

2010 BUDGET BRIEFING NOTE

Parks, Forestry and Recreation User Fees Changes

This briefing note outlines changes to existing user fees and new user fees that are incorporated in the 2010 Recommended Operating Budget for Parks, Forestry and Recreation (PF&R) and presents a summary of the incremental 2010 revenues that will be generated from the recommended changes to existing and new user fees.

The 2010 Recommended Operating Budget for Parks, Forestry and Recreation includes \$0.866 million in additional revenue to be generated from an inflationary adjustment to all registered program and permit fees and \$0.443 million from a market rate adjustment to camp and aquatic program fees and harmonization of stadium fees. The total revenue to be generated from new user fees that are introduced in 2010 for PF&R is \$2.200 million. In total, the 2010 Recommended Operating Budget for Parks, Forestry and Recreation includes \$3.509 million in additional revenue as a result of changes to existing user fees and introduction of new user fees.

2010 Recommended Fee Increases

1. Inflationary Adjustment

The 2010 Budget Guidelines prescribed that City user fees be increased annually to keep abreast with annual inflation. Therefore, Parks, Forestry and Recreation's 2010 Recommended Operating Budget includes an inflationary adjustment to all registered program and permit fees for 2010. The PF&R user fee inflationary adjustment has been consistent for the past three years and will generate additional revenue of \$0.865 million in 2010 and incremental revenue of \$0.420 million in 2011.

2. Market Rate Adjustments to Camps, Aquatics and Stadium Fees

The City's current fees are significantly lower than fees in bordering municipalities as shown in the tables below. In order to increase the recovery of recreation program costs, the 2010 Recommended Operating Budget for Parks, Forestry and Recreation includes a market rate adjustment to camp and aquatic program fees as well as the harmonization of stadium fees that will realize additional revenue of \$0.443 million in 2010 and \$0.621 million in 2011 and will not impact the level of camp and aquatic programs run by the Program area. The fee increases will be implemented on May 1, 2010 and will be applied to instructional aquatic programs fees and general and enriched camp fees. There are over 100,000 unique children and youth clients that participate in the affected Camps and Aquatics programs.

2.1 Camp Programs

For Camp programs, an average children and youth one-week camp fee will increase from \$81 to \$89 and will remain well below the 2009 GTA average of \$150. The recommended combined inflationary and market rate adjustments to camp fees combined will translate into an additional \$2 per day or \$10 per week for children and youth camps.

2009 Rates

Camp Programs Average fee per week	TORONTO	GTA Average	MARKHAM	MISSISSAUGA	OSHAWA	VAUGHAN
Children & Youth (average)	\$81	\$150	\$145	\$138	\$168	\$150
Preschool (average)	\$44	\$62	\$78	\$90	\$28	\$52

2.2 Aquatic Programs

For Aquatic programs, an average nine week instructional swim course fee will increase from \$49 to \$54 which is still below the 2009 GTA average of \$74.

The table below shows average fees per hour of aquatic programming across the GTA. The duration of instruction per session and number of sessions vary across the GTA, therefore rates for similar programs are shown on an hourly basis for comparison purposes.

← 2009 Rates →							
Aquatic Programs Average fee/hour	TORONTO	GTA Average	MARKHAM	MISSISSAUGA	OSHAWA	VAUGHAN	RICHMOND HILL
Levels 1-4	\$12	\$15	\$15	\$13	\$15	\$16	\$16
Levels 5-10	\$7	\$10	\$10	\$9	\$10	\$11	\$10

2.3. Stadium Fees

Parks, Forestry and Recreation's stadium fees have not been harmonized since amalgamation. Stadium permit fees vary at all stadium locations which results in users paying different permit rates for facilities with similar amenities. Therefore, as of May 1, 2010, the Program will harmonize fees at its four stadiums, with some stadiums experiencing an increase in fees while two stadiums will experience a slight decrease in fees. Resident fees for most age groups will decrease for the stadiums except Esther Shiner, for which the increase will be phased over two years in order to smooth out the impact of fee harmonization. The table below shows a sample of the rate changes for Resident and Non-Resident Adults.

