



2024 January 8 Open Session FINAL\_197

# ROTHESAY MEMORANDUM



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TO : Mayor and Council  
FROM : Town Clerk Mary Jane Banks  
DATE : 3 January 2024  
RE : Recreation Master Plan presentation

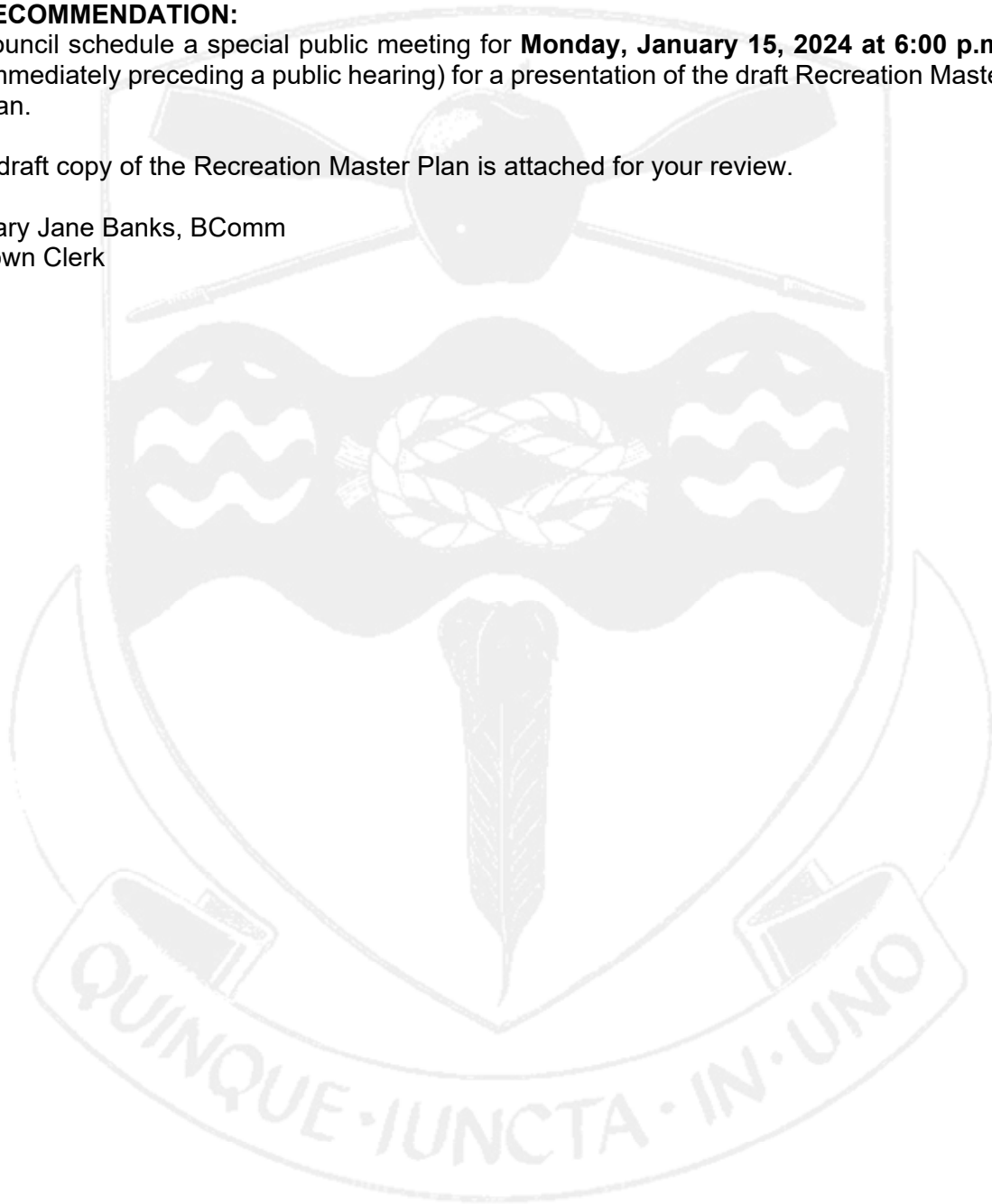
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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Council schedule a special public meeting for **Monday, January 15, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** (immediately preceding a public hearing) for a presentation of the draft Recreation Master Plan.

A draft copy of the Recreation Master Plan is attached for your review.

Mary Jane Banks, BComm  
Town Clerk



# ROTHESAY RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Draft No. 4 | DEC 2023



ROTHESAY



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Rothestay residents desire recreational activities that support a great active and social lifestyle for all residents, for life. Rothestay can deliver targeted recreation investment within the context of this Master Plan that:

- » supports life-long healthy and active habits;
- » creates opportunities for social/cultural gatherings;
- » creates a strong sense of community;
- » brings diverse populations together; and
- » promotes inclusivity and equity.

Creating an effective and relevant recreation network creates ancillary benefits, such as:

- » retaining and attracting residents who feel an attachment to the Town;
- » supporting residential/retail intensification by providing recreational amenities concentrated in the urban core;
- » increasing the value of existing or developing properties constructed close to recreational addresses; and
- » increasing activity-based tourism centered around improved regional facilities.

This Master Plan provides a recreational framework and road map that responds to these points. The following describes the guiding principles for recreation improvements within Rothestay and the region.

## ROTHESAY

Rothestay is a residential community nestled between Saint John and Quispamsis that provides a quality lifestyle within a 15-20-minute drive to uptown Saint John. Rothestay is home to approximately 12,500 residents, and will grow to approximately 13,500 by 2033. The Town is experiencing senior resident growth, which offsets a decline in youth and adult residents. Rothestay's overall population will rise by approximately 12% over the 10-year life of this Master Plan, and all population segments will drop or remain flat with the exception of the age 65-plus segment. This age segment will rise by approximately 61% over the next ten years.

## RECREATION DEVELOPMENT THEMES

Rothestay's recreation development themes are assembled from the big ideas identified during consultation, and express a vision for the future of recreation in Rothestay over the next ten years. These are:

## ACTIVE LIVING

- » Evolve-new recreational infrastructure to provide residents with multi-generational spaces where all ages can partake in social and physical activity.

## CONNECTING PEOPLE AND NATURE

- » Celebrate natural assets such as the river valley and valuable woodlands.

## SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS

- » Encourage youth and young families to live in Rothesay by improvements in infrastructure, available activities, and sense of community.

## INCLUSION AND ACCESS

- » Connect regional residents and organizations through online information platforms that promote activities and social gatherings.

## REGIONAL RECREATION CAPACITY

- » Work with the Fundy Regional Service Commission to ensure new Rothesay-based regional facilities align with long-term regional plans that ensure equitable and feasible facility delivery.

## RECREATION DELIVERY MODEL

Establishing exact facility demand within regionally evolving demographics is difficult; however, we can establish Rothesay's present-day position within the Town and region, and forecast future needs based on user desire and statistical evaluation. Thus, in this context, we can predict an appropriate palette of recreation facilities and parks within the Town over the next ten years. The following pages provide a list of projects, anticipated budget estimates where relevant, and implementation priority.

Section	Page	Priority	Project/Action	Estimated Cost
Arthur Miller Fields	46	Medium	Seek funding partnerships to supply and install a replacement artificial turf surface.	\$2.1M
Arthur Miller Fields	46	Medium	Evaluate the need for regional turf space and lighting requirements with neighbouring municipalities.	
Bi-Centennial Park	47	Medium	Create an active transportation link into Wells Recreation Park and relocate entrance to Dolan Road.	TBD
Dobbin Street Playground	49	Medium	Upgrade trail surface, plant trees and install seating and/or picnic tables.	\$10K
East-Riverside-Kingshurst Park	51	Medium	Develop a multi-generational natural playground adjacent to the shoreline.	\$350K
Eriskay Drive Playground	52	Low	Remove and replace play equipment and pedestrian surfaces with an accessible playground complete with integrated seating and social spaces.	\$300K
Harry Miller Middle School	56		Include in the Rothesay Campus Project master plan.	-
Islay Drive Playground	58	Medium	Plant shade trees and install social-based seating near existing court and play structures.	\$20K
Jordan Miller Park	59	High	Create a master plan that explores the natural aspect of the site, accessibility, and play amenities.	\$25K

Section	Page	Priority	Project/Action	Estimated Cost
Kennebecasis Park Beach	60	Low	Upgrade boat launch.	\$25K
Kennebecasis Park Elementary School	61	High	Increase multi-generational use with tetherball and 10' basketball net.	\$15K
Kennebecasis Park Outdoor Rink	62	Medium	Monitor weather conditions and work with local residents on fundraising and a shared operational agreement to explore investing in new boards, rubber mats, and netting.	\$35K
Kennebecasis Park Lagoons trail	63	High	Develop a master plan to develop a single significant regional park that extends from K-Park Lagoons to Villa Madonna Trail, Renforth Wharf Beach and East Riverside-Kingshurst Park.	\$65K
Monaco Drive Playground	64	Low	Replace play structures, create an accessible pedestrian environment, and install shade structure and seating.	\$175K
Renforth Wharf Beach	65	High	Include in the development of a master plan as described under the K-Park Lagoons Trail project; explore acquisition of this site within the master planning process.	TBD
Renforth Rotary park	66	High	Include in the development of a master plan as described under the K-Park Lagoons Trail project.	-
Rothestay Arena	68	High	Replace existing arena and explore converting the existing building to a field house as part of the Rothestay Campus Project	TBD

<b>Section</b>	<b>Page</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Project/Action</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Rothesay Common	69	High	Commission the design of a splash pad that functions as a play space and public art; explore adding multi-generational social/fitness equipment.	\$450K
Rothesay High School	72	High	Include in the Rothesay Campus Project master plan.	-
Rothesay Hive	73	High	Include in the Rothesay Campus Project master plan	-
Scribner Park	78	High	Issue a Request for Information and Request for Proposals to develop the site for a mixed-use Co-operative or affordable housing development with community gatherings and park space (multi-use court, splash pad, playground, etc.)	\$35K
Villa Madonna Trail	83	High	Include in the development of a master plan as described under the K-Park Lagoons Trail project.	-
Wells Recreation Park	84	High	Work with regional partners to determine if lighting the small ball field is required to support regional use, special events and tournaments;	\$325K
Wells Recreation Park	85	High	Upgrade courts with resurfacing for multi-use; Move building for use as an operational structure; upgrade playground to be a fully accessible activity space.	TBD

Section	Page	Priority	Project/Action	Estimated Cost
Wells Recreation Park	85	High	Explore off-leash dog walking times on the park's trail; post times on signs and Town's social media.	TBD
Active Transportation	86	High	Extend the QR Trail from Quispamsis to Rothesay's core for Town and regional connectivity; acquire land where required.	TBD
Active Transportation	87	High	Implement multi-modal connectivity with the Town's solution to the Highway 111 and Highway 1 intersection barrier.	TBD
Active Transportation	87	High	Develop an asphalt multi-use shoreline trail between East Riverside-Kingshurst Park and the south Town boundary; acquire land where required.	TBD
Regional and Sub-Regional Facility Delivery Models	89	Very High	Assemble a working committee with surrounding communities to explore all facility types, user requirements, and associated costs and develop a shared platform and scheduling programming, and to develop a reciprocal agreement with local school districts.	TBD
The Rothesay Campus	90	High	Develop a master plan for the area planned to host the future Regional Intergeneration Complex that considers required recreational amenities, play spaces, operational components, traffic management, active transportation connections, site and land use planning, and how adjacent areas will evolve.	\$130K



<b>Section</b>	<b>Page</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Project/Action</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
Spyglass Hill Community Park	91	Medium	Commission a master plan after land is acquired through the LFPP process.	TBD
Community Program Gaps	92		Provide a new home with additional space for the Rothesay HIVE at the future Regional Intergenerational Complex; grow HIVE programming and sustain this growth as mature populations grow.	
Community Program Gaps	92		Energize regional parks with activities that provide a broader inventory of recreation opportunities, increase park visits, provide social and physical opportunities, and enhance sense of community.	
Community Program Gaps	93		Provide informal space and programming for youth at the future Regional Intergenerational Complex in close proximity to adult and senior programming; provide programmed intergenerational activities for all ages and abilities.	
Community Program Gaps	93		Work with regional municipal partners to deliver a digital and central information hub to provide recreation information to all residents through an online platform and mobile application, with the ability to expand to a booking system for regional facilities.	

# CONTENTS

<b>1.0 A RECREATION MASTER PLAN FOR ROTHESAY.....01</b>	<b>4.0 MODIFIED DELIVERY MODEL .....36</b>
1.1 GUIDING PRINCIPLES..... 02	4.1 DELIVERY MODEL..... 37
1.2 PLAN CREATION PROCESS ..... 04	4.2 RECREATION FACILITIES & PARKS..... 43
1.3 ROTHESAY ..... 06	4.3 SPECIAL PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS..... 86
1.4 WHY RECREATION MATTERS ..... 07	<b>5.0 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN .....94</b>
<b>2.0 CONSULTATION AND CONCEPTS .....08</b>	5.1 PHASED STRATEGY ..... 95
2.1 212 BIG IDEAS FOR RECREATION IN ROTHESAY.. 09	5.2 MASTER PLAN POLICY ..... 101
2.2 RECREATION DEVELOPMENT THEMES..... 20	5.3 KEEPING TRACK..... 103
<b>3.0 EXISTING SERVICE MODEL .....22</b>	<b>APPENDIX A .....104</b>
3.1 REGIONAL INDOOR FACILITIES..... 24	WHY RECREATION MATTERS ..... 105
3.2 REGIONAL OUTDOOR FACILITIES ..... 26	RECREATION TRENDS ..... 109
3.3 COMMUNITY INDOOR FACILITIES..... 30	<b>APPENDIX B .....120</b>
3.4 COMMUNITY OUTDOOR FACILITIES ..... 31	ROTHESAY RECREATION INVENTORY SUMMARY ..... 121
3.5 COMMUNITY RECREATION DELIVERY..... 35	

# 1.0 A RECREATION MASTER PLAN FOR ROTHESAY



The Rothesay Recreation Master Plan provides Council, staff and residents with a 10-year road map to align the existing recreational facilities and parks with the Town's evolving demographics and urban environments.

Rothesay residents desire recreational activities that support a great active and social lifestyle for all residents, for life. Rothesay can deliver targeted recreation investment within the context of this Master Plan that:

- » supports life-long healthy and active habits;
- » creates opportunities for social/cultural gatherings;
- » creates a strong sense of community;
- » brings diverse populations together; and
- » promotes inclusivity and equity.

Creating an effective and relevant recreation network creates ancillary benefits, such as:

- » retaining and attracting residents who feel an attachment to the Town;
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- » increasing activity-based tourism centred around improved regional facilities.

This Master Plan provides a recreational framework and road map that responds to these points. The following describes the guiding principles for recreation improvements within Rothesay and the region.



## 1.1 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

This Rothesay Recreation Master Plan celebrates several resident-proposed principles, detailed in the sections below.

### A STRONG HEART

The heart of Rothesay is a vibrant and dynamic zone that includes schools, sports fields, a Town Hall, an intensifying residential environment, a healthy retail environment, the Rothesay Common, an aging arena, and a bustling main street (Hampton Road). These have the potential to come together to become one of New Brunswick's most celebrated municipal centres through careful strategic planning and design. Recreation and active transportation have a significant leadership role in the evolution of this zone.

### SUB-REGIONAL COMMUNITIES

The Greater Saint John Region is a large and diverse grouping of communities that deliver local and regional recreational facilities and programming by municipal and community organizations. Rothesay and the Towns of Hampton and Quispamsis form a Kennebecasis Valley (KV) sub-region of the greater Saint John Region. Together, these Towns deliver facilities for sub-regional activity organizations irrespective of municipal boundaries.

The KV sub-region is home to several groups that provide sports and activities that apply the 'KV' prefix to group acronym naming because membership includes residents from across the valley; however, supporting municipal and provincial facilities such as schools are delivered outside of a KV administrative context. Thus, exploring deeper partnerships that ensure equitable access to facilities is required to ensure all groups have venues to deliver their programming.

### RIVER COMMUNITY

Rothesay is a quintessentially beautiful river valley community, complete with stately shoreline residences, boating facilities and varied 'points of view' that provide long views of the valley and river.

The Town should celebrate this relationship wherever possible to expand residents' relationship with the valley and increase river access.

## RECREATION FOR EVERYONE

The Rothesay Recreation Master Plan must provide strategies and projects that ensure healthy and social activity is available on a daily basis, within close proximity to home. Parks provide social and active venues within close proximity to home. A complete and broadly connected active transportation network provides linkages to adjacent neighbourhoods as well as shopping, academic, cultural and recreation facilities throughout the Town and river valley. This network provides residents with social, recreational, and transportation options that support healthy living. Evolving the Town toward this network creates a townscape where everyone can enjoy recreation.

## DELIVERING FACILITIES WITHIN FINANCIAL CAPACITIES

The Town will plan and invest in recreation projects over the next ten years to enhance activities for its residents and support the creation of projects with ancillary economic benefits that strengthen the Town's tax base. It is important that recreation projects are planned in a manner that encourages this ancillary benefit to support increased and ongoing operational and capital investment.

## 1.2 PLAN CREATION PROCESS

The master planning process is organized into five phases. Figure 1 illustrates the plan creation process, while the following sections describe each phase.

### PLATFORM DEVELOPMENT

This phase includes understanding the demographic and physical Town based on information provided by Town and regional staff, past studies, and an inventory of recreation assets, mapping, and site visits.

Additionally, the following documents were reviewed during the master plan development process:

- » *Rothesay Recreation Master Plan (2009)*
- » *Rothesay Municipal Plan (2010)*
- » *Rothesay Active Transportation Plan (2012)*
- » *Population Demographics Statistics (2011, 2017, 2021)*
- » *Rothesay Transportation Plan Update (2017)*
- » *The Quispamsis Recreation Master Plan (2022)*
- » *The Fundy Regional Service Commission Regional Strategy 2023-2028 (2023)*

### CONSULTATION COMMUNITIES

Stakeholder and online surveys and discussions provide recreation programs and facility users feedback.

### COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

Residents attended a public workshop to expand and refine the ideas collected during the previous phase, and to develop a series of projects that can be implemented during the life of the Master Plan.

### NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

Criteria for a classified network of recreation assets and key recreation master planning themes support the proposed network. These themes inform the network of parks, facilities and a connective active transportation network.

### MASTER PLAN CREATION

The Master Plan synthesizes the elements of the previous phases into a document that prioritizes recommendations for implementation.

FIGURE 1 | PLAN DEVELOPMENT PROCESS





### 1.3 ROTHESAY

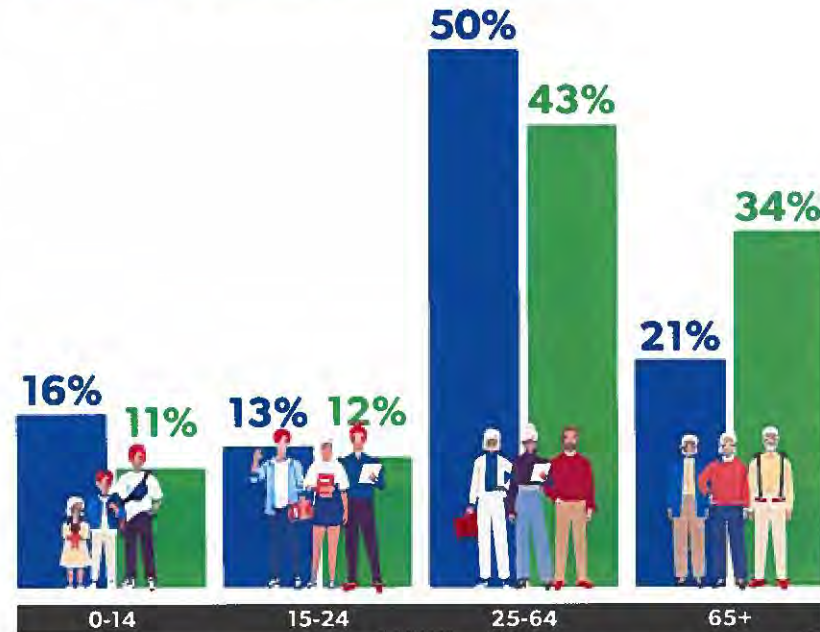
Rothesay is a residential community nestled between Saint John and Quispamsis that provides a quality lifestyle within a 15-20-minute drive to uptown Saint John.

