

City of Toronto – Parks Development & Capital Projects

# Davisville Community and Aquatic Centre

## Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC)

Meeting 1 Summary

April 21, 2021

Suzanne Cooke-Wooland, Senior Project Coordinator  
Alex Lavasidis, Senior Public Consultation Coordinator



# Contents

- Attendees..... 2
- Introduction ..... 3
- Meeting Goals..... 3
- Confirmation of Terms of Reference ..... 3
- Design Principles ..... 3
- Open Discussion..... 4
- Next Steps ..... 6
- Contact Us ..... 6
- Appendix A – Meeting Agenda..... 7
- Appendix B – Approved Terms of Reference ..... 8

## Attendees

### **Community Resource Group Members**

Artbarn School - Linda McMaster  
Davisville Jr Public School Parent Council - Lynne LeBlanc  
Davisville Jr Public School & Spectrum Alternative Staff Representative - Shona Farrelly  
Deer Park Residents Group - Martin Sweeny  
Geneva Centre for Autism - Shelby McCarthy  
Midtown Hub - John Hiddema, Lisa Kelleher, Steph Rickard Chadda  
North York Aquatic Club - Leela D'Cruz  
Oriole Park Resident Association - Nancy Bell  
South Eglinton Ratepayers and Residents Association (SERRA) - Mary Turcotte  
The AppleTree Group - Chris Trussell  
77 Davisville Residents - Jannat Hamid

### **City of Toronto**

Suzanne Cooke-Wooland – Sr. Project Coordinator  
Susan Korrick - Supervisor  
Cheryl MacDonald - Manager, Community Recreation  
Paula Jacobi - Manager, Aquatics  
Eric To - Supervisor, Community Recreation  
Jasmine Surkari - Supervisor, Community Recreation  
Alex Lavidis – Sr. Consultation Coordinator

### **Design Team (Consultants) – CS&P Architects**

Susan Lewin – Principal  
Wayne Rosberg - Project Manager

### **City Councillor**

Councillor Josh Matlow - Toronto-St. Paul's (*welcoming address*)

*These minutes are not intended to provide verbatim accounts of discussions. Rather, they summarize and document the key points made during the discussions, as well as the outcomes and actions arising from the SAC meeting.*

## Introduction

This document provides a summary of the first Davisville Community and Aquatic Centre Stakeholder Advisory Committee virtual meeting that was held on April 20, 2021 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A meeting agenda is included in Appendix A.

More information about the project and the SAC meeting presentation can be found on the project webpage at [www.toronto.ca/DavisvilleCAC](http://www.toronto.ca/DavisvilleCAC)

## Meeting Goals

Meeting goals included:

- Welcome and introduce SAC members and the project team
- Review and confirm the Terms of Reference
- Share, discuss, and confirm Program Goals & Design Principles
- Answer questions of clarification
- Share next steps

## Confirmation of Terms of Reference

The SAC reviewed, approved, and agreed to the Terms of Reference, with no edits required. The final Terms of Reference are included in Appendix B.

## Design Principles

The SAC reviewed the four updated design principles, which were slightly refined to reflect the feedback collected through the online survey and at the public meeting.

The refined design principles presented to the SAC were:

1. Create a highly visible community centre that invites community use.
2. Prioritize accessibility and ease of facility access.
3. Integrate sustainable low emissions design.
4. Address inclusive, multi-generational needs in a flexible layout.

Feedback from the SAC about the design principles are included below and include questions (Q), answers (A), comments (C), and responses from staff (R):

C. A member explained that they were concerned with the original *design principle 1: Create an iconic and highly visible community centre*. They wanted to ensure the principles encouraged architecture that was focused on creating functional and inviting spaces with clear entry points and uses. The revision to design principle 1 accomplishes this.

C. Replace "invites" with "welcomes" in design principle 1.

Q. Does the reference to inclusion in design principle 4 included cultural diversity?

R. In building an inclusive centre the design team wants to consider the needs of as many future facility users as possible. This includes users of all ages, abilities, backgrounds, interests, identities, and cultures and will require the design team to create very flexible spaces that can suit a variety of needs. If there are future user groups in the community that SAC members feel are not being represented in the consultation process, we encourage SAC members to connect us with people who are a part of these groups and may want to share their thoughts and experiences to help ensure this centre is inclusive for people of a wide range of cultures. This

could include adding additional members to the SAC or encouraging wider participation in future online surveys and meetings.

C. The Davisville community has a large Indian population. One challenge has been finding a location in the neighbourhood to celebrate Diwali. One requirement is access to kitchen space. This should be a consideration for the new space.

