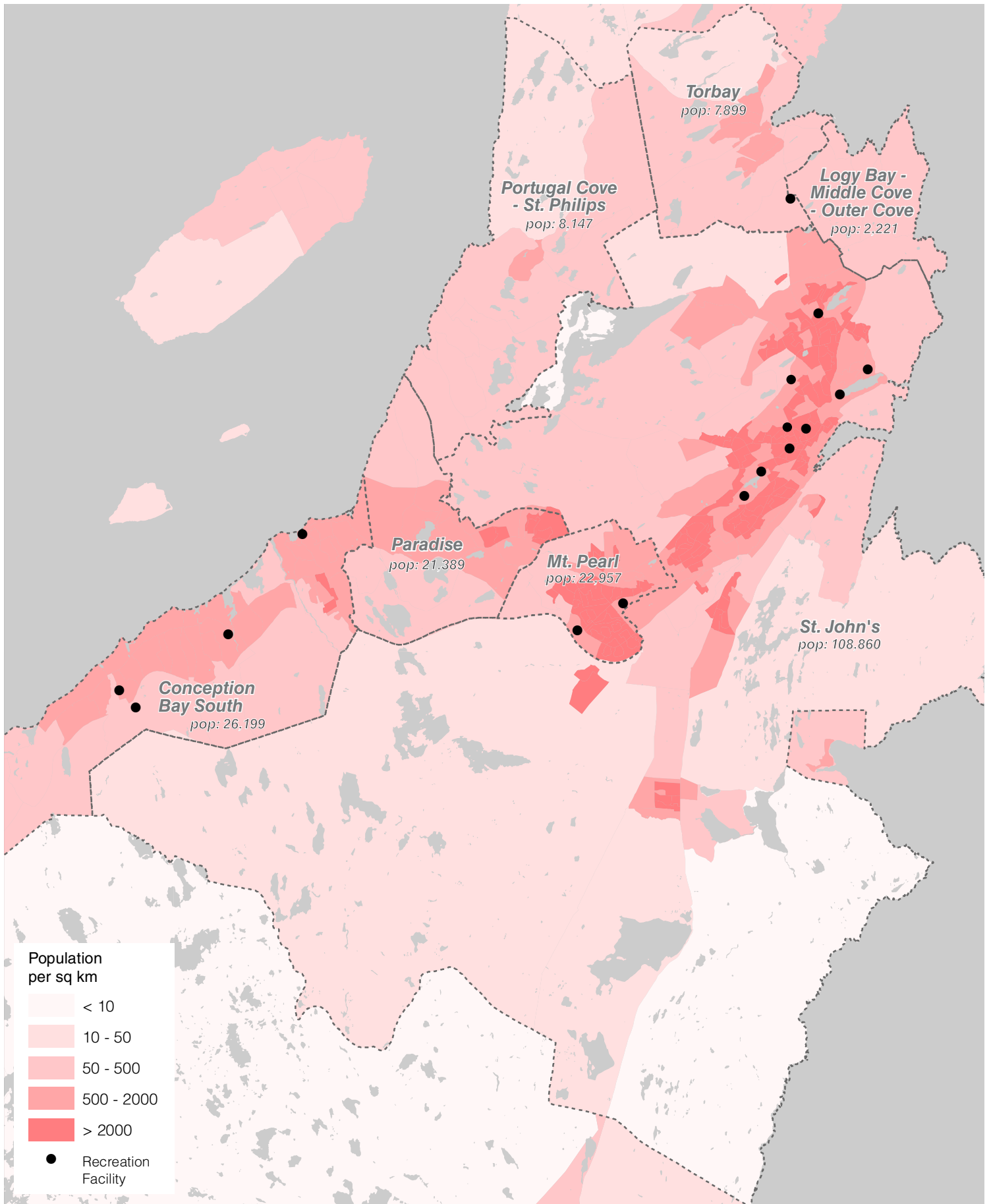
"On the one hand, municipal units providing facilities and services are often concerned with their use by residents of other municipalities, who may not pay the full cost of providing services and facilities. On the other, some municipalities may duplicate facilities and services in the interest of enhancing their communities. More generally, municipalities may rely on use by residents of other communities."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Stantec, Background Report: Our Avalon 2017

# Larger Regional Recreation Facilities within 20-Minute Drive



# Larger Regional Recreation Facilities and Population Densities



User sheds of recreational facilities often cross municipal boundaries and sharing of recreation delivery by neighbouring communities can create efficiencies. There are several facilities and programs available in Paradise's neighbouring communities that should be included in an analysis of redundancies and potential gaps.

**Table 3-2** lists significant indoor recreation facilities in Paradise's neighbouring communities. By comparing these facilities to each of the municipalities' populations and the OMCR standards it is possible to determine their potential to serve residents from other communities.

Facilities that meet and surpass their community's needs according to OMCR standards are considered to have regional capacity and are marked green. Facilities that are marked red do not meet their own community's needs and are therefore not considered capable of serving outside residents.

While this assessment methodology and associated standards can be debated, the results do give a broad sense of unused facility capacities in the Region. What emerges from this analysis is that both the CBS and Mount Pearl pool have free capacities to accommodate users from outside their municipalities, however Mount Pearl gives its own residents priority registration for swimming programs resulting in limited access to registrants from Paradise.

**Table 3-2 Regional Recreation Facilities Summary**

Municipality	Facility	Type	Municipality	OMCR Standard	Regional Capacity
			Facilities /20,000 people	Facilities /20,000 people	
CBS (26,199)	CBS Arena	Ice	1.5	1	Yes
	Robert French Memorial Stadium	Ice			
	CBS Recreation Complex Pool	Pool	0.75	0.4	Yes
	Topsail Artificial Turf Soccer Facility	Turf	0.75	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
Mt. Pearl (22,957)	Glacier Arena	Ice	1	1	At Capacity
	Mount Pearl Summit Centre	Pool	0.75	0.4	Yes
	Team Gushue Sports Complex	Turf	1	1	At Capacity
St John's (108,860)	Bussey Arena	Ice	1	1	At Capacity
	Techniplex Rinks	Ice			
	Twin Rinks	Ice			
	Prince of Wales Arena	Ice	0.4	0.4	At Capacity
	Ches Penney Family YMCA	Pool			
	The Works at Memorial University	Pool			
	HGR Mews Community Centre	Pool			
	Raquetball	0.5	1	No	
	King George Soccer Stadium	Stadium	0.2	0.2	At Capacity
Torbay (7,899)	Jack Byrne Arena	Ice	2.5	1	Yes



# Open Space Facilities

Open space is public and private space that is open to the sky and is used or has the potential to be used for public recreation. It is not necessary for open space to be “natural” in the sense of being untouched by human intervention. Open space can include areas occupied by man-made structures as well as spaces formed by those structures.

Open space forms a system in which different land uses are combined to create a network. This system can include green spaces and corridors, trails and linkages [such as streets and plazas] parks, playgrounds, fields and environmental features such as reservoirs, flood basins, watersheds, waterways and wetlands, and the like.

The open space system is an important planning tool as it provides a structural framework for urban growth and development. As a framework, it also provides continuity in the urban context by binding together otherwise disconnected and unrelated development areas, creating a sense of identity for the Town.

The 2016 Paradise Municipal Plan establishes the following three open space land use designations:

- **Open Space Recreation:** Existing parks, playing fields and natural areas set aside for future park areas.
- **Open Space Buffer:** Along T’Railway, around City Sand and Gravel Quarry, and along the Outer Ring Road Arterial.
- **Conservation:** Along major streams and wetlands, along all pond shorelines, Topsail Bluff and the coastline of Conception Bay.

Other open spaces available to the Town’s residents are school grounds, cemeteries and undeveloped lands. The Town currently does not have a hierarchy of parks and public spaces around which urban development can be planned and integrated.

Community recreation areas, both formal and informal, are located at various sites in the Town. Sports playing fields, basketball courts, and playgrounds are dispersed throughout residential areas of the Town. The main formal areas are at the Rotary Paradise Youth and Community Centre, Dianna Whalen Soccer Complex, Paradise Community Centre, the lighted softball field on Milton Road in the Donovan Terrace subdivision, and the minor soccer field at Peter Duff Memorial Park on Topsail Pond Road.

Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park consists of 30 acres of land

located at Topsail Pond Road. The Duff family, in memory of their late son, donated the land to the Town. The park is unique in that one of the conditions of the transfer of the property to the town was that it be developed exclusively for the youth in the area. Since its initial construction in 1993, the park has grown from a wilderness area into a multifaceted recreation park with walking trails, a playground, and numerous sports facilities.

Octagon Pond and the area surrounding it remains the significant recreational area of the community. The Grand Concourse Authority maintains a trail network leading to and around the pond, and a significant Community Recreation Park is currently being developed behind the arena on McNamara Drive. The park includes a splash park, wheelchair accessible playground, dog park, concession areas, trails, and has capacity to host events such as concerts and the annual Dragon Boat Festival and other boating events on the Pond.

## Open Space Assessment

A vital first step towards using the open space system as a planning tool is understanding the community’s existing open space assets. These assets represent a current snapshot and form the foundation upon which a sound open space network can be developed. Using the Town’s GIS-based data, the consulting team identified 33 Town-owned sites and four schools to be visited and inventoried as part of Paradise’s current open space network.

### Objectives

The open space inventory for the Paradise Recreation and Open Space Master Plan aimed to accomplish the following objectives:

1. To assemble a current inventory of Town-owned recreation and open space amenities;
2. To identify opportunities and challenges for future development;
3. To identify character-defining elements and natural features;
4. To identify opportunities to connect open spaces as part of a larger network;
5. To form the foundation for a context-sensitive approach to future land use planning and development decisions.



## Methodology

Prior to undertaking field work, a matrix was developed for use in the field to ensure consistent data was recorded between sites and to streamline the inventory process, due to the large number of sites being visited. The matrix outlined several qualitative criteria to be assessed at each site which were determined based on literature review and consultation with Town staff and stakeholders. A Likert-type

numerical rating system of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) was used to rank each category. This rating system was field-tested by the consulting team and slight adjustments were made to minimize ambiguity and redundancy when collecting data. The draft matrix was presented the Project Steering Committee for review, with no revisions required. The final matrix included the following assessment categories:

**Table 3-3 Open Space Assessment Rating Criteria**

Criteria	Rating	
	1 (poor)	5 (excellent)
<b>Physical Condition</b>	Site features exhibit significant signs of wear, deterioration and should be maintained or replaced	Site features in excellent condition, clean and well-maintained. No safety hazards or deterioration noted.
<b>Ecological Features</b>	No significant ecological features on site	Significant ecological features on site such as stream, pond, wetland, native vegetation, treed hilltop, coastline
<b>Topography</b>	No significant topography on site (flat)	Significant topography on site (sloping)
<b>Pedestrian Circulation</b>	Pedestrian circulation is confusing, unclear, unsafe or non-existent	Pedestrian circulation is logical, well-integrated, connects site amenities and offers a variety of routes and recreation opportunities
<b>Vehicular Circulation</b>	Vehicular circulation is confusing, unclear, unsafe or non-existent	Site access and vehicular circulation is clearly-defined, free of obstructions and intuitive
<b>Connectivity</b>	No connectivity to the broader community	Site is very well connected to broader community and other open spaces, such as along GCA, East Coast Trail, T'Railway or municipal sidewalk
<b>Accessibility</b>	Site is not currently accessible	Site is very accessible, incorporating inclusive design principles (curb ramps, paved trails, handrails, rubber play surfacing)
<b>Parking</b>	No parking on site	Ample parking on site in excellent condition, such as paved with clear markings and regulatory signage
<b>Seasonal Interest / Use</b>	No anticipated use outside of peak season	Significant seasonal interest, such as pedestrian lighting, changing foliage, winter activity, community event space

## Results

The results of the open space assessment are summarized in Table 1-2 and 1-3. The detailed assessment matrices for each site can be found in Appendix A.

**Table 3-4 Open Space Summary - Use and Physical Condition**

Name	Programming / Use	Physical Condition				
		1	2	3	4	5
<b>Elizabeth Park Elementary</b>	Play structure, grass lot, outdoor eating area, school garden					
<b>Paradise Elementary</b>	Play structure (2x), swing set (2x), balance beam, spring toy, ball game, playhouse					
<b>Octagon Pond Elementary</b>	Play structure, soccer field, garden					
<b>Holy Family Elementary</b>	Play structure (2x), outdoor classroom (2x), ant farms (3x), garden					
<b>Paradise Youth Centre Tot Lot</b>	Play structure, spring toy (2x), seesaw, swingset, sandbox					
<b>Dianne Whalen Soccer Complex</b>	Soccer fields (3x), clubhouse, parking lot (3x)					
<b>Paradise Park</b>	Paved parking lot, play structure, dog park, beach volleyball court, bandstand, concession building					
<b>Octagon Pond Boat Launch</b>	Boat launch					
<b>Three Island Pond - Boating</b>	Boat launch					
<b>Topsail Pond Swimming Area</b>	Swimming					
<b>Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park - Swimming Area</b>	Swimming, trails					
<b>Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park - Tot Lot</b>	Play structure (2x), spring toy (2x), swingset, sandbox					
<b>Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park- Sod Fields</b>	Soccer field, baseball field, softball field, trails					
<b>Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park- Parking Lot and Paved Courts</b>	Gravel parking lot, skate park, multi-purpose paved court, trails					
<b>Duffs Crescent Tot Lot</b>	Play structure, swingset					
<b>Spracklin Boulevard Tot Lot</b>	Play structure, swingset, spring toy, community mailbox					
<b>Kinder Drive Tot Lot</b>	Play structure, spring toy, swingset					
<b>Ashgrove Drive Tot Lot</b>	Play structure (2x), balance beam, swingset					
<b>Canterbury Grasshopper Park</b>	Spring toy (2x), iceberg climbing structure					
<b>Lombardy Park</b>	Play structure (2x), swingset, spring toy (3x), tennis court (2x), multi-purpose paved court					

**Table 3-4 Open Space Summary - Use and Physical Condition (Continued)**

Name	Programming / Use	Physical Condition				
		1	2	3	4	5
<b>Horncastle Drive Tot Lot</b>	Play structure (2x), swingset, spring toy (3x), community mailbox	■			●	
<b>Elgin Tot Lot</b>	Play structure (2x), swingset, spring toy (2x), toddler equipment	■			●	
<b>Lanark Drive Tot Lot</b>	Play structure (2x), swingset, climbing structures	■				●
<b>Vambury Street Tot Lot</b>	Play structure (2x), swingset, spring toy (2x), community mailbox	■				●
<b>Paradise Softball Complex</b>	Softball field, clubhouse w/ multipurpose space, play structure, swingset, spring toy (2x)	■				●
<b>St. Thomas Community Centre Tot Lot</b>	Community centre, play structure, paved parking lot, garden	■		■		
<b>Reardon Avenue Park</b>	Play structure (2x), spring toy (2x), swingset, basketball court, multi-purpose paved court, gravel parking lot	■			●	
<b>Ranger Avenue Tot Lot</b>	Play structure, swingset, spring toy, picnic tables, community mailbox	■				●
<b>Quantum Tot Lot</b>	Play structure (2x), swingset, spring toy (2x), picnic, gravel parking lot	■		■		
<b>Neil's Pond Swimming and Picnic Area</b>	Unsupervised swimming, shelter gazebo, seating	■		■		
<b>Legend Drive Tot Lot</b>	Play structure, swingset, spring toy (2x), small climbing toy, community mailbox	■			■	
<b>Lancefield Street Tot Lot</b>	Play structure (2x), swingset	■				●
<b>Cloudberry Drive Tot Lot</b>	Play structure (2x), swingset, spring toy (2x), picnic table	■				●
<b>Carlingford Street Tot Lot</b>	Play structure, swingset, spring toy (2x)	■				●
<b>Cameo Drive Tot Lot</b>	Play structure, swingset, spring toy (2x), community mailbox	■		■		
<b>Camelot Crescent Park</b>	Multipurpose paved courts, open gravel space where playground used to be	■			●	
<b>Aurora Place Tot Lot</b>	Play structure, swingset, spring toy, picnic benches	■				●
<b>Horse Cove / Laurie Beach</b>	Gravel road, parking area	■				●
<b>Topsail Bluff Lookout</b>	Gravel road / trail, open space overlooking Conception Bay	■		●		

Average Physical Condition Score

**3.8**

## Open Space Standards

To determine whether the existing open spaces in Paradise meet the needs of its population, parks were categorized and the total area of each park type was compared to established standards.

The categorization and standards used are based on the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation (OMCR) Sport and Fitness Division's Guidelines for Developing Public Recreation Facility Standards. Definitions of categories including park descriptions and a typical area and radius of service for each type of park were established based on the OMCR document (area and radius of service) in tandem with a similar categorization system from the Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan<sup>1</sup> (descriptive definitions of usage). Adaptations of the allowable area for each park category were made to better fit the context of Paradise, allowing Mini-Parks and Tot-Lots under 0.6ac (the minimum size from both reference documents), and giving a maximum or minimum size rather than a size range so that categorization could be based on function before area. Because of the scale of this project, categories defining larger parks were amalgamated into a single 'regional park' category which accounts for any open spaces that have a wide service area and would not fall under a single municipal boundary such as Paradise.

**Table 3-5** defines the system of categorization and standards, **Table 3-6** lists the function, area and derived park type categorization for each open space facility in Paradise. **Table 3-7** summarizes and compares Paradise's open spaces to the standards to determine if the needs of the municipality's residents are met.

The Open Space map illustrates the distribution of open spaces in Paradise. In addition to the spaces indicated in table 3-6, other properties zoned as open space have been included. These include cemeteries, church properties, power line right-of-ways and other green space within the municipality that has been designated as public-access. These spaces do not have recreation programming or infrastructure, and have not been included in the inventory. They have been included on this map to provide additional context for the inventoried spaces and trails.

The Tot Lot and Mini-Park service area map illustrates the 400m service radius that these types of parks are considered to serve. The service areas for the other park types are up to a 5 kilometer radius, which means that the combined service areas of the neighbourhood and community parks in Paradise easily cover the entire municipality.