Saint John is the regional economic and business heart of the Southern New Brunswick region and is home to approximately 130,000 residents within the five primary municipal units (Grand Bay-Westfield, Saint John, Rothesay, Quispamsis and Hampton). This population is expected to rise to approximately 135,000 by 2033.

Rothesay is home to approximately 12,500 residents, and will grow to approximately 13,500 by 2033 (see Figure 2). Like many Canadian communities, the Town is experiencing senior resident growth, which offsets a decline in youth and adult residents (as the boomer generation matures into retirement). Rothesay’s overall population will rise by approximately 12% over the 10-year life of this Master Plan, and all population segments will drop or remain flat with the exception of the age 65-plus segment. This age segment will rise by approximately 61% over the next ten years.

The Rothesay Recreation Master Plan must ensure mature resident lifestyles and activities are components of all facilities and parks.

FIGURE 2 | POPULATION FORECAST BY AGE



**POPULATION FORECAST BY AGE**  
 (12,500) **2021** vs **2033** (13,500)

## 1.4 WHY RECREATION MATTERS

Appendix A of this Master Plan provides detailed commentary on the health, economic and community benefits of providing meaningful recreation. Appendix A also includes commentary related to the outdoor recreation, sport, immigration and pandemic trends that influence recreational activity in Canadian cities today. The following provides a brief summary of key lessons emerging from these commentaries.

### BENEFITS AND TRENDS LESSONS

The following key lessons from the background study are important to consider in Rothesay:

- » Recreation must evolve alongside social, demographic, and environmental changes to serve residents and the community in an equitable and meaningful way.
- » Recreation benefits mental health by increasing social networks, physical activity levels, social skills, quality of life, and self-esteem.
- » Recreation benefits physical health by fostering an active lifestyle, reducing illness, and providing increased community well-being.
- » Recreation facilities and programming can encourage people to incorporate active transportation into their daily lives by establishing routine destinations within the community.
- » Investing in walking and biking trails encourages physical and social activity, increases property values, promotes equity and inclusion, and contributes to community identity.
- » Robust recreation offerings can boost tourism, bringing immediate and long-term economic benefits.
- » Sports are essential to the recreation landscape, but declining participation rates are a concern.
- » Girls and visible minorities participate in sports at lower rates than their peers, indicating a need to foster equity and inclusion in sports programming and recreation facilities.

## 2.0 CONSULTATION AND CONCEPTS

Recreation Master Plan creation requires input from staff and Council, as well as key stakeholders, students and residents through meetings, workshops and online formats. During the consultation process, meetings and workshops were held with recreation, operational and planning staff, the Town's Parks and Recreation Committee, and students from Harry Miller Middle School. Individual stakeholder interviews were conducted, and a public open house was held at the Bill McGuire Centre, where approximately 40 residents dropped by to share their feedback. Three hundred forty-two people responded to the Recreation Master Plan community survey, and ten organizations responded to the recreation providers' online survey. Participants demonstrated enthusiasm for both recreation and a sense of community. This enthusiasm is expressed through the following 'Big Ideas' and recreation development themes.





*Harry Miller Middle School workshop participants*



*Recreation Master Plan Community Open House*

## 2.1 212 BIG IDEAS FOR RECREATION IN ROTHESAY

The following pages summarize the 'Big Ideas' brought forward by those who participated in the community engagement process. These ideas are synthesized into recreation development themes and form the foundation of this Master Plan.

## BIG IDEAS FOR RECREATION FACILITIES

1. Build a central intergenerational recreation hub with arena and multi-purpose spaces.
2. Consider a new facility with ice, a pool, a walking track, courts, food, etc.
3. Upgrade the arena, including bleachers, change rooms, and maintenance.
4. Convert the existing arena into a field house.
5. Explore a multi-purpose field house for basketball, volleyball, indoor turf to replace less accessible school facilities.
6. Develop splash pads at Wells, Eriskay, and the Common.
7. Install permanent washroom/change rooms at Renforth Beach.
8. Consider a multi-purpose facility near Renforth Wharf.
9. Enhance the ball field at Wells with lighting, scoreboard, food, and press box.
10. Consider indoor tennis and pickleball at Wells.
11. Resurface courts at Wells and the Common.
12. Explore adding a playground, volleyball, soccer, or basketball at East Riverside-Kingshurst Park.
13. Install lighting and additional washrooms at Arthur Miller Fields.
14. Consider lighting on Wells trails.
15. Increase playgrounds in Wells area neighbourhoods.
16. Evaluate options for upgrading the Wells field to turf.
17. Evaluate lighting options for pickleball courts.
18. Explore adding a centrally-located theatre.


## BIG IDEAS FOR ACTIVE LIVING

19. Implement more off-road bike trails.
20. Develop additional walking and hiking trails.
21. Install more pickleball courts, both indoor and outdoor.
22. Add fitness equipment along the trails.
23. Consider a bike lane or gravel trail along the waterfront.
24. Improve boat launch and beach at K-Park.
25. Increase the number of basketball courts at the Common.
26. Explore mountain bike trails and a pump track at Wells.
27. Provide opportunities for off-leash dog hiking.
28. Install tetherball at the K-Park playground.
29. Increase the number of beginner-level programs such as pickleball.
30. Establish an outdoor gym at the Common.
31. Develop more bike trails, including mountain biking routes connecting Wells to Shady Grove.
32. Expand the cross-country trail network, including wider trails groomed for skate skiing and classic skiing.
33. Create walkable or bikeable community playgrounds.
34. Implement beginner classes, such as yoga, Pilates, photography, woodworking.
35. Explore a "rails to trails" opportunity like Fredericton.
36. Expand indoor activities in spring, fall, and especially winter, including walking tracks, fitness classes, squash, pickleball, and tennis.
37. Maintain some trails for winter access.
38. Expand programming at the Common.
39. Improve access to the river for paddle sports.
40. Provide fitness classes outside regular work hours.
41. Install more walking trails with signage.
42. Remove ice buildup from sidewalks.
43. Offer options within the community, such as swimming lessons for those who can't travel to Saint John.
44. Install multi-use courts at playgrounds.
45. Create more neighbourhood parks with diverse amenities beyond swings and slides.

46. Provide adventure play features like zip lines, sliding hills, and splash pads.
47. Ensure family-friendly amenities at recreational locations to encourage longer stays.
48. Consider fitness and weight training classes designed for individuals aged 50+.
49. Design safe spaces for children to play, away from traffic.
50. Collaborate with neighbouring communities to improve the trail network.
51. Enhance walking access to businesses on Hampton Road.
52. Coordinate event dates with Quispamsis to provide residents with more options.
53. Install additional benches along walking routes.
54. Improve shoulders on roads without sidewalks.
55. Prioritize and increase public access to the river.
56. Make Rothesay a walkable destination.
57. Install additional ladders at end of Renforth Beach Wharf.
58. Provide gym access for drop-in sports, community intramural leagues, co-ed sports, etc.



# BIG IDEAS FOR ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

- 
59. Add a multi-purpose pathway into K-Park.
  60. Collaborate with neighbouring communities to complete an off-road multi-use trail from Quispamsis to Saint John.
  61. Consider paving some bike trails.
  62. Implement off-road bike trails.
  63. Build more multi-use trails.
  64. Develop a 'Share the Road' education plan, including road safety and signage.
  65. Explore a walking bridge connecting the trail at the end of Dobson Lane to Monaco Drive.
  66. Develop groomed trails connecting to the Quispamsis trail system.
  67. Develop neighbourhood connections with multi-use pathways to avoid busy streets.
  68. Improve bike lanes, particularly on Rothesay Road.
  69. Consider paving Hillside Trail.
  70. Develop a paved multi-use path connecting East Riverside-Kingshurst Park, and Renforth Park.
  71. Connect Wells through an access point closer to Marr Road/Fire Station/Hillside.
  72. Implement regular road sweeping for cyclists.
  73. Consider protected, separated, accessible multi-use paths on main roads.
  74. Install bike lanes and shoulders on Millennium Drive.
  75. Develop, implement, and promote a comprehensive trail system connecting neighbourhoods and Town amenities.
  76. Expand the active transportation network to encourage walking and biking as easy choices for transportation.
  77. Install more sidewalks and signalized crosswalks, including one at Town Hall and Arthur Miller Fields.
  78. Improve and add dedicated bike lanes throughout Rothesay.
  79. Ensure active transportation network links to recreation destinations.
  80. Look to successful active transportation networks, like Montreal, for inspiration to make biking and walking safer and more accessible.
  81. Strive to create safer bike lanes, free of obstacles, and improve education about sharing the road.




- 82. Consider traffic-calming measures on busy roads to make walking and cycling safer and more enjoyable.
- 83. Explore the concept of a multi-use pathway along the exterior loop of K-Park.
- 84. Improve recreation options in neighbourhoods to reduce the need for driving.
- 85. Consider a traffic circle at Rothesay and Hampton roads to improve access to the Common.
- 86. Prioritize interconnectivity of sidewalks and bike paths.

## BIG IDEAS FOR CONNECTING PEOPLE AND NATURE

- 87. Recognize the river as our biggest recreational asset.
- 88. Develop land-based learning opportunities and encourage more connections to nature.
- 89. Consider school-based nature immersion like food forests, community gardens, and outdoor survival.
- 90. Develop a program for orienteering.
- 91. Consider options to fill the void if Spyglass Hill becomes inaccessible.
- 92. Work with local landowners and RNS to preserve access to Spyglass Hill.
- 93. Improve access to nature through more naturalized trails, wild spaces, and increased access to the river.
- 94. Increase public access to the river for non-motorized watercraft.
- 95. Increase sustainable nature-based recreation opportunities.
- 96. Provide water quality monitoring and reporting for beaches.
- 97. Program more outdoor art activities and leisure classes.

# BIG IDEAS FOR INCLUSION AND ACCESS

- 
- 98. Implement a sports equipment lending library.
  - 99. Improve access times for recreational facilities.
  - 100. Provide options for parasport activities.
  - 101. Reduce waiting lists for gymnastics and girls' softball.
  - 102. Ensure facilities and programs are accessible.
  - 103. Ensure recreation is affordable, accessible, and safe for all.
  - 104. Ensure timely event advertising for better planning.
  - 105. Consider accessible bowling.
  - 106. Prioritize ice time for figure skating.
  - 107. Improve communications about programs and events.
  - 108. Improve hours at the KV Library; offer programming on days when school is closed.
  - 109. Create a central location for accessing information about available recreation programs, facilities, schedules, organized leagues, and drop-ins.
  - 110. Increase the number of free or low-cost events.
  - 111. Improve accessibility on trails.
  - 112. Ensure Rothesay addresses gender-equitable access to recreation facilities and programs.
  - 113. Improve access to social and recreational opportunities for those with physical mobility challenges.
  - 114. Reduce the cost of accessing indoor building spaces.
  - 115. Make recreation facilities more multi-generational and inclusive.
  - 116. Repair accessible entrance at the arena.
  - 117. Provide local transportation options for those without a car.
  - 118. Implement a facility access policy that addresses gender-equitable participation and opportunities for new activities.
  - 119. Provide a space for Oasis to use.
  - 120. Provide an informative welcome package for newcomers.
  - 121. Improve scheduling so those working or at school during the day can participate.
  - 122. Increase access to programming suitable for special care home residents.
  - 123. Ensure recreation spaces and programming are inclusive and welcoming for newcomers.
  - 124. Expand HIVE space and programming so more people can participate.
  - 125. Ensure recreation is affordable, accessible and safe for all.
  - 126. Encourage Indigenous teachings from Elders.

## BIG IDEAS FOR RECREATION CAPACITY

- 127. Focus on improving existing facilities.
- 128. Collaborate with neighbouring facilities to increase capacity (i.e. qplex, Irving Field House).
- 129. Create flexible, multi-use spaces.
- 130. Foster a strong network of volunteers.
- 131. Promote community involvement opportunities.
- 132. Consider maintaining/investing in school playgrounds as community assets.
- 133. Harness the shoulder season with lighted fields for fall sports.
- 134. Develop ways to use the Common to its full potential during the winter.
- 135. Work with schools to provide better access to their facilities.
- 136. Ensure all neighbourhoods have recreational opportunities.
- 137. Ensure recreation investments reflect our expanding community.
- 138. Consider a right-sized, thoughtfully programmed, multi-use recreation centre where the whole family can participate in multiple activities at the same time.
- 139. Attract young families by timely development of recreation facilities.
- 140. Harness local groups willing to help make things happen, such as those who have built Shady Grove and Split Rock.
- 141. Harness opportunities to attract sports tourism with regional-level indoor facilities.
- 142. Consider solar power for recreation facilities.



## BIG IDEAS FOR SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS

- 143. Develop space for a local market.
- 144. Implement a Town transportation system for those without cars.
- 145. Consider a craft brewery near trails (Villa Madonna or Steele-Kennedy).
- 146. Consider closing streets for Sunday cycling, similar to Ottawa.
- 147. Create more spaces and events that are fun and family-friendly.
- 148. Install field games, such as tetherball, at Rothesay Common.
- 149. Consider a canteen at the Common.
- 150. Develop programming for stargazing, senior nature walks and exercise classes.
- 151. Program more fun nights at Rothesay Common: chalk, skate, sports, Halloween parade.
- 152. Consider adding more street lights to increase safety for nighttime walking.
- 153. Explore a performance stage at Wells to showcase local performing artists.
- 154. Provide more flexible drop-in active living opportunities for adults to foster a sense of community.
- 155. Provide online trail maps.
- 156. Preserve the Common and Kingshurst as passive green spaces.
- 157. Develop women's cycling day/ events.
- 158. Increase program offerings for young children to meet demand.
- 159. Consider washroom facilities on trails.
- 160. Ensure a future intergenerational centre is close to schools and seniors, making it walkable for as many people as possible, creating a true community centre.
- 161. Consider organizing more cultural events like holiday festivals, Chinese New Year, Lusofonia Portuguese festival, etc.
- 162. Explore creating a wellness center with programming covering all aspects of health.
- 163. Develop aging-in-place housing with nearby recreation opportunities.

## BIG IDEAS FOR EMERGING FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS

164. Consider an inflatable obstacle course for the river for special events.

165. Explore horseback riding assets like a cross-country riding area, and access to beaches and trails.

166. Consider the development of a curling facility.

167. Consider adding a disc golf course.

168. Consider introducing sports like foot volleyball, beach volleyball, and beach tennis.

169. Consider adding a cheerleading program.

170. Consider hosting an indoor roller skate rink night.

171. Make Rothesay a premier destination for power boating with restaurants, bars, and amenities along the river.

172. Consider adding a paintball facility.

173. Develop a fishing club.

174. Develop an indoor or outdoor skatepark with lighting.

175. Create an indoor playground.

176. Install a volleyball court at the Common.

177. Install tetherball at Wells.

178. Develop more tracks for running.

179. Consider developing a campsite area, including an outdoor movie theatre.

180. Include archery, badminton, rock climbing, and a walking track in a new recreation facility.

181. Consider the construction of a large pier on the water with a restaurant.

182. Establish more shops and cafes on the Common.

183. Implement a hop-on-hop-off tour, including outdoor movies, sleigh rides, and horse and buggy rides.

184. Provide programming for fencing, lacrosse, rugby, field hockey, roller skating, martial arts, and ringette.

185. Increase programming for dog owners, including agility training and off-leash parks and trails.

# BIG IDEAS FOR ENHANCING RECREATION AMENITIES

186. Install more garbage cans at Arthur Miller Fields.

187. Improve family-friendly parking near the Common and at Wells.

188. Enhance the soccer field at KPES.

189. Add backboard squares to the basketball nets at the Common.

190. Improve the K-Park rink with rubber mats, washrooms, new boards, netting, and Zamboni.

191. Explore the option of the Town maintaining the K-Park rink.

192. Improve the basketball court and install 10' high basketball nets at KPES.

193. Upgrade the playground at Wells.

194. Consider adding benches, bigger fences, a scoreboard, and lights at Arthur Miller Fields.

195. Install new nets at Wells soccer field.

196. Enhance the maintenance of washrooms at Wells.

197. Replace metal toilets at the Common.

198. Increase space for putting on skates at the Common.

199. Consider adding soccer nets to open spaces at the Common.

200. Enhance the maintenance of sports fields.

201. Improve access to ice fishing with stairs or a ramp from Renforth Wharf.

202. Implement regular clearing of goose waste.

203. Consider the removal of seaweed inside the roped area at Renforth Beach.

204. Improve grading and drainage at Bicentennial Field.

205. Enhance grooming for cross-country trails.

206. Increase lighting at Wells basketball courts.

207. Enforce leash regulations for dogs on trails.

208. Educate residents about responsible dog waste cleanup and increase the number of pet waste dispensers and trash cans.

209. Educate walkers and skiers about sharing groomed winter trails.

210. Ensure playgrounds are accessible for all children, well-lit, safe and maintained.

211. Provide shade at the Common sandbox.

212. Consider rental lockers at local beaches to store paddleboards, beach toys, etc.

## 2.2 RECREATION DEVELOPMENT THEMES

The following recreation development themes are assembled from the big ideas identified during consultation, and express a vision for the future of recreation in Rothesay over the next ten years. The themes align with provincial and federal recreation administration themes for recreation growth within New Brunswick and Canada.



### ACTIVE LIVING

- » Evolve new recreational infrastructure to provide residents with multi-generational spaces where all ages can partake in social and physical activity.
- » Implement an improved active transportation network that links recreation spaces and adjacent communities with multi-use and multi-generational trail and street-based infrastructure.
- » Develop active transportation linkages along the shoreline between East Riverside-Kingshurst Park and the K-Park Lagoons Trail, with future connection into Saint John. Also, institutionalize and formalize the trail linkage between the end of the QR Trail in Quispamsis and the Rothesay Town Hall/Common area.

### CONNECTING PEOPLE AND NATURE

- » Celebrate natural assets such as the river valley and valuable woodlands.
- » Ensure year-round access to recreation spaces through maintenance and lighting strategies.
- » Celebrate the river with recreation-based views and access to the shoreline wherever possible.
- » Explore ways to connect residents to the shoreline in areas where existing assets can be capitalized upon. Specifically, fully explore the potential of expanding shoreline activities and access at the Bill McGuire, Villa Madonna, and K-Park Lagoons sites.



### SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS

- » Encourage youth and young families to live in Rothesay by improvements in infrastructure, available activities, and sense of community.
- » Assemble a Town centre where recreation, social, retail, and the community may come together, within close proximity of medium-high density living.



### INCLUSION AND ACCESS

- » Connect regional residents and organizations through online information platforms that promote activities and social gatherings.
- » Develop inclusive and accessible facilities and parks for Rothesay and KV residents.
- » Energize existing regional-level facilities such as Rothesay Common, Wells Recreation Park, and any future indoor recreation facilities by ensuring they are fully multi-use and multi-generational.