Stadium	Category	Current Fee per hour	Recommended Fee per hour	
			2010	2011
Allan Lamport Stadium	Adult Resident	\$155.94	\$140.00	
	Adult Non Resident	\$155.94	\$170.00	
Birchmount Stadium*	Adult Resident	\$151.26*	\$140.00	
	Adult Non Resident	\$151.26*	\$170.00	
Centennial Park Stadium	Adult Resident	\$115.36*	\$140.00	
	Adult Non Resident	\$141.53	\$170.00	
Esther Shiner Stadium	Adult Resident	\$89.72	\$114.86	\$140.00
	Adult Non Resident	\$89.72	\$129.86	\$170.00

*Birchmount Stadium has a 1 hour, 2 hour and 3 hour rates. The amounts reflected in the table are an average rate.

2010 Recommended New Fees

3. New User Fees for Recreation Programs

The 2010 Recommended Operating Budget for Parks, Forestry and Recreation introduces the following new user fees which will realize new revenue of \$0.460 million in 2010 and incremental revenue of \$0.676 million in 2011:

3.1. Prime Time Gymnasium Permit Fee

Currently, Parks, Forestry and Recreation distinguishes between indoor ice prime time permit fees and non prime time permit fees. The Program will apply the same structure to gymnasium rates, whereby gymnasiums will have a prime and non prime permit rate. Prime time hours will be from 6 pm to 10 pm from Monday to Sunday. This change will enable the Program to recover a slightly greater proportion of the cost of these facilities. The new prime time permit fee (excluding ice and pool permits) will increase from \$46.50 to \$58.13 however it will remain below the GTA average of \$78. The prime time surcharge fee adjusted for inflation will result in incremental revenue of \$0.022 million in 2010 and \$0.067 million in 2011.

			TORONTO	MARKHAM	MISSISSAUGA
Gym	Rental - Residential Adult	1 Hour Rental	46.50	85.05	70.54
	Prime Time Surcharge	1 Hour Rental	11.63	-	-
	Total Prime Time Gym Rental	1 Hour Rental	58.13	85.05	70.54

3.2. Premier Facility Program Surcharge

Parks, Forestry and Recreation will identify four locations per district as premier facilities. These facilities have a gym, indoor or outdoor pool and/or rink. At the selected facilities, an additional surcharge of \$2 per registration will be applied to all registered programs resulting in the receipt of \$0.056 million in incremental revenue in 2010 and \$0.168 million in 2011. The surcharge for these premium, multi-purpose facilities will aid the Program in recovering more of the associated program costs. The premier facility program surcharge will not apply to Priority Centres or facilities in Priority Neighborhoods. There are no premier facility surcharges in GTA municipalities; however the City's recommended fees are still lower than the fees in other municipalities.

The premier facilities that will have a surcharge are as follows:

East District	North District	South District	West District
Agincourt RC	Cummer Park CC	Mary M Cormick RC	Etobicoke Olympium
Birchmount RC	North Toronto Memorial CRC	East York CC	Joseph J. Piccininni CRC
Centennial RC	Mitchell Field CC	Beaches RC	Norseman CS
Heron Park RC	Goulding CC	Matty Eckler CRC	The Elms CS

3.3. Indoor Leisure Swim Fee

Parks, Forestry and Recreation currently charges for Adult Lane Swim and is the only municipality in the GTA that does not charge for indoor leisure swimming. The 2010 Recommended Operating Budget for PF&R proposes to extend the charge for Adult Lane Swim to indoor leisure swim. The fee of \$1 for children, youth and seniors, \$2 for adults and \$5 for a family will apply to all participants in general drop in leisure swim and will result in new revenue of \$0.352 million in 2010 and \$0.352 million in 2011, contributing to the recovery of a greater portion aquatic facility costs. This fee will not apply to indoor leisure swimming in the Priority Centres. Toronto's indoor leisure swim fee for all categories will remain below the respective fees in other GTA municipalities.