R. That may be able to be accommodated in the new gymnasium space (for larger celebrations). In the new Centre we do plan on including a kitchen next to the multi-purpose rooms. Could you connect us with the person who gave you that comment, so we can ask more questions about what would be required for a space that could be used to celebrate Diwali? (The SAC member will facilitate this connection)

POST MEETING NOTE: City Staff followed up with Toronto District School Board (TDSB) Facilities and Planning Staff. TDSB staff advise that community members interested in permitting spaces for celebrations (e.g. Diwali) to contact the [Community Use of Schools Permit department](#). Permits are not currently being issued but will likely be issued starting in Fall 2021 or Winter 2022.

## Open Discussion

After a presentation outlining high level findings of the online survey and youth engagement about the programming and features community members would like in the new centre, SAC members were prompted to share their thoughts through the following discussion questions:

1. Do you have any questions?
2. Are there any program goals you want to discuss?
3. Are there any potential design features you want to discuss?

Questions (Q), comments (C), and responses from staff (R) are summarized below:

Q. Can the pool have a drop floor, like the Corktown YMCA, which also has a great rooftop?

R. That is something the City will consider as the designs are developed. It is a very expensive feature, which is why it has not been considered thus far. It would potentially require for other planned features to be removed to balance costs. Typically the City creates small tot pools that are used primarily for toddler swimming classes and play times, and does not install drop floors because of their high cost.

Q. Do neighbouring schools have competitive swimming programs?

R. Typically, competitive swimming programs will permit out pool space for that use. The pool would be able to be used for competitive swimming. If there were schools with competitive swimming programs they could potentially be accommodated in the new Centre, based on scheduling demands.

C. Local schools do have competitive swim programs.

C. Davisville Jr Public School has a very culturally diverse community. I am glad to hear there will be women's only programming as this will be very important for a large portion of our neighbourhood population. It will be important to engage these communities in more depth to ensure the space is inclusive for their needs.

R. Yes this is an excellent point. We would greatly appreciate if you could connect us with community members, potentially parents at Davisville Jr Public School, who may be willing to

provide us with that feedback, we would love to speak with them.

R. Other City of Toronto Community Centres have gender neutral washrooms and change rooms and during single gender programming we also use privacy blinds around any of the windows into the pool area.

Q. Will there be a spectator area for the pool?

R. Yes, on the second floor as there will not be room of a viewing area on the main floor.

C. That is good, we do prefer a raised viewing area.

Q. How will the design of the new building be laid out? Can the mechanical elements on the roof be raised so there is more useable space for the community?

A. The target is to include 30,000 square feet into the building. The site is constrained so there are limited choices we can make in terms of layout. We will show you a draft building design at our next meeting to get your feedback and suggestions.

Q. we make sure that whenever we refer to the school that we also include Spectrum? As a site, we often use Davisville/Spectrum.

A. Yes, good suggestion.

Q. How will gender neutral showers, change rooms, and washrooms work?

A. Gender neutral change rooms are an open inclusive space allowing people of any gender, gender identity and/or gender expression to use the space at the same time. They have become an industry standard and the City has successfully implemented them in new and revitalized community recreation centres. Washrooms are private stalls with sinks. Change rooms are also private stalls. There are no open changing spaces. Showers are open concept, and pool users are expected to keep their bathing suits on, as they do in the pool space.

Q. Will there be shower stalls for those with accessibility needs? Will these have bookable time slots?

A. Yes there will be private shower stalls that provide full privacy for those with accessibility needs. These stalls are also large enough for support workers or family members to use the space at the same time.

C. I am not sure how hygienic it is to ask pool users to shower, after using a chlorinated pool, with their bathing suit still on.

Q. Will the lockers be large enough to fit winter jackets and apparel, will there be enough for pool users, will they be lockable, and will users bring their own locks?

A. There will be lockers of various sizes that can fit winter jackets. There will be enough lockers for all pool users. Pool users will bring their own locks.

Q. What is the standard ceiling height for each floor?

A. We will provide details at our next meeting but the multi-purpose spaces will likely be 9-10 feet, with lower ceilings in the washroom and change room areas.

Q. On the roof, can the track go around the mechanical equipment?

A. This is something we will consider.

*Post Meeting Note: This has been considered and will not be an option as it would create hidden spaces (reducing safety) and would require additional expenses for screening the mechanical equipment.*

Q. Can the multi-purpose spaces be used for self-help groups? Would there be any liability issues, for example, to a 12-step program?