### REGIONAL RECREATION CAPACITY

- » Work with the Fundy Regional Service Commission to ensure new Rothesay-based regional facilities align with long-term regional plans that ensure equitable and feasible facility delivery.
- » Work with adjacent KV and, where appropriate, Saint John municipal partners to develop a collectively delivered inventory of facilities that ensure program providers can meet the needs of their participants.



## 3.0 EXISTING SERVICE MODEL

This chapter provides a snapshot of Rothesay's existing facilities and parks relative to population and precedent-based delivery models. A complete database of facility provisions is provided in Appendix B. Note that not all facility types are reviewed in this chapter; however, a complete review of Regional and Town facilities is provided in the Appendix. Facilities not reviewed in this chapter include venues in which residents did not express interest; however, the statistical requirement is provided for future review where interest is expressed, or where Rothesay's capacity to support a facility is required.

This chapter's data is described by facility type with associated commentary that describes existing regional and Town inventory, population-based delivery benchmark, as well as 2022 and 2032 requirements based on precedent benchmarks (see Figure 3.0).

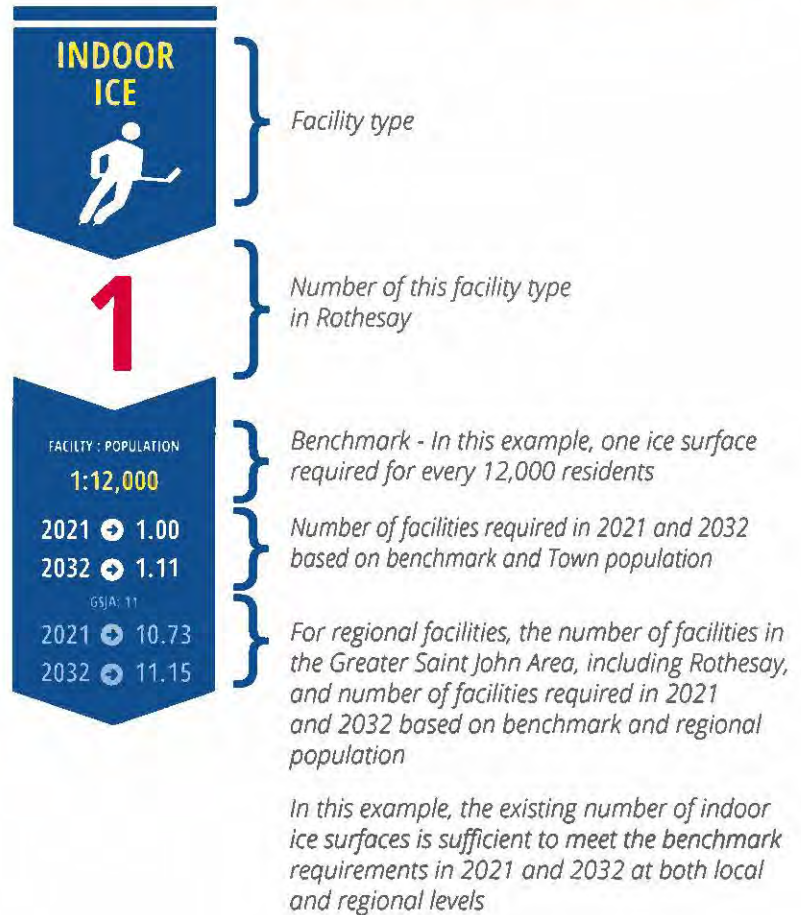




Benchmarks are established based on a review of over 30 similar Canadian municipalities. The benchmarks are presented as a mean value of facility delivery for population per facility (facility/number of residents). The benchmark provides Rothesay with a statistical relationship between residents, and the resident's ability to afford facilities within the tax base provided by those residents.

It is important to note that any future regional project will require a more detailed evaluation of affordability as part of a feasibility assessment that determines size requirements and costing; however, the benchmarks described in this chapter provide a snapshot of the entire recreation network.

FIGURE 3 | UNDERSTANDING THE FACILITY BANNERS



### 3.1 REGIONAL INDOOR FACILITIES

#### INDOOR POOLS

All indoor pool facilities are located in Saint John and include the 50-metre Canada Games Aquatic Centre and the Saint John YMCA pools. Precedent benchmark data (1:36,000) suggests that 3.58 regional facilities are required today, and 3.72 facilities are required in 2032. Thus, the region will require 1.72 more facilities than the current inventory by 2032.

Rothesay presently requires 0.33 pools and will require 0.37 pools by 2032; therefore, Rothesay relies on the Saint John YMCA or the Canada Games Aquatic Centre to meet local demand. The full facility requirement will be realized by 2058.

**COMMENTARY:** Rothesay does not have a population sufficient to deliver an indoor pool; however, it can participate regionally at approximately 1/3 of a 25-meter pool. Some residents expressed a desire for a pool facility within Rothesay; therefore, the discussion of a regional facility designed to meet local resident needs can be explored at the KV level.



#### INDOOR ICE SURFACES

Greater Saint John hosts 11 indoor ice surfaces and statistically requires 10.73 at a 1:12,000 benchmark. The region will require 11.15 facilities by 2032.

Rothesay presently requires 1.00 facility and will require 1.11 by 2032. An additional facility is not required until 2058 if the Rothesay Netherwood facility remains available for minor hockey use.

**COMMENTARY:** The Town's Rothesay Arena is an essential component of regional active and social life, and has been maintained to provide indoor ice beyond the 50-year lifespan commonly experienced in communities with 'Centennial-style' facilities. Although the Rothesay Netherwood Arena is available for minor sports use, the facility is not municipality-owned, and therefore, the Town can not guarantee future availability for community use. Thus, the existing Rothesay Arena is required to ensure Town and regional access to indoor ice. This facility is currently close to end-of-life, and a new facility will be required within the life of this Master Plan.



### MULTI-USE FIELD HOUSES

The Saint John's Irving Oil Field House provides regional-level services at a 1:30,000 benchmark; however, the region requires 4.29 facilities. 4.46 facilities are required by 2032. Rothesay presently requires 0.40 facilities, and will require 0.44 facilities by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** Although Rothesay does not achieve a statistical requirement for a new facility until 2049, a shortage of gymnasium space combined with a resident desire/need for indoor activity space suggests that the Town should explore the creation of an indoor facility in association with a new arena complex. Any investment in new recreation facilities should occur within the context of being multi-generational and multi-use.



### MULTI-USE GYMNASIUMS

Extending from the previous field house notes, a new multi-generational and multi-use indoor gymnasium facility will meet the needs and desires of residents. A flexible field house to create a series of adaptable gym spaces provides an indoor venue for senior fitness, pickleball, basketball and other court-based activities.

**COMMENTARY:** Rothesay can explore the creation of a new regional indoor facility or adapting the existing arena. Any discussion of future gymnasium requirements should include groups delivering programs within the KV sub-region (Hampton, Rothesay and Quispamsis).



### INDOOR WALKING TRACKS

Presently, at a 1:40,000 benchmark, the region requires 3.22 facilities and is served by three facilities. 3.35 facilities are required by 2032. Rothesay requires 0.30 facilities and will require 0.33 facilities by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** Quispamsis hosts an indoor facility at the qplex that Rothesay residents use; however, any new and significant multi-generational/multiuse facility in Rothesay should include an indoor track to increase daily visitation and support of the new multi-generational/ multi-use venue within the heart of Rothesay.



### 3.2 REGIONAL OUTDOOR FACILITIES

#### OUTDOOR POOLS

At a 1:25,000 benchmark, the region requires 5.15 facilities and is served by four pools, one of which is in Quispamsis. 5.35 facilities are required by 2032.

Rothesay requires 0.48 facilities and will require 0.53 facilities by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** Quispamsis' qplex meets regional demand for a facility; therefore, no action is required.



### BALL FIELDS

At a 1:5,000 benchmark, the region requires 25.75 fields and is served by 27 fields. 26.77 facilities are required by 2032. Rothesay requires 2.40 fields and hosts 5.0 fields; therefore, the Town delivers 2.60 more fields than required locally. 2.66 fields are required by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** All ball field users participate in regional programs and express a need for more fields or lights at fields located in facilities such as the Wells Recreation Park; however, regional numbers suggest that a sufficient regional field supply exists to ensure equitable and available ball fields. Rothesay should collectively explore field availability and user needs with Hampton and Quispamsis. This exploration should include examining existing group use, scheduling, and participant numbers to develop a fair and equitable delivery model that fully utilizes fields before investing in lights.

If lights become a requirement, Rothesay should invest in field lights at the regional Wells Recreation Park. This ensures an extension of daily use that can extend into trail walking, community centre and play area use.



### RECTANGLE FIELDS- NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL TURF

As demonstrated on the adjacent banners, Rothesay delivers natural and artificial fields beyond statistical requirements; however, regional users struggle with availability and equitable access. Like ball fields, users seek lit fields to ensure availability by expanding available times.

**COMMENTARY:** Like ball fields, the Town should work with its KV neighbours to explore equitable field utilization. Should field lighting become a requirement, the artificial surface at the regional Arthur Miller Field Complex is a priority.



### TENNIS COURTS

At a 1:7,000 benchmark, the region requires 18.40 courts and is served by 52. 19.12 courts are required by 2032. Rothesay requires 1.71 and hosts five courts, delivering 4.29 more courts than required locally; additionally, the Rothesay Tennis Club provides four courts, and Rothesay Netherwood School provides three courts for members. 1.9 courts are required by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** No action is required.



### BEACH VOLLEYBALL COURTS

At a 1:20,000 benchmark, the region requires 6.44 courts and is served by five courts. 6.69 courts are required by 2032. Rothesay requires 0.60 and hosts 1.0 courts; therefore, the Town provides 0.4 more courts than required locally. 0.67 courts are required by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** No action is required.



### OUTDOOR SKATE/ALL-WHEEL AND PUMP TRACK PARKS

At a 1:50,000 benchmark, the region requires 2.58 facilities and is served by 4.00 parks. 2.68 facilities are required by 2032. Rothesay requires 0.24 facilities and, presently, does not have a park. The Town will not reach the statistical requirement for a facility until 2080.

**COMMENTARY:** Quispamsis presently hosts skate and all-wheel park facilities. These facilities meet local demand.



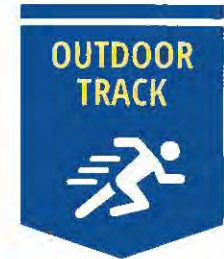
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### OUTDOOR TRACKS

At a 1:45,000 benchmark, the region requires 2.86 facilities and is served by 2.0 tracks. 2.97 regional facilities are required by 2032. Rothesay requires 0.27 and hosts 1 track; therefore, the Town provides 0.83 more facilities than required locally. 0.30 tracks are required by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** No action is required.



1





### 3.3 COMMUNITY INDOOR FACILITIES

#### ADAPTABLE COMMUNITY CENTRES

Rothesay requires 0.70 and hosts 3.0 facilities at the Bill McGuire Centre, Wells Recreation Park and the HIVE Age Friendly Community Centre; therefore, the Town provides 2.30 more facilities than required locally. 0.78 facilities are required by 2032; however, the benchmark addresses volume, not spatial requirements.

**COMMENTARY:** Rothesay is well-served by the Bill McGuire Centre for general community use (small events and meetings). The newly completed facility at Wells Recreation Park provides the same type of amenities within this regional park.

Rothesay requires a facility within the heart of the community that meets the existing and emerging needs of large groups. The HIVE is an essential Town program that lacks sufficient space to deliver programs to a growing senior population. Any expansion at a future Town-centre complex should include community centre facilities that meet HIVE needs.



#### MULTI-USE SCHOOL GYMNASIUMS

See comments under regional field houses and gymnasiums.



### INDOOR PICKLEBALL COURTS

Indoor pickleball courts are a local activity amenity. Rothesay owns no indoor pickleball facilities; however, the Riverside Country Club offers two courts to those with a pickleball membership. Rothesay statistically requires 1.50 courts and will require 1.66 courts by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** Pickleball is a growing and important multi-generational and low-cost activity. Benchmark estimates based on statistical requirements are ineffective because pickleball is an emerging sport. Thus, the Town should include indoor court spaces as part of any new multi-generational/multi-use facility.



### 3.4 COMMUNITY OUTDOOR FACILITIES

#### PLAYGROUNDS

At a 1:2,000 benchmark, Rothesay requires 5.99 playgrounds and is served by 13. 6.65 playgrounds are required by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** This analysis looks at playgrounds on a statistical basis for comparison purposes only. Based on this, The Town delivers over seven more playgrounds than required. In reality, playgrounds are based on a spatial delivery model that ensures all residents are within a 5-minute bike ride (0.6km) from their front door to a playground. This approach illustrates a single playground shortage in an area immediately adjacent to the Riverside Country Club.



### MULTI-USE COURTS

At a 1:4,000 benchmark, Rothesay requires 2.99 courts and is served by 6.0 courts; 3.33 courts are required by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** The Town has a sufficient supply of court spaces; however, the Wells Recreation Park court requires modifications to ensure a mixed-use court is available at the park's community centre.



### OUTDOOR ICE SURFACE

At a 1:6,000 benchmark, Rothesay requires 2.0 surfaces and is served by 3.0 surfaces (including the Rothesay Common and river surfaces). 2.22 surfaces are required by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** The Town has a sufficient supply of outdoor ice surfaces.



### SPLASH PADS

At a 1:10,000 benchmark, Rothesay requires 1.20 pads. 1.33 pads are required by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** The notion of creating a splash pad is considered a popular addition to the Rothesay Common. Any splash pad should function equally as public art and a play surface at this location. Splash elements should focus on ground sprays and lighting with one significant structural component placed for excitement.



### OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL COURTS

At a 1:8,000 benchmark, Rothesay requires 1.50 courts and is served by 2.0 courts. Therefore, the Town is delivering 0.50 courts more than locally required. 1.66 courts are required by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** As previously mentioned, statistical benchmarking is not ideal for establishing court requirements. Residents note that more courts are required within Rothesay; therefore, the Town should explore additional courts as part of the Wells Recreation Park court enhancements.



## DOG FACILITIES

At a 1:30,000 benchmark, Rothesay requires 0.40 facilities and is served by 1.0 dog park at the Wells Recreation Park. 0.44 facilities are required by 2032.

**COMMENTARY:** The Town is well-served by the existing Wells dog park, and no action is required.



### 3.5 COMMUNITY RECREATION DELIVERY

For the most part, Rothesay provides recreation to its residents in a non-direct format. Recreation groups deliver programmed activities as part of the KV or Greater Saint John region. This includes minor sports such as softball, baseball, hockey, gymnastics, pickleball, etc. The groups utilize facilities in all communities.

An example of an exception to this is the Rothesay HIVE, an Age-Friendly Community Centre run by the Department of Recreation. The Rothesay HIVE delivers social and physical fitness programming within the limited space at Rothesay Town Hall. A significantly larger and specifically designed venue is required to meet the group's needs today and in the future, as the senior population rises in Rothesay. Additionally, the Town runs summer playground programs, sunset yoga, and swimming lessons and provides a variety of special events and programming throughout the year. These are very popular programs that deliver social and physical activity for all ages that must continue.

**COMMENTARY:** Rothesay and the other regional communities are responsible for providing venues for programmed activities. As mentioned above, the Town offers outdoor sports and indoor ice facilities within or slightly above their statistical responsibility. An exception to this is indoor multi-generational and multi-use activity space delivered through a field house and community gathering complex.

Groups such as girls' softball seek lighting on existing KV fields to ensure their participants have equitable regional access. Fundy Gymnastics utilizes varied facilities throughout the Saint John area, has outgrown their facilities, and has a significant wait list.

These are important and growing recreation providers that require support to ensure sustainable delivery of their programs within an expanding and culturally/financially diverse population base. These, as well as all other recreation providers, deliver activity-based programs that provide physical and mental wellness to participants.

Collaborative action with all Saint John and KV communities and the regional school districts is required to explore the equitable delivery of all indoor and outdoor programs. Given that groups deliver programs regionally, allocations of facility usage based on membership numbers, facility use fees based on actual operational delivery costs, shared agreements on municipal facility/user group grants/subsidies, regional use of school facilities, etc., is a regional question that requires regional cooperation.

## 4.0 MODIFIED DELIVERY MODEL



## 4.1 DELIVERY MODEL

### REGIONAL FACILITIES

Establishing exact facility demand within regionally evolving demographics is difficult; however, we can establish Rothesay's present-day position within the Town and region, and forecast future needs based on user desire and statistical evaluation. Thus, in this context, we can predict an appropriate palette of recreation facilities and parks within the Town over the next ten years. This chapter sets the cultural and statistical benchmarks for these predictions.

As noted, Rothesay is part of a recreational delivery system that includes all communities within the Greater Saint John Region. Facilities within this region must be distributed to meet both municipal and regional demand, and require careful evaluation relative to the distribution of capital and operational costs relative to this distribution.

For example, although the Rothesay Arena is culturally significant to the Town, the facility is also critically important to the regional delivery of indoor ice surfaces. Thus, the Town's requirement for a single pad facility and the region's requirement for over eleven facilities can not be met without Rothesay's and Rothesay Netherwood's indoor ice surfaces. Although Rothesay only requires a single pad facility, the Rothesay Netherwood facility combines with the Town facility to provide 16.7% of present-day regional facilities, and 9.4% of regional demand. The Town is delivering above demand, to regional benefit.

Inversely, Rothesay does not have an indoor pool facility; however, it has a present-day demand of 0.33 facilities. Rothesay cannot statistically or financially support a pool facility under this demand; however, the regionally-operated Canada Games Aquatic Centre in Saint John presently provides a venue for regional swimming. Thus, for the ten-year life of this Master Plan, pool demand is met.







## COMMUNITY FACILITIES

These are facilities placed to serve local needs for meeting and activity space, and sit within the Town's regional and community parks. Examples include the Bill McGuire Centre and the meeting/activity spaces within Town Hall and the Rothesay Arena. These are not placed relative to any specific spatial or statistical distribution model and form part of other recreation/culture addresses.

## COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PARKS

Both community and regional parks are important gathering, social, and active outdoor play spaces. Community parks provide in-neighbourhood outdoor play/social space for daily use. Examples of these parks include Islay and Scribner Parks.

Regional parks combine community park amenities with sports facilities, such as fields, trail systems, etc., to create a destination that attracts residents throughout the region. Examples include Wells Recreation Park, Rothesay Common and Arthur Miller Fields.

Community parks are located across the Town based on a resident-determined spatial distribution. This model places neighbourhood parks that include modest play structures, seating and shade, open play space and vegetation within approximately 600 meters of all residential doors.

Regional parks are located at important cultural or natural addresses that align with the park's theme. For example, the Rothesay Common is a Town-centre facility that brings Town and regional residents into the heart of Rothesay for both cultural and activity purposes. Amenities located within this area support Town-centre gathering and play. Wells Recreation Park is located within a large natural space where trails, sports fields, a community centre, and play amenities attract regional and Town residents for recreation within the natural context. Although these facilities are located relative to environmental settings, residents would like to access a larger park at a distance no greater than 2.4 kilometres. Thus, the community park is applied to the townscape at 1.2-kilometer intervals (refer to Figure 5), and the regional park is applied at 4.8-kilometer intervals (refer to Figure 6). This is a spatial and not statistical distribution model.

Figure 4 illustrates the existing distribution model within the context of the community-regional facilities and parks. The model indicates that only one area is not served with a community park (see Figure 5), and requires a future park to meet the growing need within this area.

Future parks will be located at this interval, and future trails will link important destinations and existing and future parks. The following facility descriptions describe how each park will evolve to meet its long-term role relevant to this Master Plan.