GTA Market Rates for Recreation Drop in - Leisure Swim						
Cities	Groupings	Per Swim	10 tickets	3 Month	6 Month	1 Year
Markham	Child & Youth	\$2.00	\$17.00	\$51.00	\$102.00	\$187.00
	Adult	\$3.50	\$30.00	\$89.50	\$178.50	\$327.00
	Senior	\$2.10	\$18.00	\$54.00	\$107.00	\$196.00
	Family	\$8.50	\$72.50	\$217.00	\$433.50	\$795.00
Vaughan	Child & Youth	\$2.00	\$19.50	N/A	N/A	\$124.25
	Adult	\$4.25	\$37.80	N/A	N/A	\$243.60
	Senior	\$3.00	\$27.83	N/A	N/A	\$177.98
	Family	\$8.50	\$75.34	N/A	N/A	\$486.68
Mississauga	Child & Youth	\$2.60	\$23.40	\$62.00	N/A	\$131.50
	Adult	\$2.60	\$23.40	\$62.00	N/A	\$131.50
	Senior	\$2.60	\$23.40	\$62.00	N/A	\$131.50
	Family	\$6.50	N/A	\$161.20	N/A	\$341.80

GTA Market Rates for Recreation Drop in - Leisure Swim						
Cities	Groupings	Per Swim	10 tickets	3 Month	6 Month	1 Year
Richmond Hill	Child & Youth	\$2.50	\$22.50	\$54.00	\$108.00	N/A
	Adult	\$3.50	\$31.50	\$75.00	\$150.00	\$270.00
	Senior	\$2.50	\$22.50	\$54.00	\$108.00	\$195.00
	Family	\$8.50	\$76.50	\$183.00	\$366.00	N/A
Pickering	Child & Youth	\$2.23	\$18.87	\$48.19	N/A	\$113.39
	Adult	\$3.22	\$28.31	\$69.53	N/A	\$157.31
	Senior	\$2.23	\$18.87	\$48.19	N/A	\$113.39
	Family	\$6.44	\$55.66	\$111.61	N/A	\$297.63
Toronto	Child & Youth	\$1.00	\$8.00	\$20.00	\$32.00	\$60.00
	Adult	\$2.00	\$16.00	\$40.00	\$64.00	\$120.00
	Senior	\$1.00	\$8.00	\$20.00	\$32.00	\$60.00
	Family	\$5.00	\$40.00	\$100.00	\$160.00	\$300.00

3.4. Subscriber User Fees (Entry Level Program Fee)

Parks, Forestry and Recreation will introduce a new \$15 Subscriber User Fee which is half of the current Introductory Instructional Fee of \$30. The Subscriber fee category is reserved for basic entry level programs for which registration is required and activities are scheduled over a specific period of time (generally 9 to 12 weeks). These programs provide no instruction but are supervised by a staff member who facilitates group membership and organizes activities, games and tournaments. Program examples include After School Homework clubs, sports leagues, registered youth clubs, chess clubs and supervised play programs. Welcome Policy clients will be able to apply the subscriber programs towards their subsidy entitlement. The introduction of a subscriber fee will result in incremental revenue of \$0.030 million in 2010 and \$0.090 million in 2011 and will aid the Program in recovering more of the associated program costs. This fee has no equivalent GTA comparators.

4. One Time Account Set Up Fee

The 2010 Recommended Operating Budget for Parks, Forestry and Recreation includes the introduction of a one-time account set up fee in the amount of \$50 per account, effective May 1, 2010. The Program will realize additional revenue of \$1.575 million in 2010. The new account set up fee will only apply to families that open an account for Parks, Forestry and Recreation's programs or permits for the first time after May 1, 2010 but will be waived for Welcome Policy applicants. The introduction of this new fee will cover the administrative costs of new account set-up.

5. Touch Tone Registration and Internet Administrative Fee

The 2010 Recommended Operating Budget for Parks, Forestry and Recreation includes a new Touch Tone Registration (TTR) and Internet administrative fee of \$1 per transaction to recover a portion of the costs associated with the continuing operating requirements for TTR and Internet registration. This new fee will generate additional revenue of \$0.165 million in 2010 while still providing an option to customers to pay in person. This new fee is expected to be implemented in time for Fall registrations.

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