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1 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2011-2016, Appendix E  
[https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/planning/scorp/pdfs/WI\\_SCORP\\_2011\\_16\\_append.pdf](https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/planning/scorp/pdfs/WI_SCORP_2011_16_append.pdf)

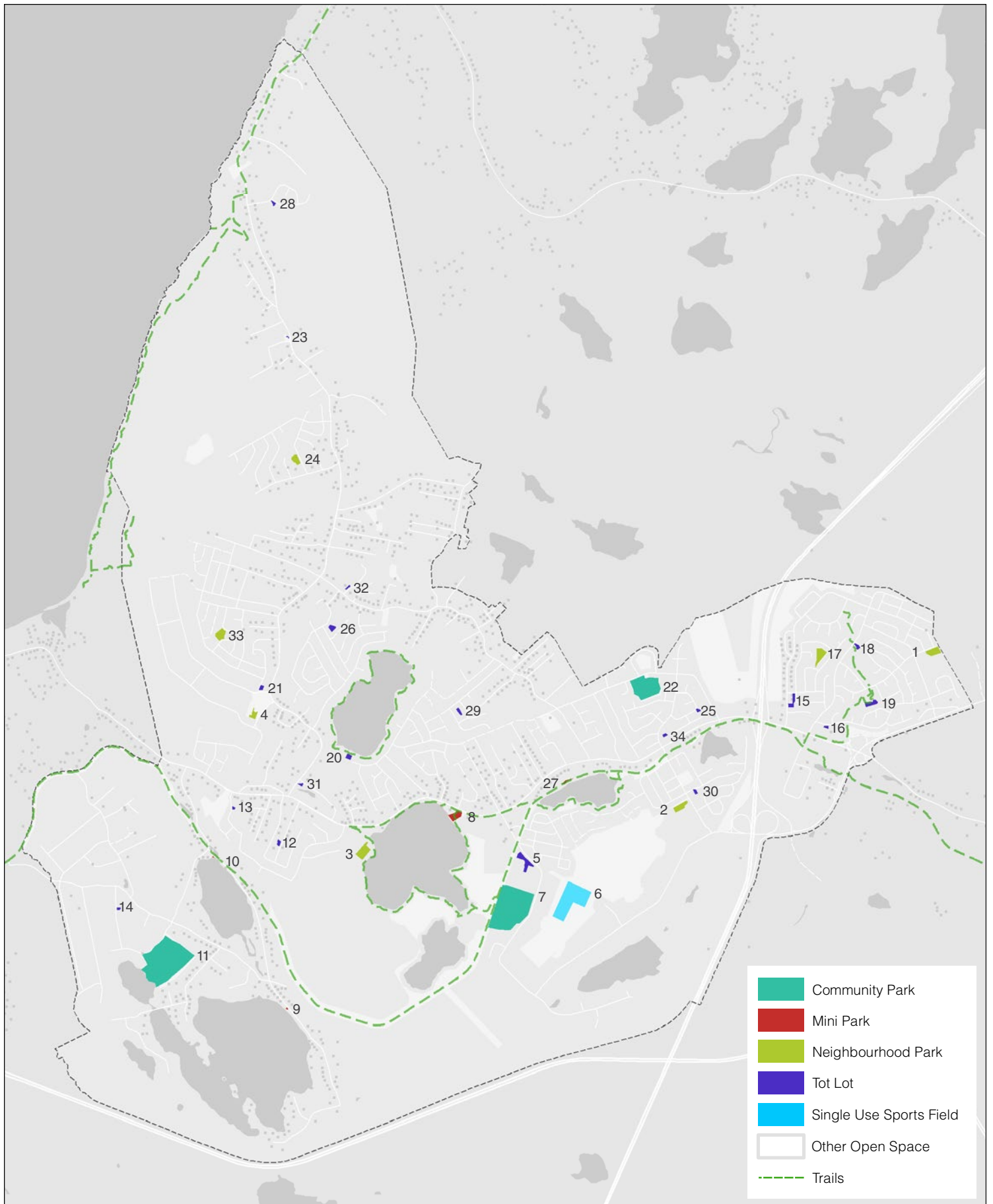
**Table 3-5 Open Space Summary - Park Types and Standards\***

Park Type	Radius of Service Area (km)	Area (acres)	Description	Standard (ac / 10,000 people)
Mini-Park	<0.4	<1	Small park with minimal facilities.	<5
Tot-Lot	<0.4	<2	Small park oriented toward youth, typically featuring playground structures and seating.	2.5 - 5
Neighbourhood Park	<5	<6	Small-scale, varied-use parks typically featuring playground structures as well as additional facilities such as basketball courts, ball diamonds, grills, shelters, etc.	10 - 20
Community Park	<5	>4	Similar to Neighbourhood Parks but with a stronger emphasis on sports facilities. Some may incorporate natural areas, and may also include band shells, aquatic facilities, outdoor skating, etc.	10 - 20
Regional Park	varies	>25	Large tracts of land with cultural, natural or scenic value. Includes greenbelts, nature preserves, wilderness areas, municipal, provincial or national parks, etc.	>25

**Table 3-6 Open Space Categorization by Park Type**

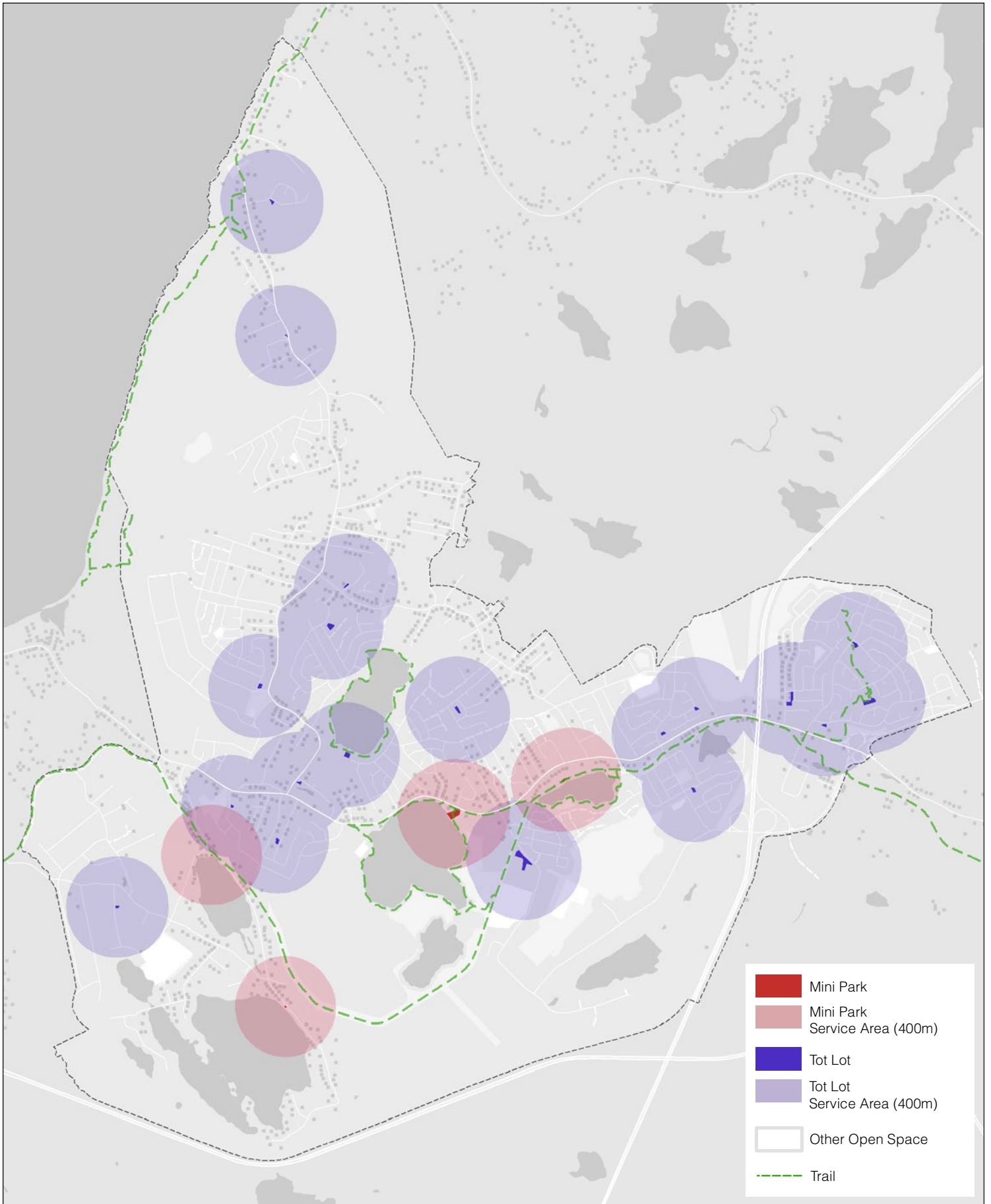
#	Name	General Use	Area (ac)	Park Type
1	<b>Elizabeth Park Elementary</b>	Playground, school garden	1.32	Neighbourhood Park
2	<b>Paradise Elementary</b>	Playground, play field	1.89	Neighbourhood Park
3	<b>Octagon Pond Elementary</b>	Playground, garden, soccer	2.04	Neighbourhood Park
4	<b>Holy Family Elementary</b>	Playground, garden, outdoor classroom	0.03	Neighbourhood Park
5	<b>Paradise Youth Centre Tot Lot</b>	Playground	1.88	Tot-Lot
6	<b>Dianne Whalen Soccer Complex</b>	Soccer	10.50	<i>Single Use Sports Field</i>
7	<b>Paradise Park</b>	Playground, dog park, volleyball, bandstand, concession	21.22	Community Park
8	<b>Octagon Pond</b>	Boat Launch	1.00	Mini-Park
9	<b>Three Island Pond</b>	Boat Launch	0.05	Mini-Park
10	<b>Topsail Pond</b>	Swimming Area	0.01	Mini-Park
11	<b>Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park</b>	Sports fields, beach, playground, trails, skate park	22.30	Community Park
12	<b>Duffs Crescent Tot Lot</b>	Playground	0.27	Tot-Lot
13	<b>Spracklin Boulevard Tot Lot</b>	Playground, community mailbox	0.12	Tot-Lot
14	<b>Kinder Drive Tot Lot</b>	Playground	0.18	Tot-Lot
15	<b>Ashgrove Drive Tot Lot</b>	Playground	0.18	Tot-Lot
16	<b>Canterbury Grasshopper Park</b>	Playground	0.12	Tot-Lot
17	<b>Lombardy Park</b>	Playground, tennis, basketball/ball hockey	1.63	Neighbourhood Park
18	<b>Horncastle Drive Tot Lot</b>	Playground, community mailbox	0.31	Tot-Lot
19	<b>Elgin Tot Lot</b>	Playground	0.81	Tot-Lot
20	<b>Lanark Drive Tot Lot</b>	Playground	0.43	Tot-Lot
21	<b>Vambury Street Tot Lot</b>	Playground, community mailbox	0.28	Tot-Lot
22	<b>Paradise Softball Complex</b>	Softball, clubhouse, playground	8.02	Community Park
23	<b>St. Thomas Community Centre</b>	Community centre, playground, garden	0.06	Tot-Lot
24	<b>Reardon Avenue Park</b>	Playground, basketball/ball hockey	0.97	Neighbourhood Park
25	<b>Ranger Avenue Tot Lot</b>	Playground, picnic tables, community mailbox	0.30	Tot-Lot
26	<b>Quantum Tot Lot</b>	Playground, picnic tables	0.50	Tot-Lot
27	<b>Neil's Pond Swimming and Picnic Area</b>	Beach, gazebo, picnic tables	0.13	Mini-Park
28	<b>Legend Drive Tot Lot</b>	Playground, community mailbox	0.32	Tot-Lot
29	<b>Lancefield Street Tot Lot</b>	Playground	0.51	Tot-Lot
30	<b>Cloudberry Drive Tot Lot</b>	Playground, picnic tables	0.22	Tot-Lot
31	<b>Carlingford Street Tot Lot</b>	Playground	0.16	Tot-Lot
32	<b>Cameo Drive Tot Lot</b>	Playground, community mailbox	0.21	Tot-Lot
33	<b>Camelot Crescent Park</b>	Playground, basketball/ball hockey	1.36	Neighbourhood Park
34	<b>Aurora Place Tot Lot</b>	Playground, picnic benches	0.19	Tot-Lot

# Paradise Open Spaces by Type





# Mini-Park and Tot-Lot Service Areas



**Table 3-7 Open Space Summary - Existing Open Space in Paradise vs. Open Space Standards**

Park Type	Area - Paradise (total acres)	Area - Paradise (ac / 10,000 people)	Area - Standard (ac / 10,000 people)	Need met
Mini-Park	1.28	0.60	0.5	Need Met
Tot Lot	7.04	3.29	2.5 - 5	Need Met
Neighbourhood Park	9.24	4.32	10 - 20	Underserved
Community Park	51.54	24.09	10 - 20	Overserved
Regional Park	-	-	>25	Underserved

## Trails

Paradise is served by a number of trail systems including The Grand Concourse, the T’Railway, the East Coast Trail as well as the Octagon Pond Trail, Neil’s Pond Trail, and the Elizabeth Park Walking Trail.

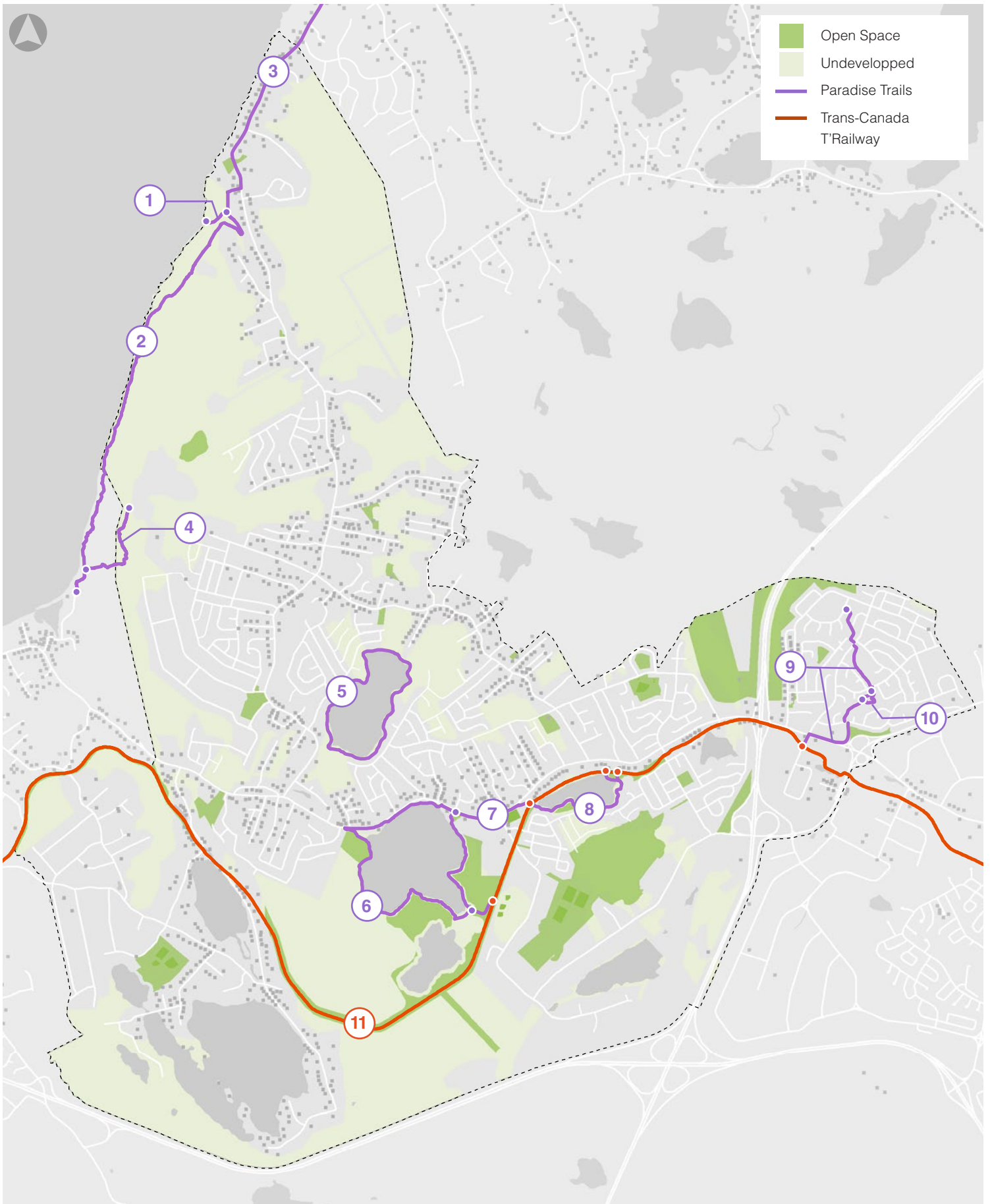
The Grand Concourse begins in St. John’s and extends through the neighbouring municipalities of Mount Pearl and then Paradise. The Grand Concourse is currently a pedestrian-based trail but has potential as an off-road cycling route. The T’Railway walking system is the former railway bed and extends from the boundary with Conception Bay South to the boundary with Mount Pearl. The T’Railway is owned by the province and therefore not maintained by the Town. ATV users as well as bikes frequently use the T’Railway.

A portion of the East Coast Trail passes through the community along the coastline in the northern area of the Town between Topsail Beach in Conception Bay South and St. Thomas Line.

The Town’s Strategic Plan commits Council to continued development of the trail system to connect neighbourhoods to recreational areas, schools and commercial areas.