FIGURE 5 | COMMUNITY RECREATION PARKS DISTRIBUTION

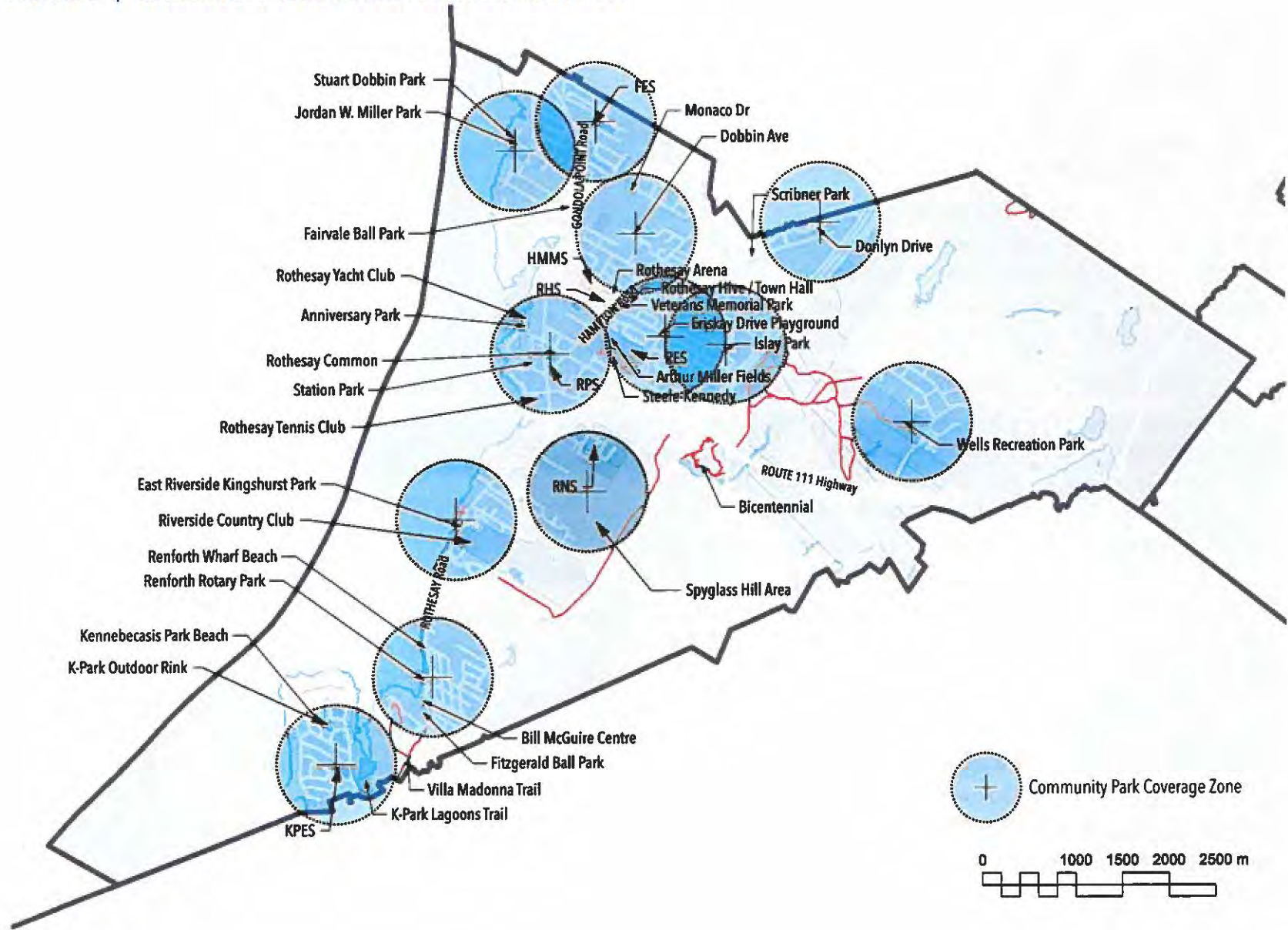
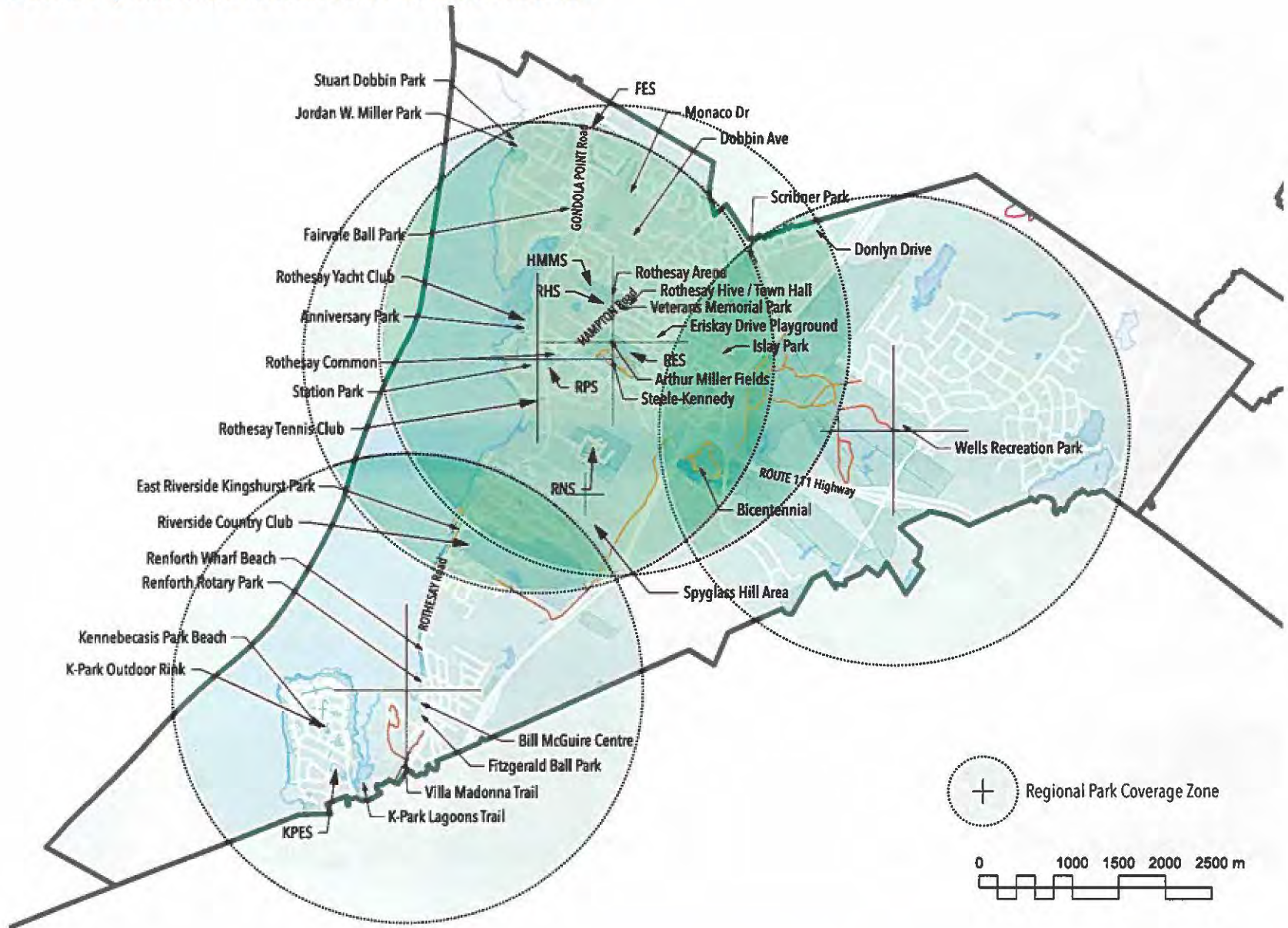


FIGURE 6 | REGIONAL RECREATION PARKS DISTRIBUTION



## THE COMMUNITY PARK



**DESCRIPTION:** This park includes a youth social and active playground, open play space, and social space for all ages, including seating and tree-provided shade. Where large enough, a trail system should surround/border that connects park entrances to amenities spaces.

**CHARACTERISTICS:** The park, between 0.2 ha and 0.6 ha in size, is located within residential subdivisions, and is built on land acquired through the lands for public purposes process. Play equipment is focused on the K-12 age group, with immediately adjacent seating and tree shade for visiting adults. Open grass space supports day-to-day 'running around' or community events such as block parties or Rothesay's summer playground programming.

## THE REGIONAL PARK



**DESCRIPTION:** This park includes recreation amenities that draw visitors across the region, such as ball fields, large trail systems, riverfront spaces and common grounds. These spaces are accessible and inclusive, receive high visitation numbers, and provide broad amenities within the context of their setting. For example, conceptually speaking, Town centre parks such as the Rothesay Common provide highly relevant play amenities from a busy and central focal point setting, while a riverfront park provides a naturalized product within the shoreline context.

Additionally, these spaces are designed to deliver activity for all residents. Thus, amenities are multi-generational and multi-use. All residents should find social and active amenities within these parks.

**CHARACTERISTICS:** The amenities delivered from the regional park are high quality, durable, and are designed to fulfill their role within the site's context. Central gathering spaces include a shade structure that functions as a central social space or a focal point for events. All surfaces and equipment are designed for accessible use, and all regional

parks include multi-generational amenities. Thus, youth, adults, and seniors will find both active and social amenities.

Where appropriate, these parks will include both trail and vehicle gateways complete with Town-thematic entrance sign panels and wayfinding signage.

### THE KENNEBECASIS RIVER

Rothesay exists in this location because of the river, and is a great community to live in, in part, because of river views and shoreline access. Many homes are positioned to enjoy the river and surrounding valley, and many streets and trails provide excellent views of the river areas; however, only a few public spaces provide access to the shoreline.

Residents wish to explore expanded enjoyment of the river through trail and park improvements that provide continuous river valley exposure and improved river access for personal enjoyment and boating purposes.

### 4.2 RECREATION FACILITIES & PARKS

The following pages describe and discuss each recreation facility in Rothesay and speak to their future role within the 10-year lifespan of this Recreation Master Plan. Figure 7 provides a legend for the icons that illustrate current and future amenities at each facility. Blue icons indicate existing amenities, and green icons indicate proposed future additions or improvements.

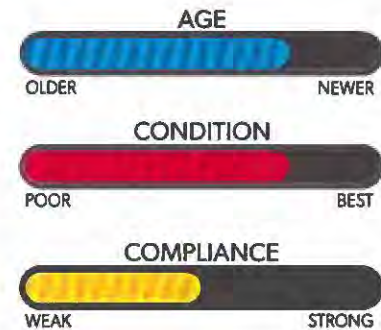
Projects described for each facility are proposed to bring

the existing or new site in compliance with the previously described community/regional delivery model. Not all projects are achievable within the 10-year lifespan of this Master Plan; therefore, initiatives described as 'low priority' may extend beyond the 10-year timeframe.

### THE EVALUATION GAUGE

Each park and facility page includes three evaluation gauges or scales that describe the site's position relative to age, condition and compliance with the site's role as a community and/or regional asset. All three are considered when applying a level of priority.

**AGE.** How old is the equipment, and does this age affect the use of the equipment or site? Evaluation is applied at a medium level if older and easy to maintain and applied at a low level if older and difficult to maintain due to the inability to find replacement parts.



**CONDITION.** Is the site in good condition due to ease of maintenance and quality/age of materials?

**COMPLIANCE.** Does the site meet its role as a community or regional asset?

FIGURE 7 | RECREATION FACILITY ICON LEGEND



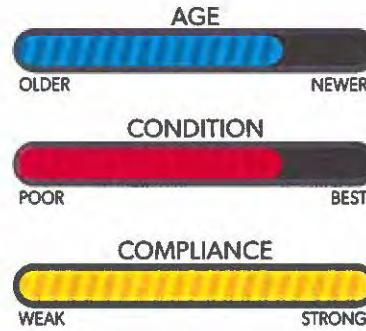
# ANNIVERSARY PARK

43 Wharf Road | 0.6 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This park functions as shoreline green space as part of the Rothesay Yacht Club entrance (from Station Road). No immediate action is required at this location.

**PROJECTS:** No projects are required at this site.





## ARTHUR MILLER FIELDS

48 Hampton Road | 4.7 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

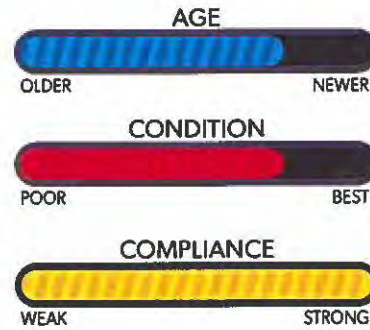
**NOTES:** This site functions as a regional park with natural and artificial rectangular sports fields and the Rothesay Elementary School playground. The site is an essential component within the inventory of regional fields.

**PRIORITY:** Medium

**PROJECTS:** This regional field complex offers expanded seasonal use on the artificial turf surface. The upper field surface will need to be replaced in the near future; thus, the Town should seek provincial and user group funding partnerships to supply and install a new artificial turf surface. Temporary special events tents and port-a-potties can provide amenities for tournaments and other special events.

It is also important to note that lighting the artificial turf surface ensures full-day use of the field during extended seasons, as well as extended daily use during summer. Although this is desirable, the Town should evaluate the need for regional turf space with neighbouring municipalities to ensure lighting is needed to meet demand. Field use may be accommodated on existing fields if regional cooperation and scheduling are fully explored.

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$2.1 million for field turf replacement.



## BI-CENTENNIAL PARK

401 NB Route 111 | 18.7 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

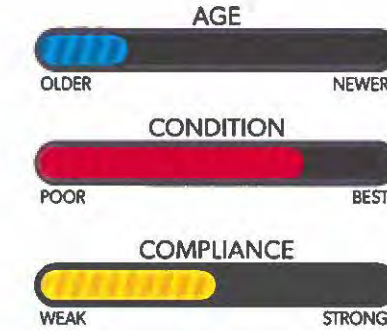
**NOTES:** This park includes a ball field and trails, and is home to the Town's native tree arboretum; however, it is functionally disconnected from residents because of the Route 1 and Route 111 Highways. At present, the ballpark is required to meet regional needs.

Long-term plans should include upgrades to the pedestrian/cycling network that links to future AT connections over Route 1, and linkage to the Wells Recreation Park. These improvements will create a new Wells Recreation Park Gateway at a busy highway intersection. This important connection will create a new gateway into the Wells Recreation Park with access designed for active transportation use.

**PRIORITY:** Medium

**PROJECTS:** No work is immediately required for this site; however, any space necessary to create an active transportation link into Wells Recreation Park should be provided. Additionally, if an active transportation connection to Wells Recreation Park is built, the entrance into the Bi-Centennial Park should be relocated to Dolan Road to prevent vehicle/trail user conflict at the ballpark entrance.

**COST ESTIMATE:** TBD



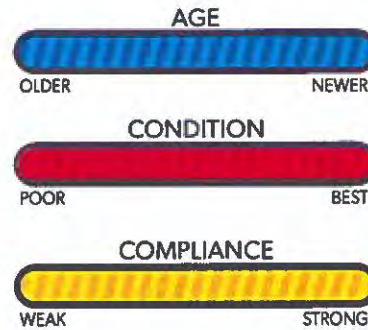
## BILL MCGUIRE CENTRE

95 James Renforth Drive | 0.4 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** This is an important community meeting and gathering location that is well-maintained and in very good condition.

This site is a component of a future shoreline development that extends from East Riverside-Kingshurst Park to the K-Park Lagoons Trail (see K-Park Lagoons Trail for more detail).



## DOBBIN STREET PLAYGROUND

25 Dobbin Street | 0.1 ha

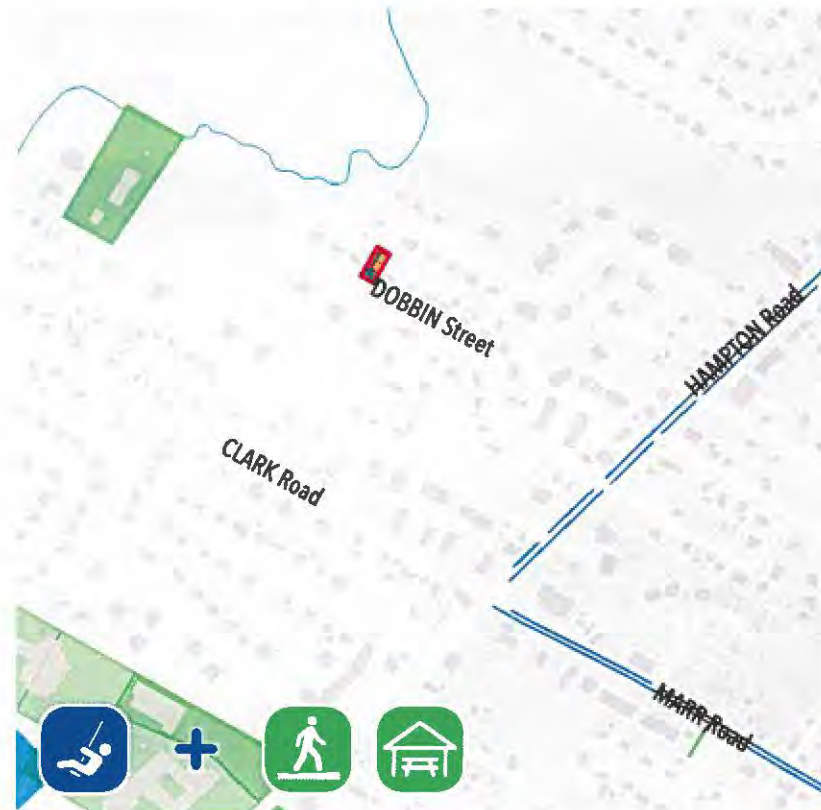
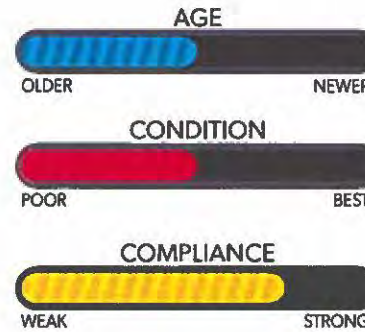
**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is a great and well-located park space within the heart of a mature neighbourhood and adjacent to residential intensification. Very minor modifications are required to update this park.

**PRIORITY:** Medium

**PROJECTS:** The park requires upgrading the trail surface to ensure an accessible entrance into the heart of the site. Additionally, the park requires tree planting with seating and/or picnic tables.

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$10,000

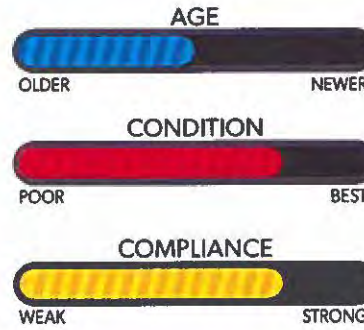


## DONLYN DRIVE PLAYGROUND

2 Chinook Lane | 0.1 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is a great community park with play equipment and tree planting, all in good condition. Existing seating is positioned to provide shaded viewing of play spaces, and garbage cans are provided at the entrance. No action is required.



## EAST RIVERSIDE-KINGSHURST PARK

2601 Rothesay Road | 2.1 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is a wonderful shoreline park with well-shaded walking trails and shoreline access for viewing and dogs. The large Pavilion is a great addition to the park for informal gatherings.

