



Canada's Tournament Capital

LET'S   
**BUILD**  
KAMLOOPS

*BUILD.*

*GROW.*

*CONNECT.*

*REPEAT.*



# LET'S BUILD KAMLOOPS

## Build. Grow. Connect. Repeat.

Build Kamloops is a multi-phase, multi-year initiative that will transform the Kamloops region, re-establish the city's prominence as Canada's Tournament Capital, foster our recognition as a premier arts and culture destination, and keep pace with our recreation and leisure needs as one of Canada's fastest-growing communities.

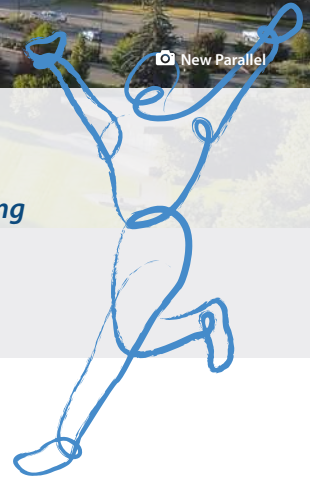


Aura Rodriguez

## WE NEED TO BUILD KAMLOOPS

*Kamloops is one of Canada's fastest-growing communities, expecting to exceed 120,000 residents by 2035.*

**KAMLOOPS IS**  
**CANADA'S TOURNAMENT CAPITAL** 



"Canada's Tournament Capital" isn't just a slogan, it's a well-deserved brand that was built and earned through the tireless efforts of community volunteers and community leaders over decades of hosting first-class regional and national sporting events. Our current infrastructure is not keeping up with the community's growth. Demand in all areas is exponentially greater than the supply, and it continues to grow.



© Dave Whiting

## Implementing the 2019 Recreation Master Plan

The Build Kamloops program was developed based on the extensive engagement that informed the Recreation Master Plan. Kamloops residents helped engagement identified the gaps in our infrastructure that restrict our ability to meet current and future recreation needs. Build Kamloops was created to support and foster quality of life, vibrancy, inclusivity, and diversity for all residents through recreation.



© New Parallel

## Quality of Life in Kamloops

Central to a vibrant community are the services and amenities it offers as they have a direct correlation to quality of life, resident satisfaction, sense of community pride, and economic growth. The unique landscape, climate, amenities, people, and proud title of the Canada's Tournament Capital are elements that make Kamloops a truly ideal place to visit and to call home.

Broader provincial and national research also supports the significant and wide-ranging benefits of a public investment in recreation. These benefits include improved health, improved perceptions of safety, and more vibrant communities. The vast majority of Canadians (98%) also believe that recreation benefits the community and is an essential service.



### CITIZEN SATISFACTION SURVEY:

*"When asked for the top two qualities or features that make Kamloops a good place to live, the top mentions are the nice weather, the access to and availability of amenities, and the access and close proximity to green spaces."*

## We Need to Build Kamloops

The incredible spirit of the Kamloops sports and arts communities is second to none; however, spirit can only take us so far. Our facilities have not kept pace with our growing population and the demand for arts, culture, and sport participation.

The City has an excellent track record of investing in our recreation facilities as we've grown. Since the 1940s we've invested in recreation facilities, creating the amenities we all enjoy today. These facilities were significant investments for the residents at the time, and we are grateful to them for seeing the vision of what Kamloops could become. There has been a gap since our last major investment, and paired with our community growth, we need more.

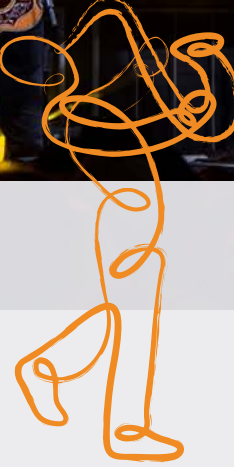
- **Memorial Arena and Kamloops Curling Club:** 1949 (7,938 pop.)
- **McArthur Island:** 1965 (16,532 pop.)
- **Norbrock Stadium:** 1967 (22,078 pop.)
- **Valleyview Arena, Westsyde and Brock Pool:** Early 1970s (26,168 pop.)
- **Sagebrush Theatre:** 1978 (58,311 pop.)
- **Sandman Centre:** 1992 (67,057 pop.)
- **Canada Games Aquatic Centre, Hillside Stadium, Charles Anderson Stadium:** 1993 (67,057 pop.)
- **McArthur Island Olympic Rink:** 2005 (82,024 pop.)
- **Tournament Capital Centre:** 2007 (85,584 pop.)
- **Tournament Capital Ranch:** 2011 (85,678 pop.)