Trail No.	Trail Name	Distance (km) within Paradise	Total Trail Distance (km)
1	St Thomas’ Cove Path	0.21	
2	Topsail to St Philips Trail (pathway)	2.91	4.61
3	Topsail to St Philips Trail (road connection)	1.38	2.16
4	Topsail Bluff Path	0.58	0.87
5	Adams Pond Trail	2.69	
6	Octagon Pond Trail	4.157	
7	Pond Connector	0.66	
8	Neils Pond Trail	1.244	
9	Elizabeth Park Neighbourhood Trails	1.66	
10	Elizabeth Park Playground Trail	0.26	
11	T’Railway	9.84	619.58

# Trails

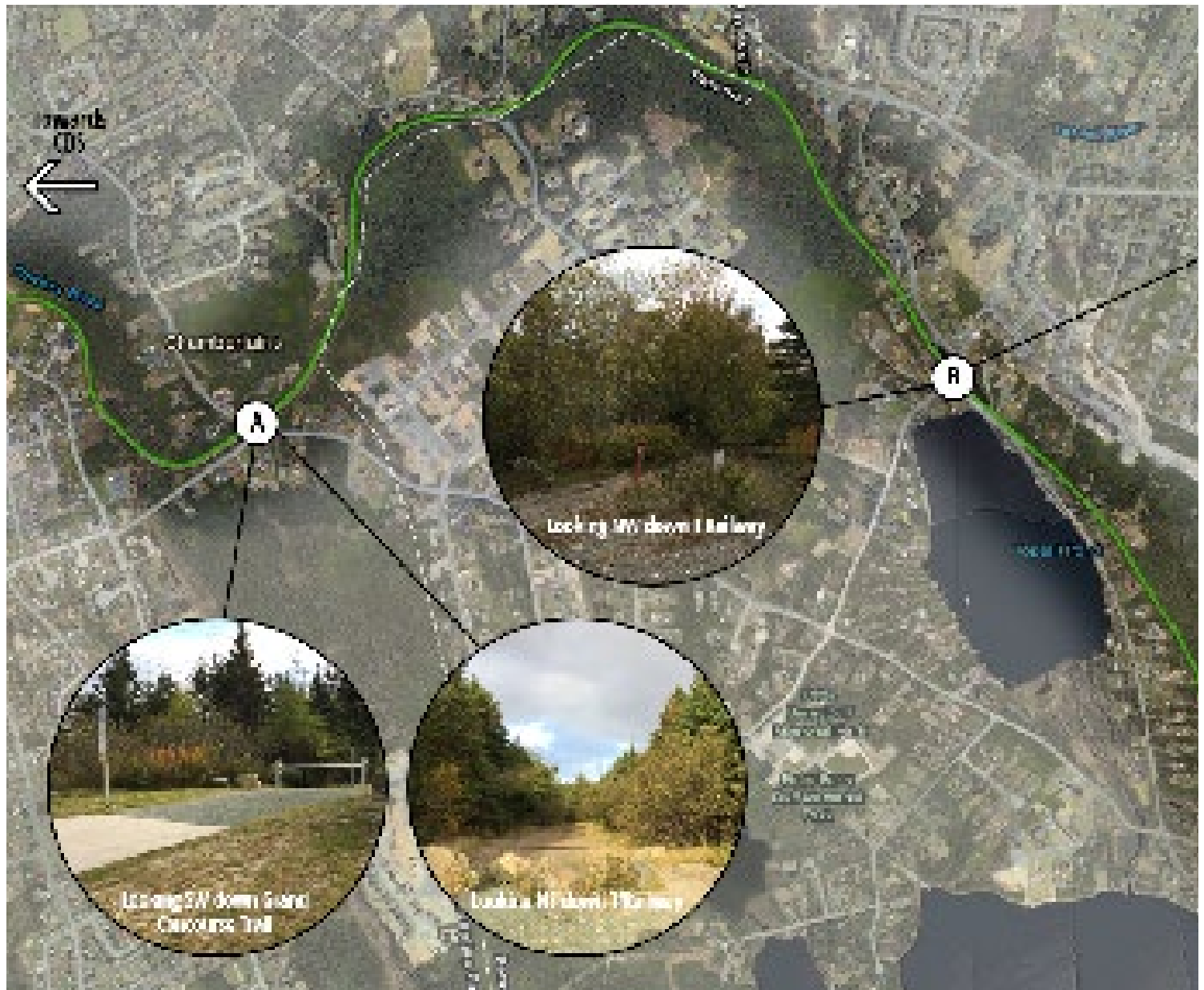


## T'Railway Planning

The Town of Conception Bay South approached the Town of Paradise to partner on the development of a 1km section of the T'Railway near Topsail Pond. CBS has a concept plan adopted and once the trail is developed it will ban all motorized vehicles from Paradise Boundary to Foxtrap Marina. This will leave a portion of the T'Railway in Paradise that currently ATV's are permitted on to come to a dead end if heading west. In order to make recommendations on the future of the T'Railway in Paradise the condition of the trail was assessed by the consulting team.

## A Conception Bay South / Paradise Boundary

- The T'Railway in CBS is part of the Grand Concourse Trail System as well as The Great Trail System.
- The CBS part of the trail is about 3-4m wide, is well-graded with fine granular material, and includes seating, signage, and developed trailheads at road intersections.
- The CBS part of the trail does not allow motorized vehicles.
- Once the trail crosses Spruce Hill Road, into Paradise, the state of the trail deteriorates immediately.
- The Paradise portion of the trail has many depressions where wet spots have developed, and it is roughly graded with large cobble and boulders making up the ground plane. The width of the trail also narrows to about 1.5-2m.
- The Paradise portion of the trail does currently allow ATV traffic, and it is evident that they use the trail regularly.



## B Topsail Pond Road Intersection

- The T'Railway intersection near Topsail Pond Road is about the halfway point for the underdeveloped portion of the Paradise T'Railway.
- There are no real trailheads near this intersection, and the trail disappears discreetly into the woods near a 3-way stop intersection.
- This portion of the trail is narrow, with rough footing material, and has lots of depressions and wet spots.
- The vegetation along the edges of the trail is quite overgrown, making the trail less than 1.5m wide in some places.
- It is evident that this portion of the trail is heavily used by ATVs. There are lots of ruts caused by the tires. There has even been a small bridge constructed to cross a small stream.

## C Paradise Park / Octagon Pond Intersection

- The T'Railway eventually meets back up with the Grand Concourse Trail System near Octagon Pond and Paradise Park.
- Up until this point, the trail is quite rough and uneven. However, at some point between the Topsail Pond Intersection and this point, the trail widens to about 3-4m. The trail material is the same though.
- Once the trail meets the Grand Concourse system, the state of the trail improves again. The same fine granular material as the CBS portion is used, and the trail is well-graded. There is also signage, site furniture, and some adjacent parking areas to access the trail.
- At this point, motorized vehicles are no longer permitted.





## 3.2 Program Delivery Assessment

### Access

Utilizing a very effective Hub and Spoke methodology, program delivery in Paradise is taking place in an organized and comprehensive manner. Hub and spoke refers to one facility, usually a large community facility in a central location, being the “hub” where program delivery “resides” and is the convenient location for residents to come together for registrations, many programs and activities, meetings and special events.

In Paradise, the organization of facilities and staffing is well aligned to provide this sequence of service to citizens.

#### Hub

With the Rotary Paradise Youth Community Centre, and the Paradise Double Ice Complex conveniently located in the middle of the Town, close to residential, business, schools and parks, the facility(s) provide a Hub and cornerstone for recreation, sport and events. The concept is evidenced by the vast number of programs, services and events that take place in and adjacent to the facilities.

#### Spoke

The concept of “Spoke” facilities, is that these are, to some degree, secondary facilities that likely do not have full time staff, full time programming, or perhaps do not operate in a full calendar year.

The proximity of Paradise Park to the Paradise Double Ice Complex and Rotary Paradise Youth Community Centre, with its amenities like splash pad, band stand, green space, along with the nearby Dianne Whalen Soccer Complex create a useful and convenient “recreation and sport campus” for community members and visitors to enjoy.

The planned future Junior High School, to be constructed adjacent to the Dianne Whalen Soccer Complex will provide

yet another important amenity for the Town. The asset will either be specifically for the junior high aged residents of Paradise and meeting their educational and after school hour recreation and sport needs, or by way of future partnership, providing access for citizens of all ages to school areas such as gymnasias, arts, theatre, music or other purpose built areas that the Town may not have readily available now, for enhanced recreational programming. Again, this is an important Spoke in the Program Delivery continuum.

Other key Spoke facilities in Paradise include the Milton Road Ball Field and Facility, the Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park Complex, the St Thomas Line Community Centre and Octagon Pond. These provide valuable opportunities for citizens and are utilized by recreation and Leisure Services to provide programs on a regular basis. All are also utilized by groups and individuals for several activities.

### Variety

The Town of Paradise promotes their programs, services and community events through a variety of means and alternative mechanisms. Program and Services are offered seasonally and structured in age, activity and interest group categories. Hundreds of programs and services are organized, promoted, scheduled and offered to citizens of all ages.

The key areas of interest captured in these categories are:

1. Youth Activities
2. Child and Family including Preschoolers
3. 50+ Activities
4. Special and Community Events including the annual Municipal Awards

5. Active Living including fitness/yoga/strength/walking/meditation
6. Parks and Facilities
7. Community Living
8. Municipal Awards

The Town of Paradise is continually evolving to better serve their citizens and promotion of recreation programs and services is consistent with that. Advertising and promotion of these seasonal and annual programs and services is done through several innovative means including direct distribution to user groups and specific population groups, Social media promotions through the Town FB/Twitter/Instagram accounts, promotions through schools and through the Towns user-friendly web site are anticipated to be more user friendly and more effective overall to share program and event information with citizens.

Observations made during review of programs and services including public consultation revealed suggestions for enhancement to the current offerings.

Suggestions by participants included:

- More program awareness, with avenues for promotion focused only on recreation.
- Dedicated social media and easier website access to program information.
- Partnership to access school gymnasiums for community/ municipal programs.
- Special rates for social assistance and CPP disability individuals.

New program suggestions included:

- activities for kids and young adults with special needs
- dance therapy, especially for people with limited mobility
- literary, arts and educational pursuits (guest speakers, screenings, etc.)
- gymnastics
- boating (canoe, kayak, etc.)

Suggestions for organized fun leagues included:

- ball hockey
- tennis
- volleyball
- badminton
- ultimate frisbee

## Affordability

For the most part, pricing for participation in these programs is nominal to say the least. The affordability of programs clearly is a priority in Paradise and it is very apparent that Council has a firm degree of support and understanding related to the value of recreation programs, services and facilities.

Illustrated by the vast number of offerings, citizens in Paradise have a tremendous availability of leisure and sport choices at their fingertips.

Many programs, like Bright Futures, are offered several days per week at no fee whatsoever, creating true financial accessibility for all.

“Market – Value” pricing for some programs such as summer/ March Break day camp programs, adult programs, specialty programs and access to facilities does take place, and could be developed further to be considered as a means of increasing revenues and focused support for specific user groups that need more assistance and support to participate.

If and when concerns exist for groups requiring more support to enable participation, key target areas and specific budget areas of funding could be allocated so that tracking of usage, benchmarking and reportability is easier.

## 3.3 Budget and Fee Structures

### Overall Recreation Budget

In 2018, the Town of Paradise is planning to spend \$3,930,704 on operating its recreation services, which accounts for 11% of the Town's total expenditures. Compared to 2017, spending on recreation services has increased by 1.5%, even though total expenditures for the Town have decreased by 2.4%. During the same time, capital spending on recreation increased from \$60,000 to \$255,000.

Major capital investments in recreation over the last years included \$1.3M for the new St. Thomas Line Community Centre and \$1.2M for the completion of a Splash Pad, dog park, concession stand and other outdoor amenities (2016) and improvements to Dianne Whalen Soccer Hut, continued enhancements for Paradise Park, and skate park equipment for Camelot Crescent playground (2017).

### Cost Recovery

Cost recovery rates are reflective of Council direction on approved annual budgets, and illustrate a sound business approach to revenue generation as well as an obvious commitment to financial accessibility for citizens.

Cost recovery rates listed here reflect direct costs only and do not include contributions of "administrative costs/overhead/etc" related to senior Town management not directly involved with the specific activity lines.

**Table 1-4 Program and Large Facility Cost Recovery**

Facility	Cost Recovery Rate	Subsidy Total
Arena	85%	\$153,431
Summer - Other	95%	\$64,314
Summer Camps	70%	\$99,610
Milton Road	57%	\$6,840
Special Events	30%	\$161,600
St Thomas Line	18%	\$19,891
* Rotary Paradise Youth Community Centre and Double Ice Complex	56%	\$970,890

\* Budget document 6.2 Recreation Facilities RPYCC and Arenas Expenditures, and 3.0 Revenues



# Rotary Paradise Youth Community Centre

An analysis of user fees for the Rotary Paradise Youth Community Centre reveals the following results:

- The RPYCC is heavily utilized facility.
- Currently 90% of scheduled usage at the RPYCC is taking place with no fees associated.
- If a nominal fee was charged to the current no fee users of \$50. /hr, an additional \$125,350 of revenue would be generated at the facility, per quarter, based on the above quarter. Over 3 of the 4 quarters per year (recognizing that Summer is different) additional revenues of 376,050. Per year could be generated and utilized for operating costs, new program development, special events, or general revenue.
- Assuming the same usage rate since the facility opened in 2007 over 3 of the 4 quarters per year, the Town has already contributed approximately over \$3M in no charge access to the RPYCC.
- Special events play a key role in the community and the RPYCC is utilized regularly as “HQ” for events, support facilities, and storage.

**Table 1-5 January-April 2018 RPYCC Usage Statistics and Revenue Generation**

	Type of Rental	Hours Used	Rental Rate	Revenue Generated	Percent of Capacity (max: 1840 hrs)	Percent of Category
Resource A	Adult Function	5	\$300/evening	\$300	0.27	
	Childs Party	34	\$90/party	\$1170	1.84	
	Hourly	1	\$60	\$60	0.05	
	No Charge	752	\$0	\$0	40.86	<b>95%</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>792</b>		<b>\$1530</b>	<b>43.86</b>	
Resource B	Adult Function	7.5	\$200/evening	\$200	38.31	
	Childs Party	38.5	\$75/party	\$1200	2.09	
	Daytime (3 hr)	24	\$100	\$500	1.30	
	Hourly Function	1	\$50	\$50	0.05	
	No Charge	733	\$0	\$0	39.83	<b>91%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>804</b>		<b>\$1950</b>	<b>43.69</b>		
Gymnasium	Childs Party	57	\$115/party	\$2760	3.09	
	Sport	140	\$65/hr	\$9100	7.60	
	Other (daily)	15	\$65/hr	\$975	0.81	
	No Charge	1022.5	\$0	\$0	55.54	<b>85%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1234.50</b>		<b>\$12,835</b>	<b>67.09</b>		
	<b>Total Usage (Jan-Apr 2018)</b>	<b>2830.5 hours</b>		<b>\$16,315</b>		
	<b>Total Free Access</b>	<b>* 2507 hours</b>				

# 3.4 Policies

## Review

The following operational policies have been reviewed:

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Athletic Field Policy	RL001	June 18 13 (suggested edit re end of season policy review)
Fund Raising Group Rental	RL002	Dec 17 13
Neighborhood Block Party	RL003	"
Special Events Policy	RL004	"
Volunteer Application	RL005	"
Fitness Centre Policy	RL006	March 3 14
Program Behavior	RL007	"
<b>Recreation Facility Rental Policy</b>	RL008	"
After School Program	RL008	"
Disclosure Policy	RL009	Feb 18 14
Recreational Trail Policy	RL010	March 4 14
Ice Rental and Box Office Agreement Policy	RL012	Oct 21 14
<b>Ice Rental Policy</b>	RL013	Nov 15 16
Playground Inspection & Maintenance	RL014	Jan 21 14
Helmet Policy PDIC	RL014	March 3 16 (updated policy)

---

## Observations

### Recreation Facility Rental Policy

This policy was developed to provide clarity, guidelines and procedures regarding the usage and cost of the Town owned and operated Rotary Paradise Youth Community Centre (RPYCC).

Financial accessibility for citizens is outlined in the policy as follows:

- Community Groups or registered not-for-profit organizations are allocated access to the facility with no fee for one meeting per month, or a maximum of twelve meetings per year.
- Users defined as “Regular” (organizations that renew rentals annually) are allocated a 20% rebate on their rental fees.

The RPYCC plays an important role in the quality of life of residents and the Town makes a large contribution annually, through access to facility usage, at no cost. Currently, 90% of the access is free. As a matter of best practice, it is recommended that the policy be reviewed to determine the degree and capacity for a shift towards a formula

### Ice Rental Policy

This policy is more advanced than many communities currently benefit from, and from a process perspective, that results in positive communication, effective information sharing, and understanding for clients, community members in general, and user group organizers. This will also result in staff having clear direction from Council regarding priority setting for access and pricing at the Paradise Double Ice Complex.

There are however some areas where recommendations related to further consideration will help with long-term usage, activity levels overall, facility cost recovery, and equitable distribution of ice time. The current process of “grandfathering” minor sport groups, community groups and schools into their existing annual ice allocations is a positive methodology compared to giving private sector users the same degree of access, particularly to Prime Time/Regular Season ice, but it is suggested that the process evolve into one that better reflects an environment of gender and sport equity.

Implementation of a gender and sport equitable access policy would require groups to make requests annually, based on the number of registered participants in their programs by age and skill level, and supported by the National Standard of Fair Play outlined by the National Sport Organization i.e. Hockey Canada. The Standard of Fair Play policies outline the number of hours recommended for each age group, at each skill level, and is a useful tool to justify the number of hours per week each minor sport group requires.

This is a helpful tool when new or smaller user groups, particularly groups and sport that are predominately female, such as figure skating and ringette, request additional prime time hours, to attempt to grow their sport in the community.

As a matter of best practice, it is recommended that the policy be reviewed to determine the degree and capacity for a shift towards a formula that better reflects a more appropriate methodology to increase cost recovery overall at the facility (including the double arenas or not).

# 4 Community Engagement



## 4.1 Consultation Activities

Public consultation activities were undertaken in June and July 2018, consisting of an online survey, a public open house, and stakeholder interviews. Both the survey (192 responses) and the open house (60+ people) had very high rates of participation, and this report provides a summary and analysis of the based primarily on data gathered through the survey and the open house. A summary of stakeholder engagement activities is also provided. It is considered as part of the formative data for development of the Recreation and Open Space Master Plan. Further public input will be integrated following review of the draft Plan by public and stakeholders.



*Open House, July 2018*

## 4.2 Current Recreation Participation

### Benefits of Recreation

The positive outcomes or motivations for participating in recreation generally fall into four types of benefits, detailed below. Many participants enjoyed multiple personal and community benefits that are the underlying reasons for doing the activities they enjoy.

**Fitness and Physical Health:** exercise to prevent or heal from injury or illness, to stay energetic, maintain physique, a healthy body weight and overall healthy lifestyle.

**Mental Health:** to release stress and unwind, burn off frustrations, to get lost in play and have fun, to spend time in reflection, disconnect from technology, be with nature in the outdoors.

**Social Connection:** spending time with family, friends and acquaintances, fostering a sense of community spirit, meeting new people and bonding through common interests.

**Life Skill Development:** especially among youth, personal development of life-long people-skills and tools for success, like leadership, cooperation, team work, dedication, and practice.

### Activities Among Adults

Overall, the recreation activities that 25% or more of adults in survey respondent households participate in respondents, according to frequency.

#### Yearly

- special events and sporting events (both indoor and outdoor)
- skating
- going to the beach
- meet new people in the community
- picnic
- sledding
- snowshoeing
- bowling

#### Monthly

- meet new people in the community

#### Weekly

- dedicated time alone
- dedicated time with friends or family
- enjoy green space
- fitness activities
- walk for leisure

#### Daily

- supervise children
- walk for leisure
- walk dog
- dedicated time alone
- dedicated time with friends or family
- enjoy green space



## Gender and Current Participation

The survey results demonstrate differences in recreation participation among adult men and women. Although men and women generally do similar activities (with some exceptions), overall, men are participating in recreation more often than women. In particular, women have lower daily rates of recreation.

