

MIRAMICHI WELLNESS MULTIPLEX

UPDATE

City Council received an update from city staff and representatives from MJMA Architecture

& Design and Teal Architects + Planners on the Miramichi Wellness Multiplex at a meeting Tuesday, May 30.

Here are a few things the architecture and design team discussed at the public meeting:

Timeline

A timeline for the project was shared. Over the next 11 months, the architecture and design team will work on the following:

- Schematic design 2.5 months
- Design Development 3 months
- Construction documents 5.5 to 6 months

At the end of May 2024, the design will be complete, and construction on the Multiplex will begin. It will take 27 months to build and in September 2026, the building will be ready to be occupied and used for the winter season.

Area diagram

The concept of the building is to make it multi-purpose usage in all areas, maximizing the most use out of each room and space. The final design will encompass what was identified in the needs assessments and consultations with user groups.

Additional Components

Members of council and the community have inquired about the cost of some additional components for the facility. Additional estimated costs were provided:

They are:

- Second ice surface build a second ice surface adjacent to arena estimated cost of \$14.2 to \$15.2 million
- Arena increase seating from 1860 to 2500 estimated cost \$5 million
- Gymnasium optimize gymnasium size estimated cost \$1 million
- Bleachers in gymnasium estimated cost \$275,000
- Double size of multipurpose room from 2,000 square feet to 4,000 square feet estimated cost \$1 million
- Indoor play structure for lobby area estimated cost of \$325,000

City council will confirm which, if any, of these will be included in the design of the Multiplex at a council meeting June 13th.

MIRAMICHI WELLNESS MULTIPLEX FAQS

Q.Why are we not building a second ice surface at the Miramichi Wellness Multiplex?

A. The needs assessment and consultation process did not identify the need to have three ice surfaces in the City. It identified the need for two ice surfaces which will remain with the continued operation of the Miramichi Civic Centre.

There is also ice time available at both arenas now operating.

If deemed necessary with the continued population growth of the City, the potential for a second ice surface could be considered as part of a Phase 2 project.

Q. How much will it cost for the pool?

A. It is difficult to determine the exact cost of a pool when it is included in a multiplex type building that would be sharing heating and electrical components. A similar sized stand-alone pool in Fredericton was estimated to cost \$30 million in 2021.

Q. What will the Multiplex replace?

A. It will replace six aging and deteriorating recreation facilities in the city. They include the Lindon Recreation Centre, Golden Hawk Recreation Centre, MVHS pool, Chatham outdoor pool, Lord Beaverbrook Arena and the Kinsman outdoor pool.

Q. How much will it cost to build the Multiplex?

A. The estimated total cost is \$67.3 million with a federal contribution of \$18 million, provincial contribution of \$12 million and the City contributing \$37 million. A \$4 million public fundraising campaign will be part of the city's portion.

Q. Where will the Miramichi Wellness Multiplex be built?

A. It will be built on property the City purchased on Douglastown Boulevard. This property will also create significant private development opportunity in the heart of the City's Regional Commercial District.