

2009
Recreation

RECREATION SERVICES UPDATE WINTER/SPRING 2009



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Recreation Services

- Today's purpose is to provide to Council a snapshot of current Recreation activities and events for the first quarter of 2009.



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Aquatics

- Susan Iemma and Dave Storey received the Rescue Award of Merit at the Lifesaving Society's AGM for their rescue of the heart attack victim at Centennial Community Centre
- Sheri Krauss received the Lifesaving society's Centenary Medal commemorating the 100th anniversary and recognized by her peers for her leadership in building the Lifesaving society
- Participation in Drop in programs - Recreation swim, lane swim and Aquafit increased by 6% from 2008 2008 - 41,379 participants
2009 - 43,807 participants
- Markham Aquatics Club hosted their annual swim meet for over 460 swimmers in January
- 'Swim to Survive' program in partnership with York Region provided swim lessons for 922 grade 3 students have participated to date



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Community Engagement

- Hosted Winter Active January 9 to 16th which offered 76 FREE recreation programs and with 1596 participatingd
- Canadian Tire Jump Start program started in 2005 and Markham has been a lead in the program – to date the chapter has funded 400 children to participate in organized sport or a recreation program
- February 28th partnered with Ontario York Region Heritage Lions club with their Effective Speaking Contest – over 22 participants took part in the contest
- February - Piloted a volunteer workshop at Milliken Mills High School with 24 ESL students –(youth who are newcomers to the community) and placed into a suitable volunteer opportunity
- Healthy Schools partnership expanded in the Milliken - 2 schools (Cedarwood and Armadale) and Thornhill-St.Micheal's Catholic School – 17 school town wide participating.
- Healthy Schools partnership continues offer PLAY (Peer Leaders For Active Youth) and after school programs.



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Programs

- Drop in Programs have expanded with the opening of Centennial Gym in late January with 1642 participants ranging from children to older adults.
- 21 schools participated in the Learn to Skate program – January to March
- Hosted a March break Basketball tournament at Angus Glen with 40 participants
- Each area community centre teams are coordinating cross programming schedules for the users which packages the various programs/activities offered for the various age groups at the same time



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Fitness

- First Quarter Fitness Memberships have increased by 8%
 - 2008 – 968 members
 - 2009– 1043 members
 - We are retaining our members as renewal memberships are up by 14 %
 - 2008 – 359
 - 2009 – 414
- Group Fitness hosted the Annual Fit For Heart
 - 125 participants
 - 22 Volunteers
 - Raised \$11,708
 - Carol Manning has led the event and over the past 15 years has raised closed to \$100,000 for Heart and Stroke
- In partnership with Thornhill Seniors Club introduced an Indoor walking program



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Community Centres



- To date we have had 1,195,404 Customers through the doors of five major Community Centres in 2009 which is up 1% from 2008 – 1,184,942 customers
- Arena Lighting Retro fit at Thornhill Community Centre in partnership with MECO – new lighting system is twice as efficient and will reduce energy by 50% or a savings of 192,720 kilowatts of electricity or \$19,720 annually in electricity cost savings.
- New Vending Contract will be offering over 25% healthy food choices
- Glen Taylor is the recipient of the Don Harrison Energy Champion Award presented by Ontario Recreation Facilities Association for improved energy management, Glen was selected coordinating the Community Centre Challenge with the MECO department.

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Older Adults



Special Events were held at the all the clubs with special lunches for Robbie Burns day, Valentine's day, St. Patrick's day, York Jazz concert, Health and Wellness fair, Fashion Show and Interclub Dance and Bridge tournaments all with the support of Retirement Homes sponsoring the entertainment, education program, guest speakers, transportation and refreshments

Volunteer Appreciation events were held at OAIA, Thornhill and Milliken all were well attended

Thornhill

averaging 125 to 150 members attending activities per day

- Partnerships with the Library to offer programs and services monthly
- Chats running day program

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Older Adults Cont'd



Older Adults in Action

- averaging 120 to 150 members attending activities per day
- Library coming to Water Street and bring a lending library and guest speakers
- Markham Stouffville Hospital providing a Diabetic Clinic and Canadian Hearing Society hosting a lunch and learn
- Introduced a new drop in Badminton program at the new gym at Centennial Community Centre averaging 35 participants

Milliken on the Move

averaging 100 to 125 Members attending per day

New programs are being introduced – Chinese Calligraphy, Harmonica, Computer

Angus Glen

averaging 75 participants per day

Badminton and Bridge programs continues to be very successful

Working with Chats on introducing a day program

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Special Needs

Introduced the Wheelchair Skate at Milliken Mills Arena



Increased the offering of programs Dance for Fun, Cooking for Developmentally Delayed Youth, Youth Fitness program and a Activities Club for Developmentally and Physically Challenged youth .

Introducing a new for children with Autism at Camp Chimo in partnership with Kerry's Place Autism Services

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Upcoming Events

Youth Week – May 3 to 13

- Battle of the Bands – April 24
- Youth Dance
- Creative Arts Conference
- Dodge ball, Basketball and a Road Hockey Tournament
- Girl Power Conference
- Break Dance Competition
- Beat Boxing
- DJ Clinic
- Youth Golf Open
- Youth Carnival – May 23

June

- Markham Idol
- Fashion4Cause Charity

Spring Thing 2009 – May

Aquatic Workshop for York Region
–

Seniors Events

Interclub Dance – April 30

Art show and Mother's day tea

June 8 – 10 Art Show at the Civic centre

June 8 - 10 – Senior's Active fest
NEW for 2009

June – Recreation and Parks Month

Featuring Try it Month with over 121 free programs for Parent and Tots to Older Adults

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THANK YOU



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