With regard to particular activities, things that are most utilitarian (walk dog, supervise children, walk/cycle commute) have very similar participation rates. However, for the truly leisure-type activities, women tend to do more types of private and solo pursuits. Women garden more and have more dedicated time alone, both weekly and monthly, while men are meeting new people in the community more frequently. There are more activities that women never do, including some of the facility-intensive and team-based activities like hockey, softball and soccer.

## Activities Among Children and Youth

Overall, the recreation activities that 25% or more of children and youth in survey respondent households participate in, according to frequency.

### Yearly

- special events and sporting events (both indoor and outdoor)
- going to the beach
- picnic
- skating
- sledding
- splashpad
- bowling

### Monthly

- Going to the beach
- meet new people in the community
- picnic
- sledding
- splashpad

### Weekly

- Bike for leisure
- Enjoy greenspace
- Fitness activities
- meet new people in the community
- skating
- dedicated time with friends or family
- playground
- splashpad
- walk for any purpose

### Daily

- enjoy green space
- dedicated time with friends or family





## 4.3 Desired Improvements

### Water Activities

One of the most prevalent themes across the survey and open house results was the opportunity for water activities on the ponds. The swimming/water access point at Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park has moderate use among survey respondents, and the trails around the pond are moderately well used. The Avalon Dragons are currently the most established and organized water-based group in the community, well positioned to grow, but a broader diversity of water activities, self-determined participation, and more pond access, are also viewed as opportunities:

- Waterfront or on-water programming, such as equipment loan and classes for all ages (dragon boat, canoe, kayak, sailing, stand-up paddle board)
- Canoe or kayak launch at Adam's Pond, or some other ponds

The Avalon Dragons clearly expressed their desire for a facility at Octagon Pond that would support the expansion of their program and events, as well as broader goals for water activities. Suggested amenities for a community boat house or water activity support building, include washrooms, meeting space, kitchenette, storage space and equipment areas.

### Indoor Pool

The most frequent suggestion in the survey was an indoor swimming in Paradise (although this was not a major theme at the public meeting). Many responses further elaborated that access to swimming lessons for children are a major motive. Some respondents feel that a pool does depend on the cost to build and maintain, and how that cost would be shouldered. A few suggested that an agreement to provide more access at other pools in the region could be a reasonable solution. For context, most of the survey respondents visit the Mount Pearl Summit Centre at least some of the time (22% weekly, 17% monthly, 18% yearly).

## Trails and Connectivity

A major theme throughout the survey was trails and green spaces. The trail systems are very well used, and facilitate many of the most popular ways survey respondents are participating in recreation. For example, the trails at PBDMP have the highest rate of weekly use among all the facilities in Paradise, and just 11% of respondents never visit the trails. Many people of all ages enjoy walking, jogging, cycling and time in nature, and are looking for ways to enhance those experiences and participate more often. Walking in particular is frequently a component of recreation. Exercise, socializing, time alone, and walking pets are popular activities that can, or must, be achieved through walking.

In regard to trails and walkway expansion and improved connectivity, suggestions were made in three main areas:

- Expanded local trails, reserved for nature walking, are desirable. Specifically, completing the trail around Adam's Pond, and creating more trails around Rocky Pond
  - Overall pedestrian and cyclist connectivity, achieved by linking trails and sidewalks, infrastructure for traversing between neighbourhoods, as well as linking popular destinations, would enable longer and more frequent participation in walking for a range of purposes, and can help to integrate walking into daily routine.
- 
- Upgrades to the T'railway, specifically improving condition of the segment between Octagon Pond turnoff through to Topsail Pond Seal Cove, would establish a more complete link from St. John's to Seal Cove.
  - Rules and enforcement on the T-railway, in regard to littering and ATV use. Despite little input from ATV users, it is understood that the activity takes place on the T'railway, and that some use conflicts have occurred, perhaps necessitating further efforts to establish community consensus about standards for multi-purpose trails.

## Parks and Open Space

The enjoyment and desired improvement of parks and open spaces was an important theme through the survey and open house. Similar to trails, parks and open spaces are the foundation for a range of popular activities, including special events, playgrounds, the splash pad, picnicking, enjoying green space, fitness activities, and spending time with friends and family. In a number of different ways, people have indicated that they would take advantage of opportunities to linger in open spaces, staying longer to do a greater diversity of activities and connect with community.

The following suggestions were made to improve parks and open spaces:

- Conservation of forest cover/ tree line, natural areas and habitat throughout
- Paradise Park is well-liked and used by the community, but has room for improvements, such as a covered outdoor space (rain, sun protection), low fencing for safety at the playground, more seating or better placement of seating, and improved landscaping (flowers, trees, shrubs).
- As one of the only points for beach access, there is interest in development of a municipal park at Lower Horse Cove Beach Area, perhaps with a Topsail trail connection.
- The neighbourhood open spaces (tot lots) are underutilized, and some are near street corners and busy intersections, which participants expressed concern about. Improvements to the quality and functionality of these spaces is desirable.

## Sport Fields

Current sport field facilities consist of a soccer complex and ballfields. Relative to parks, trails and the ice surfaces, fewer people use the sports fields on a regular basis (approximately 70% of households never use a sports field). However, among the athletic community these spaces hold a great deal of meaning and upgrades are important to developing the skill of players, as well as the comfort of families and spectators.

According to players and league organizers, the ball fields that exist are near capacity. In particular, there are limitations for adult access, especially among the womens' teams. Additionally, there is a lack of skill-level appropriate fields for advancing players. The Milton Road field would benefit from a club house, and lights on fields could extend field access.

The Diane Whalen Soccer Complex is a key component of the sport and recreation infrastructure in the town, especially for physical activity among children and youth, with 20% of children/youth survey respondents participating in soccer on a weekly basis. allow outdoor soccer to start earlier in the year and allow higher use of the main field. With the establishment of more advanced teams as well as the increasing popularity of the sport, the fields cannot withstand the increased use. Fields have to close in April and May because the surfaces are too soft. Among the soccer community, a full-size turf field is greatly desired. An enclosed field is the preference, similar to in the Techniplex in St. John's. This will allow outdoor soccer to start earlier in the year and allow higher use of the main field. It was noted that an enclosure could also be used to support an indoor walking track.

## Diversity of Sport Facilities

Survey respondents and open house participants indicated that there is too little variety of activities, as well as some need for upgrades. Specific ideas included:

- squash courts
- curling
- lawn bowling
- indoor walking track
- gymnasium access
- outdoor skating
- storage facilities
- community garden plots
- outdoor playing court – basketball, tennis, ball hockey
- sliding hill lighting
- groomed cross country trails in winter
- larger fitness centre
- batting cages
- dedicated room for fitness classes

## Enhanced Programs

Improvements to program offerings and delivery were made by participants, including:

- More program awareness, with avenues for promotion focused only on recreation.
- Dedicated social media and easier website access to program information.
- Partnership to access school gymnasiums for community/ municipal programs.
- Special rates for social assistance and CPP disability individuals.
- New programs, such as:
  - activities for kids and young adults with special needs
  - dance therapy, especially for people with limited mobility
  - literary, arts and educational pursuits (guest speakers, film screenings, etc.)
  - gymnastics
  - boating (canoe, kayak, etc.)
- Organized fun leagues, such as:
  - ball hockey
  - tennis
  - volleyball
  - badminton
  - ultimate frisbee

# 5 Action Plan



# 5.1 Community Recreation Needs and Gaps

The Town of Paradise has done an amazing job of maintaining a high degree of service provision while in the process of significant population growth. In-Town facilities and services have continued to grow to meet the needs of residents and the community has continued to respond with increased participation in programs, services, and special events. Neighboring districts and facilities have augmented current need and have in effect allowed for additional access and service to Town residents.

Identification of facility needs and gaps is one of the deliverables of recreation master planning, and is a result of analysis of existing facilities, usage, neighboring resources, demographic review, public consultation, special interest group meetings, and more. It's a careful examination of where the Town is today, and what the future has in store with its population, growth projections, partnership opportunities, visions and dreams for its quality of life.

## Recreation Standards

The analysis – the comparison of existing facilities to standards commonly utilized (Guidelines for Developing Public Recreation Facility Standards by the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation) indicates there are some deficiencies in facilities in the Town. The standards are population based. Other factors such as geographic preferences (i.e. hockey vs curling) or weather dependency (i.e. indoor turf vs outdoor) are not considered in the standards.

The following facility gaps were identified by the recreation standards analysis:

Portion of Needs Met:

### 25%

- Baseball fields
- Beach volleyball facility
- Splash pads

### 50%

- Softball fields
- Tennis courts
- Outdoor hockey rink

### 75%

- Basketball courts
- Outdoor swimming

Other facilities that are included in the OMCR standards but are not present in Paradise include:

- Badminton courts
- Curling rinks
- Horseshoe pitches
- Indoor pool
- Lawn bowling
- Squash courts



### **Open Space Development**

A noticeable trend in Paradise is the generous supply of tot-lots and an under-supply of neighbourhood parks when compared to OMCR standards. With regards to their location and connectedness withing neighbourhoods, some tot-lots appear to have been located in residual spaces by developers rather than in user-friendly locations where they contribute to community life.

### **Public Consultation**

Public consultation, interviews with key stakeholders and Town leaders indicated that access to an indoor aquatic facility has been a topic of conversation for some time, and that although citizens travel to Mount Pearl and Conception Bay South regularly for swimming lessons, aquacize and leisure swimming, there is a desire, to some degree, to have access to an aquatic centre in town. Comments received also carried a note of caution regarding the cost of building and operating this type of facility.

Other key facilities identified in the review included:

- Baseball facilities – youth, adult, and lighted
- Soccer turf – primarily artificial turf and lighted
- Aquatics infrastructure for Octagon Pond – storage for the Dragon Boats

### **Regional Capacities**

Most of the regional facilities are available and utilized by citizens across the Island for special events, tournaments, school events and more. Key to this study, is the proximity and opportunity for citizens of Paradise to participate in “out of Town” facilities that are not currently available in Town. Of interest, based on analysis and public consultation, are aquatic facilities, baseball facilities, and artificial turf soccer facilities both indoor and outdoor.

According to OMCR standards, the following facilities in the region have been identified as having additional capacities:

- CBS Recreation Complex Pool (about 24,000 people)
- Mount Pearl Summit Centre (about 27,000 people)

### **Future Facility Planning and Considerations**

Over the next 15 years, Paradise’s population is projected to continue its growth and adding about half of its current population by 2031. The Town’s median age of 35.7 years is 5.5 years younger than the national median, however growth in the 65+ age cohort has also been strong.

Key to good future and business planning related to facility development is understanding the demographics of your community and the needs overall. For example, some sport groups, often very well populated and organized, have developed successful mechanisms for making their needs well heard in the community and at the decision making table of Town Council. These groups may also have the means to partner with Town resources to assist in construction or operation of infrastructure, and can play a very positive role in achieving mutually beneficial results. Other groups, however, less populated perhaps or with less experience should also be encouraged to participate, or may need more leadership from Staff in the form of assistance to access or consideration with facility types and innovations.

Decision making and resource allocation should be closely tied to the Town mandate, and guiding principles of the recreation department. A proposed decision-making tool included in Section 5.9 of this report will help guide the department and Council through these complex and sometimes difficult long-term decisions.

## 5.2 Facility and Open Space Action Plans

### Open Space Improvements

There are a total of 33 Town-owned sites and four school grounds as part of Paradise's current open space assets for which recommendations are made in this Plan. Priorities and suggested time lines are included in the Phasing section of this report. The Town of Paradise is only responsible for maintenance and improvements of the 33 Town-owned sites.

### Community Parks

In order to improve the following community parks, site-specific concept plans should be completed before any development or construction occurs. This will ensure a holistic approach to the design of the site, to ensure that any suggested improvements are appropriate and meet the needs of the park users. Specific improvement recommendations for each park can be found below. It should be noted that, compared to OMCR standards, Paradise is currently over-served when it comes to community parks. However, two additional sites within the town were identified as potential new community park locations due to their outstanding scenic qualities (Horse Cove / Laurie Beach and Topsail Bluff). The development of these two parks would require the Town to acquire these lands.

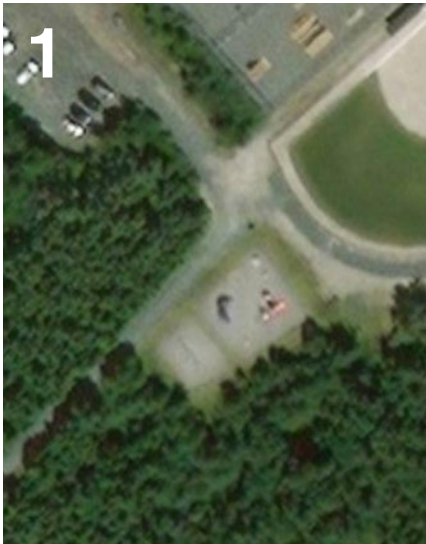
1. **Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park**
2. **Paradise Park**
3. **Paradise Softball Complex**
4. **Horse Cove / Laurie Beach**
5. **Topsail Bluff**



### **Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park – Swimming Area**

This park has a great natural setting, and the swimming area is well sheltered. Currently, the swimming area is not very developed, but these enhancements could help improve the area:

- Observe tide and drainage patterns to determine if a sand beach area could be created without being washed away.
- Create more seating and picnic areas.
- Locate a small washroom and change room building nearby.



### **Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park – Tot Lot**

This tot lot is in a good location, visible from the ball diamond and surrounding trails. Lighting could be considered in the area, as there are existing light poles that could be retrofitted to include lights. More seating is also recommended around the playground.



### **Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park – Sports Fields**

The sports fields at the park are overall in good condition, but the amenities around the fields could be improved. Some recommendations include:

- New bleachers for soccer field spectators.
- Fix drainage on baseball fields.
- Repair the potholes in the surrounding trails.
- Remove the shipping container, or plant around it to screen the view of it.



### **Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park – Parking Lot and Paved Courts**

The existing parking lot is large and provides ample parking for the park. The paved courts provide space for a basketball court, ball hockey court, and skate park. The following recommendations are suggested to improve these areas:

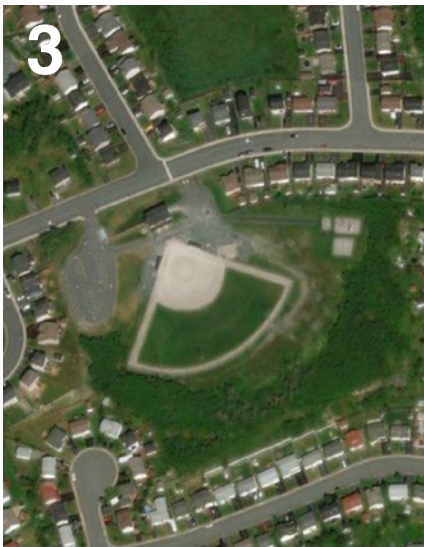
- Improve the aesthetic and function of the parking lot. Use planted islands to help define parking areas and drive aisles.
- Naturalize the surrounding culverts by seeding with no-mow grass seed mix.
- Provide seating around the paved courts for spectators.



### **Paradise Park**

This is a new park in Paradise that boasts a great selection of recreation amenities, such as a splash pad, walking trails, bandstand area, playground, and dog park. Although the park is new, there are still some enhancements that could be done to further improve the park, including:

- Fix the drainage near the dog park and on some of the trails.
- Incorporate more planting in and around the park to give it a more natural setting and to create sheltered areas.
- More seating near the splash pad and playground.



### **Paradise Softball Complex**

This complex includes a softball field, clubhouse, and playground area, along with lots of space for future development. This would be an ideal location for a skatepark or biking park. Some recommendations to enhance the existing amenities include:

- More seating near the playground.
- Extend the paved walkway to the playground for improved accessibility.
- Utilize open space around ballfield to provide new programming opportunities such as a mountain bike park.





#### **Horse Cove / Laurie Beach**

This beach area is located near the boundary of Paradise and Portugal Cove – St. Philips and has a lot of potential to be Paradise's only oceanfront park. Some recommendations include:

- Improve the visibility of the access road (signage on St. Thomas Line).
- Repair potholes on the access road. The road can also be widened slightly if more visitor traffic is expected, but it currently functions well as a single lane access road.
- Create programming opportunities at the beach by adding seating, picnic areas, fire pits, and a shelter / shade structure.
- Better develop the parking area if more visitor traffic is expected.
- Establish link to East Coast Trail.



#### **Topsail Bluff**

Topsail Bluff provides a stunning view of Conception Bay and can be a real destination within the community of Paradise. Some recommendations to improve the existing site include:

- Improve visibility of trailhead (remove build-up of fill that currently blocks the trail entrance).
- Add seating at the lookout area.
- Fix the drainage issues on the trail.
- Make the trail as accessible as possible by using a better granular surface with less large rocks.
- Better develop the parking area if more visitor traffic is expected.
- Establish link to East Coast Trail.

## Neighbourhood Parks

In order to improve the following neighbourhood parks, site-specific concept plans should be completed before any development or construction occurs. This will ensure a holistic approach to the design of the site, to ensure that any suggested improvements are appropriate and meet the needs of the park users. Specific improvement recommendations for each park can be found below. It should be noted that, compared to OMCR standards, Paradise is currently underserved when it comes neighbourhood parks. Since there is currently an oversupply of tot lots, instead of developing more in the future, resources should instead be put towards creating neighbourhood parks where needed; in areas that are currently not served by an existing neighbourhood park.

1. **Octagon Pond Elementary**
2. **Paradise Elementary**
3. **Lombardy Park**
4. **Camelot Crescent Park**
5. **Elizabeth Park Elementary**
6. **Reardon Avenue Park**
7. **Holy Family Elementary**



### **Octagon Pond Elementary**

This school has large grounds and is set in a pleasant natural setting, but some of the key program elements are in odd corners of the property. The overall connectivity of the different elements on site should be reviewed and remedied. Some suggestions include:

- Relocate the raised beds from behind the chainlink fence.
- Relocate the playground away from the road to a more spacious part of the property.
- Remedy the drainage problem and dead turf on the existing sports field.
- Installation of an outdoor classroom that draws inspiration from the surrounding natural areas.
- Install more plants on site to improve overall aesthetic.
- Paint a mural near the entrance on Sgt Donald Lucas Drive to help with traffic calming, and to create a welcoming aesthetic.



### **Paradise Elementary**

This school boasts large grounds that are used not only by students but by the surrounding residents as well. The grounds could benefit from more planting to help create some sheltered areas, as the grounds are quite exposed. Some other recommended enhancements include:

- More seating near the playground and sliding hill.
- A community garden.
- An outdoor classroom.
- Removal of dead trees along bottom of bank.
- Paint a mural near the entrance on Karwood Drive to help with traffic calming, and to create a welcoming aesthetic.



