



## TOWN OF BIGGAR

### Community Report Re: Multi-Use Facility

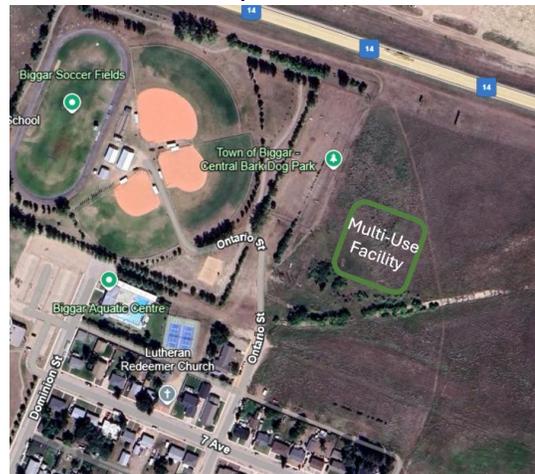
May 16th, 2025

The Town hosted a community engagement session on February 12, 2025. The goal of the session was to get input from Biggar residents about what kind of multi-use facility they would like to see in our community. The event was well attended with approximately 110 attendees.

Participants were asked to work in groups at tables to answer 5 questions. Council was presented with the results at a Council meeting. The results were then discussed to determine answers to each question with consideration for public input.

#### 1. Where would you like to see the facility?

- There were many ideas for a location from the public including, adjacent to Petro-Can, north of the Malt Plant, east of dog park, and curling rink location. Many of the locations overlapped or were mentioned many times.
- Council thought that the best location for multi-use facility would be on the northeast corner of town south of Hwy 14. It is adjacent to existing recreation facilities and is currently not used. The site allows for easy expansion of a new building to incorporate future facilities. It could also provide easy highway access for out-of-town users.



#### 2. How do you think a facility like this should be funded?

- Input from town residents included grants, donations/fundraising, tax revenue, RM contributions, user fees and rental revenue.
- This will be a long-term multi-million-dollar project. Council determined funding for the project would be a combination of residents' suggestions. The multi-pronged approach would include:
  - Applying for all applicable grants.
  - Seeking funding directly from the province as Biggar is a particularly special curling community in Saskatchewan.
  - Allocate some tax revenue into a reserve account annually to begin funding the project.
  - Ask surrounding RM's to contribute financially to the project as it will benefit their residents too.

- The Town will consider a special recreation levy in 2026 to contribute to reserves for the facility.
- Rental revenue and user fees will go towards operational costs when the facility is completed.
- The timeline for this project is at least 10 years given the significant funding needed for construction and furnishings.

### 3. What would you like to see in this facility?

- The public provided a lot of input for this question. The most cited items were indoor playground, skating rink, curling rink, indoor pool, gymnasium, change rooms, walking track, turf space (golf simulator/archery/ball), and a concession.



- Council believes that a large gym space and curling rink would meet the needs and wants expressed by residents at the community meeting in February. The building would be modular in design to allow the addition of more facilities in the future.

The gymnasium would have court lines and accommodate many activities all year-round including pickle ball, basketball, soccer, badminton, volleyball etc. The facility would have change rooms and flex rooms available to rent. A walking track could also be easily incorporated. A large gym space could also accommodate a climbing wall and curtains to divide the space for optimal use.

Curling is an important part of Biggar's history and Council recognizes its importance in the community. The curling tradition in Biggar would be upheld by including a 2-3 sheet rink in the new recreation building to replace the previous curling rink.

### 4. What activities/amenities are missing from Town?

- A curling rink was the number one answer at the community meeting. Curling has been an important part of Biggar for many years but unfortunately the rink is no longer viable. Other answers were walking track, indoor pool, turf area, golf simulator, and gymnasium.



- Council believes that a gymnasium would be the most inclusive addition to the community. A gym can accommodate many different activities and is more affordable to build and operate than an indoor pool.

A curling rink will be included due to the importance of the sport in Biggar. A simple rink with 2-3 sheets should accommodate league play and regular bonspiels. A new curling rink and subsequent bonspiels would help boost the local economy and community well-being.



##### **5. What amenities are you happy with in Town?**

- Many of the public responses were for the Jubilee Stadium, movie theatre and the bowling alley. Other responses included spray park, walking paths, museum and pool.
- The Town of Biggar is fortunate to have a great deal of amenities for residents to enjoy. Council plans to maintain existing recreation infrastructure to prevent loss or deterioration of any facilities or amenities. The plan is to also improve and build upon current recreation options in Biggar.

Council would like to build a multi-use facility that will be modular in concept to allow for the addition of more facilities. The building will consist of a gymnasium-style interior with change rooms and flex space and a 2-3 sheet curling rink. It will take approximately 10 years to raise the capital to fund the building. Fundraising will include grant monies, donations, provincial capital, tax reserves and contributions from surrounding municipalities.

Stay tuned for more information on this exciting project!



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