

Swimming Pools: Response to the Toronto Lands Corporation Report, “Long-term Strategy for 39 Pools in the Toronto District School Board,” March 2009

The Board decided:

- (a) That a letter be written to David Crombie and the Aquatic Working Group expressing appreciation for their commitment to their task and for producing a detailed and thoughtful report;
- (b) That the 13 pools identified by the Aquatic Working Group and presented in Chart 1 (see page 10) be kept open and operational subject to the provision of Government funding for capital improvements and subject to projected revenue generation being realigned;
- (c) That a decision on 26 pools, as presented in Charts 2 and 3 (see pages 11 and 12, respectively), be postponed to the June 2009 regular meeting to allow staff to work with the Aquatic Working Group to consider revenue viability;
- (d) That programming and related staffing requirements for the pools that remain open be presented at the June 2009 regular meeting;
- (e) That the Toronto Lands Corporation continue to be given responsibility for oversight of the Board’s swimming pools as decided August 27, 2008, providing operational oversight and licensing/permitting services for 39 pools, and including:
 - (i) Moving forward with the Monarch Park solar energy project that will cover swimming pool heating costs and possibly the rest of the building;
 - (ii) Conducting an aquatics swim strategy cost-benefit analysis as a means to fund the remaining swimming pools and all other pools;
 - (iii) Entering into discussion with the City of Toronto re the Jimmie Simpson swimming pool which is scheduled to close for more than eight months with a view to the City permitting Queen Alexandra as a replacement;
- (f) That staff and the Toronto Lands Corporation explore the possibility of the Toronto Foundation for Student Success or another suitable foundation assisting with support of the Board’s swimming pools, including the possibility of creating an endowment fund and enabling philanthropic contributions;
- (g) That the report of the Aquatic Working Group be referred to the City of Toronto and that the City of Toronto be invited to work collaboratively with the Board and the Aquatics Working Group on funding a long-term solution for the Board’s swimming pools that are in need of revenue viability;
- (h) That the following be referred to staff for comment: That staff and the Toronto Lands Corporation investigate the possibility of using the funds generated from the sale of the Leslie Street properties to offset the operating costs of the Riverdale swimming pool and any other local pool.