A. The City permits spaces for these types of uses in other facilities, so yes, this would be possible.

Q. Were there any comments in the online survey about providing space for self-help programs?

A. No, not that I recall.

## Next Steps

- SAC members can provide any additional comment through email until April 27
- CS&P Architects will develop a draft design for the Centre, guided by the design principles and incorporating feedback from the online survey, youth engagement session, and this meeting
- The draft design with a video recorded explanation will be shared publically mid-May
- An online survey will collect feedback on the design from mid to late May
- Youth workshops will collect feedback from students mid-May
- SAC Meeting 2 to gather feedback on the design will take place on May 19

## Contact Us

For questions or comments related to this project, please contact:

### **Suzanne Cooke-Wooland**

Senior Project Coordinator

Telephone: 647-637-4115

Email: [Suzanne.Cooke-Wooland@toronto.ca](mailto:Suzanne.Cooke-Wooland@toronto.ca)

### **Alex Lavasidis**

Senior Public Consultation Coordinator

Telephone: 416-318-1887

Email: [Alex.lavasidis@toronto.ca](mailto:Alex.lavasidis@toronto.ca)

## Appendix A – Meeting Agenda

6:30 Welcome & Introductions

6:50 Review & Confirm Terms of Reference

7:10 Presentation

- Project Background
- Community Feedback: Design Principles & Program Goals
- Next Steps

7:25 Discussion Period

7:55 Next Steps

8:00 Adjourn



## Appendix B – Approved Terms of Reference

### Davisville Aquatic Community Recreation Centre

#### Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) - Terms of Reference

These have been confirmed by SAC members at the first SAC meeting. Any amendments to the Terms of Reference (ToR) will be made in consultation with the Project Team and SAC members.

##### 1. SAC Mandate

The SAC is a **non-political advisory body** that will provide a forum feedback, guidance and advice to the Project Team (City staff and design consultants) at key decision points during the Davisville Aquatic Community Recreation Centre (ACRC) public consultation process. The SAC is not intended to address individual issues and/or concerns.

The SAC will:

- Provide guidance, constructive feedback and suggestions on proposed approaches, designs, concepts, and materials (including materials to be presented at public meetings);
- Represent and communicate the perspectives of members' organizations and constituencies, providing a sense of the broader community's reactions and concerns, and exploring how these might be addressed;
- Relay meeting discussions and outcomes back to members' organizations and constituencies and promote public consultation activities and events with members of their organizations; and
- Provide feedback on any other relevant matters that the Project Team refers to the SAC for comment.

##### 2. Membership

SAC members must represent a community organisation/group or be a relevant non-profit impacted by the outcome of the new Davisville ACRC design, with the majority of their membership residing within a 2 km radius of the new ACRC (exceptions may apply on a case by case basis). No individuals or individual businesses will sit on the SAC. The City of Toronto may propose expansion of the SAC to include additional community members as required, to ensure broad community representation.

SAC membership is voluntary and no compensation is provided. By participating as members of the SAC, members are not expected to waive their rights to participate in the democratic process, and may continue to participate through other channels.

A list of SAC member organisations will be posted to the project webpage and circulated to the community.

The membership will be automatically dissolved after the last SAC meeting.

### **3. Meetings**

The SAC will meet 3 times throughout the public consultation process. Each meeting will be approximately 2 hours and will take place virtually. Anticipated meeting topics and dates are:

- Phase 1: Confirm Program & Design Principles: Late April
- Phase 2: Design Development: Mid May
- Phase 3: Design Confirmation: Late June/Early July

These are subject to change.

Meeting dates and times will be shared with SAC members at least one week in advance of each meeting. If additional meetings are necessary as the project unfolds or if the identified dates need to change, the Project Team will work with SAC members to determine appropriate dates and times.

SAC members are expected to attend each meeting.

### **4. SAC Recommendation-Making**

The SAC is an advisory group, not a decision-making body. The SAC is not responsible for the decisions made by the Project Team or City Council. As an advisory group, the SAC will operate using a consensus-based approach, where members seek general agreement on guidance and advice to the Project Team. A consensus-based approach assumes that participants can openly discuss ideas, perspectives and viewpoints, and are willing to work together to develop common ground and minimize areas of disagreement to the best of their ability. Differing viewpoints and opinions will be documented in the SAC meeting notes.

### **5. Reporting**

The design team will compile a written summary of each SAC meeting. SAC members will have one week to provide suggested edits to the draft summary, after which the summary will be finalized and published to the project webpage.

### **6. Roles**

All SAC members and the Project Team will:

- Review and agree to these Terms of Reference;
- Attend SAC meetings and participate in constructive, respectful, and positive discussion;
- Work to understand and represent the varied perspectives of community members.