### **Lombardy Park**

This is a large park that can become a destination in the neighbourhood. Currently, the park holds two playgrounds, and paved sports courts. Some recommendations for enhancement include:

- Replace existing degraded walkways with new accessible paths.
- Incorporate planting areas and trees, but still leave some space for sliding in the winter.
- Remove or replace the edges around the play structures, as they have become tripping hazards.
- Extend hours of use of the park and courts by adding light fixtures to the existing poles.
- Add seating near the playgrounds and courts.
- Remove the port-a-potty on site or find a way to better protect it against vandalism.
- Replace the basketball backboards and nets that have fallen into disrepair.



### **Camelot Park**

This park includes a playground and multi-courts and has a lot of potential. The recommendations for enhancement include:

- Reinstate the rough edges of the multi-courts with landscaping.
- Paint lines on the courts.
- Add seating and picnic areas.
- Better utilize the open spaces. Sod or seed the area so that it can be used as open field space.
- Consider connecting to the broader trail system, this park can become a great destination.
- Add planting areas to improve the aesthetics of the park; trees are especially needed.
- Extend hours of use by adding light fixtures to the existing poles.





### **Elizabeth Park Elementary**

The grounds of this school look tired and would benefit from the removal of dead trees and an overall refresh of the planting and sodded areas. The existing outdoor garden and raised beds area is well sheltered by existing trees and would be an ideal location for an outdoor classroom. Some other recommended enhancements include:

- Planted wind buffer near the playground.
- More seating near the playground.
- Repair the parts of the sports field that have been trampled and worn down.
- Paint a mural near the entrance on Ellesmere Avenue to help with traffic calming, and to create a welcoming aesthetic.



### **Reardon Avenue Park**

This park includes a playground, basketball court and multi-court. It is well buffered by woodland on most sides, but the immediate edges of the park are in rough shape. They should be cleaned up and naturalized to better blend with the surroundings. Some other recommendations include:

- Paint lines on the courts.
- Add more seating.
- Consider adding lights to the courts to extend the hours of use.



### **Holy Family Elementary**

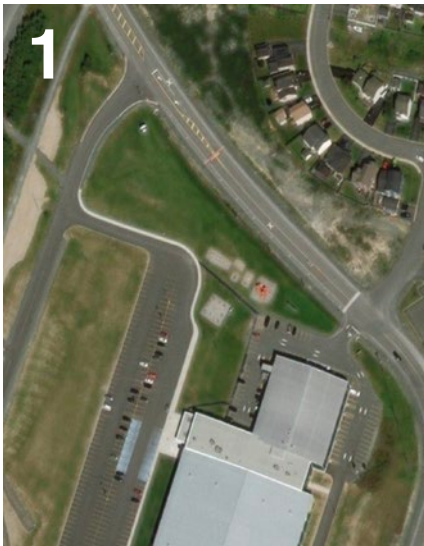
The grounds of this school have been well-developed and include an outdoor classroom, play area, and large garden area. A few suggestions to enhance the grounds further include:

- Incorporate more nature-play elements within the play area, as that theme has been used throughout the outdoor classroom and garden.
- Install more bike racks, as the current ones do not accommodate all the bikes on site.
- Include more plants near the play area to create sheltered areas and improve aesthetics.
- Paint a mural near the entrance on Ridgewood Drive to help with traffic calming, and to create a welcoming aesthetic.

## Tot-Lots

The improvements for the following tot lots can be achieved under one general landscape maintenance contract or by using the Town's own labour forces. Most of the recommendations are maintenance-based or involve simple improvements such as addition of seating or planting areas. Specific improvement recommendations for each park can be found below. It should be noted that, compared to OMCR standards, there is currently an oversupply of tot lots in Paradise. In the future, alternative programming should be explored in these smaller spaces, such as public art, community gardens, nature areas, or even combining smaller spaces (or accepting cash in lieu) to create larger neighbourhood parks, which Paradise is currently lacking.

1. **Paradise Youth Centre Tot Lot**
2. **Elgin Tot Lot**
3. **Lancefield Street Tot Lot**
4. **Quantum Tot Lot**
5. **Lanark Drive Tot Lot**
6. **Legend Drive Tot Lot**
7. **Horncastle Drive Tot Lot**
8. **Ranger Avenue Tot Lot**
9. **Vanbury Street Tot Lot**
10. **Duffs Crescent Tot Lot**
11. **Cloudberry Drive Tot Lot**
12. **Cameo Drive Tot Lot**
13. **Aurora Place Tot Lot**
14. **Kinder Drive Tot Lot**
15. **Ashgrove Drive Tot Lot**
16. **Carlingford Street Tot Lot**
17. **Canterbury Grasshopper Park**
18. **Spracklin Boulevard Tot Lot**
19. **St. Thomas Community Centre**



### **Rotary Paradise Youth Centre Tot Lot**

This small playground has seen a bit of wear and tear, but overall, it is in good shape and provides a lot of key park elements like seating, play areas, and open space. A few enhancements that would benefit this space include:

- Addition of more planting for shelter.
- Installation of an edger around the sandbox area.
- Repair sod areas along the edge of the walkway.



2

### **Elgin Park**

This park is in a great natural setting, nestled within a network of walking trails. Some recommendations to improve the park include:

- Fix the drainage problems near the playground.
- Remove the broken play structure.
- Plant trees to screen the view to adjacent houses.
- Add more seating near the playground.



3

### **Lancefield Street Tot Lot**

This park, with two play structures, is very long and linear and is easily accessible from the surrounding houses. However, the public access point from Lancefield Street isn't very noticeable and could be improved with some signage or lighting. Some other improvement suggestions include:

- Tree planting to create some sheltered areas.
- Seating areas.
- Consider adding light fixtures to existing poles to extend hours of use.



4

### **Quantum Drive Tot Lot**

This park includes lots of play equipment and open play space. The equipment is in good shape, but the aesthetics of the park need improving. Some recommendations include:

- Planting along wooden fence.
- Tree planting to block view to vacant lot.
- Extend hours of use by adding light fixtures to existing poles.
- Add more seating.





### Lanark Drive Tot Lot

This park is large and well located, with access to a walking trail around a picturesque pond. There is lots of opportunity here for enhancement. Some recommendations include:

- Planting trees to create sheltered areas and improve aesthetics.
- Add seating and picnic areas.
- Repair the lawn. It looks as though the area was sodded or seeded, with little to no topsoil underneath. Hardly any of the lawn is growing well.
- Extend the hours of use of the walking trail and park by installing light fixtures on the existing poles.



### Legend Drive Tot Lot

This park includes a playground and some open grass spaces. It is located right next to some natural surroundings, including a stream and woodlot area. Recommendations for enhancement include:

- Install a planted buffer along the adjacent chainlink fence to soften the view of the fence and extend the natural look of the stream into the park.
- Plant trees along residential property line to block view to adjacent property.
- Add a picnic table.
- Extend the hours of use by adding light fixtures on the existing poles.
- Repair the sod in areas where it has not grown.



### Horncastle Drive Tot Lot

This park is located on a very visible residential corner and is close to trail connections and neighbourhood sidewalks. The park amenities are a good shape, although a few enhancements are recommended:

- Repair the dented and damaged barriers around the park.
- Plant along the chainlink fence to make the stream feel closer to the park and give the park a more natural feel.
- Extend hours of use of park by installing light fixtures on existing poles.
- Curb cuts exist in portions of the curb around the park. Extend a walkway from one of them into the park to improve accessibility.



8

### **Ranger Avenue Tot Lot**

The play equipment in this park is beginning to show its age, as some of the equipment is rusting. The main enhancement recommendation would be to improve the pedestrian connection to Aurora Place. The existing pathway is well-used, but the granular washes down the slope and into the street. Some trees should also be planted to act as a windbreak and provide seasonal interest.



9

### **Vanbury Street Tot Lot**

This park can be enhanced with the addition of tree plantings and more seating. Adding light fixtures to the existing poles can also be considered to extend the hours of use of the playground.



10

### **Duffs Crescent Tot Lot**

This park is brand new and the only recommendations are to add a seating area and to plant along the edges of the adjacent ditch.



### **Cloudberry Tot Lot**

This park includes two large play structures and some seating. From Cloudberry Drive, the park looks very uninviting, with a chainlink fence around the entire area. The park needs some planting to help improve the aesthetics of the area and make the park more inviting. Some more seating areas should also be provided.



### **Cameo Drive Tot Lot**

This tot lot has play equipment that is in good condition and is bordered on one side by a woodlot area. Overall the park is in good shape, but there is a steep slope near the woodlot that should be addressed. Planting a buffer of trees or shrubs would help address this problem and keep children away from the edge of the slope.



### **Aurora Place Tot Lot**

This park is accessible from Trail's End Drive and Aurora Place but is quite hidden from both streets. The presence of the park should be better established at the access points. This can be done using appropriate signage. The site needs a general cleanup and weeding, but the only other recommendation for improvement is to plant a buffer of trees along the fence near the North Atlantic gas station.



14



### **Kinder Drive Tot Lot**

The playground is in good condition, but the park can be improved with the addition of a bench or picnic table.

15



### **Ashgrove Drive Tot Lot**

This park is accessible and visible from three different neighbourhood streets. The park includes a playground and some large open space areas that provide a lot of opportunity for enhancement. Some recommendations include:

- Walkways through the park to the surrounding streets, as it is used as a shortcut route by
- pedestrians.
- Incorporate the existing berms on site. They could possibly be used for a nature-based play
- space, or for recreation purposes, such as a skatepark.
- Remove the dead trees that exist on site.
- Repair or replace run-down playground equipment.
- Add more seating areas.
- Incorporate more planting to create some sheltered areas.

16



### **Carlingford Street Tot Lot**

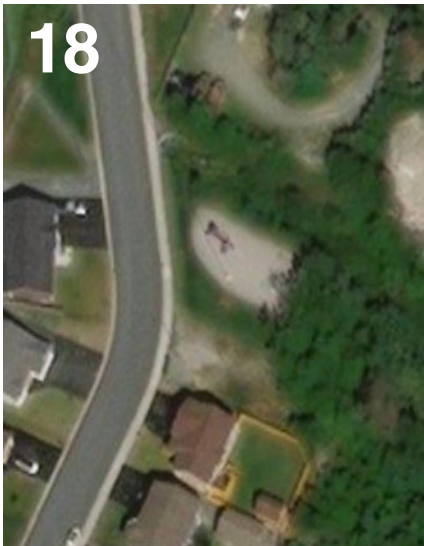
This playground is nestled beside a stream that can be better incorporated into the park. Removing the wooden fences and creating planted buffers that allow views through the stream will increase the natural feeling of the park. Removing some of the fence will also create less of a bottleneck effect near the access points on Carlingford Street and St. Thomas Line.



17

### **Canterbury Grasshopper Park**

This small park boasts insect-themed play equipment in relation to the community-based initiative called the Grasshoppers. The park is in good shape but could benefit from a more natural aesthetic to align with the Grasshoppers' goals. This would be an ideal place for a more developed garden and planted area that could attract birds, butterflies, bees, and other insects. The existing fence around the park should also be repaired.



18

### **Spracklin Boulevard Tot Lot**

Overall, this park and playground is in good condition. Some small recommendations include the addition of one bench, and the repair of some areas where the sod has been trampled.



19

### **St. Thomas Community Centre Tot Lot**

The play equipment at this playground is in good shape, and the only recommendation is to add a seating area near the playground.

## Mini-Parks

In order to improve the following mini-parks, site-specific concept plans should be completed before any development or construction occurs. This will ensure a holistic approach to the design of the site, to ensure that any suggested improvements are appropriate and meet the needs of the park users. Given the prominence of these four park spaces as key waterfront attractions, the Town may also wish to undertake further community engagement or consultations with key stakeholder groups. Specific improvement recommendations for each park can be found below.

1. **Octagon Pond**
2. **Neil's Pond Swimming and Picnic Area**
3. **Three Island Pond**
4. **Topsail Pond**



### **Octagon Pond Boat Launch Area**

This is a popular starting point for the Octagon Pond walking trail, as well as a hub of activity for boating during warmer months. Recommended enhancements include:

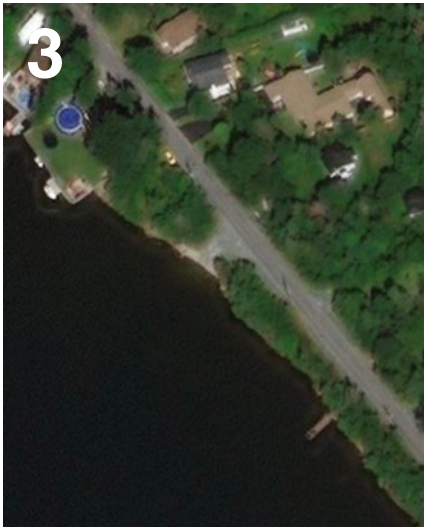
- A boat house with washrooms and changerooms. Part of this development could also include enhancements to the dock and a plaza / winner's circle area for gatherings and presentations.
- Seating and picnic areas.
- Asphalt parking lot with painted lines to facilitate access for vehicles and trailers alike.
- Incorporate plantings to create shelter in exposed areas.



### **Neil's Pond Swimming and Picnic Area**

This part of the Grand Concourse Trail is a popular swimming access point for Neil's Pond. The area includes a few benches, and a small gazebo. Some suggestions for enhancement include:

- Addition of some more shade structures.
- Create small plaza areas for swimmers to relax and sunbathe near the pond.
- Add more seating.



### **Three Island Pond – Boating**

The existing access point on Three Island Pond Road is roughly graded and quite steep and should be re-graded if the Town plans to make it a more popular boat access point.



### **Topsail Pond Swimming Area**

The access point on Three Island Pond Road is not in an ideal location. The small beach area is almost immediately located on the shoulder of the road, making it unsafe for swimmers, due to the proximity of passing vehicles. If another public access point is not available, this pond should not be advertised as a public swimming area.

## Single Use Sports Fields

The Dianne Whalen Soccer Complex is a key sport facility for the Town of Paradise, providing three high-quality and well-maintained soccer fields for resident and league use. Overall, the facilities are in good shape with recent upgrades to the clubhouse and some paved parking areas. Suggestions for further improvements follow.

### 1. Dianne Whalen Soccer Complex



#### Dianne Whalen Soccer Complex

This soccer complex's facilities are in good shape. Recent upgrades include the clubhouse and some paved parking areas. Suggestions for further improvements include:

- Repair or replace bleachers on Field 2.
- Paint lines on new asphalt for improved circulation.
- Improve walkability and connections within the complex. Add a staircase between the lower and upper fields, so players and spectators can more easily access the clubhouse.
- Incorporate more planting on site to create sheltered areas for spectators.
- Consider replacing some fields with turf.
- Consider adding lights to more fields.



## Other Open Space and Connectivity Strategies

### **T’Railway Upgrades**

The T’Railway between the Conception Bay South / Paradise boundary and the Paradise Park / Octagon Pond Intersection is in bad to very bad condition compared to the other portions of the trail and would benefit from a trail upgrade, especially as both CBS and St. John’s have upgraded their trail portions on either side. An opportunity to access funding from Trans Canada Trails exists but only if Paradise disallows motorized vehicle use on the trail.

The funding coupled with an opportunity to bring the quality and trail use regulations in line with the surrounding municipalities and turn the T’Railway into a truly continuous regional asset justify the ban of motorized vehicles from the trail. Further consultation with ATV users however should be undertaken to explore where the town can accommodate their cherished outdoor activity before a final decision on a trail standard is made.

### **Trails Master Plan**

Paradise already has the foundation of a strong trail network, with access to sections of the T’Railway, the Grand Concourse, the East Coast Trail and several other popular trails within Town boundaries. The community benefits of such amenities are well-documented and include significant environmental, economical, social, cultural and health benefits.

There is no doubt that the trails within the town are well-used and popular among residents. Residents are aware of the benefits and during consultations, time and again, we heard them express their appreciation of the value of a

well-developed, interconnected network of trails. Community connectivity, between parks, opens spaces, facilities and amenities, is indeed a priority.

We also heard that several trails within the town are in various stages of development, some currently feel isolated and disconnected, and some are not currently mapped in any Town database. We feel it would be prudent for the Town to undertake a Trails Master Plan in which an inventory and audit is performed, and recommendations to connect and strengthen the existing trail network is developed. Recommendations may include trail infrastructure, signage and wayfinding, lighting, gateways and staging areas, interpretation, and branding. Ultimately, the Master Plan will represent a high-level vision of the Town’s overall trail network, serving as a guiding document for the development of a world-class, interconnected trail network and an essential decision-making and planning tool.

### **Neighbourhood Open Space Development**

The abundance of single use tot-lots hints at an opportunity to rethink how developers provide for meaningful opens space within new neighbourhoods. The Town should explore other possibilities for future land parcels transferred from developers. These could include community gardens, natural playgrounds, public art, passive open space or the development of one neighbourhood park in lieu of multiple tot-lots.



### **Paradise Park Master Plan**

This corner-stone facility should be the envy of any community. The existing facilities on-site provide the backdrop for community activities and special events, and include an accessible playground, splash pad, beach volleyball courts, community stage and two fenced dog parks. It is situated next to the Rotary Paradise Youth Community Centre and Double Pad Arena and should be considered the Hub of recreation and sport for Paradise. Any further development on this site should be considered with the future long-term needs of the community in the forefront and requirements for access to this type of facility in the heart of Town, and should be specific to the Town's recreation mandate. Development proposals from individual interest groups should not be approved incrementally and on a case-by-case basis.

With the soon-to-be construction of the much-anticipated Junior High School near, future facility development, if any, on this site, should include consultation with the community at large and a community led development of a master plan for Paradise Park.

Existing gaps at Paradise Park have been identified as "support infrastructure" i.e. permanent lighting, some seating, some storage, better walkways, to enrich the existing programmability at that location.

### **Active Transportation**

Both utilitarian and recreational active transportation infrastructure are main contributors to a health community. The 2016 Municipal Plan provides up-to-date policies on the improvement of active transportation facilities and better neighbourhood walkability the set the stage for the future of active transportation in Paradise.

## Facility Improvements

### Artificial Lighted Turf

There is value in artificial turf. Usage of grass fields is limited by the recommended hours per week available based on maintenance of the fields i.e. in the 35-40 hours per week range, to ensure a grass field does not become a risk vs an asset.

An artificial lighted turf brings high value for long-term, for users, and for the Town from a cost / maintenance / value perspective. Usage per turf increases from approximately 40 hours per week per grass field plus interruptions, to approximately 60 hours per week for turf, every week.

A consideration based on the region include availability for recreation and sport access with high levels of inclement weather. An artificial turf allows for consistency for recreation and sport activities regardless of weather. And to take things to another level, a covered artificial turf does bring tremendous long-term value for climates such as ours.

