

## **Orillia Recreation Facility site hub of construction activity**

**For immediate release (May 9, 2018)** – Construction activity at the Recreation Facility is going full speed ahead and a massive steel structure can now be seen at 255 West St. S.

On May 9, 2018, Mayor Steve Clarke and members of Council had the opportunity to take a site tour led by members of the Recreation Project Team and the Project Architect to see the progress being made on the City's largest project.

"It's wonderful to see the building taking shape first-hand. So many aspects are well defined such as the three pools and the bleachers in the gym and in the aquatic viewing area. You can now see where the track will encircle the top floor, which will provide an amazing view of the City. Even in the construction stages, the facility has an impressive presence and will certainly be a landmark in Orillia," said Mayor Steve Clarke.

Currently, installation of the structural steel continues for the building in the multi-purpose rooms, gymnasium, fitness centre and over the pool. Concrete flooring has been poured in the pool tunnel, which will be followed by the mechanical and electrical rooms. Waterproofing of the building has begun and will be followed by backfilling. Framing and masonry work of the building has begun. Mechanical and electrical piping is being installed and plumbing is being installed in the mechanical and electrical rooms. The storm sewer installation is complete and construction of the parking lots has commenced.

Since groundbreaking in the fall of 2016, site works, site utility preparation, soil preparation for the building construction, which included the installation of 1,450 geopiers, the placement of the synthetic clay liner and the import of soil from West Orillia lands to the Recreation Facility has taken place. Many milestones have also been reached since the spring of 2017 including: footings and foundation walls, pouring of the pool basins and walls for all three pool tanks, completion of mechanical and electrical rough-ins, connection of sanitary sewer and watermain to the building and remediation of the contaminated soil area.

"The site is very active with multiple trades on site. While there are many different aspects of work on the building and site taking place, a key milestone is completing the installation of the structural steel. Once that work is complete, we will be able to enclose the building and begin tiling the pools and completing the interior work," said Kent Guptill, Manager of Facilities and Special Projects. "We are very happy with the quality of work to date as this very exciting project takes shape."

Currently, the timeline for opening is in the first quarter of 2019. Once the project has reached specific milestones (completion of the steel erection, building enclosure and pool tiling etc.), the City will be able to better define an anticipated opening date.

The new recreation facility will provide a blend of leisure, sport, fitness and recreational amenities for individuals and families, as well as competitive sport venues for groups and organizations and will feature:

- 25 m, 8-lane lap pool with viewing area
- Therapeutic pool
- Leisure pool with play features
- Gymnasium with 2 FIBA sized basketball courts and a viewing area
- Childcare room
- Multi-purpose room
- Fitness centre including studio fitness rooms
- Walking/jogging track

Council awarded the construction of the Orillia Recreation Facility to The Atlas Corporation on Aug. 17, 2016 and broke ground for the \$53.7 million project on September 28, 2016.

The latest details on the project including photos can be found at [orillia.ca/recreationfacility](http://orillia.ca/recreationfacility).

The City of Orillia is a city of 31,000 people in the heart of Ontario's Lake Country on the shores of Lake Couchiching and Lake Simcoe. Visit our website at [orillia.ca](http://orillia.ca).

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**Photo Cutline:** Mayor and members of Council stand with members of the Recreation Project Team and the Project Architect at the Orillia Recreation Facility site at 255 West St. S. during a site tour on May 9, 2018.