# KAMLOOPS CENTRE FOR THE ARTS



Mary Putnam



## 2019 RECREATION MASTER PLAN:

*“The City should revisit the development of a new arts venue and remain engaged in the Kamloops Centre for the Arts Society’s business case initiative.”*

The Kamloops Centre for the Arts has been identified by the Build Kamloops Select Committee as the first priority for the Build Kamloops program and will be an iconic structure that serves as a catalyst to grow, inspire, and unify our community.

The Kamloops Centre for the Arts will fill an important gap in the community that has been identified in strategic plans for almost two decades. This purpose-built facility will address the current and growing needs of Kamloops, hosting events ranging from graduations, to awards ceremonies, to performing arts events. The Centre for the Arts will elevate the overall cultural vibrancy of our city. Kamloops has only one dedicated theatre space—the aging Sagebrush Theatre—which is inadequate to support community demand. It is typically booked two years in advance and is bound by limitations as it is a shared facility with the school district.



Station One Architects - conceptual rendering

### Current Supply:

- one dedicated theatre space (Sagebrush Theatre, 685 seats) shared with School District No. 73
- one small theatre (Kelson Hall, 134 seats) and rehearsal facility
- small theatre venue at Thompson Rivers University
- one small, privately operated black box theatre (Pavilion Theatre, 165 seats)

### Current Need:

- Many community facilities, such as churches, are currently used for small performances.
- In 2019, 3,862 children and youths were registered in arts and culture programs.
- Major sporting tournaments and events are increasingly identifying cultural venue space as a hosting requirement.
- The last (and only) dedicated theatre space, Sagebrush Theatre, was opened in 1978 when Kamloops’ population was approximately 59,000.



Station One Architects - conceptual rendering

Construction on the Kamloops Centre for the Arts is underway. In 2024, the City assembled a highly-skilled project team of designers, architects, engineers, builders, and other tradespeople to develop a detailed budget and execution plan for designing, constructing, and commissioning the Kamloops Centre for the Arts. The team built on the original design—initiated by Ron and Rae Fawcett, local philanthropists—aiming to maintain the original form and function as much as possible while adapting to new Building Code requirements and adjusting for the findings determined through the validation/design process. The result is a fully developed, detailed work plan and Class A budget for an extraordinary community facility that will serve generations to come.

**The Kamloops Centre for the Arts will be built at 4th Ave and Seymour St and will include:**

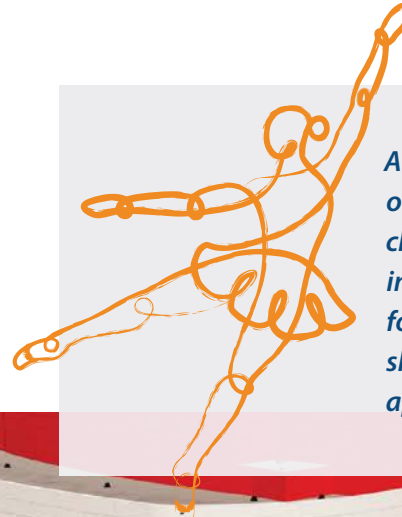
- main stage theatre (~1,100 seats)
- small theatre (~450 seats)
- 17,400 sq. ft. lobby area with space for congregating during shows or hosting large community events
- a café available for food service during the day and as a catering hub in the evening
- rehearsal, production, and education spaces
- full accessibility in all areas
- environmentally controlled storage area for Kamloops Art Gallery
- two levels of underground parking with 158 parking spaces



Station One Architects - conceptual rendering

**The new Kamloops Centre for the Arts will:**

- offer diverse programming and usage by community groups and non-profit organizations for theatre, music, dance, and special events
- support the Tournament Capital program and hosting bids by providing non-competition space for awards ceremonies, cultural celebrations, and related events
- provide opportunities for travelling shows that cannot find appropriate venue space or time in Kamloops
- enhance Kamloops’ cultural image for visitors and professionals considering relocating to our community
- expand audiences for successful arts organizations, such as the Kamloops Symphony and Western Canada Theatre, as well as smaller local organizations seeking to expand the diversity of entertainment options in Kamloops
- expand opportunities at the Sagebrush Theatre for events that are currently turned down or hosted in unsuitable venues