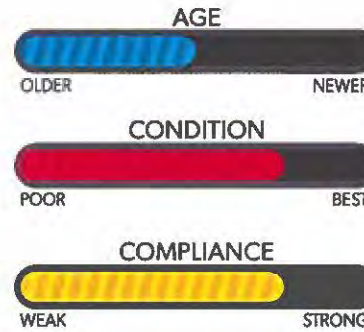
This site is the proposed northern gateway to a shoreline trail that links this park to the K-Park Lagoons Trail site. As a gateway, this location will receive increased visitation for both destination and shoreline walking purposes.

As a destination, Rothesay should install a multi-generational play area that is in keeping with the natural environment. A natural playground with both elevated play and balance/social stations will meet this need while minimally impacting the site's natural character.

**PRIORITY:** Medium

**PROJECTS:** Design and develop a natural playground adjacent to the shoreline that provides multi-generational amenities.

**COST:** \$350,000



## ERISKAY DRIVE PLAYGROUND

116 Eriskay Drive | 0.1 ha

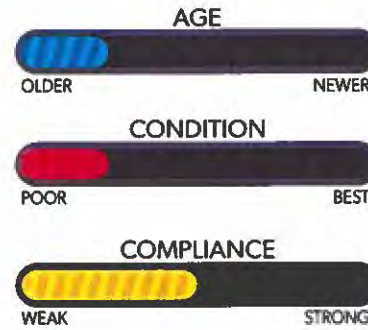
**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is a very well-located park with well-planted edges and healthy shade trees. Given the important location of this park within the heart of its neighbourhood and the aging infrastructure, the Town should explore a full upgrade of this park space with new and accessible play equipment and improved seating/social areas.

**PRIORITY:** Low

**PROJECTS:** Remove and replace play equipment and pedestrian surfaces with an accessible playground complete with integrated seating and social spaces.

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$300,000

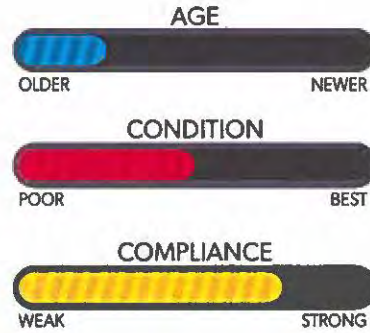


# FAIRVALE BALL PARK

Ball Park Avenue | 0.5 ha | Non-municipal

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** This is an in-neighbourhood set of small fields that are regionally used for youth play and dog walking. Although not fully fenced, the fields function well for their users and are often used for local open-space play. No action is required.



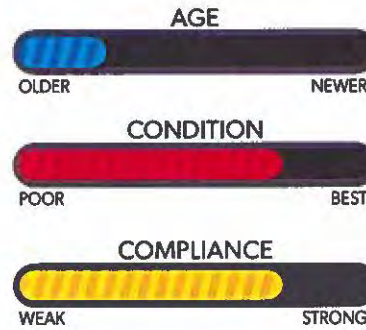


# FAIRVALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ULTIMATE DREAMLAND PLAYGROUND

15 School Avenue | 2.6 ha | Non-municipal

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is a school playground that was rebuilt with community participation within the last 12 years. The playground is a popular site and no action is required by Rothesay.

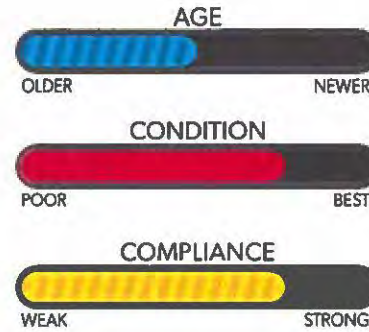


# FITZGERALD BALL PARK

93-95 James Renforth Drive | 1.0 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** This is a great and well-positioned field adjacent to the Bill McGuire Centre. The field is well-maintained and popular with users. No action is required at this time.



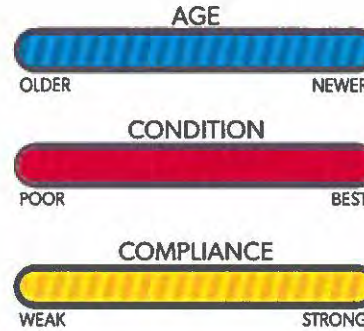


## HILLSIDE TRAIL

Grove Avenue | 8.5 ha combined

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is a new and great trail that links two important Town areas together on either side of the golf course. No action is required for the present trail; however, future residential and park development in the Spyglass Hill area must include a connection to this trail.



# ISLAY DRIVE PLAYGROUND

40 Islay Drive | 0.3 ha

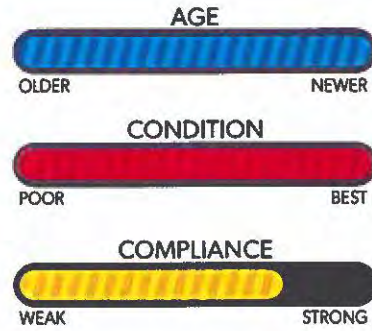
**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is a great and very well-located playground that only requires tree shade and seating within the lifespan of this Master Plan.

**PRIORITY:** Medium

**PROJECTS:** Plant shade trees and place social-based seating within close proximity of the existing court and play structures.

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$20,000



# JORDAN MILLER PARK

8 Ricketts Lane | 3.6 ha

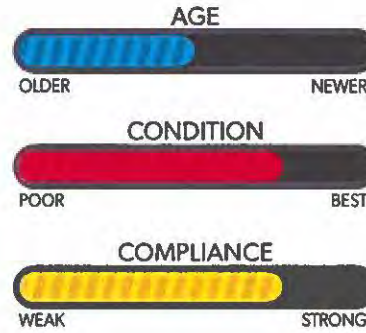
**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is a great shoreline park that provides multi-generational activity spaces and walking on a large parcel of land. Given the significance of this location, an upgrade of play equipment that brings the site in context with accessibility and its natural surroundings should be explored.

**PRIORITY:** High

**PROJECTS:** Rothesay should create a master plan for this site that fully explores the natural aspect of the site, and how accessible pedestrian surfaces and play amenities can come together to create one of the region's best park spaces.

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$25,000 for a master plan.



## KENNEBECASIS PARK BEACH

5 Princess Place | 14 ha

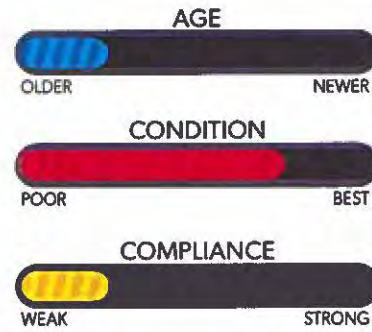
**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is a municipally-owned shoreline that extends around the shoreline of Kennebecasis Park, with several pedestrian right-of-ways that provide access to the river's edge from Elizabeth Parkway and Park Drive. This site provides shoreline access but lacks a continuous walkway along the river's edge.

**PRIORITY:** Low

**PROJECT:** The existing boat launch requires an upgrade for personal craft entry into the river from this location. The Town should explore this upgrade within the life of this Master Plan.

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$25,000



# KENNEBECASIS PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

10 Broadway Street | 1.6 ha | Non-municipal

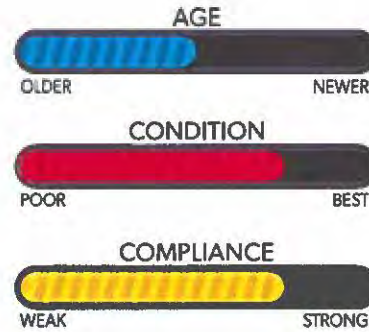
**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This school site's diverse play amenities are in good condition and function well for both students and local residents. The beach volleyball court was realized as a joint partnership with the Town, the school and the school district, and Parks staff maintain the court.

**PRIORITY:** High

**PROJECTS:** This important park space, although not owned by the Town, requires the addition of interactive elements that increase the multi-generational use of the site. These include a tetherball post and a 10' basketball net.

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$15,000





# KENNEBECASIS PARK OUTDOOR RINK

Kildare Court | 0.7 ha

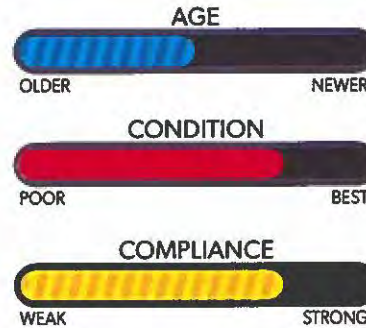
**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This site functions as a natural buffer for resident rear yards, as well as a local rink surface during winter months.

**PRIORITY:** Medium

**PROJECTS:** The Town should monitor weather conditions over the next five years. Should conditions remain suitable for continued outdoor ice retention, the Town should work with local residents on fundraising and a shared operational agreement that sees municipal investment blend with local maintenance to explore the addition of new boards, rubber mats from entrance areas, and netting along the end boards.

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$35,000



## KENNEBECASIS PARK LAGOONS TRAIL

36 Park Drive | 1.3 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** This site's lagoons are planned for decommissioning, and the walking trail does not provide a multi-use surface for access to the lagoon area or to the site's community garden. Additionally, the adjacent Villa Madonna Walkway and recreation sites at the Renforth Cove area can come together to form a significant community park that includes a beach, community centre, boating and ice fishing facility, court surfaces and playground. With a trail linking this area to the East Riverside-Kingshurst Park, the location becomes a significant regional facility with multiple entrances from community and neighbourhood entrances, and provides multi-generational and multi-use amenities.

**PRIORITY:** High

**PROJECTS:** Rothesay should develop a site master plan that includes a strong consultation component to create a road map for the development of a single significant regional park that extends from East Riverside-Kingshurst Park to the Renforth Wharf Beach, the Villa Madonna Trail and the K-Park Lagoons Trail site.

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$65,000



## MONACO DRIVE PLAYGROUND

75 Monaco Drive | 0.5 ha

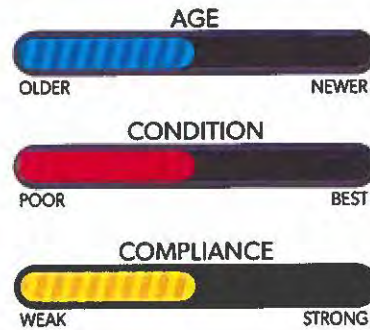
**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is an important playground site that serves a definitive neighbourhood. The site is in relatively good condition; however, the play components and wood structures are beginning to age.

**PRIORITY:** Low

**PROJECTS:** The Town should replace this park's play structures and create an accessible pedestrian environment complete with a shade structure and seating within the life of this Master Plan.

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$175,000



# RENFORTH WHARF BEACH

145 James Renforth Drive | 1.5 ha | Non-municipal

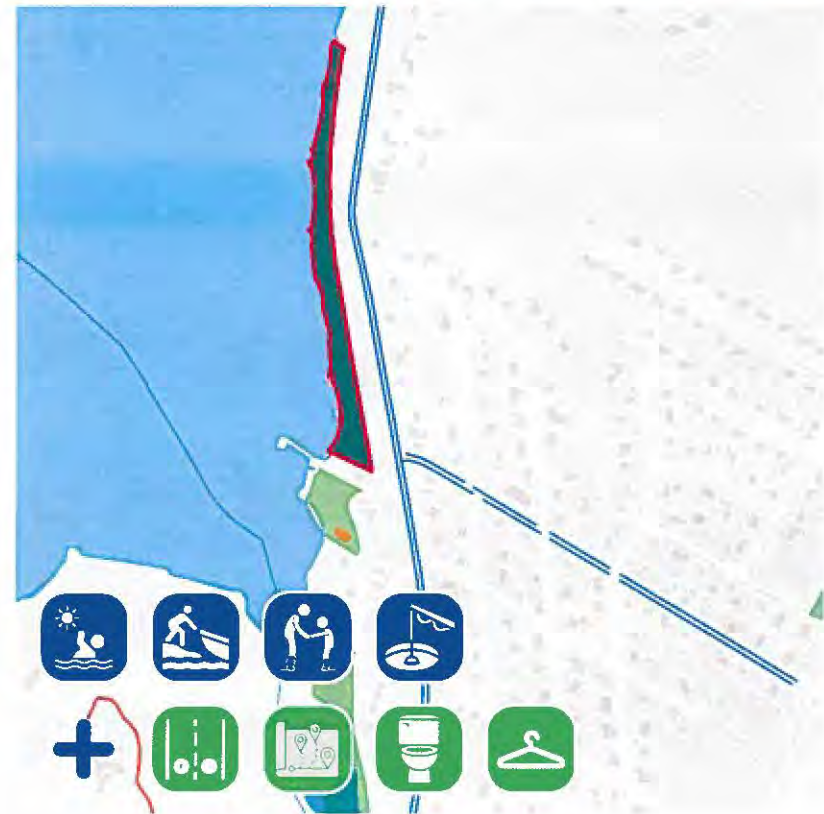
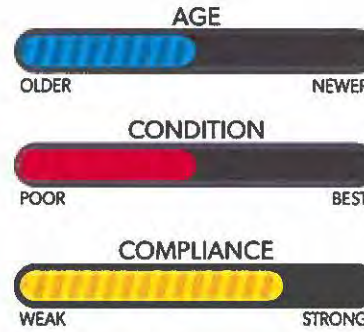
**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** Renforth Wharf Beach, not owned by Rothesay, and the adjacent Renforth Rotary Park are important and popular destinations in the Town. The master planning exercise proposed for creating a significant regional park that extends from this site to the K-Park Lagoons Trail to the East Riverside-Kingshurst Park will create a road map for the development of this area. Refer to the K-Park Lagoons Trail for additional notes.

**PRIORITY:** High

**PROJECTS:** Rothesay should include the owners of this site in the above-noted master planning effort. This effort should include the addition of a beach washroom/change facility. Additionally, the Town should explore the acquisition of this site within the master planning process.

**COST ESTIMATE:** TDB



## RENFORTH ROTARY PARK

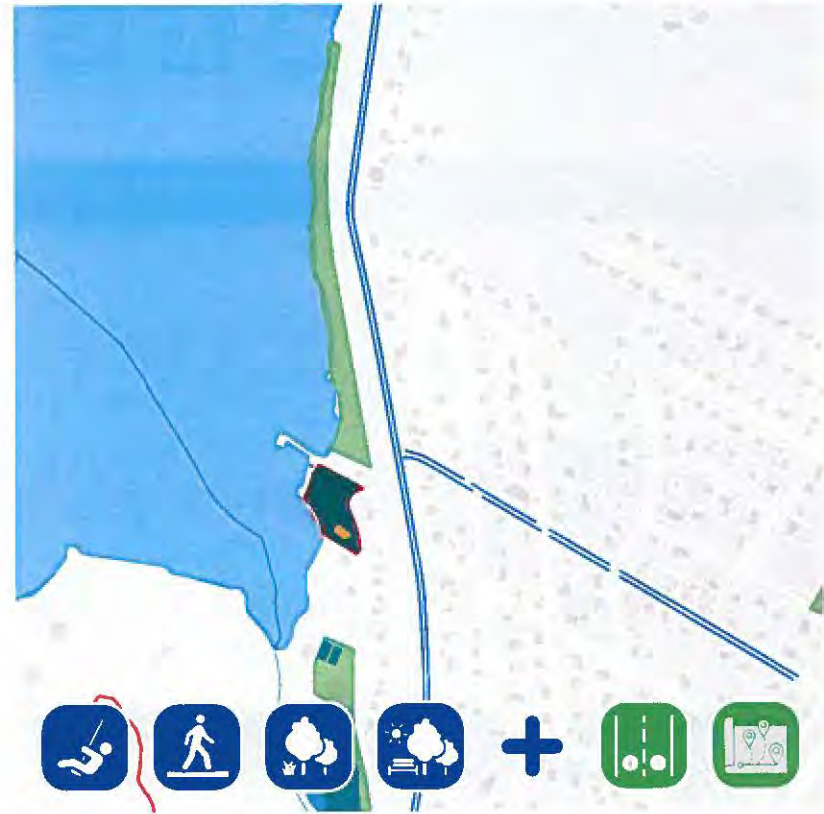
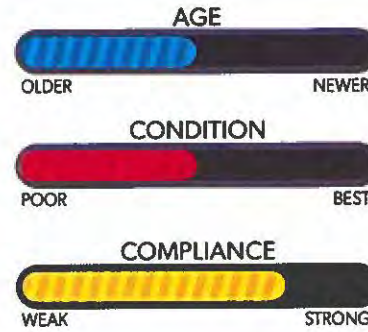
141 James Renforth Drive | 0.5 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** Renforth Rotary Park and the adjacent Renforth Wharf Beach are important and popular destinations in the Town. The master planning exercise proposed for creating a significant community park that extends from Renforth Wharf Beach to the Kennebecasis Park Lagoons Trail will create a road map for the development of this area. Refer to the Kennebecasis Park Lagoons Trail for additional notes.

**PRIORITY:** High

**PROJECTS:** Rothesay should develop a site master plan that includes a strong consultation component to create a road map for the development of a single significant regional park (described under the K-Park Lagoons Trail project page).



## RIVERSIDE COUNTRY CLUB

2524 Rothesay Road | 61.6 ha | Non-municipal

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional (Private)

**NOTES:** This is an important and active private facility. No actions are required.



# ROTHESAY ARENA

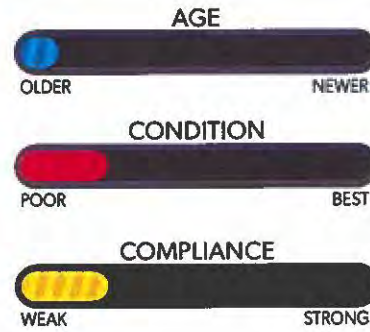
65 Hampton Road | 1.4 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** See Rothesay Campus Project (Special Projects and Programs, section 4.3)

**PRIORITY:** High

**PROJECTS:** Section 4.3 of this master plan describes a process for the replacement of the existing arena, as well as the exploration of the existing arena building as a field house.







ground-sprays only, with lighting that creates an interesting light and water show in the evening. The placement, water quality management system and size are to be determined.

The Town should also explore the placement of multi-generational social/fitness equipment.

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$450,000

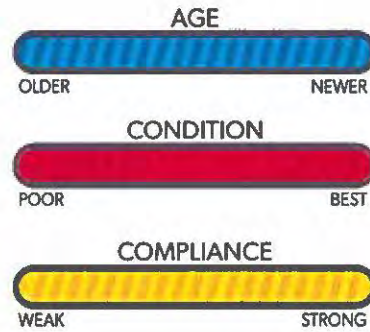


# ROTHESAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

230 Eriskay Drive | 4.5 ha | Non-municipal

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** This is an excellent playground that provides amenities to the Arthur Miller Fields, thus creating a multi-use regional park. No action is required at this location.

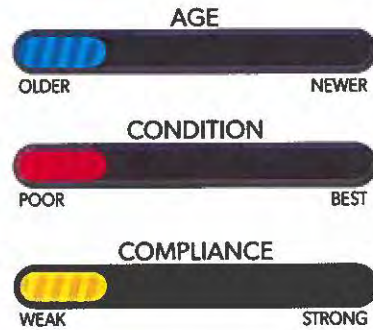


# ROTHESAY HIGH SCHOOL SITE

61 Hampton Road | 6.5 ha combined | Non-municipal

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** Proposed additions to this site are part of the Rothesay Campus Project (see Special Projects and Programs, section 4.3).



