



Welcome to Paul Reynolds Community Centre Opening 2017!

By Tanya Haywood
Deputy City Manager of Community Services

The City has entered into a new era with construction of the Paul Reynolds Community Centre at Wedgewood Park. As much as our earlier recreation and community centres have been treasured by our citizens, none of them had been purpose built, and so, each of them have brought challenges with them from age to size limitations, and inefficient heating and electrical systems.

We are building a new legacy in Wedgewood Park, one that fully meets the community needs, and one that has the functionality and efficiencies we need at the city.

We broke ground on June 20, 2014 and we are on schedule to open our doors in January 2017.

Let's start at the top

We've used cross laminated timber (CLT) panels as part of the roof construction. This special wood from Russia is valued as a construction product for many reasons, including:

- an ability to compensate for rapid fluctuations in temperature and humidity (highly likely in this building environment);
- efficiencies in construction with CLT panels (simple assembly with little need for specialized equipment); and,
- cost competitive with all other building products due to superior insulating values (less thermal bridging than metal) and lower ongoing maintenance than metal roof decking.

Next, let's dive into the pool

The natatorium or aquatics area, is the crowning glory of our new community centre. We have used many cutting edge design attributes to give us an outstanding facility.

The facility will house two pools: a 25 metre, six-lane rectangular pool and a warmer-water leisure pool with a zero depth 'beach' entry, lazy river and splash pad feature.

After tireless research, our consultants recommended the Myrtha Pool system from Italy in our tender package and we couldn't be happier.

This type of swimming pool is used around the world and is fast becoming preferred for competitive and recreational swimming because:

- the stainless steel pool has a longer life-span;
- it's less costly compared to labour intensive traditional pools;
- there's less possibility of leaking as there is no potential for corrosion;
- it requires considerably less maintenance than traditional pools; and,
- the padded floor bed makes movement in the water more comfortable and safe.



Two water slides!

Both slides will start eight metres (26.25 feet) above the deck and will twist and turn a total of 64 metres (210 feet) for the open slide and 56 metres (185 feet) for the enclosed slide. Water slides are a wonderful new addition to our recreation offerings at the City, and provides a fun opportunity for active recreation.

Turning up the heat while turning down the costs

One of the most energy efficient features of the Centre is our heating system. The building uses geothermal heating which is energy and environmentally efficient. In fact, the estimated pay-back period on the capital cost of this system is only seven years.

We hope you will all join us to celebrate the opening in 2017!

The Paul Reynolds Community Centre is a modern facility which will serve the residents of St. John's for many years to come. It was designed and engineered by local companies and was the subject of numerous public consultations which were well attended. Further public consultation on programming is expected this year.

At a glance:

- 74,000 square feet of overall space
- 25-meter lane pool
- Leisure pool, including two waterslides
- Full-sized 6,700 square foot gymnasium
- 1,500 square foot dedicated children's area
- 1,500 square foot senior's area
- Dedicated youth room
- Outdoor playground
- Fitness area
- Several multi-purpose spaces