Another consideration is to ensure that any artificial turf facility is constructed as a multi-use facility i.e. must meet the needs of both football (CFL specifications), and soccer (FIFA specifications). Other field sports can utilize the field of play based on those specifications. A sport-specific facility does not adequately meet the sport and recreation mandate at the town or municipal level but a multi-sport facility is a value add.

The growth of soccer has been ongoing, without the benefit of added facilities in 10+ years. Rather than investing in additional grass fields, an artificial turf strategy is recommended.

Location is everything. Proximity to existing support infrastructure as well as other sport and recreation amenities should be considered when planning for an artificial turf, whether it be enclosed or not. If the opportunity exists to replace a natural grass field at the Dianna Whalen centre, this would be a logical location.

### Baseball Facilities

Baseball is another very popular sport in Paradise with over 600 youth involved. Temporary fields have been in use at the Paradise Park for the past two summers which indicates a shortage in permanent facilities. Location, though, is critical to access and a well-developed plan for infrastructure development is suggested as a first step.

There were comments from some residents indicating that baseball facilities for older youth / young adults are not available, and needs could be met if lighting were installed at the Peter Duff Memorial Park, which is currently a Youth Only facility. The location, however, is optimum for a lighted adult facility.

### **Aquatic Facilities**

Opportunities for residents to learn to swim is much more than a “nice to do”. Our Atlantic Canadian culture is one that revolves around ocean-frontage, ponds, and lakes for our economy, leisure and sport.

The most historic example of our sport aquatic heritage goes back to the 1901 Outer Cove Crew who rowed their way into the NL Sport Hall of Fame in 1973, for their fierce efforts in Quidi Vidi, and brings us to the current interest and excitement being generated currently at Octagen Pond by the Avalon Dragons. The Town of Paradise is surrounded by opportunities is for aquatic activities. There is some infrastructure necessary to maximize the opportunities, and although it’s a very short season, access to Octagen Pond could be enhanced.

Certainly, the Not for Profit group, Avalon Dragons have been clear about their needs on the Pond, and have expressed a willingness to work with the Town in partnership to address them. They require a permanent storage facility for their boats, and would like to incorporate some additional amenities into the build as well such as washrooms and an activity space.

### **Other activities**

Other types of activities would expand access for residents who are interested in aquatic leisure activities outside of the Dragon Boat genre, and could include paddle boarding, kayaking, wind surfing and swimming. These would also require some sort of infrastructure and if the Town was to move forward in this direction, a possible partnership with the Avalon Dragons should be explored.

### **Indoor Pool**

Residents of Paradise expressed concerns about access to indoor pools for swimming lessons, and leisure access to year-round indoor aquatic activities. The Town of Paradise does not have an indoor aquatic facility. Currently, residents either make the 11-minute drive to the Mount Pearl Summit Centre, or the 15-minute drive on the other side of town, to the Conception Bay South Recreation Complex. Both facilities are well within reasonable access time for residents of Paradise and both have access capacity when compared to OMCR facility standards. There are however limitations placed on Paradise residents, by these two facilities which create concern and limited access.

There is a high degree of value associated with creating a partnership approach with the other two Towns to formally address and resolve the limitations by working through the respective elected bodies to do so. In every case, an Aquatic Centre is the most expensive type of recreation/sport infrastructure a Town can construct/operate. It is possible if not likely, that a conversation with either or both Towns would be welcomed.

A detailed feasibility analysis would be required to determine what, if any indoor aquatic infrastructure would be appropriate for the Town of Paradise. The projected increase to 35,000+ residents, by 2031 presents an interesting opportunity for planning.

Given the current population of just over 20,000 along with the neighboring communities and existing facilities, risks, costs, and economic projections well into the future would be required, as well as alternatives such as possible value in smaller, outdoor, pools.

## 5.3 Program Development Strategy

Historically, recreation has been designed for white, straight, “able”, middle class males. Resolving this in municipal units requires a strategy that is a multi-pronged approach to reducing barriers for underrepresented groups. These underrepresented groups include gender, new sport and emerging sport, passive and informal recreational pursuits, along with culture and events. Geography and household economics are also determining factors in whether an individual is predisposed to participation or not.

Currently demographic information on program and service participation is limited and does not allow staff to determine how well they are meeting objectives set in these areas. For the Town of Paradise to excel in meeting the needs of the broad spectrum of residents, annual targets should be set in several categories, and systems established to reduce barriers for specific groups.

Capturing addresses, gender and age in registration reports can be a helpful way to track this information and for events that do not require registration, numbers and visual counts can be useful.

A strategy for improving access overall in the areas above will encourage better overall use of the annual budget contribution by Council and in general, provide a better overall quality of life for all residents.

A multi-pronged approach would consider the following:

- Addressing historic access to facility schedules i.e. “grandfathering” groups for the same days, times and numbers of hours from one year into the next;
- Providing a grant or subsidy for underrepresented groups, sports or activities to allow for growth;
- Involving underrepresented groups like youth, lower income, single parent, people with disabilities, first nations, in goal setting to work towards meeting their needs more effectively – this could evolve into a Town

sanctioned Committee to work with staff on the issues at hand;

- Developing various non-paper ways to advertise activities to supplement your existing success with social media social media i.e. in other community gathering areas;
- Develop a regular and ongoing presence in the new Junior High School for relationship building and support for that age group;
- Develop partnerships with social agencies and service providers in the community to reach out directly to their clientele and work together on sport and recreation needs; and
- Develop partnerships with provincial funding groups and other levels of government to assist in deferring costs for individuals or groups.

In addition to the above, a strategy to engage individuals in the 65+ cohort will become more important over the next few years as the age group continues to increase at the fastest rate in the Town.

Programs, services and facility design considerations should be considered for this population sector including more development of active programs, trails, passive recreation, clubs, cultural, arts and drama as well as enhancements to your already very successful Special Events.

Traditional ways to offer these things may need to be reconsidered to allow for more engagement, ownership and self-directed opportunities. As well, a close tie-in to volunteerism may also be an exciting way to meet needs in this group further.

## 5.4 Volunteer Strategy

Paradise is in the enviable situation of growth. Forecasts indicate significant future growth into 2031. Quality of life is good, and needs of residents are ample. There will be much work to do over the foreseeable future, and development of a strong, organized and action-oriented volunteer strategy can provide value for both the Town, and individuals of all ages who participate.

Volunteer Canada says, “Volunteering is a fundamental act of good citizenship. It’s also essential in our society.” In Newfoundland, the Community Services Council is the authority on volunteerism and has a vast number of strategies, suggestions and programs, designed to develop and promote volunteer opportunities and data bases. InvolveNL is another tremendous resource.

The Community Services Council (now the Community Sector Council Newfoundland and Labrador) was established in 1976 as an independent non-profit organization.

<http://communitysector.nl.ca> <http://www.involvenl.ca/volunteers>

As a resource to communities, Volunteer Canada has been developed to support organizations to develop strategies for recruiting and managing volunteers from every walk of life, age and cultural group. They also help you assess risk in volunteer positions, effectively deal with related legal and ethical issues, implement employer-supported volunteering policies in the workplace—and more.

### Some key areas to consider are:

- Recruiting volunteers to assist in areas specific to their interests and skills. Roles should be defined, with clear expectations, timelines, and deliverables.
- Various skills and interests in a community, from entry level, to team building, to leadership roles ensures that there are volunteer opportunities for every sector.

- Development of a specific volunteer registry that records “time and talent” types of interests for individuals in a data base format. This would allow staff to search by specific skills and availability, and allows volunteers to “register” based on their skills and interest areas;
- Allocate a staff member to oversee volunteerism as a function of their role. This ensures that the priority is strategic, managed, tracked, and evaluated on a regular basis;
- Develop planned annual volunteer appreciation events and recognitions. Formal Town, and Provincial recognition is important, but local events and “thank you’s” are also very important;
- Partner with the new Junior High School to develop and lead leadership development / volunteer programming as part of the curriculum with students given opportunity to contribute to the community through their Recreation department;

### Ideas for utilization of Volunteer

- Recruit volunteer leaders in a formal policy related role like a “recreation council”. This group of leadership individuals would contribute to annual priority setting and recommendations with staff, to Council, for budget development;
- Recruit volunteers through the Junior and High Schools as part of their curriculum to provide experiences in programming, services and events and to develop exposure to youth to the benefits of leadership development
- Develop partnerships with “Seniors” organizations to benefit from experience and skill in that sector along with enhanced quality of life

## 5.5 Rates, Fees and Funding

Our survey results from individuals, outlined in more detail in the Consultation section of this report, indicated that “There are 57% of households not participating in recreation as often as they would like.” Our female respondents indicated that barriers related to cost, being too busy, or not being aware of opportunities or resources available.

Male respondents indicated that inadequate or unavailable facilities are the main barriers.

Unsurprisingly, cost is the major barrier among lower income households.

Cost to participate in programs and services in Paradise is relatively low compared to other communities. In particular, the RPYCC which currently is operating with 90% of its usage at not or minimal cost. That facility when combined with the Paradise Double Ice Complex operates at a 56% cost recovery. Most multi-sport/multi-use facilities of this nature could expect to operate in the 85% cost recovery range. If there is an opportunity to review this policy in order to better position the Town's capacity to continue to operate its recreation programs and services at affordable fees and rates overall, it should be carried out in the short term.



# 5.6 Partnerships

Why develop partnerships? Partnerships are developed to collaborate, and benefit from sharing mutual resources, whether it be human financial, expertise, spaces, time, or other. The goal, is always to provide facilities, programs or services needed for the community.

In Paradise, there are several well-established service groups and examples in place of partnerships well developed and very positive for the community. The most obvious one of course being the Rotary Paradise Youth Community Centre.

It is recommended that a strategic partnership review be undertaken to identify key areas of funding and other resources that would be enhanced through partnerships with other service agencies, government sectors, and service groups. Funding sources often look for collaboration at the community level as examples of support.

Two key areas to work on for immediate benefit are:

## 1. NL School District – New School Development

The new Junior High School planned for Paradise is an important piece of public infrastructure. Investment of this magnitude happens in communities once in several decades and will bring with it significant public excitement for all ages, but also brings opportunities. If a partnership is possible, staff could work with the Provincial officials to participate in school design and determine if the building not only functions for its priority as an educational facility, but also functions for community usage. In many cases the Education Act will allow Towns and Municipalities to participate in design, to contribute financially, and to manage facilities if necessary to benefit citizens overall with the new infrastructure. This would be called a school “enhancement” project. The most obvious areas that Towns participate in this type of enhancement is in making a gymnasium larger (for example from an Elementary School size, to a High School size field

of play). Other important areas to consider though, would be spaces for arts, drama, music, community meals, etc. In many cases, Towns have enhanced the school project by constructing a natural or artificial turf to compliment the facility and to maximize usage ie students and public.

In Paradise, the new Junior High has already been determined to be strategically located near the Diana Whalen Soccer Complex. This location will allow students to maximize usage of the fields.

This should be a catalyst to develop a formal partnership if not to determine enhancements to the school if necessary, and to define access, usage, cost of school access to the fields and public access to the school facilities.

## 2. Aquatic Centres and Access - Conception Bay South and Mount Pearl

Commentary from public, although cautious regarding cost, clearly indicates an interest in having an indoor aquatic facility in Town. Citizens expressed concerns regarding limited access to the neighboring facilities, and unpredictability related to being able to register for swimming lessons. One or both facilities have a priority registration process giving “residents” priority for registration.

It is suggested that Town officials enter conversations with these two communities to determine what parameters if any, would enhance access opportunities for citizens of Paradise. Aquatic facilities are very expensive to construct and to operate. The two Towns could be very interested in a collaborative approach to usage, allowing for more participants, and a larger revenue stream at the facility.

# 5.7 Facility Recommendations

Recommendations are based on current need and analysis but we are aware of a significant forecasted population growth to 2031 that will likely more than double the population of Paradise to approximately 35,000 residents. Needs identified now, will be significantly more acute then. Planning and a careful phased approach to facility development is a proactive approach to meeting current and anticipated needs.

### 1. Permanent Solution for Youth Baseball Fields.

Temporary fields have been in use now for two seasons and the need continues to grow. Over the course of this Recreation Plan project, Council has made the decision to make these fields permanent.

### 2. Artificial Soccer Turf

It is recommended that a lighted artificial turf be constructed. Considerations for the size should include, full FIFA field of play as well as full CFL field of play. Multi-use of artificial turf is critical to its success. Co-location is important for tournament play.

Consideration should be given for construction of an indoor facility rather than outdoor. This could be accomplished through a phased approach to construction allowing for proper infrastructure to be put in place as part of a phase one if necessary. An indoor facility allows for the rugged weather conditions on the East Coast, and allows for significant multi-sport and recreational use year-round. In addition to soccer and football, users can enjoy a multitude of other activities like Ultimate Frisbee, walking and running, golf driving range, batting cages, and more, maximizing on revenue opportunities.

### 3. Enhancement of Schools

New Junior High School  
A review should be undertaken to determine if there are needs identified in this Recreation Master Plan that could be met through a possible enhancement of the new planned

school. The Gymnasias (identified as Basketball in the standards Table 3-1) could be accomplished in partnership with a small enhancement of the proposed gymnasium at the Junior High School at a fraction of the cost of a full new facility.

### 4. Aquatic Facility

In the short term, partnership development as discussed previously, may help to alleviate needs and concerns raised by citizens regarding lack of access to swimming lessons and leisure aquatic activities. Access to neighboring pools is not prohibitive geographically but other barriers exist. Partnerships and shared facilities when possible, are always more effective and cost positive than not. Particularly in this facility type.

However, it is also recommended that the Town embark on a formal analysis and feasibility review regarding whether an aquatic facility is needed and can be supported financially, in the Town of Paradise. This will provide valuable decision making information for Town Council, important information and discussion for citizens, and allow for future planning in some way, shape or form. Given the community demographics and population growth, this type of facility will likely play a key role for citizens at some point in the future.

### 5. Lighted Baseball/Softball

Very popular and to be encouraged, co-ed and gender specific recreational sport for adults is positive in communities. Adult leagues and groups exist in every hub in Canada and several towns have several groups. Facilities should enable adult participation by ensuring infrastructure exists for them after “prime time” or times when youth and children can utilize the same fields of play. In an arena, this would be after 9pm or 10pm. In a baseball or softball field, this means having lights on the facilities so that we can maximize utilization. Because of the later usage, it is often helpful to have these lighted facilities in areas where they will

not disturb citizens. Over the course of this Recreation Plan project, Council has made the decision to install lights at the Peter Duff Memorial Park fields.

## **6. Other Facility Recommendations**

Based on the OMCR Standards review other facilities require additional analysis. They didn't appear to be urgent priorities in our analysis or in consultation, and Paradise does currently own and operate. Future population growth however, could change that substantially. These facilities include:

- a. Basketball courts
- b. Beach volley ball facility
- c. Outdoor hockey rink
- d. Outdoor swimming facility
- e. Paved multi-use facility
- f. Splash pad
- g. Tennis court

There are 6 facilities generally included in Towns and Municipalities, included in the OMCR Standards but not owned or available in Paradise at present. It is not recommended that any of these facilities are developed without further analysis and determination of need (see Section 5.9 – Facility Implementation Map) These facilities include:

1. Badminton court
2. Curling rink
3. Horseshoe pits
4. Indoor pool
5. Lawn bowling
6. Squash court

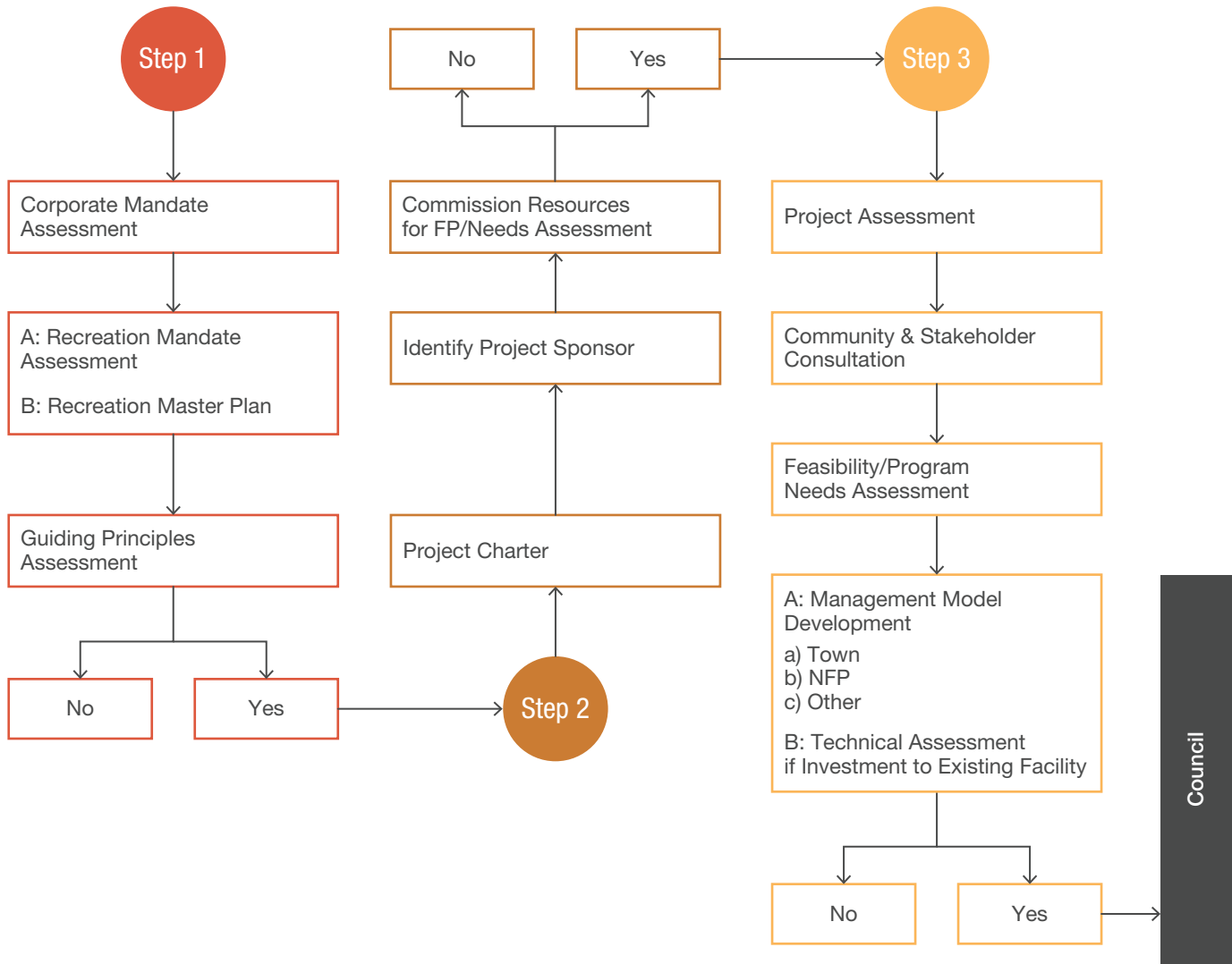
## 5.8 Facility Development Map (FDM)

