

CS-015-23

Recommendations in the 2023 Community Services & Facilities Master Plan that are Addressed by Agreement with BGC

CS&F Master Plan Recommendations	How this Recommendation Fits with BGC Agreement
#22 - Promote the use of existing multi-purpose rooms in Dorchester and Thorndale, including exploring opportunities to partner with organizations and the community to provide activities and events within these spaces.	This agreement increases the use of the multi-purpose rooms at the Thorndale Lions Community Centre, including during times of day where demand for this space is relatively low (weekday afternoons).
#46 - Work collectively with all service providers to discuss the program and service recommendations in the CSF Master Plan to determine how all related organizations can play a part in strengthening service provision in Thames Centre.	This recommendation is an ongoing conversation and joint effort between the Municipality and BGC.
#49 – Work with all recreation and sport service providers to determine participation per age group to understand baseline participation rates and realistic participation targets in the future.	BGC has been provided with the data from Monteith Brown's surveys during the Master Plan development, which includes input on what sort of activities the community is interested in. BGC plans to take this information into consideration when determining their future program offerings in Thorndale.
#50 - Ensure that there is an equitable distribution of program opportunities throughout the Municipality, where feasible.	Partnering with BGC in Thorndale definitely increases the variety of programs offered in the northern zone of Thames Centre.
#51 – Provide/enable a range of choices per age group including active, sport, creative, general interest and STEM program opportunities.	BGC thrives at offering a wide variety of programs and activities in Thorndale, including but not limited to: youth events (Back 40 Bash, movie nights, sports nights), outdoor and indoor games & sports, visual arts and other skill building sessions (cooking coding, science experiments, academic support, babysitting courses, First Aid/CPR, Safe Food Handling, leadership training, career exploration and more).
#54 – Ensure that all providers have access to quality assurance models and training including HIGHFive for Child Development, Youth Friendly Community criteria, and Active Aging for older adults.	BGC is committed to using High Five to develop and evaluate their programs, with a High Five Trainer on staff. They are also committed to annually evaluating their services, driven by BGC Canada.
#56 – Work with other program, and sport providers to train facilitators in Physical Literacy. Include Physical Literacy training as part of the Playground Program and other like opportunities.	Physical Literacy is fundamental to all of BGC's physical activity based programs and sports leagues. BGC staff are trained to consider fundamental movement skills, physical fitness/conditioning, as well as how to adapt programs and activities to support youth who have different physical abilities. They are also dedicated to ensuring they foster positive social interaction with an emphasis on cooperation, teamwork and sportsmanship.
#59 – Work toward engaging the same percentage of participation in equity seeking populations in parks and recreation opportunities as the general population in Thames Centre.	By offering a wide variety of programs, BGC can cater to different interests and abilities. Feedback is collected to ensure specific needs are considered, including those who identify as part of equity-seeking groups. BGC is dedicated to making their programs and services inclusive, and they are experienced in training staff regarding cultural competency and how to accommodate children and youth with different abilities.
#61 – Develop an Access Policy with community partners to ensure that all residents can participate in the activity of their choice regardless of income.	BGC is committed to making all of their programs and services accessible, including providing subsidy for memberships and program fees. One of their core values is "Belonging & Inclusion", shown by their commitment to ensuring that every child and youth feels welcome to participate.
#68 – Work with community partners to cross promote all recreation, special events and parks opportunities in Thames Centre to create one central source of information. Work toward engaging the same percentage of participation in equity seeking populations in parks and recreation opportunities as the general population in Thames Centre.	BGC is committed to developing a partnership with Thames Centre that sees us work together to leverage their networks and resources to support the children and youth in Thorndale, including planning their programs to compliment what Thames Centre and other providers are offering in Thorndale, leveraging each others expertise to develop and deliver relevant programs, and working together to promote opportunities to reach all families.