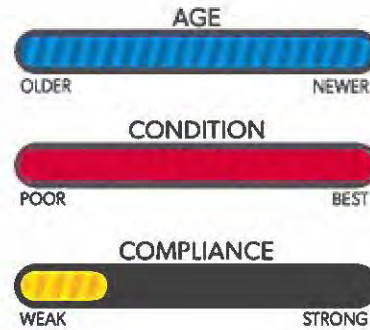
## ROTHESAY HIVE

70 Hampton Road | 0.5 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** The Rothesay HIVE is an age-friendly community centre that provides a gathering place for adults (50+) and offers a wide array of programming that focuses on nurturing the health and well-being of its members while providing activities that focus on socialization, connection, health and wellness, intergenerational programming, and lifelong learning and outreach. Currently operating out of Town hall, the HIVE has a strong demand for increased programming and increased membership capacity, which is not possible due to lack of space.

Proposed additions to the HIVE are part of the Rothesay Campus Project (see Special Projects and Programs, section 4.3).



## ROTHESAY NETHERWOOD SCHOOL

40 College Hill Road | 22.7 ha | Non-municipal

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** This is a private facility with regional-level sports facilities. Minor sports groups utilize the existing facilities, and local residents utilize the existing trails. No action is required; however, any future adjacent active transportation projects should include linkages to the school's trail systems.

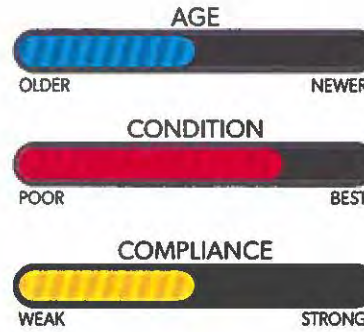


## ROTHESAY PARK SCHOOL SITE

7 Hampton Road | 0.9 ha | Non-municipal

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This public school lends architectural context to the Rothesay Common and hosts a court within the school grounds. Students can access the Rothesay Common's play spaces if desired. No action is required.

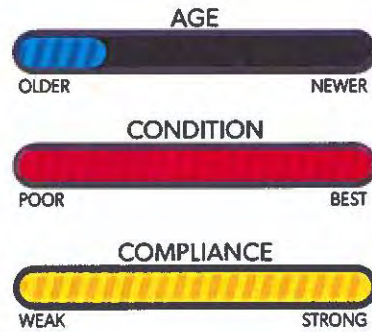


# ROTHESAY TENNIS CLUB

4 Tennis Court Road | 0.5 ha | Non-municipal

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** This is a private club that hosts high-quality clay courts and a clubhouse. No action is required.

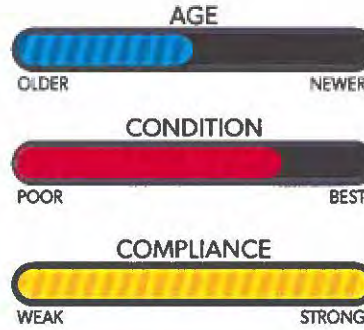


# ROTHESAY YACHT CLUB

8 Wharf Road | 1.3 ha | Non-municipal

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** This site is adjacent to Anniversary Park and is home to a private member-owned club. No action is required.





## SCRIBNER PARK

12 Scribner Crescent | 1.4 ha

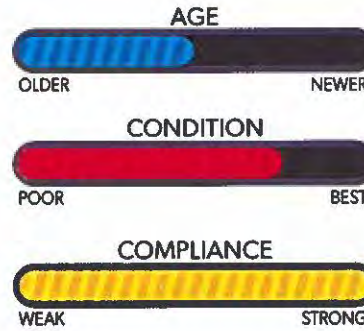
**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is an important community park with play equipment, community garden space and a former ball field.

**PRIORITY:** High

**PROJECTS:** Rothesay should release this project to a Request for Information (RFI), followed by a Request for proposals (RFP) to develop the site for a mixed-use Co-Operative or Affordable housing development complete with community gathering and park space (multi-use court, splash pad, playground, etc.).

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$35,000

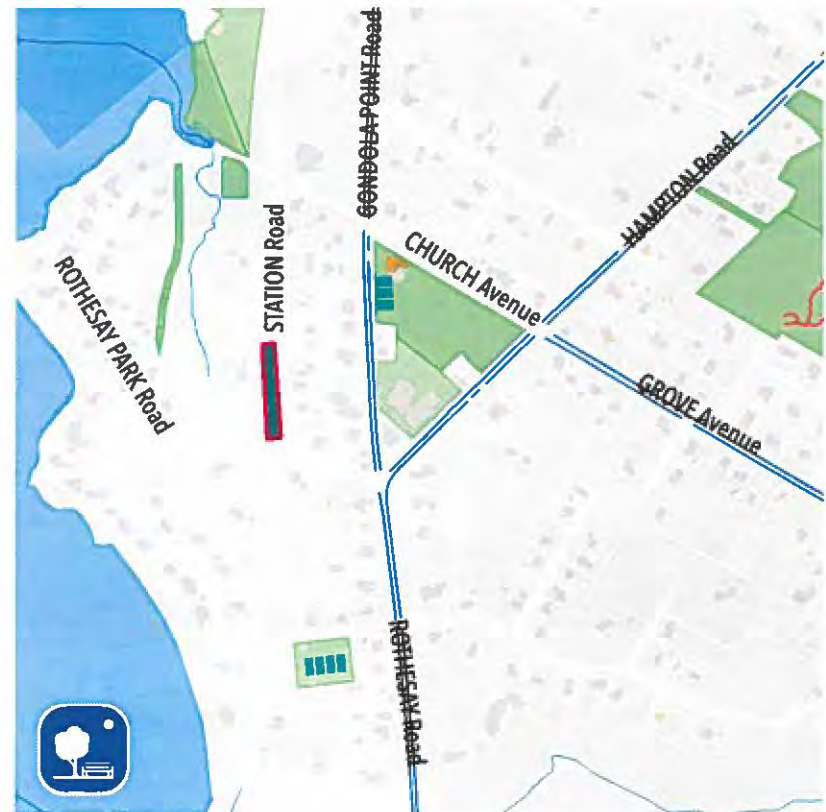
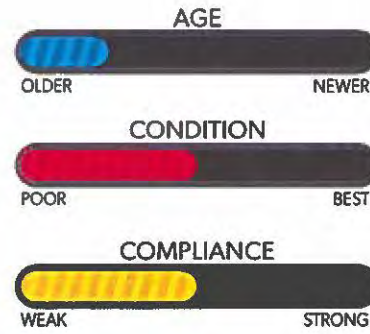


# STATION PARK

18 Station Road | 0.2 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** No action is required in this passive green space.

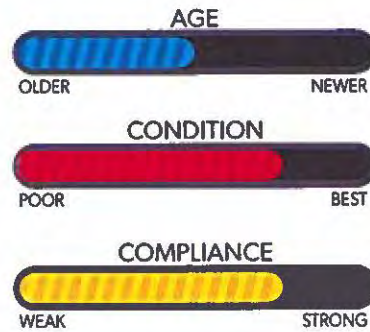


# STEELE-KENNEDY NATURE PARK

8 Steele Street | 9.1 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** This is a natural enjoyment space within the urban context and adds amenities to the adjacent Arthur Miller Fields. No action is required.

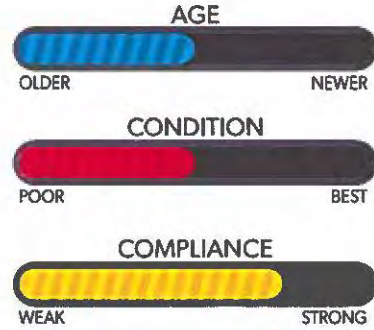


# STUART DOBBIN MEMORIAL PARK

19 Ricketts Lane | 0.2 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is a small natural space with trails immediately adjacent to Jordan Miller Park. No action is required.

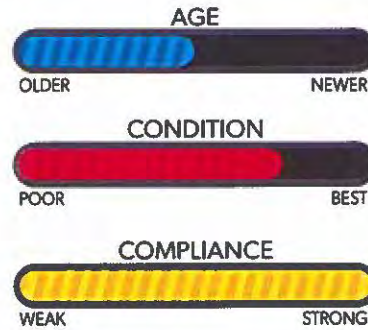


## VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

66 Hampton Road | 0.5 ha | Non-municipal

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** This is a very well-maintained park adjacent to Rothesay Town Hall that hosts memorial events. No action is required.



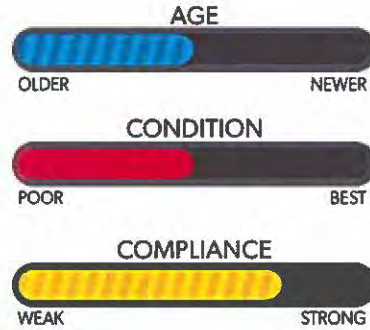
## VILLA MADONNA TRAIL

Villa Madonna Road | 2.1 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community

**NOTES:** The master planning exercise proposed for creating a significant community park that extends from Renforth Wharf Beach to the Kennebecasis Park Lagoons Trail will create a road map for the development of this area. Refer to the Kennebecasis Park Lagoons Trail for additional notes.

**PRIORITY:** High



## WELLS RECREATION PARK

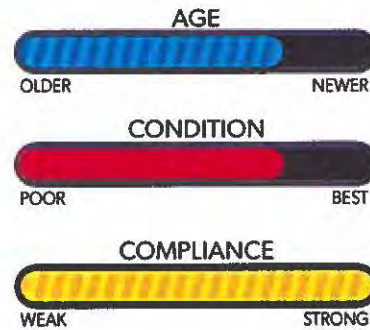
75 French Village Road | 12.9 ha

**CLASSIFICATION:** Regional

**NOTES:** This is a large and rapidly evolving park space that will become one of Southern New Brunswick's most popular recreation sites. The park is home to excellent sports fields, a new community centre, a dog park, walking trails, court space and a playground. Additionally, the site extends from French Village Road to the Highway 1 and Highway 111 intersection.

**PRIORITY:** High

**PROJECTS.** This site requires three projects. First, the site's smaller ball field is an important regional facility providing sports and social functions. Given the regional nature of the site and the importance of this ballfield, the Town should work with regional partners to ensure lights are required to support regional use of the field, as well as special events/ tournaments, during extended evening hours.



Second, the existing play, courts, and building require renovation to fulfill its role as a regional park. The courts require resurfacing as multi-use courts complete with pickleball lines for designated time use. The existing building requires movement to another area of the site for use as an operational structure, and the existing playground requires an upgrade to a fully accessible activity space.

Finally, the Town should explore opportunities to create off-leash dog walking times on the park's trails. These periods should be posted on Town social media, placed on a sign at the site, and be available year-round.

**COST ESTIMATE:** Field Lighting \$325,000;



## 4.3 SPECIAL PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

The following describes new sites or special projects that are required within the lifespan of this Master Plan.

### ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

**PRIORITY:** High

**NOTES:** Active transportation is a priority for residents and an important component of community social and physical wellness available for all residents.

This Recreation Master Plan proposes specific modifications to the existing Active Transportation Plan to ensure that Rothesay's connectivity model is current and contemporary. Figure 8 illustrates an updated AT layout for Rothesay, while the following describes the components.

Rothesay's 2010 Active Transportation Plan proposed several on-street routes, such as bike lanes. This was a common approach during that period; however, contemporary approaches to active transportation facility application within street corridors seek to expand the resident user base on separated facilities such as multi-use trails. As street renewal occurs, the Town should explore this option.

**STREET ROUTE TYPES:** Much of the implemented AT routes are street-based and function well for cycling; however, they need to function better as family-based mobility corridors or corridors that provide routes for contemporary modes such as electric scooters or senior use of electric bikes. Over time, and as AT designated streets require renewal, Rothesay should remove street-based bike lanes and reclaim the bike lane space for street-separated multi-use asphalt trails—these two-way trails function for all pedestrian or wheel-based mobility users.

**TRAIL ROUTE TYPES:** Trails on active transportation routes should be created as two-way asphalt trails (3.0 to 3.5 meters wide) wherever possible. This ensures seamless integration of street and trail corridors and use by as many residents as possible.

**PRIORITY PROJECTS:** This Master Plan proposes the following three projects as priority AT linkages. First, the extension of the QR Trail from Quispamsis to Rothesay's core, where indicated in Figure 8, will provide both Town and regional connectivity. Thus, the Towns should actively acquire land where required and proceed with making this critical linkage.

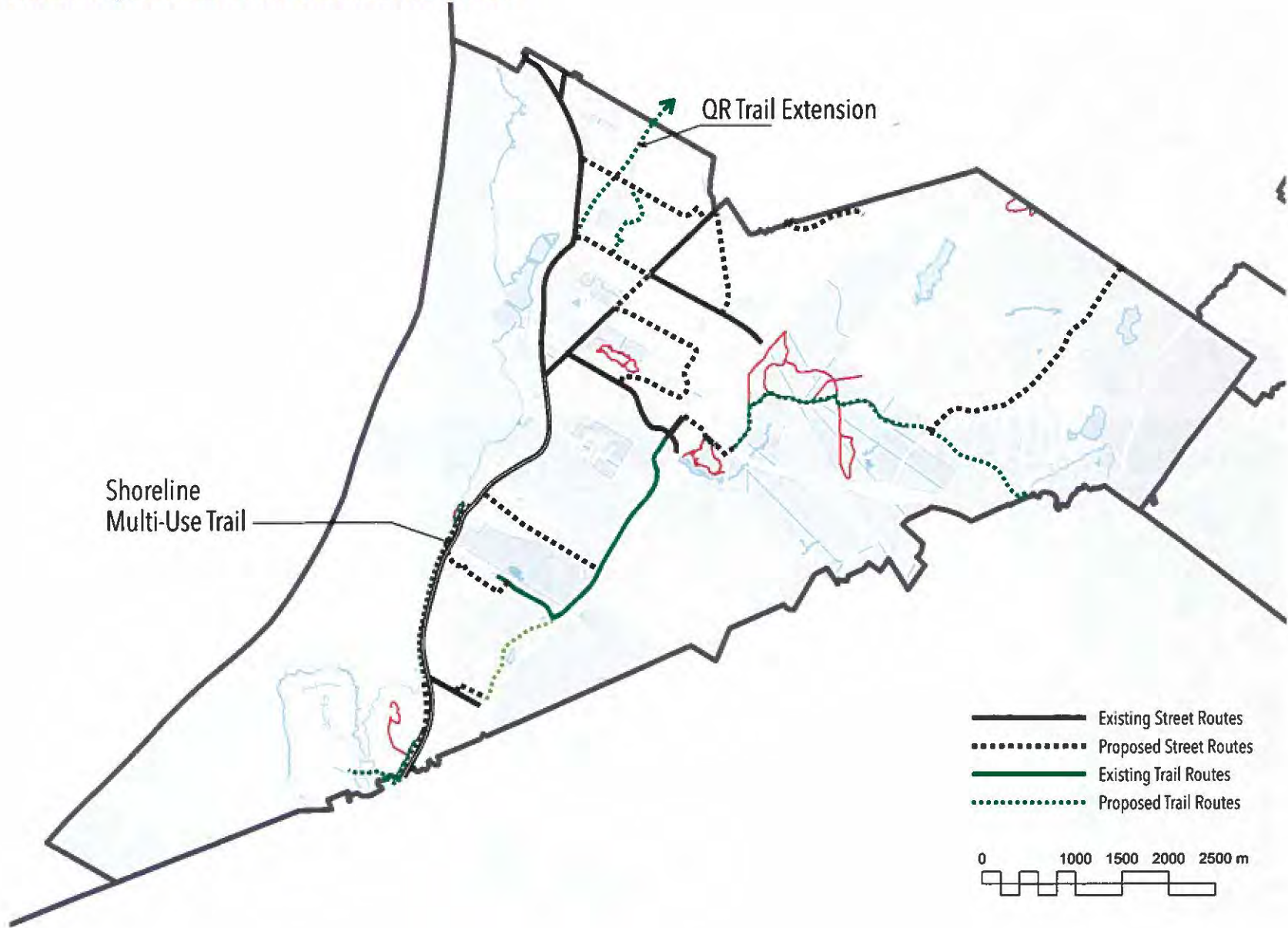
Second, the Highway 111 and Highway 1 intersection is a barrier to providing multi-modal connectivity between the “two Rothesays” (according to residents). The Town has a solution for this linkage; therefore, the project should proceed as soon as possible.

Third, the Rothesay Road shoreline trail, proposed as a multi-modal river’s edge connection between East Riverside-Kingshurst Park and the south Town boundary, requires land ownership discussion to acquire appropriate right-of-way. Rothesay should examine this linkage as a 3.0 to 3.5m wide two-way shoreline multi-use asphalt trail.

**COST ESTIMATE: TBD**



FIGURE 8 | ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK



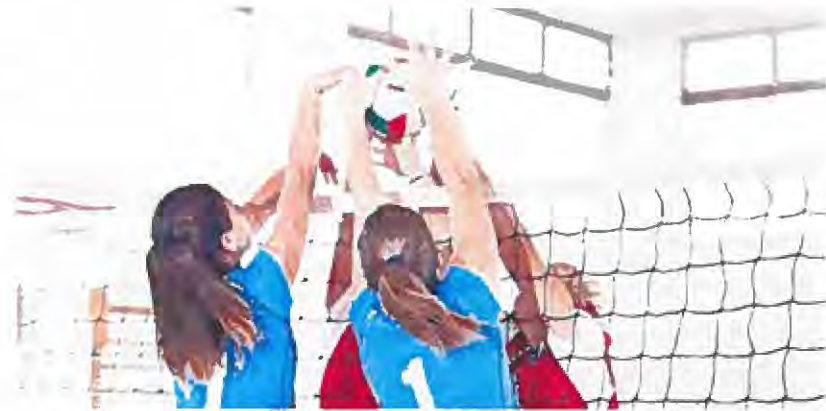
## REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL FACILITY DELIVERY MODELS

**PRIORITY:** Very High

**NOTES:** As previously noted, Rothesay is providing recreation facilities to groups that operate at the regional and sub-regional levels. These groups are essential to the daily lives of residents throughout the region. Ensuring equitable, fair and accessible facility provision is also essential to residents throughout the region.

Also, as previously noted, Rothesay and all regional communities are delivering facilities both above and below this Plan's statistical benchmark estimates. In cases such as rectangular fields, the Town is delivering well above statistical benchmarks. For assets such as field houses, curling facilities and walking tracks, residents must leave the community to access facilities located elsewhere in the region because previous facility numbers are no longer sustainable.

**PROJECT:** To ensure equitable, fair and accessible facility access for groups operating at regional and sub-regional levels, Rothesay and surrounding municipalities should assemble a working committee that fully explores all facility types, user requirements, and associated costs related to facility use for both the Saint John region and the KV region. The goal of this committee is to develop a shared platform and scheduling programming for all facilities and users that ensures provision meets actual requirements for all groups, and that costs are fair and shared for all groups and municipalities, while ensuring all groups can eliminate activity



waiting lists for KV residents participating in programs for such as gymnastics and women's softball offered from within the KV.

Additionally, the access and management of school facilities should be explored at these sessions with the goal of developing a reciprocal agreement with regional school districts to manage equitable and fair access to gyms, etc. The reciprocal agreement should put the scheduling of facilities into the hands of the municipal working group, and the school districts should receive benefits from this process (shared cost agreements for play spaces, field maintenance, etc.

This is obviously a difficult process to go through, and not all issues will be resolved immediately; however, user groups are struggling to deliver programs due to a lack of regional facilities. This project is the first step toward resolving this.

## THE ROTHESAY CAMPUS

**PRIORITY:** High

**NOTES:** Rothesay will proceed with the previously planned replacement of the existing indoor ice arena with a new multi-use and multi-generational Regional Intergenerational Complex (RIC) that includes a new rink, flexible community social and activity spaces that serve the HIVE and other active groups/individuals, and the renovation of the existing arena into a multi-use field house. This is an important and much-needed facility that ensures the residents have a powerful indoor and all-season complex that becomes a focal point at the heart of Rothesay.