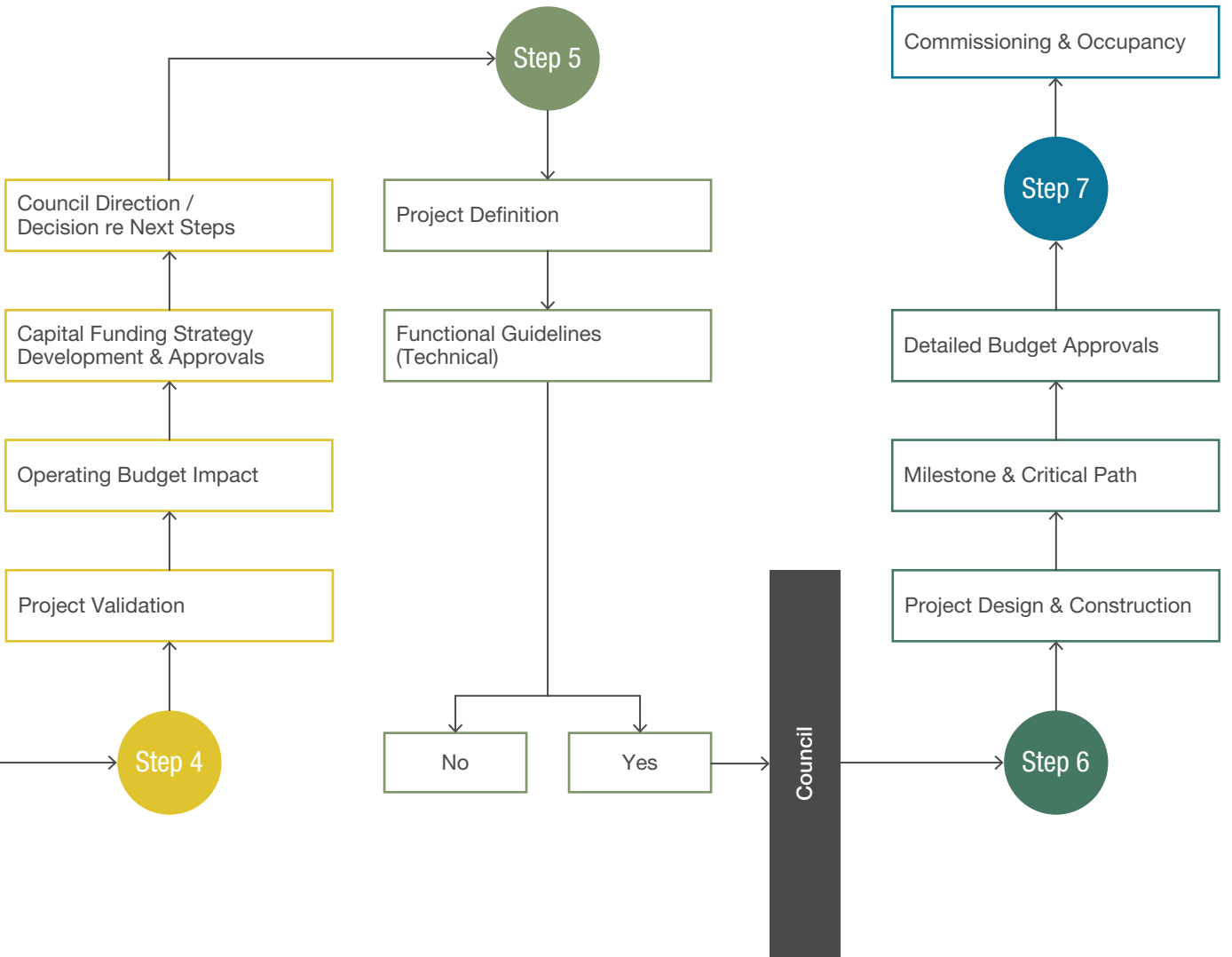
It is recommended that the Town adopt the use of the Facility Development Map to guide decision making related to investment in facilities. The FDM will assist to determine needs, feasibility, cost implications, and priority setting for staff and Town Council, and will assist to remove “interest group” or “citizen lobby” as a means of moving a project past step one in the process. The FDM can move an idea or proposal from any citizen, special interest, sport, community group or elected official along the decision-making process from infancy to the commissioning of a new facility.

It will also allow for a strong alignment to other Town approved strategic documents such as the Paradise Municipal Plan, the Paradise Strategic Plan and the Economic Development Plan. It can re-direct those ideas or proposals out of the system and NOT proceed at specific benchmarks during the process. Key review along the way will provide Town Council with important information from staff for decision making.

It is recommended that a staff person, working closely with the Director of Recreation, become the “Owner/Expert” of the process. This person would be the first point of conversation or formal “entry” in to the FDM.

# Facilities Development Map for New Facilities or Major Investments to Existing Facilities







## 5.9 Policies

The following key policy development initiatives are being highlighted. Work in these areas will enhance existing and grow new opportunities for citizens, and new avenues to grow programs and services for staff, and new funding opportunities for Town Council:

1. It is recommended that a Gender Equity and Sport Equity Policy be developed and implemented.
2. It is recommended that a review of rates and cost recovery expectation related to the Rotary Paradise Youth Community Centre (and) Double Ice Complex take place, to better align costs, opportunities, financial and access opportunities overall in the Department.
3. It is recommended that a Volunteer Strategy be developed and Implemented.
4. It is recommended that a Partnership Strategy be developed and Implemented.

## 5.10 Implementation and Review

Implementation of the recommendations outlined in the Recreation Master Plan will take years to implement. To help ensure that the Plan is a working tool for staff and key stakeholders, it is suggested that a Staff member be assigned responsibility to oversee the Recreation Master Plan and to become the ambassador to ensure it is a required tool in decision making, discussions, and annual budget planning. This will provide an immediate go-to and resource to ensure implementation, review and documented progress takes place and is reported.

An annual process of identification of goals/objectives and tasks related to the recommendations is suggested. Regular check-ins with both Town Council and the public are a good way to keep stakeholders motivated, informed, engaged and participating in the action steps along with Staff. Members of user groups, public, and stakeholders will benefit from regular opportunities to participate in information sharing related to the Plan. This will develop a strong joint ownership, responsibility and understanding of the recommendations and way-forward.

Senior Staff may want to incorporate a Recreation Master Plan Implementation category in agendas for Town Council.

A summary of recommendations and their priorities can be found on the next page.

	Priority		
	High	Medium	Low
<b>Facilities</b>			
Permanent solution for youth baseball fields (underway)	X		
Artificial lighted turf multi-sport field (consideration enclosed facility)	X		
Decision on desired enhancements to community and gymnasias facilities a new Junior High School	X		
Detailed facility analysis to assess new aquatic centre		X	
Lighted adult access to fields (underway at Peter Duffy Memorial)		X	
Dragon Boat storage		X	
Other Octagon Pond infrastructure to support leisure and instructional activities		X	
<b>Community Parks</b>			
Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park Site Development Plan			X
Paradise Park Site Development Plan	X		
<b>Neighbourhood Parks</b>			
Lombardy Park Site Development Plan			X
Camelot Crescent Park Site Development Plan		X	
Reardon Avenue Park Site Development Plan			X
<b>Mini-Parks</b>			
Octagon Pond Site Development Plan	X		
Neil's Pond Site Development Plan			X
Three Island Pond Site Development Plan			X
Topsail Pond Site Development Plan			X
<b>Trails</b>			
Upgrade T'Railway for active transportation use	X		
Consult with ATV users about new trail opportunities	X		
Develop Trail Network Master Plan		X	
<b>Programming, Policies, Fees</b>			
Gender / sport equity policy		X	
Policy review re Rates and pricing at RPYCC	X		
Volunteer Strategy		X	
Partnership Strategy	X		
a) NL School District re New Junior High	X		
b) Aquatic Centre Access - CBS and Mount Pearl	X		
Program development strategy to improve access		X	
Enhanced information gathering for registered participants for reportability		X	
<b>Other</b>			
Identification of Recreation Master Plan "Implementation Champion"	X		
Adoption of Facility Development Map	X		

# Appendix

## Detailed Open Space Assessments

Name	Page
Elizabeth Park Elementary	A 3
Duffs Crescent Tot Lot	A 3
St. Thomas Community Centre Tot Lot	A 4
Camelot Crescent Park	A 4
Horse Cove / Laurie Beach	A 5
Topsail Bluff Lookout	A 5
Paradise Elementary	A 6
Octagon Pond Elementary	A 6
Holy Family Elementary	A 7
Paradise Youth Centre Tot Lot	A 7
Dianne Whalen Soccer Complex	A 8
Paradise Park	A 8
Octagon Pond	A 9
Three Island Pond	A 9
Topsail Pond	A 10
Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park - Swimming Area	A 10
Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park - Tot Lot	A 11
Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park - Sod Fields	A 11
Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park - Parking Lot and Paved Courts	A 12
Spracklin Boulevard Tot Lot	A 12
Kinder Drive Tot Lot	A 13
Ashgrove Drive Tot Lot	A 13
Canterbury Grasshopper Park	A 14
Lombardy Park	A 14
Horncastle Drive Tot Lot	A 15
Elgin Tot Lot	A 15
Lanark Drive Tot Lot	A 16
Vambury Street Tot Lot	A 16
Paradise Softball Complex	A 17
Reardon Avenue Park	A 17
Ranger Avenue Tot Lot	A 18
Quantum Tot Lot	A 18
Neil's Pond Swimming and Picnic Area	A 19
Legend Drive Tot Lot	A 19
Lancefield Street Tot Lot	A 20
Cloudberry Drive Tot Lot	A 20
Carlingford Street Tot Lot	A 21
Cameo Drive Tot Lot	A 21
Aurora Place Tot Lot	A 22

Name	Elizabeth Park Elementary
Coordinates	47°32'22.2"N 52°49'35.4"W
Date Visited	09-Nov-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	[approximate size from GIS]
Programming / Use	Two play structures, grass lot, outdoor eating area, school garden
Landscape Typology	Playground, grassed area, gravel area

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓		New play structure is not yet completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planting needed</li> <li>• Sod repair</li> <li>• More seating</li> <li>• Consider picnic area/ gazebo</li> <li>• Remove dead trees</li> <li>• Consider an outdoor classroom</li> <li>• Wind buffer needed</li> <li>• Consider programming for open field</li> <li>• Repaint mural on road leading into parking lot</li> </ul>
Ecological Features	✓					Woodlots surrounding property	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only within	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓			Connects to neighbourhoods surrounding	
Accessibility	✓						
Parking					✓	Paved parking lot	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓				Open space	

Name	Duffs Crescent Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°31'32.2"N 52°53'47.4"W
Date Visited	09-Nov-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	[approximate size from GIS]
Programming / Use	Play structure, swingset
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition					✓	Brand new playground and grass area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add seating</li> <li>• Consider lighting</li> <li>• Add planting along culvert</li> </ul>
Ecological Features		✓				Natural tree buffer	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity		✓					
Accessibility	✓					No gravel, ditches around play structures	
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓				Trees	



Name	St. Thomas Community Centre Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°33'45.1"N 52°53'45.2"W
Date Visited	09-Nov-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	[approximate size from GIS]
Programming / Use	Community centre, play structure, paved parking lot, garden
Landscape Typology	Woodland, parking lot, garden areas

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition					✓		• Add more seating
Ecological Features			✓			Natural woodland adjacent Underground daylighted stream nextdoor	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Sidewalk around	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓				
Accessibility		✓				Site is accessible, playground is not	
Parking					✓	Paved parking	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓			Community centre dependant	

Name	Camelot Crescent Park
Coordinates	47°32'28.1"N 52°54'09.6"W
Date Visited	09-Nov-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	[approximate size from GIS]
Programming / Use	Multipurpose paved courts, open gravel space where playground used to be
Landscape Typology	Multipurpose paved courts

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition			✓			Courts are good condition, but open space is not	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lighting on existing poles</li> <li>• Reinstate edging of courts with landscaping</li> <li>• Paint lines on courts</li> <li>• Picnic benches</li> <li>• Address the open gravel space with new programming</li> <li>• Connecting the courts with gates</li> <li>• Programming on Ellsworth court</li> <li>• Repair sod</li> <li>• Consider connecting to broader trail system</li> </ul>
Ecological Features	✓						
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity				✓		Connected to two neighbourhoods	
Accessibility			✓				
Parking				✓		On street	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓			Flood rinks and open space	

Name	Horse Cove / Laurie Beach
Coordinates	47°34'24.1"N 52°54'13.4"W
Date Visited	09-Nov-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	[approximate size from GIS]
Programming / Use	Gravel road, parking area
Landscape Typology	Beach

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓		Gravel access road in good condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve visibility of access road</li> <li>• Create a destination by adding seating, picnic areas, fire pits, and a shelter</li> <li>• Fix minor potholes in the access road</li> </ul>
Ecological Features					✓	Oceanfront site, with road located in wooded area, adjacent a stream	
Topography		✓					
Pedestrian Circulation			✓			Trail is acceptable as a nature trail and connects Summit Drive to the lookout	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity	✓					Only accessible off of St. Thomas Line	
Accessibility		✓				If driving down to parking area, the site is relatively flat down to the beach	
Parking				✓		Lots of space in gravel parking area	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓					

Name	Topsail Bluff Lookout
Coordinates	47°32'38.1"N 52°54'38.0"W
Date Visited	09-Nov-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	[approximate size from GIS]
Programming / Use	Gravel road / trail, open space overlooking Conception Bay
Landscape Typology	Trail, Lookout

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition		✓				Drainage issues on road / trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve visibility of trailhead (remove build-up in fill that blocks trail entrance)</li> <li>• Create a destination by adding seating at lookout area</li> <li>• Better develop trail to make it more accessible (fix drainage issues and use hard packed surface material suitable for a wheelchair)</li> <li>• Better develop parking area if more visitor traffic is expected</li> </ul>
Ecological Features					✓	Trail is completely in woods	
Topography		✓					
Pedestrian Circulation			✓			Trail is acceptable as a nature trail and connects Summit Drive to the lookout	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓			Close to subdivision, easily accessible	
Accessibility	✓					Not accessible, due to rough state of trail	
Parking			✓			Parking at end of Summit Drive	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓					

Name	Paradise Elementary
Coordinates	47°31'42.1"N 52°51'10.1"W
Date Visited	29-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	7668m <sup>2</sup>
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), swingset (2x), balance beam, spring toy, ball game, playhouse
Landscape Typology	Playground, grassed area, gravel area

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planting needed</li> <li>Sod repair</li> <li>More seating</li> <li>Consider picnic area/ gazebo</li> <li>Remove dead trees</li> <li>Consider an outdoor classroom</li> <li>Consider a community garden</li> <li>Repaint mural on road leading into parking lot</li> </ul>
Ecological Features		✓				Woodlots surrounding property	
Topography	✓					Slope adjacent	
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓			Connects to neighbourhoods surrounding	
Accessibility			✓			Accessible swing set and play structure Only one section	
Parking					✓	Paved parking lot	
Seasonal Interest / Use				✓		Open space and slope for sledding	

Name	Octagon Pond Elementary
Coordinates	47°31'32.4"N 52°53'14.2"W
Date Visited	29-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	8254m <sup>2</sup>
Programming / Use	Play structure, soccer field, garden
Landscape Typology	Playground, grassed area, gravel area

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planting needed</li> <li>Sod repair/ more</li> <li>Consider a bigger play area</li> <li>Consider picnic area/ gazebo</li> <li>Wind buffers/ shelters</li> <li>Consider continuous sidewalk around</li> <li>Add lighting</li> <li>Consider an outdoor classroom</li> <li>Consider painting mural on road leading into parking lot to identify entrance gate and slow traffic</li> <li>Consider relocating garden to a more accessible area</li> <li>Consider buffers/ shelters and wind breaks</li> </ul>
Ecological Features			✓			Woodlots surrounding property	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity				✓		Connects to neighbourhoods surrounding and Octagon Pond trail	
Accessibility		✓				One drop curb to playground	
Parking			✓			Paved parking lot	
Seasonal Interest / Use	✓					Open space and trees	

Name	Holy Family Elementary
Coordinates	47°32'06.5"N 52°53'57.0"W
Date Visited	29-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	110m <sup>2</sup>
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), outdoor classroom (2x), ant farms (3x), garden
Landscape Typology	Playground, grassed area, gravel area

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planting needed</li> <li>Sod repair/ more</li> <li>Wind breaks for classrooms</li> <li>Consider picnic area/ gazebo</li> <li>Consider storage shed for gardening equipment and play toys</li> <li>Add more bike racks</li> <li>Add lighting</li> <li>Add more seating for adults (benches)</li> <li>Repaint mural on road leading into parking lot</li> </ul>
Ecological Features		✓				Woodlots surrounding property	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓			Connects to neighbourhoods surrounding	
Accessibility	✓						
Parking					✓	Paved parking lot	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓				Open space	

Name	Paradise Youth Centre Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°31'27.1"N 52°52'11.4"W
Date Visited	28-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	7607m <sup>2</sup>
Programming / Use	Play structure, spring toy (2x), seesaw, swingset, sandbox
Landscape Typology	Playground, grassed area

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Repair sod</li> <li>Remove sandbox or place a new edge on sandbox</li> <li>Implement planting</li> <li>Consider picnic area/ gazebo</li> </ul>
Ecological Features	✓						
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Paved walkway along length of park Grass trails only within	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity				✓		Connects to greater trails, the Ice Complex and Paradise Park	
Accessibility	✓						
Parking					✓	Paved parking lot	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓				Youth Centre winter activities	

Name	<i>Dianne Whalen Soccer Complex</i>
Coordinates	<i>47°31'21.9"N 52°51'55.5"W</i>
Date Visited	<i>28-Jun-18</i>
Open Space Classification	<i>[to be determined]</i>
Size	<i>42473m2</i>
Programming / Use	<i>Soccer fields (3x), clubhouse, parking lot (3x)</i>
Landscape Typology	<i>Sod sports fields, parking (two gravel, one paved)</i>