SAC members will:

- Provide advice, feedback and perspectives on meeting topics;
- Attend the SAC meetings whenever possible, or send an alternate in their place;
- Review SAC meeting summaries to confirm accuracy;
- Share meeting discussions and outcomes, as well as opportunities for wider community input and engagement with community members, and any organizations or constituencies SAC members belong to.

Project Team members (including City staff and Consultant team) will:

- Identify from the start of the consultation process what is open for community influence and what is not (and why);
- Strive to provide accurate, easy to understand information to SAC members;
- Ensure that appropriate Project Team representatives (or other resources) are present to answer questions;
- Listen carefully to the advice and perspectives of SAC members and, where feasible, incorporate advice into the project; and where not feasible, provide a clear explanation of how the feedback was considered and why it is not feasible;
- Post summary reports of each SAC meeting, and other relevant documents on the project website.
- Develop meeting agendas; host and organize SAC meetings including distributing meeting invitations and materials; facilitate, take notes, and produce summaries for each meeting; distribute draft meeting summaries for review; and managing an SAC membership list.

## **7. Media Contact**

Individual SAC members' opinions are not necessarily representative of the views of the entire SAC. In the event that SAC members receive media enquiries about the Davisville ACRC, its process, and feedback shared in SAC meetings, all inquiries should be referred to Daniel Fusca, Manager, Stakeholder Engagement, City of Toronto Parks Forestry and Recreation Division at [Daniel.Fusca@toronto.ca](mailto:Daniel.Fusca@toronto.ca). SAC members may speak to the media about their individual/organizational perspectives about this Project.

## **8. Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy**

Please note that all information will be used in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all information provided through the SAC process will form part of the public record including the names of SAC member organizations and organization representatives.

## **9. Contact**

The points of contact for all SAC correspondence is (please copy both on emails):

Suzanne Cooke-Wooland  
Senior Project Coordinator  
Telephone: 647-637-4115  
Email: [Suzanne.Cooke-Wooland@toronto.ca](mailto:Suzanne.Cooke-Wooland@toronto.ca)

Alex Lavasidis  
Senior Public Consultation Coordinator  
Telephone: 416-318-1887  
Email: [Alex.lavasidis@toronto.ca](mailto:Alex.lavasidis@toronto.ca)

## Appendix C – Post-Meeting Email Feedback

**From:** NYAC Swimming Representative, Leela D'Cruz

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 21, 2021 9:37 AM

**To:** Alex Lavasidis

**Subject:** Re: TONIGHT: Davisville Community and Aquatic Centre Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting Link

Hi Alex,

I thought you did a fabulous job of facilitating the discussion yesterday. I wanted to reach out about a couple of things. It was great to hear about the diving blocks and flags to support competitive swimming. Just wanted to make sure that the pool gutters would be appropriate to support water flow and the pool would be deep enough for competitive swimmers ( Douglas Snow is a bit too shallow). With respect to youth engagement, we have quite a few 15+ kids that like swimming and could send out any questions to them. Let me know what you think,

Best,

Leela

---

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 21, 2021 10:21 AM

Hi Leela,

Thanks for participating last night and following up with that feedback! I will pass that onto the design team.

Just a few questions about what you'd prefer for the new centre from the perspective of competitive swimming:

- Is there a specific minimum depth you think would be appropriate? Or, just a few feet deeper than Douglas Snow?

- Is there anything about the pool gutters that you've seen not work well at other facilities, or specifics about what you'd like to see in regards to the gutters at the new facility?

That's a great idea about the youth engagement. I'll definitely ask that you share the next online survey with all your members (all ages). When I start to schedule the youth engagement sessions with schools I'll see if I can set one up with some of your swimmers. I host an online workshop for youth so it would likely be an evening for that group of young swimmers. I'll circle back to you on this when I start scheduling.

Cheers,

**Alex Lavasidis** (she/her/they)

Senior Public Consultation Coordinator

---

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 21, 2021 2:38 PM

Hi Alex,

I'm probably not making your life easier but hope this helps the designers.

1) Pool depth - 1 to 1.5 feet deeper than Douglas Snow in the shallow end (it's hard to flip turn in the shallow end)

2) Gutters - best are at TPASC (Toronto Pan Am pool) - not sure if that is possible, Douglas Snow gutters are not too bad but best are at TPASC.

Let me know when you are looking for youth feedback and we can try and help,

Take care,

Leela

---

**Sent:** Thursday April 22, 2021 9:22 AM

Thanks Leela, this is helpful! I've passed this onto the design team.

Have a great day,

**Alex Lavasidis** (she/her/they)

Senior Public Consultation Coordinator