This multi-use complex is planned for a site that includes Harry Miller Middle School and Rothesay High School. These are busy schools that will use the complex for both class and after-school purposes. Together, these facilities will generate significant regional use of the site, will generate substantial traffic, and will require substantial play and amenities space that will service both the schools and the multi-use complex.

**PROJECTS:** While the arena replacement and multi-use activity space construction proceeds, the Town should develop a master plan for the site that places all of the required recreational, play and operational components at the correct locations on the site, and proposes an approach for dealing with the varied traffic situations, at varied times each day. This should also include active transportation access, the creation of play spaces that serve the complex and both schools, as well as how the complex is presented as a branded Rothesay contribution to the regional recreational network.

Additionally, this campus will attract intensified residential and retail intensification within the Hampton Road or downtown area. Master planning at the campus should include land use planning for lands adjacent to the common, as well as Hampton Road. How these areas evolve within changing demographic, cultural and recreational contexts should be fully explored and understood to ensure opportunity is realized as investment occurs within the heart of Rothesay.

Participants in this exercise include the Town and the province, as well as the many groups that will use the complex.

**COST ESTIMATE:** \$130,000

## THE SPYGLASS HILL COMMUNITY PARK

**PRIORITY:** Medium

**NOTES:** The Spyglass Hill area of the Town is a rapidly growing residential area that requires park to ensure correct facility distribution across the Town. Given the location of this park, the area it serves, and access to other park spaces, the Town should explore a multi-use complex that includes multi-generational play space, multi-use play courts, and trail connections to the Hillside Trail.

Rothesay does not own land in this area; however, the Town will work with future developers to acquire land through the LFPP process.

**ACTION:** Rothesay should commission a master plan for a Spyglass Hill Community Park after the land is acquired through the LFPP process. Work on this project should include the residential developer/landowner and residents living in this area.



## COMMUNITY PROGRAM GAPS



As previously noted, Rothesay functions in a non-direct programming role and supports the delivery of programs for all ages through municipal faculty provision. Exceptions to this include summer activities and events, playground programs, swimming lessons, seasonal festival events and the Rothesay HIVE programming (delivered from minimal space within the Town Hall). Residents express high satisfaction with summer programming and events; therefore, this should continue as presently delivered.

The HIVE requires significantly more space to meet present-day demand, grow its programming offerings, and sustain this growth as mature populations grow. This should occur within the future Regional Intergenerational Complex (RIC) that creates a significant cultural heart within Rothesay to ensure HIVE programming is visually and physically at the heart of the community and within the Rothesay Campus.

Additionally, Rothesay should look to energize regional parks with activities that increase visitation while providing a broader inventory of activities to residents. This should include pickleball learning programs at Wells Recreation Park, yoga and fitness classes at Rothesay Common, senior paddling programs from the Bill McGuire Centre and adjacent marina, trail walking and photography courses on trails and at regional parks, etc. This approach provides both social and physical activities to residents while enhancing a sense of community.



Youth consulted during Master Plan consultations expressed a desire to access available informal space and programming within the same context and in close proximity to adult and senior programming. The notion of a youth centre is not interesting to youth; however, the notion of an intergenerational and multi-use complex that includes youth programming and informal space, complete with refreshments, food, etc., is interesting.

Additionally, as future facilities are established, the Town should explore the addition of programmed intergenerational activities, such as art classes and parasport activities, that expand the existing offerings into emerging areas of interest.



Finally, residents are aware that several programmed and informal activities are available within the KV region; however, information is difficult to access. The Town should work with its regional municipal partners to establish a digital and central information hub that provides information to all residents through an online platform and mobile application. This should also function as a booking system for the varied available activities and spaces, with the ability to expand to a booking system for regional facilities.



# 5.0 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN





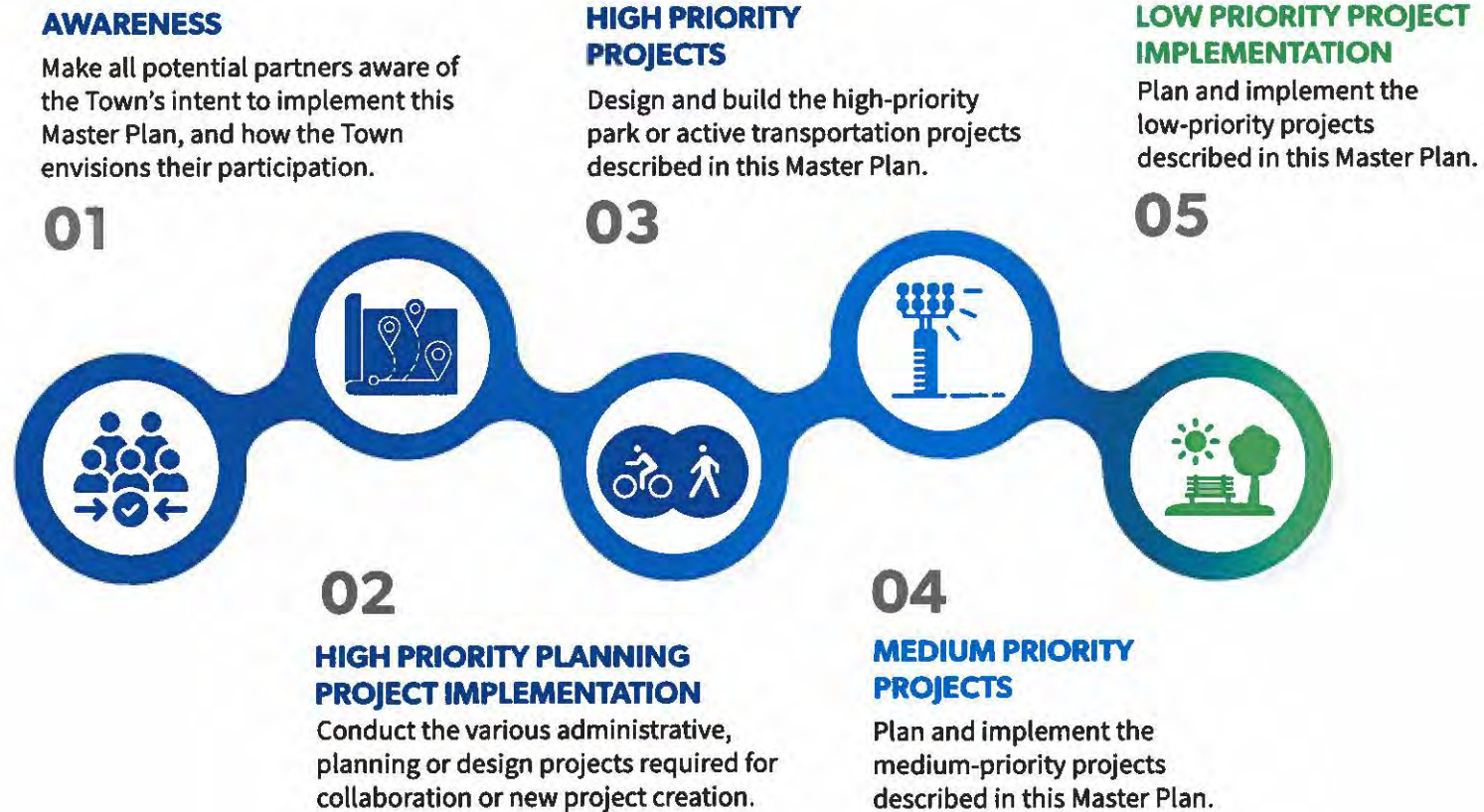
It is important to note that the Rothesay Recreation Master Plan proposes actions that align the Town’s recreation activities and facilities with contemporary desires and needs over the next ten years. This may seem like a long period of time; however, this will pass quickly, and this Master Plan must propose actions that the Town is capable of implementing during this period. The Town smartly plans to re-evaluate its recreation position after ten years.

This chapter is a roadmap for implementing this Master Plan through a series of clear actions. Although the actions are presented in a linear format, implementation is a highly iterative process that will occur differently than described. Actions may occur relative to funding opportunities, budget availability, and evolving/emerging user needs. Changes to the implementation sequence is normal and expected over the next ten years; however, actions should reflect the strategic phases described in this chapter.

## 5.1 PHASED STRATEGY

Rothesay’s Recreation Master Plan follows a three-phase strategy that ensures the Town is positioned relative to existing and emerging recreational trends and the evolving needs of groups providing activity. The three phases and associated projects are illustrated in Figure 9 on the next page.

FIGURE 9 | IMPLEMENTATION PLAN



## PHASE ONE | POSITIONING PROJECTS

### PROJECT NO.1A - MASTER PLAN AWARENESS

This Master Plan includes important low, medium and high-priority projects requiring continued participation with residents, Town Council and staff, political representatives, residents and program delivery groups/associations.

This project involves building partnerships with funding and operation partners (e.g., adjacent regional and sub-regional municipalities, the Fundy Regional Service Commission, the Province of New Brunswick and the Government of Canada).

Although Rothesay's Town Council officially accepts this Master Plan, it must be formally incorporated into official municipal plans to ensure staff have an implementation mandate.

Additionally, the Town should share this Plan with regional funding and support agencies such as the Province of New Brunswick's recreation staff, regional MLAs, and federal MPs. This will create awareness about the Council's intent to implement the Master Plan.

### PROJECT NO.1B - REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION

This Master Plan describes an approach to the collective delivery of regional and sub-regional facilities to support program providers within each or both contexts. Rothesay recreation staff should create an invitation to colleagues from the adjacent municipalities and the Fundy Regional Service Commission to explore both contexts by:

- » discuss and establish an inventory and use schedule for each facility used by the various user groups;
- » discuss the present-day and expected participation growth/decline for each group;
- » prioritize facility provision for groups with KV resident participant waiting lists;
- » explore a realignment of user group allocation based on an equitable model of facility delivery within the context of this growth/decline;
- » develop a regional policy relative to equitable facility costing to ensure cost does not relate to availability;
- » explore the creation of a reciprocal agreement with regional school districts that places school facility scheduling with the municipalities;
- » explore the purchase of a central facility scheduling and booking/pay system for all regional facilities;

- » explore the creation of a central online activity promotional platform that informs all KV residents about availability, costs, etc.; and
- » explore the creation of an independent administrative group that manages the system under the guidance of the regional partners.

This is obviously a challenging effort that will require participation from all regional administrative partners and will take time to explore the various contexts. It is important to note, once again, that user groups are regional or sub-regional in nature; therefore, administrative support must work this way.

#### **PROJECT NO.2 - HIGH-PRIORITY PROJECT PLANNING IMPLEMENTATION**

Town recreation staff should develop relevant RFP and other documents for release to develop the high-priority plans described in this Plan. These include the regional park anchored by East Riverside-Kingshurst Park and the Kennebecasis Park Lagoons Trail (illustrated in Figure 10), the various active transportation projects, the Rothesay Campus and Wells Recreation Park Master Plans.

Additionally, the Town should continue with the acquisition of lands under its present land for public purposes policy that ensures growing areas have access to community park space within the context of this Master Plan. This includes areas such as Dobbin Street, Sagamore Heights, and Kaitlyn Street developments.

#### **PROJECT NO.3 - HIGH-PRIORITY PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

Rothesay should commence work on the high-priority projects described in this Master Plan. This includes projects for Jordan Miller Park and the Rothesay Common Splash Pad.

FIGURE 10 | KENNEBECASIS PARK LAGOONS TRAIL PROJECT



## PHASE TWO | COMMUNITY PROJECTS

### PROJECT NO.5 - MEDIUM PRIORITY PROJECTS

The Town should commence work on the medium-priority projects described in this Master Plan. This includes a master planning project for the Spyglass Hill Community Park, as well as projects at Eriskay Drive Playground, Arthur Miller Fields, Dobbin Street Playground, and Islay Drive Playground.

## PHASE THREE | TIDY-UP PROJECTS

### PROJECT NO.6 - LOW PRIORITY PROJECTS

Rothesay should commence work on the low-priority projects described in this Master Plan. It is important to note that low priority does not equate to low importance; it merely means that these sites will require attention within the 10-year Master Plan implementation window. These include Bi-Centennial Park and Monaco Drive Playground.

## 5.2 MASTER PLAN POLICY

Rothesay will utilize this Master Plan to improve recreational sites and facilities over the next ten years relative to need and individual site/facility roles within the Town and region. Although this Master Plan proposes projects that may require more than ten years to implement, the Town can institutionalize the basic platform through the adoption of the plan relative to the policies provided below.

### OVERARCHING POLICY

**POLICY RRMP-1** Rothesay shall incorporate this Recreation Master Plan's policies, projects, schedules and figures into the Rothesay Municipal Plan.

**POLICY RRMP-2** Rothesay shall update the Municipal Plan's Generalized Land Use Plan to include the classified parks network illustrated in the Rothesay Recreation Master Plan.

**POLICY RRMP-3** Rothesay shall update the Municipal Plan to ensure parks, facilities and recreation are described as an essential component of Rothesay's lifestyle and economic development strategies that retain and attract new residents and businesses.

**POLICY RRMP-4** Council shall use Chapter 5.0 Implementation Plan as a general guide to implementing the Rothesay Recreation Master Plan.

**POLICY RRMP-5** Council shall use the Rothesay Recreation Master Plan as a guide for expanding the park network within existing or developing Town neighbourhoods and communities.



## TASK-SPECIFIC POLICY

**PREAMBLE - REGIONAL FACILITY DELIVERY.** Rothesay shall continue to provide existing and new recreation facilities for local and regional use. Staff and Council will continue to evaluate operational costs for all facilities relative to local and regional use; however, staff will begin to work with staff from neighbouring KV communities and program providers on a regional approach to delivering equitable facilities for residents within the KV area in a manner that ensures equitable facility delivery.

**POLICY RRMP-6** Council shall direct recreation leadership to work with recreation leadership from the Towns of Hampton and Quispamsis to develop a sub-regional approach to facility delivery for both recreational and economic development purposes.

**PREAMBLE - ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION.** Any active transportation work should include linkages to adjacent communities while improving connectivity within Rothesay. This should include the extension of the QR Trail into the heart of Rothesay from Quispamsis.

**POLICY RRMP-7** Council shall prioritize a trail connection to the Town of Quispamsis by connecting to the QR Trail and extending the active transportation linkage into the heart of Rothesay.

**POLICY RRMP-8** Council shall prioritize the Hampton Road shoreline trail connection between the East Riverside-Kingshurst Park and K-Park as an important local trail and a foundation for a future connection into the City of Saint John.

**PREAMBLE - REGIONAL DIGITAL ADMINISTRATIVE PLATFORM.** Following successful discussions with the Towns of Hampton and Quispamsis, recreation leadership, associated staff, and the greater community can explore a central and contemporary booking and operational system that ties together parks and facility use with operational requirements at both the Town and sub-regional levels. This system will provide recreation leadership with the data required to fully understand operational cost implications for the various recreation assets while providing local user groups and residents with a central regional booking system.

**POLICY RRMP-9** Council shall consider the allocation of appropriate funds and request Town recreation leadership to explore the expansion of the present digital administrative and activity promotional platform to include a comprehensive and equitable booking system.

### 5.3 KEEPING TRACK

The Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) provides a toolkit that proposes monitoring measures when implementing Recreation Master Plans. Although this is a helpful tool, Rothesay should develop a simplified approach that reflects this unique regional position within the context of its sub-regional partners. Thus, Rothesay's Council and staff should continually ask and seek to answer 'yes' to the following five questions.

- » Are we creating better social and activity spaces for our residents?
- » Are we creating better operational environments for our Town and sub-regional program providers?
- » Have we accomplished this in a sub-regional sense without creating an additional burden on our relative level of staffing and budgets?
- » Are we attracting additional visitation to our Town and sub-region from which local businesses benefit?
- » Are we attracting new businesses and residents to our Town as a result of this approach to recreational program and facility delivery model?

# APPENDIX A





## WHY RECREATION MATTERS

Recreation is constantly changing to align with evolving communities. Historically, it was considered a public good and focused on public outreach, but nowadays, the focus has shifted toward an individual-based, facility-focused, user-pay model.<sup>1</sup> As new needs emerge from the rapid social, demographic, technological, environmental, and economic changes in our world, recreation must evolve alongside them.

*The Framework for Recreation in Canada: Pathways to Wellbeing* highlights recreation’s potential to be a collaborative leader in addressing major issues of the day. In doing so, the framework has devised a renewed definition of recreation: “Recreation is the experience that results from freely chosen participation in physical, social, intellectual, creative and spiritual pursuits that enhance individual and community well-being.”<sup>2</sup> This revitalized definition of recreation speaks to the contemporary role recreation plays for people of all ages and abilities, throughout any stage of life.

In order to serve communities in an equitable and meaningful way, recreation must be fostered. This is achieved through governmental and non-governmental organizations. The broader and more inclusive the reach of recreation, the more sectors of these organizations must be involved in its growth, such as environmental, indigenous affairs, tourism, heritage, arts and culture, sports and fitness, and education. As many of these sectors share similar goals and initiatives, recreation offers the perfect common ground for them to come together and collaborate. By engaging multiple sectors and organizations, the benefits of recreation span that much deeper within the community and are able to provide impactful health benefits, economic benefits, and socio-demographic benefits to communities and individuals.

## HEALTH BENEFITS

Park and recreation agencies are leaders in addressing public health threats, such as physical inactivity, chronic diseases, social isolation, loneliness, and food access.<sup>3</sup> In addition, recreation helps people live longer through its mental and physical health benefits.<sup>4</sup>

Recreation benefits mental health by increasing social networks, levels of physical activity, social skills, quality of life, and self-esteem. It is a proven therapeutic tool which helps to restore physical, mental, and social capacities and abilities.<sup>5</sup> Recently, a Canadian study found a positive correlation between participation in three leisure activities and decreased depression.<sup>6</sup> By offering opportunities for networking and expanding social circles, recreation reduces feelings of isolation, loneliness, and alienation.

Recreation benefits physical health by fostering an active lifestyle, providing individuals with routine destinations, and combating disease and illness. In 2021, physical inactivity accounted for nearly 11,000 new cancer cases in Canada.<sup>7</sup> This is particularly significant given only half of Canadian adults aged 18-79 are meeting the recommended levels of physical activity.<sup>8</sup> Fortunately, physical activity is among the most significant modifiable behaviours that influence a person's likelihood of developing chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, stroke, or cancer<sup>9</sup> and recreation serves as a key tool to support this modification.



In addition to active forms of recreation, such as sports and fitness activities, all types of recreation have the potential to foster physical fitness through active transportation. A Montreal study found that adults aged 45 and older exhibited a greater likelihood of walking at least 30 minutes a day, five days a week, if they lived in a neighbourhood with a greater density of destinations.<sup>10</sup> Recreation facilities and programming contribute to this density of destinations. By establishing routine destinations for people within communities outside of utilitarian trips such as grocery store runs and work commutes, recreation facilities and programming can serve as a gateway for people to incorporate active transportation into their daily lives.

Interestingly, and perhaps surprisingly, social recreation also benefits physical health. Research has found that those who participate in community activities and surround themselves with friends and family are four times less likely to get colds than those who are more isolated.<sup>11</sup> Social recreation also improves survival rates of cancer patients,<sup>12</sup> and serves as a prevention factor for mental decline,<sup>13</sup> while also sharpening memory and cognitive skills.<sup>14</sup> This broad spectrum of mental and physical health benefits makes recreation an essential tool for improving the overall health and well-being of communities.