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition					✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repair/ new bleachers</li> <li>• More seating for spectators on Field 1</li> <li>• Implement planting around complex</li> <li>• Consider regrading slopes between fields one and two or adding stairs</li> <li>• Consider turf fields</li> <li>• Reinstate sod edges on fields</li> <li>• Consider light on fields 3 and 1</li> <li>• Improve walkability and connections within complex (between fields)</li> </ul>
Ecological Features		✓				Natural woodlands surrounding	
Topography		✓				Fields flat, drastic slopes between	
Pedestrian Circulation			✓			Gravel trails Access from upper-lower is poor	
Vehicular Circulation				✓		Gravel roads give access throughout complex	
Connectivity				✓		Connects to greater trails, the Ice Complex and Paradise Park	
Accessibility	✓					Narrow gates and steep slopes	
Parking				✓			
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓				Clubhouse and open space	

Name	<i>Paradise Park</i>
Coordinates	<i>47°31'18.6"N 52°52'18.7"W</i>
Date Visited	<i>28-Jun-18</i>
Open Space Classification	<i>[to be determined]</i>
Size	<i>85887m2</i>
Programming / Use	<i>Paved parking lot, play structure, dog park, beach volleyball court, bandstand, concession building</i>
Landscape Typology	<i>Playground, parking lot, grassed open space, sports areas, built elements</i>

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓		Trails need work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fix drainage by dog park</li> <li>• Tree planting in dog park</li> <li>• Implement planting around park</li> <li>• More seating around Splash Pad</li> <li>• Fix trails (maintenance)</li> <li>• Consider seating at band stand</li> <li>• Park lacks shade, consider taller trees</li> </ul>
Ecological Features		✓				Natural woodlands surrounding, no ecological elements within park	
Topography	✓					Large open slope on boundary	
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Gravel trails	
Vehicular Circulation				✓		Paved roads leading into park from main facility entrance	
Connectivity				✓		Connects to greater trails, the Ice Complex and Diane W. Soccer Fields	
Accessibility				✓			
Parking					✓	Paved and painted in good proximity to all elements on park	
Seasonal Interest / Use				✓		Sledding in the winter and trail connections	

Name	Octagon Pond Boat Launch
Coordinates	47°31'38.4"N 52°52'41.0"W
Date Visited	28-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	4400m2
Programming / Use	Boat launch
Landscape Typology	Pond

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider boat house/ washrooms and change rooms</li> <li>• More seating</li> <li>• Implement planting</li> <li>• Consider a plaza/ winners circle for Dragon Boat events</li> <li>• Consider a picnic area</li> <li>• Consider paving parking lot and painting lines</li> </ul>
Ecological Features					✓	Natural woodlands surrounding and pond	
Topography		✓					
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Gravel trails	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity					✓		
Accessibility	✓						
Parking				✓		Gravel parking lot	
Seasonal Interest / Use				✓		Trails and trees	

Name	Three Island Pond- Boating
Coordinates	47°30'44.8"N 52°53'39.6"W
Date Visited	28-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	204m2
Programming / Use	Boat launch
Landscape Typology	Pond

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition		✓					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regrade existing access point</li> <li>• Consider concrete boat slips</li> </ul>
Ecological Features					✓	Natural woodlands surrounding and pond	
Topography				✓			
Pedestrian Circulation	✓						
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity		✓					
Accessibility	✓						
Parking			✓			Narrow street parking only	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓			Does lake freeze in winter?	



Name	Topsail Pond Swimming area
Coordinates	47°31'28.7"N 52°54'13.4"W
Date Visited	28-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	30m2
Programming / Use	Swimming
Landscape Typology	Pond

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition		✓					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More seating/ picnic area</li> <li>• Improve access</li> <li>• Swimming area appears dangerous as the site itself is very small and sits directly on a road</li> </ul>
Ecological Features					✓	Natural woodlands surrounding and pond	
Topography			✓				
Pedestrian Circulation		✓					
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity	✓						
Accessibility	✓						
Parking				✓		Gravel lot adjacent to swimming area	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓			Does lake freeze in winter?	

Name	Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park- Swimming area
Coordinates	47°30'58.1"N 52°54'39.5"W
Date Visited	28-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	587m2
Programming / Use	Swimming, trails
Landscape Typology	Pond

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition			✓			Drainage problems, pond flooding sod	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider a sand beach</li> <li>• More seating/ picnic area</li> <li>• Consider a plaza area, change rooms and washrooms</li> <li>• Fix drainage problems</li> </ul>
Ecological Features					✓	Natural woodlands surrounding and pond	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Gravel trails surrounding Grass only within	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity					✓	Trails connect all parts of park	
Accessibility	✓						
Parking				✓		Parking lot at entrance of park	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓			Does lake freeze in winter?	

Name	Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park- Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°31'00.6"N 52°54'35.2"W
Date Visited	28-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	679m2
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), spring toy (2x), swingset, sandbox
Landscape Typology	Playground, trails

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regrade edge for easy access</li> <li>Consider lighting</li> <li>More seating</li> </ul>
Ecological Features				✓		Natural woodlands surrounding	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Gravel trails surrounding Grass trails within	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity					✓	Trails connect all parts of park	
Accessibility	✓					Edge around park is berm	
Parking				✓		Parking lot at entrance of park	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓				

Name	Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park- Sod fields
Coordinates	47°31'02.3"N 52°54'31.3"W
Date Visited	28-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	22598m2
Programming / Use	Soccer field, baseball field, softball field, trails
Landscape Typology	Sports fields, trails

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soccer field needs new bleachers/ seating</li> <li>Baseball and Softball fields need sand retouched</li> <li>Reinstate ramp edge on Clubhouse</li> <li>Consider widening access gates on all fields</li> <li>Consider repainting lines on all fields</li> <li>Consider incorporating lighting on all fields</li> <li>Trail maintenance/ fixing potholes</li> <li>Storage container? Consider building storage unit</li> </ul>
Ecological Features				✓		Natural woodlands surrounding	
Topography		✓				Flat fields but slopes between them	
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Gravel trails surrounding	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity					✓	Trails connect all parts of park	
Accessibility		✓				Gravel trails lead to fields	
Parking				✓		Parking lot at entrance of park	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓				

Name	Peter Barry Duff Memorial Park- Parking lot and paved courts
Coordinates	47°31'03.3"N 52°54'36.0"W
Date Visited	28-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	8090m2
Programming / Use	Gravel parking lot, skate park, basketball/ hockey court, trails
Landscape Typology	Gravel lot, multipurpose paved courts, trails

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓		Concrete in good shape on courts, good lighting around	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider paving and painting lines on existing parking lot</li> <li>• Consider including planted islands in parking lot to direct traffic/ add interest</li> <li>• Fix drainage on trails and parking lot</li> <li>• Naturalize culverts</li> <li>• Seating around courts for spectators</li> </ul>
Ecological Features				✓		Natural woodlands surrounding	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Gravel trails surrounding	
Vehicular Circulation			✓			Large lot with access roads and clear identification of entry points	
Connectivity					✓		
Accessibility			✓			Flat landscape with large access points	
Parking				✓		Large but unorganized parking lot	
Seasonal Interest / Use				✓		Flooding rinks for skating and trees	

Name	Spracklin Boulevard Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°31'41.4"N 52°54'05.8"W
Date Visited	27-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	500m2
Programming / Use	Play structure, swingset, spring toy, community mailbox
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓		Maintenance needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More seating</li> <li>• Reinstate sod</li> <li>• General maintenance</li> </ul>
Ecological Features				✓		Natural tree buffer and small stream adjacent	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation			✓			Grass trails only within park, sidewalk along length of park	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity		✓					
Accessibility		✓					
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓			Open space and trees	

Name	Kinder Drive Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°31'14.9"N 52°54'51.0"W
Date Visited	27-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	740m2
Programming / Use	Play structure, spring toy, swingset
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			• Seating
Ecological Features				✓		Natural buffer around	
Topography		✓					
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity		✓					
Accessibility	✓						
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓				Lighting within park, trees and open space	

Name	Ashgrove Drive Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°32'09.3"N 52°50'27.8"W
Date Visited	27-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	746m2
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), balance beam, swingset
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓		Equipment is in good shape except for the balance beam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trails connecting three roads</li> <li>• Needs more seating</li> <li>• Consider using the berms (skatepark, adding trees)</li> <li>• Remove dead trees</li> <li>• Remove balance beam</li> <li>• Add planting</li> </ul>
Ecological Features	✓						
Topography	✓					Berms (2x), unused and out of place	
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity				✓		Connects to two roads and visible from three streets	
Accessibility	✓						
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use	✓					Lighting within park and open space	

Name	Canterbury Grasshopper Park
Coordinates	47°32'03.0"N 52°50'15.2"W
Date Visited	27-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	480m2
Programming / Use	Spring toy (2x), iceberg climbing structure
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground, trails

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓		New equipment but fence needs maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add lights on pole</li> <li>• Consider placing more equipment in park</li> <li>• Consider a community garden to attract birds to the existing birdhouses along fenceline and to align park with the community "grasshopper" initiative</li> <li>• Fix existing fence</li> </ul>
Ecological Features			✓			Attempt at small garden/ buffering	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Sidewalk along edge of park Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity				✓		Sidewalk along edge and gravel trail to greater context	
Accessibility		✓					
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓				Open space and changing colors	

Name	Lombardy Park
Coordinates	47°32'21.5"N 52°50'18.7"W
Date Visited	27-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	6590m2
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), swingset, spring toy (3x), tennis court, basketball/ hockey court
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground, multipurpose courts

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition		✓				Asphalt is in good condition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tree buffer</li> <li>• Repair pea gravel around structures</li> <li>• Repave trail into park</li> <li>• Remove edges around play equip.</li> <li>• Drainage problems</li> <li>• Needs new nets on basketball hoops</li> <li>• Remove/ repair port-a-potty</li> <li>• Add lighting to park and multipurpose courts</li> <li>• Needs seating</li> </ul>
Ecological Features	✓						
Topography			✓				
Pedestrian Circulation			✓			Grass trails only within park Poorly paved trails at entrances	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓			Connects to two streets (Cedar and Lombardy)	
Accessibility	✓						
Parking			✓			On street only (smaller roads)	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓			Open space and courts could be flooded	

Name	Horncastle Drive Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°32'24.3"N 52°50'03.1"W
Date Visited	27-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	1257m2 (including wooded area adjacent to park: 24947m2)
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), swingset, spring toy (3x), community mailbox
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition			✓			General maintenance problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tree buffer</li> <li>• Remove/ repair fence and entrance points</li> <li>• Reinstate edge by mailboxes</li> <li>• Consider direct connection to trails</li> <li>• Add light on existing poles</li> <li>• Consider accessibility ramps at existing drop curbs</li> </ul>
Ecological Features		✓				Stream adjacent	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity				✓		Crosswalk across Horncastle and existing trail system around	
Accessibility	✓						
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use	✓						

Name	Elgin Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°32'09.0"N 52°49'57.4"W
Date Visited	27-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	3296m2 (including greenspace surrounding: 23380)
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), swingset, spring toy (2x), toddler equipment
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground, trail system

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition			✓			Drainage problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fix drainage</li> <li>• Remove broken play structure (toddler equipment)</li> <li>• Trees to buffer houses</li> <li>• More seating</li> <li>• Alternative to entrance gate on Elgin</li> </ul>
Ecological Features				✓		Stream and good plant interest	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Gravel trail in and out of park Grass within	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity					✓	Connects to trail system	
Accessibility		✓				Gate access is too narrow, bad for strollers and chairs	
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use				✓		Open space, plant interest, lighting and snow shoeing on trails	



Name	Lanark Drive Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°31'54.4"N 52°53'21.5"W
Date Visited	27-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	1750m2
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), swingset, climbing structures
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, naturalized edge, playground, pond

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓		New equipment but grass is poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planting and buffers</li> <li>More seating and picnic tables</li> <li>Lights on existing poles</li> <li>Repair sod</li> </ul>
Ecological Features				✓		Adams pond and tree buffer around	
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only within park Gravel trail to road and Adams Pond	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity					✓	Connects to pond which connects to greater area	
Accessibility		✓					
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use				✓		Skating on pond and trees	

Name	Vambury Street Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°32'12.9"N 52°53'55.4"W
Date Visited	22-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	1150m2
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), swingset, spring toy (2x), community mailbox
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tree planting</li> <li>Seating by spring toys</li> <li>Lighting on existing poles</li> </ul>
Ecological Features	✓						
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓				
Accessibility		✓					
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓					

Name	Paradise Softball Complex
Coordinates	47°32'14.5"N 52°51'29.2"W
Date Visited	21-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	32460m2
Programming / Use	Softball field, clubhouse w/ multipurpose space, play structure, swingset, spring toy (2x)
Landscape Typology	Woodland, grassed area, parking lot, playing field, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More benches</li> <li>• Space for development (mountain bikes, skatepark, ect.)</li> <li>• Extend paved sidewalk to playground for accessibility</li> <li>• Good views</li> </ul>
Ecological Features				✓		Naturalized tree buffer	
Topography		✓					
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Paved sidewalk to play equipment Gravel around playing field and club	
Vehicular Circulation				✓			
Connectivity		✓					
Accessibility				✓			
Parking				✓		Paved parking lot and gravel lot	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓					

Name	Reardon Avenue Park
Coordinates	47°33'13.2"N 52°53'40.8"W
Date Visited	22-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	3920m2
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), spring toy (2x), swingset, basketball court, multipurpose court, gravel parking lot
Landscape Typology	Woodland, grassed area, parking lot, paved multipurpose courts, play ground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition			✓			Grass is bad but equipment is new	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paint lines on courts</li> <li>• Reinstate edges of courts with landscaping</li> <li>• Benches</li> <li>• Repair sod</li> <li>• Implement lighting by courts</li> </ul>
Ecological Features		✓				Natural tree buffer	
Topography		✓					
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓				
Accessibility			✓				
Parking				✓		Gravel lot	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓			Flood rinks and open spaces	

Name	Ranger Avenue Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°32'07.4"N 52°51'05.5"W
Date Visited	21-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	1215m2
Programming / Use	Play structure, swingset, spring toy, picnic tables, community mailbox
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓		Very exposed and windy Very little pea gravel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve pedestrian connection to Aurora</li> <li>• Tree planting (windbreak) and seasonal interest</li> <li>• More seating</li> </ul>
Ecological Features	✓						
Topography		✓					
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓			Sidewalk, footpaths to Topsail and Nevilles Pond	
Accessibility	✓						
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓					

Name	Quantum Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°32'27.6"N 52°53'30.0"W
Date Visited	22-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	2014m2
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), swingset, spring toy (2x), picnic, gravel parking lot
Landscape Typology	Woodland, grassed area, parking lot, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tree buffer along undeveloped area and adjacent fence</li> <li>• Lighting on existing poles</li> <li>• More seating</li> </ul>
Ecological Features			✓				
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity				✓			
Accessibility				✓			
Parking				✓		Gravel parking lot	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓					

Name	Neil's Pond Swimming and Picnic Area
Coordinates	47°31'48.0"N 52°51'56.8"W
Date Visited	21-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	525m2
Programming / Use	Unsupervised swimming, shelter gazebo, seating
Landscape Typology	Woodland, grassed area, granular trail, shoreline

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More benches and picnic tables</li> <li>• Lighting</li> <li>• More shade structures</li> </ul>
Ecological Features					✓		
Topography		✓					
Pedestrian Circulation					✓	Gravel trail along length of shoreline	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity					✓		
Accessibility				✓			
Parking					✓	Off street lot at Sobey's	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓				

Name	Legend Drive Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°34'20.5"N 52°53'49.7"W
Date Visited	22-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	1315m2
Programming / Use	Play structure, swingset, spring toy (2x), small climbing toy, community mailbox
Landscape Typology	Woodland, grassed area, stream, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition					✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tree planting</li> <li>• Lighting on existing poles</li> <li>• Enhance stream buffer</li> <li>• Picnic tables</li> </ul>
Ecological Features			✓			Stream and small woodlot	
Topography		✓					
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓				
Accessibility			✓			Flat playground area	
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓					

Name	Lancefield Street Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°32'04.8"N 52°52'36.5"W
Date Visited	22-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	2080m2
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), swingset
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tree planting</li> <li>• Improve access to park</li> <li>• More seating</li> <li>• Lighting on existing poles</li> </ul>
Ecological Features	✓						
Topography					✓		
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		One trail to street, grass trails throughout	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓				
Accessibility	✓						
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓			Slopes for sledding	

Name	Cloudberry Drive Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°31'46.4"N 52°51'06.4"W
Date Visited	22-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	890m2
Programming / Use	Play structure (2x), swingset, spring toy (2x), picnic table
Landscape Typology	Grassed field, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buffer/ tree planting against neighbouring community development</li> <li>• More seating</li> <li>• Improve access</li> </ul>
Ecological Features	✓						
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓			via. Sidewalks	
Accessibility	✓					Fence inhibits access	
Parking				✓		On street, both sides	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓					

Name	Carlingford Street Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°31'48.2"N 52°53'39.4"W
Date Visited	22-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	645m2
Programming / Use	Play structure, swingset, spring toy (2x)
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Picnic tables</li> <li>• Incorporate stream into park</li> <li>• Tree planting along St. Thomas Line</li> </ul>
Ecological Features				✓		Stream (2x) connected	
Topography		✓					
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity				✓			
Accessibility			✓				
Parking				✓		Street parking and gravel lot across road	
Seasonal Interest / Use		✓					

Name	Cameo Drive Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°32'39.1"N 52°53'21.3"W
Date Visited	22-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	836m2
Programming / Use	Play structure, swingset, spring toy (2x), community mailbox
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Picnic tables</li> <li>• Trees and plants</li> <li>• Tree buffer next to steep slope at perimeter</li> </ul>
Ecological Features		✓					
Topography	✓						
Pedestrian Circulation					✓	Sidewalk runs entire length of park Grass trails within	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity				✓			
Accessibility			✓			Flat but not inclusive Easy access from sidewalk	
Parking				✓		On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓			Has lighting	

Name	Aurora Place Tot Lot
Coordinates	47°32'00.7"N 52°51'18.3"W
Date Visited	21-Jun-18
Open Space Classification	[to be determined]
Size	750m2
Programming / Use	Play structure, swingset, spring toy, picnic benches
Landscape Typology	Grassed area, naturalized edge, playground

	Rating					General Notes	Opportunities for Enhancement
	1	2	3	4	5		
Physical Condition				✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tree buffer along North Atlantic</li> <li>• General cleanup around perimeter</li> </ul>
Ecological Features			✓				
Topography			✓				
Pedestrian Circulation				✓		Grass trails only within park Gravel trail to road	
Vehicular Circulation						N/A	
Connectivity			✓				
Accessibility	✓						
Parking			✓			On street only	
Seasonal Interest / Use			✓				





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