



# Espanola

Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee

Minutes Monday February 12, 2024

Library Meeting Room

**Welcome and Call to Order:** 6:31pm

**Attendees:** Gerry Massicotte, Jacqueline Rivet, Jeremiah Steele, Rosemary Rae, Aimee Belanger, Rebecca Tar

**Chair:** Lora Wahamaa

**Regrets:** Bailey Bouwmeester, Rachel Prudhomme, Kelly Paradis, Aidan Kallioinen

**Recording Secretary:** Cori Duplessis

**Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest:** None

**Round table introductions for our guest speaker Rebecca Tarr (4<sup>th</sup> year nursing student from Cambrian College doing her placement with Aimee Belanger at the Public Health Sudbury & Districts)**

## **Participation Community Challenge – Guest Speaker Rebecca Tarr**

Rebecca

- Participation Community Challenge is a National physical activity initiative to get everyone in Canada to get active in the month of June.
- Communities or organizations including sports leagues can apply for a grant which is up to \$1500. The grant can be used for any type of programming, staffing, supplies, etc., to encourage people to get active within the month of June.
- For the community challenge you log your physical activity within the month of June and communities compete against each other. At the end of the month finalists are selected to submit a summary of why they think they should win the most active community in Canada. The top community wins \$100,000 to continue their physical activity programming. Promote physical activities in inequality denied groups such as LGBTQ, people with disabilities, low income, First Nations, and newcomers to Canada.

Aimee

- Town of Espanola is applying for the \$1500 grant to provide the town with free swims with for the month of June. Cori, Aimee, and Rebecca were working on the application today as the deadline to submit is tomorrow, February 13, 2024, at 5pm. Any Municipality or organization/association can apply for the grant. They run yearly and next year we can consider sending it out to all the sports organizations in town.

- The Participaction Challenge is a greater community challenge where anyone in the community can participate. Anyone who wants to log hours does have to register individually. There would need to be a bit of promotion to encourage the community to do that.
- The grand prize of \$100,000 was won last year from Red Deer Alberta.
- Positives of this challenge is that if you don't win the grand prize your community is more active, then you still win.
- Considering that Espanola is a very active community, there are a lot of activities that are offered for everyone. Examples of activity that can be tracked are, playing on a sports team, schools can log recess hours, and individual hours like walking.
- For promotion one idea would be to work with organizations and workplaces to help promote physical activity and possibly challenge other workplaces to compete. We would need to exhaust every avenue for promotion to help get the word out. Contact schools to help log activity.
- We would like the Rec and Cultural Advisory Committee to support the Participaction Challenge and put a motion to support the challenge in the next meeting.

Jackie

- Write a newspaper article on it to help promote.

Jeremiah

- Friends of the Library could set aside a few times within the month of June to help people register and put in their stats. Bring their laptops in, phones, tablets, or use the computers here.
- Bring it up to the Employee Public Relations at the Hospital and they can promote all the employees to participate.

Table discussion:

- Physical activity ideas: Soccer, baseball, walking, plan a community event like a bike ride, walk around the track, or easy fun run.
- Gather promotional supplies like a flag to raise at the complex.
- Add the information to the newsletter that does out with the June taxes.
- Promote on social media.
- Put up posters at the Black Creek Trail to say, don't forget to log your hike.
- Anyone can sign up for newsletters from Participaction that has lot of information.
- Plan bike rodeo for June to help kickstart the community bike ride.
- The Pride Committee met, and they are potentially thinking of moving the date of their event to June. Last year they did a bike race, which would work well for a community physical activity.
- The biggest hurdle will be to get people to register.
- This could be the rebranding of Espanola "Canada's Most Active Community".
- Discuss more at the meeting in March.

**Adoption of minutes:** Review and approval of minutes

Remove the reason why Brennon Patterson cancelled from the last minutes.

*(moved by Jackie Rivet, Seconded by Aimee Belanger)*

## **Sliding – Jackie Rivet**

- Discussion for this table: What options can the town do to find a place where people can slide in the town?

Gerry

- Tom Hutchinson from Boogie Mountain Ski Hill is planning on building a permanent sliding hill at the ski hill for people to go sliding free of charge.
- They will have two sliding runs between the big hill and the little creek.
- It will benefit them in every way.
- They already have insurance.
- They just need people to help volunteer to build the sliding runs.
- Why can you not slide on the golf course? You were never allowed to go sliding on the golf course, but people would do it anyways.