## ECONOMIC BENEFITS

In Atlantic Canada, employment growth in arts, entertainment, and recreation is projected to increase by an average of 1.9% per year over the 2023-2025 period, and is projected to grow even faster in New Brunswick, averaging 3.3% growth annually.<sup>15</sup> These numbers highlight the impressive impact both social and active recreation has on the economy.

While work opportunities within the recreation sector are trending upward, work also hinders many Canadians' participation in recreation. Canadians are working more hours and, as a result, spending less time on recreation.<sup>16</sup> As the number of hours Canadians work fluctuates, so do the times they are working them. Fortunately, recreation has the opportunity to adapt to these changing needs and, in doing so, serve demographics that have previously been

underrepresented.

Recreation facilities also benefit the economy by boosting housing markets and property values. In particular, trails highly impact property values as communities recognize them as safe places to be active, healthy and community oriented.<sup>17</sup> So much so that, when considering where to move, homebuyers rank walking and biking paths as one of the most important features of a new community.<sup>18</sup>

Another essential economic benefit recreation offers is the draw of tourism. As one of the fastest-growing industries in the world,<sup>19</sup> tourism is an economic powerhouse. Research conducted by Tourism BC found that 25-30% of all travellers from North America who participate in either hiking or biking chose their destination specifically for these types of recreation.<sup>20</sup> Additionally, sports tourism is an increasingly prosperous industry which engages not only sporting groups and tourism operators but municipalities, facility operators, schools, and local business groups.<sup>21</sup> While these opportunities offer immediate economic benefits, they also offer long-term economic benefits through the establishment of reputations and legacies.

## COMMUNITY BENEFITS

One of the strongest ways recreation benefits a community is through its contribution to community identity. By stimulating participation in community life and fostering community pride, recreation serves as a key catalyst for building strong, self-sufficient, and attractive communities.

Some of the many ways this is achieved are by reducing self-destructive behaviours and harmful activity, such as smoking and substance abuse, and reducing crime and racism while increasing understanding and empathy between diverse cultures.<sup>22</sup> Specifically, recreation facilities can benefit the community by providing established, maintained, and protected public spaces. More often than not, disorderly environments send the message that no one values the property or will challenge crimes against it, which increases residents' general fear, weakens community controls, and invites criminal behaviour.<sup>23</sup>

The community benefits of recreation have personal benefits as well. For example, recreation prolongs independent living for seniors by keeping them vital and involved in community life.<sup>24</sup> While this benefits seniors' quality of life, the community also benefits by having experienced members who donate their time and expertise as leaders of recreation programming and keen participants who populate and grow the recreational landscape of a community.

Nearly half of those who participate in recreation several times a week report being completely satisfied with

their quality of life, compared to only a quarter of non-participants.<sup>25</sup> Moreover, adults who use parks, recreation, and cultural facilities, and participate in recreation programs are more willing to volunteer than those who do not.<sup>26</sup> In this way, recreation promotes a cycle of community and individual benefits.

Furthermore, recreation is essential to the development of children and youth. Physical motor skills, social skills, intellectual capacities and creativity are learned through play, sports, and cultural activities. Youth who participate in recreation also do better academically, with research finding nearly 8 out of 10 teens who engage in after-school activities are A or B students, while only half of teens who do not participate in after-school activities earn these high marks.<sup>27</sup> Ultimately, recreation serves as a key support system for young people to acquire essential life skills so they may develop into healthy, well-rounded, and engaged members of society.



## RECREATION TRENDS

### OUTDOOR RECREATION

Outdoor recreation encompasses everything from nature-based activities, such as hiking, to organized activities in curated outdoor spaces, such as baseball games. The recreational landscape of a community greatly impacts this range of outdoor recreation offerings.

In Canada, and the Maritimes specifically, weather plays a huge role in outdoor recreation. While some outdoor recreation can be enjoyed year-round, regardless of the weather—such as playing at playgrounds—other activities, such as skiing and snowshoeing, are seasonally conditional. Additionally, some forms of outdoor recreation can be conducted indoors to adapt to changing weather, depending on infrastructure availability—such as walking, skating, and even sports such as soccer. By considering these factors, communities can build attractive year-round outdoor recreation offerings that cater to the needs and interests of their citizens.

With this in mind, one of the most multi-functional investments for outdoor recreation for communities is trail networks, as they not only provide a year-round setting for outdoor recreation, but can adapt to fit the seasonal needs and interests of users.



In addition to being adaptable infrastructure for outdoor recreation, trails also support affordable forms of outdoor recreation such as hiking and walking.<sup>28</sup> Investing in trails is an investment in community equity not only because they provide affordable opportunities for recreation, but because new trails can also help to dismantle the unequal distribution of trees and green spaces among communities with varying demographics such as income and race.<sup>29</sup> Although access to public green spaces, including parks, nature preserves, forests, and community gardens, varies across racial and economic lines,<sup>30</sup> establishing and promoting inclusive trail networks, both within and to community parks, serves as an indispensable tool for communities to actively combat inequity and contribute to a community identity that reflects and supports everyone who is a part of it.



Furthermore, Statistics Canada reported that in 2019, 77% of Canadians participated in outdoor activities close to home, whereas only 23% of Canadians did not participate in outdoor activities close to home.<sup>31</sup> Trails offer the dual benefit of serving as recreational infrastructure and as means to connect people to other recreation destinations. This also makes them a meeting place for communities, and as a result, they promote family unity and strengthen friendships and neighbour relations.<sup>32</sup> A well-managed trail can also serve as a focal point for a community for special events or serve as a gathering place, both of which can lead to greater interaction between residents and improve the cohesion of a community.<sup>33</sup>

Trails also benefit the community by helping to secure lands to protect in perpetuity.<sup>34</sup> They can preserve culturally and historically valuable areas<sup>35</sup> and increase the value of open space to the public by providing access.<sup>36</sup> Moreover, trails offer an inclusive opportunity for users of all ages to learn more about nature, culture or history by providing firsthand experiences that educate users about the importance of the natural environment and respect for nature.<sup>37</sup> In this way, trails are an indispensable asset to the outdoor recreation facilities of a community.



## SPORTS

In 2016, the five most popular sports in Canada were ice hockey, golf, soccer, running, and basketball.<sup>38</sup> For Canadian children, soccer is the most popular sport.<sup>39</sup> The popularity and practice of sport in Canada is influenced by the four seasons, as well as geographic and social diversity.<sup>40</sup> Interestingly, research has found most Canadians who regularly participated in sports did so recreationally. Only 14% of Canadians who regularly participated in sports did so competitively, compared to 86% of Canadians who did so recreationally.<sup>41</sup> The diverse participation in Canadian sports makes it an important contributor to the overall recreation landscape of communities.

In 2016, 27% of all Canadians aged 15 and older regularly participated in sports.<sup>42</sup> This is significant given adult Canadians who are active in sport average almost three hours of primarily moderate to vigorous physical activity per week and, as a result, are more likely to reach recommended activity levels that have been proven to reduce mortality rates by as much as 30%.<sup>43</sup> However, participation rates for adults in Canadian sports are dropping in every province.<sup>44</sup> In New Brunswick, data from 2016 reports 21.1% of people regularly participated in sports, while 78.9% did not.<sup>45</sup>

For Canadian youth, sports participation is also declining.<sup>46</sup> In 2011, 74% of Canadian children were reported to participate in sports; as of 2020, the number has fallen to 60%.<sup>47</sup> Additionally, while there is a reported uptick in youth engagement in individual sports and physical activities such as running, strength training or conditioning, this growth is marginal relative to the much larger declines in team and facility-based sports such as soccer, basketball, hockey, swimming, and baseball.<sup>48</sup>

This decline in youth sport participation is especially significant for girls. Although a similar number of boys and girls start out in a sport, more boys are involved in sports as of ages 9-12 and stay involved through to late adolescence and the duration of their lives.<sup>49</sup> This is particularly concerning given that if a girl has yet to participate in sports by the age of 10, there is only a 10% chance she will be physically active as an adult.<sup>50</sup> Since Canadian females consistently participate in sports at lower rates than males, across all demographic categories,<sup>51</sup> considering active means of inclusion in sports programming, recreation facilities, and infrastructure is essential.

Although sports can also help strengthen communities by building social capital and fostering greater inclusion of equity-deserving groups,<sup>52</sup> lack of inclusion in sports is a problem that requires continuous and active attention to dismantle. For example, LGBTQ+ youth are less likely to participate in sports than their non-LGBTQ+ peers, and visible minorities participate in sports less than the rest of the population.<sup>53</sup> By dismantling social and safety barriers in sports and fostering a culture of inclusion through both programming and the built environment, communities can enhance the inclusion of marginalized groups in sports. One of the ways this can be achieved is by being proactive in recruiting talent that is diverse. For example, there are very few racially diverse national champions, let alone local champions, in aquatic sports.<sup>54</sup>

## IMMIGRATION AND RECREATION

In the second quarter of 2022, New Brunswick experienced a record population increase of 9,712 people from both interprovincial migration and international immigration.<sup>55</sup> International immigration added a record 5,484 people to New Brunswick's population in the second quarter of 2022.<sup>56</sup> These records highlight the changing demographics and increasing cultural diversity of New Brunswick. These changes significantly impact recreation trends, practices and priorities in new and significant ways, as well as offer the opportunity to improve recreation now and for the foreseeable future.

Recreation is a gateway to the community. For both international and interprovincial newcomers to the province, recreation can contribute to a sense of belonging. By functioning as a kind of "universal language," recreation makes it possible to connect with others regardless of spoken language.<sup>57</sup> It can serve as a common ground to bring diverse people together and foster the opportunity to learn from others about new cultures or skills in a safe, non-judgemental context.

For newcomers to Canada, recreation offers many supports, benefits, and opportunities; however, for these benefits and opportunities to be accessible, developing an understanding of the meanings and relationships newcomers have with recreation upon their arrival in Canada is essential. Many newcomers to Canada arrive "with a unique inventory of sport and fundamental movement skills and, like all Canadians, require an individualized approach to enhance their own level of physical literacy through quality, stage-appropriate experiences."<sup>58</sup>

When considering recreational opportunities for newcomers, it is also important to consider how some newcomers may wish to try new recreational activities that are popular and heavily mainstreamed in Canada. Others may arrive with a desire to continue the kinds of recreation they already know and love. Recreational programming and facilities should reflect the opportunities for both of these options.

Today, more than 16,000 immigrants in Canada earn their living as program leaders and instructors in recreation, sports, and fitness. Immigrants make up 20% of people working as sports coaches in the country.<sup>59</sup> This is significant given research shows the value of peer support from people with lived experience of immigration can enhance newcomers' experience of recreation.<sup>60</sup>

With this in mind, it is also important to understand the barriers discouraging or excluding many newcomers from joining recreation programs in their new communities. Barriers can include issues of accessibility of activities, spaces, information and language; familiarity with technology to be able to access online information and registration; competing demands on time such as shift work; and the availability of social support.<sup>61</sup>

Deeper political and cultural barriers may also affect newcomers' experience of recreation in Canada, such as cultural perceptions of specific sports and activities, access to dedicated women and girl-only environments,<sup>62</sup> programming that fails to accommodate cultural and religious differences, political and cultural clashes from or between countries of origin that may follow newcomers to Canada and influences who they are willing to play with and against, as well as prejudice and racism.<sup>63</sup>

Multiple Canadian initiatives showcase how by addressing these barriers to recreation for newcomers, communities can enhance their recreation experience. The Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia, the City of Halifax, and Sport Nova Scotia hosted a Winter by the Sea event which aimed to educate participants on how to be active in the winter months as well as offered the opportunity to try activities such as skating, snowshoeing, and skiing.<sup>64</sup> The Multicultural Association of Fredericton addressed access barriers by displaying recreation program information in different languages on computer screens in newcomer

language classes, as well as produced multilingual posters to be shared with community partners and cultural groups.<sup>65</sup> They also developed the Newcomer Youth Bike Project, which supplies young immigrants with donated bicycles and cycling equipment to help them get where they need to go, as well as the freedom to explore and participate in their new community.<sup>66</sup>

Just like every newcomer's experience and resettlement journey is different, so too is every newcomer's experience with recreation. In addition to larger, organized initiatives, small, informal, and flexible recreation opportunities can have a lasting impact by offering manageable, welcoming, and sustainable options. By taking active steps to improve, promote, and create recreation experiences for newcomers, communities can bolster their overall recreation profile as well as enhance the resettlement process for new members of the community.

## RECREATION AND THE PANDEMIC

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in calamity and disruption across the world. These hardships, however, were not equally distributed across demographics, and as a result, a light was shone on systemic issues that has plagued society long before the pandemic began.<sup>67</sup> Now a renewed public interest in matters of equity, access, and inclusion has emerged, opening the door to reshaping community priorities and practices now and for the long term.

The pandemic highlighted the systemic inequalities and discrimination of racism, inequitable enforcement, historical underinvestment, unequal access to amenities, and social judgement that excludes many from participating in and benefiting from parks and recreation in their own communities.<sup>68</sup> For example, over the course of the pandemic, Canadians who identify as Black, Indigenous, or a Person of Colour (BIPOC) were more likely to report experiencing barriers to park use, such as fear of ticketing and harassment.<sup>69</sup> Awareness of these barriers disrupts the illusion that parks and recreation are automatically for everyone, and highlights how to achieve the status of inclusive, active measures and strategies must be implemented for recreation planning, programming, and infrastructure.

It is important to keep these issues in mind when looking at the impact of the pandemic on parks and recreation. 94% of cities reported that park use had increased during the pandemic, while two-thirds of Canadians said they had spent more time in parks compared to before the pandemic, and 39% reported their park use had doubled during the pandemic.<sup>70</sup> That being said, although 69% of White Canadians reported visiting green spaces more often throughout the pandemic, only 59% of Canadians who identify as BIPOC reported the same. Additionally, 25% of BIPOC Canadians reported they spent less time in parks due to the pandemic as opposed to only 17% of White Canadians.<sup>71</sup>

With the general uptick in park use over the course of the pandemic, more people are now invested in the future of parks and programming. Now 85% of Canadians have said they want to see more public funding invested in parks, 76% of Canadians have said they want to see more community programming in parks, 71% of Canadians have said that local and neighbourhood parks are where they prefer to visit, 58% of Canadians became more interested in stewardship activities in natural spaces, and 89% of Canadians have said that they tried a new activity in a park in 2020.<sup>72</sup>

In regards to overall physical activity levels, no differences in meeting the physical activity recommendation between 2018 and 2020 were observed among adults aged 18-49 years; whereas for adults aged 50-79 years, an overall increase was observed.<sup>73</sup> For youth, however, an overall decline in physical activity was observed between 2018 and 2020. This is likely due to interruptions in schooling and organized recreation.<sup>74</sup> This drop in physical activity among youth is cause for concern as it may potentially lead to long-lasting disengagement from organized sports and activities.<sup>75</sup> With this in mind, recreation providers can better target recruitment strategies moving forward.

The effects of the pandemic on recreation were felt differently across activities. For example, industries that were able to adapt to changing pandemic restrictions and maintain outdoor operations saw stronger growth in 2021 than those whose activities were primarily indoor or reliant on factors such as weather.<sup>76</sup> The timing of the restrictions also impacted the effects felt by recreation providers. For example, industries which normally experience summer as their busiest time, such as golf courses and country clubs, showed strong growth across all provinces throughout 2021.<sup>77</sup> In fact, golf participation reached new heights in 2020, which in turn gave momentum into the 2021 season.<sup>78</sup>

By understanding the ways in which Canadian recreation has been impacted by the pandemic, communities and recreation providers can define strategic goals to help support, grow, and diversify their recreation landscape. In doing so, communities can alter their practices to better meet the present and long-term recreational needs of the population.

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# APPENDIX B





## ROTHESAY RECREATION INVENTORY SUMMARY

The table on the following two pages provides a summary of Rothesay's existing recreation inventory and components.

TABLE 1 | ROTHESAY RECREATION FACILITIES INVENTORY

Name of Facility	Address	Indoor Ice Surfaces	Outdoor Ice Surfaces	Community Use Rooms	Tennis Courts	Diamond Fields	Playgrounds	Multi-use court	Rectangle field - natural	Rectangle field - artificial	Beach Volleyball Courts	Multi-use Gymnasium	Indoor fitness centre	Squash Courts	Indoor Pickleball Courts	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	Boat Launch	Beach	Community Garden	Dog Facilities	Trails
Afterburn Performance	71 Marr Road												1								
Anniversary Park	Rothesay Park Road																				
Arthur Miller Fields	48 Hampton Rd									2						2					
Bi-Centennial Park	401 NB Route 111					1															Yes
Bill McGuire Centre	95 James Renforth Drive			1	2																
Dobbin Street Playground	25 Dobbin Street							1													
Donlyn Drive Playground	53 Donlyn Drive							1													
East Riverside-Kingshurst Park	2602 Rothesay Road																	1			Yes
Eriskey Playground	116 Eriskey Drive							1													
Fairvale Ball Park	14 Ball Park Road					2															
Fairvale Elementary School Ultimate Dreamland Park	16 School Avenue							1	1			1									
Fitzgerald Ball Park	James Renforth Drive					1		1													
ForFitness and Athletics	2 Hampton Road												1								
Harry Miller Middle School												1									
Hillside Trail	Grove Avenue																				Yes
Islay Drive Playground	40 Islay Drive							1	1												
Jordan Miller Park	8 Ricketts Lane				1			1	1									1	1		
K-Park Beach	Princess Place																	1	1		
K-Park Elementary School	10 Broadway Street							1		1		1	1								
K-Park Outdoor Rink	Kildare Court			1																	
K-Park Lagoons Trail	Park Drive																			1	Yes
Monaco Drive Playground	75 Monaco Drive							1													
Renforth Rotary Park	141 James Renforth Drive							1													Yes
Renforth Wharf Beach	James Renforth Drive			1														1	1		
Riverside Country Club	2524 Rothesay Road															2					

2024January8OpenSessionFINAL\_330

Name of Facility	Address	Indoor Ice Surfaces	Outdoor Ice Surfaces	Community Use Rooms	Tennis Courts	Diamond Fields	Playgrounds	Multi use court	Rectangle field - natural	Rectangle field - artificial	Beach Volleyball Courts	Multi-use Gymnasium	Indoor fitness centre	Squash Courts	Indoor Pickleball Courts	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	Boat launch	Beach	Community Garden	Dog Facilities	Trails
RNS Bonycastle Memorial Arena	112 College Hill Road	1																			
RNS Irving Gymnasium				1								1									
RNS Kennebecasis Squash Club	40 College Hill Road													2							
RNS Roslyn Isobel Stollery Fitness Centre													1								
RNS Rothesay Netherwood School	40 College Hill Road				3				5												
Rothesay Arena	65 Hampton Road	1		1																	
Rothesay Athletics and Training	83 Hampton Road												1								
Rothesay Common	24 Gondola Point Road		1				1	1													Yes
Rothesay Elementary School	230 Eriskay Drive						1					1									
Rothesay High School	61 Hampton Road								1			1									
Rothesay Park School												1									
Rothesay Tennis Club	3 Tennis Court Road				4																
Rothesay Yacht Club	Wharf Road																1				
Rothesay Town Hall - Rothesay Hive	70 Hampton Road			1																	
Scribner Park	12 Scribner Crescent						1													1	
Station Park	Station Road																				
Steele-Kennedy Nature Park	Hampton Road																				Yes
Stuart Dobbin Memorial Park	Mulberry Lane																				Yes
Veterans Memorial Park	Hampton Road																				
Villa Madonna Trail	Villa Madonna Road																				Yes
Wells Recreation Building & Park	75 French Village Road			1	2	2	1	1	1												1 Yes
<b>Total</b>		<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	



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