

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND ABSTRACT
GEORGINA CIVIC CENTRE MULTI-SEASON
OUTDOOR RECREATION CAMPUS

The Georgina Civic Centre Multi-Season Recreation Campus is envisioned to be the recreational, historical and social centrepiece of the Town of Georgina.

The Town of Georgina generated an overall master plan to guide the development of the campus in 2003 and has been working incrementally on implementing the evolving master plan since this time.

Components of the master plan that pre-existed or have been implemented to date include the following:

- Four senior soccer pitches
- Four junior soccer pitches
- Two senior ball diamonds
- A lawn bowling facility
- Village Museum
- Support facilities including washrooms and shelters
- Trails
- Parking areas
- Two ponds
- A 25m-high hill as the basis for the development of a tube and terrain park and tobogganing facility

Water service, lighting and irrigation systems have been installed to service the existing fields and to support the servicing of further fields.

The processes of design of the master plan and detailed design and implementation of the completed sports facilities were shaped by consultation with local sports associations and the community-at-large.

The master plan for the campus was generated with the goal of creating a new, centralized park complex within the Town of Georgina that would provide a full range of recreational opportunities for all members of the Georgina community. To this end, the master plan encompasses facilities that will encourage activity throughout the four seasons and that will provide recreational opportunities for all generations ranging from the very young to older adults. Unique facilities are proposed to inspire youth involvement in alternative recreational pursuits. These 'adventure based' facilities include a ropes course, rock climbing walls, BMX challenge and four cross courses and

north shore cycle skills park. Other facilities proposed to be implemented include the following:

- One illuminated artificial turf senior soccer pitch
- One irrigated turf senior soccer pitch
- Two baseball diamonds (one illuminated)
- Outdoor ice rink/combo roller hockey, tennis and basketball court
- Junior playground with picnic shelter
- Adventure playground with picnic shelter
- BMX course
- North shore bicycle challenge/skills park
- Four cross cycle circuit
- Beach volleyball court
- Water playground/splash pad
- Rock climbing wall
- Ropes course
- Tube and terrain park
 - Two toboggan hills
 - Tubing hill
 - Terrain park/beginner ski area
 - Ski tow
 - Snow making system
 - Lighting system
 - Storage /snowmaking building
- Chalet building with banquet facilities
- Picnic shelters and picnic areas
- Walking, hiking and interpretive trails
- Washroom and concession building
- Parking areas for cars and busses
- Fountain, ponds and feature gardens

The implementation of the Georgina Civic Centre Multi-Season Recreation Campus will create a facility with the amenities necessary to support major tournaments. This type of facility is presently not available in the Town of Georgina, depriving amateur athletes and elite sports teams of the opportunity to experience high level competition. The capability for Georgina and its community-based sports associations to host regional, provincial and even national tournaments will provide the local community with related economic and tourism related benefits.

From the outset, the master plan for the campus was conceived with the goal of achieving the principles of sustainable design by integrating various techniques to enhance the quality of the environment, manage stormwater runoff and conserve energy and resources. The master plan for the park was developed with the goal of avoiding disturbance to areas of the site that presently support a forest community. In

response, no facilities are proposed to be implemented along portions of the eastern edge of the site. Several ponds and wetlands have been created to manage stormwater runoff in addition to providing aesthetic and recreational benefits.

A comprehensive planting program is proposed to be implemented to restore areas of the site to natural cover and enhance the extent of the overall tree canopy. A number of innovative techniques are proposed aimed at achieving a full range of sustainability objectives, these include:

- Harvesting and reuse of rainwater to supply water for irrigation purposes
- The use of ground source heating and cooling for the chalet/banquet facility building
- The use of solar powered lighting
- The potential integration of a green roof on the chalet building
- The use of stormwater to supply water for the snow making system
- Extensive planting over the parking lots to minimize urban heat island effect
- The use of low water consumption plumbing fixtures in the chalet and washroom buildings
- The use of energy efficient lighting and control systems for buildings and parking lot areas
- The use of permeable surfaces for several of the parking areas
- Provision of parking areas to accommodate buses, again to encourage an alternative means of transportation for visiting teams during tournaments.

The plan for the campus also incorporates nature trails with interpretive signage as a means to heighten public awareness of the sensitivity of the environment of the park and its surrounding landscape with the objective of encouraging responsible behaviour and fostering community stewardship.

Overall the implementation of the Georgina Civic Centre Multi-Season Recreation Campus will yield significant recreational, social, cultural and economic benefits to the Georgina community. The campus will be the recreational centrepiece of the Town and will provide residents of all ages with opportunities for active and passive recreation, socialization and celebration that will contribute to their health and well being and contribute to community pride.