## **Winter Carnival 2024 Debrief:**

Cori

- Friday
  - o Chili lunch was a success. The Masonic Lodge had a great turn out for their lunch from 11-1pm.
  - o Friday night Paper Kings hockey game had a great turn out. Lots of people came out to watch the game and took advantage of the bouncy castle and hockey games in the squash courts. There was a continuous line up of kids waiting for their turn in the bouncy castle.
  - o Elks sold 200 tickets for their spaghetti supper, elimination draw, and dance. They sold out of tickets and everything went great!
- Saturday
  - o Breakfast hosted by the Bouwmeester's sold over 200 breakfasts.
  - o Snowarama cancelled their run but still hosted their spaghetti supper and had a good turnout in Webbwood.
  - o Boogie Mountain had a good turnout, approximately 300 people attended their big rail, sliding, bubble soccer, play area, hot chocolate and cedar tea, and BBQ – Cancelled snowshoeing, radar run, and main hill was closed.
  - o Meat Roll Off at the Legion was very busy.
  - o The Town's Free BBQ and games moved to the auditorium and served close to 350 people from 4-6pm.
  - o Cancelled the moonlight skate due to no oval ice.
  - o Popcorn from Cambrian College Employment Options gave away so much popcorn.
  - o Jeremiah: Friends of the library hosted a Mario Kart video game tournament that had just over 70 people in and out for the whole event from 7-9pm. Everyone was super polite and played well together. Board games were also out for the kids. They picked scabble, Uno, and Cluster. Including parents in the board games really helped the kids wanting to play.
  - o Library: 42 kids for the movie, The Teenage Kracken at 10:30am with snacks from Friends of the Library

- Curling social had about 35 people come out with about 29 of them non club members.
- Sunday
  - Elk's breakfast served 93 adult and 16 kids breakfasts
  - Jackie: Black Creek Snowshoe Trail at least 150 people and lots of very small kids. Bonfire, donuts, hotdogs, for snacks. AJ Development sponsored the event so they bought whistles, and compasses. North Shore Search and Rescue were there but had to leave due to an emergency.
  - Lion's Club free swim had 150 people
  - Lion's Club Free macaroni n' cheese and Bingo gave out about 100 bowls of KD and had about 120 for Bingo
  - Lion's Club free skate with the Fire Department had a lot of people skating
  - Fire Department had lot of visitors at the information booth
  - Jeremiah: Friend of the Library hosted a story time from 2-3pm. They placed books on the tree and let the kids pick the books to read. One kid picked a book then she read it to the other kids. 10 kids attended the event.

### **Round Table Updates:**

Jackie:

- Parlow Jammers moved their nights to Wednesday night at 7pm at the Senior's Drop in Centre

Friends of the Library:

- Family Literacy Day is on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January. They had a great day and have a lot of ideas on what to do next year.
- 35-36 people attended. They made bookmarks, laminated them, and picked out a tassel.
- Made a game called Story Shapes. It is made from wooden shapes with pictures on them. You drop some on a table and the ones that are right side up you create a story out of it. They handed them out to the people who attended.
- Dean Riggs and Robert Luopa came and did a reading of Tides Out. The room was full of people who were their friends or old students from school. People who supported the book and authors. Robert put out some water colour illustrations that didn't make into the book.

Cori:

- Minor Baseball is going to have their annual spring meeting later this month. They are looking for more people to join the executive.
- Figure Skating Club will be hosting their Skating Carnival on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. This will be their 75<sup>th</sup> carnival. Planning on reaching out to previous skaters to come out.
- New memberships and promos are selling well. Sold 195 memberships in January – lots of positive comments on all-in-one membership.
- Change room mixing valves services to help with our cold water in the change room.
- Kitchen passed the inspection from the Public Health Unit

- Applying for an Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant to finish the squash court 1 transformation into a women's changeroom. In the process of getting a quote to install a door into the back wall of the room to the changeroom hallway.
- Our 1<sup>st</sup> Intro to Dance class on February 5<sup>th</sup> had 30 people – it will run for 6 weeks starting on Monday February the 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Line dancing started a new class, intro to dancing which runs for 30mins before their intermediate class has gained a lot of interest. They have anywhere from 10-15 ladies dancing every week.
- Young at Heart is still getting anywhere from 6-10 people per class.
- Hired a personal trainer who will start next week. She will help with the Young at Heart classes, free intro to the gym and pickle ball, and one on one personal training clients.
- Squash court 2 changing into a multipurpose room. We will be offering squash, pickle ball, volleyball, basketball.
- Starting to plan and take teams for our 3 on 3 Hockey Tournament up in April 18-21<sup>st</sup>, 26 team total in U9, 11, 13, 15, & 18

#### Library

- Is working on some plans for the March Break
- Waiting for the installation of the automatic door opener for the washroom
- A projector will be mounted on the ceiling in the library meeting room by the end of March.
- Approved for a Grant but cannot give any details yet.

#### **Round Table Questions – Jackie**

What is the Town's participation in the 1M Rare Aware

- Whole facility rental for free
- Free skate, shinny or swim passes for prizes
- Helping to coordinate
- Free 1 hour ice rental – for a giveaway prize
- Ensuring that we have enough staff on to help with set up and clean up

#### **Agenda items for next meeting:**

Cori: Planning the Gala and 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Complex

Aimee: Planning for the Participaction Community Challenge

#### **Next meeting:**

March 11, 6:30pm in the Library Meeting Room

#### **Adjournment: 7:33pm**

Adjournment of the meeting.

*(Moved by Aimee Belanger, Seconded by Jeremiah Steele)*