*A new theatre space will create capacity in our community, bringing equity to kids who choose to recreate through performing arts instead of sport and providing opportunities for touring concerts and events like comedy shows or speakers series that cannot find appropriate venue space in Kamloops.*

# ARENA MULTIPLEX



Mary Putnam



**2019 RECREATION MASTER PLAN:**

*“The City needs to increase the number of ice arena sheets by at least two to four sheets total (above current supply) by 2026–2036 to address capacity issues.”*

**The Arena Multiplex vision includes:**

- four rinks with spectator seating
- modern change rooms and sport amenities
- space for a Thompson-Nicola Regional Library location
- space for complementary uses, such as equipment rentals, skate sharpening, and other recreational services
- multi-purpose rooms
- parking for facility and park users
- upgrades at Copperhead Drive/ Hillside Drive intersection
- traffic flow upgrades (along Hillside Drive from Copperhead Drive westward)
- improvements to area transit route
- commitment to improved park amenities



Group2 Architecture Interior Design Ltd. - rendering subject to change

**Current Supply:**

- five indoor ice facilities and one outdoor:
  - McArthur Island Sport and Event Centre (two sheets and one mini rink)
  - Sandman Centre
  - Valleyview Arena
  - Memorial Arena
  - Brocklehurst Arena
  - Riverside Park Outdoor Skating Loop

**Current Need:**

- Peak time utilization of availability is approaching 100% during the primary ice season (September 15 to March 15).
- There is increased demand for summer ice, and dry floor capacity has already reached its maximum.
- Current facilities are aging, with the last one being built in 2005 (McArthur Island Sport and Event Centre) as part of the Tournament Capital build.

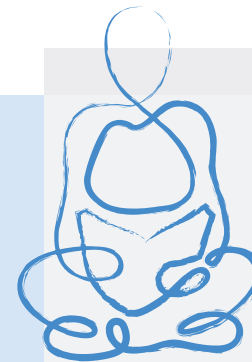


## For families, residents, and visitors, the investment in this complex will:

- reduce the strain on our current ice facilities, which currently exceeds capacity during peak times
- modernize our inventory of facilities, which are over 30 years old
- support over 100 community-based clubs and/or groups
- create traditions, form lasting relationships, and solidify a sense of community identity, pride, and unity
- have a positive impact on the health and well-being of the community members of all ages
- secure Kamloops as a top choice to host large events and tournaments and solidify the title of Canada’s Tournament Capital
- improve our ability to respond as a host community during emergency events without disrupting recreation and community events

## Integrating Indoor and Outdoor Recreation

The Arena Multiplex will be built at 2070 Hillside Drive, adjacent to the main entrance of Kenna Cartwright Nature Park, with opportunities to enhance amenities for park users, such as bike repair stations, showers, and washrooms. This location provides easy highway access and is near to hotels and retail services.



### ARENA MULTIPLEX IS “NOT JUST ICE”

*The City of Kamloops and the Thompson-Nicola Regional Library are excited to announce a creative partnership that incorporates library services into the design of the future Arena Multiplex by allocating space for a library branch in the new facility.*

### DID YOU KNOW?

*The site for the Arena Multiplex was a dump site for materials removed during construction of the Coquihalla Highway.*



# CURLING AND RACQUET SPORTS COMPLEX



Mary Putnam

Building on Kamloops' proud 75-year curling history, this next Build Kamloops flagship initiative represents the next chapter in our community's commitment to recreation and sport.

In 2024, the City's two curling clubs joined forces to support a vision for the development of a single new curling facility that will replace two aging and inefficient facilities. With a creative design, we can offer a new curling facility and incorporate the expanding needs of other sports organizations like pickleball, who are desperate for indoor space to extend their play season year-round, and racquet sports such as racquetball and squash that lack play facilities. This new facility to be developed on the 700 block of Victoria Street, will increase our hosting capability for national and international events and training camps.



## 2019 RECREATION MASTER PLAN:

*"The City should facilitate discussions between the two existing clubs to explore the future infrastructure needs of curling in the community."*

### Current Supply:

- one curling facility: Kamloops Curling Club (eight sheets)
- all current City-owned racquet sport facilities are outdoor surfaces

### Current Need:

- built in 1949, the Kamloops Curling Club is aging and a requires significant investment to maintain
- indoor spaces to extend year-round play for pickleball and supply courts for racquetball and squash



David Whiting

## Designing a Community Hub

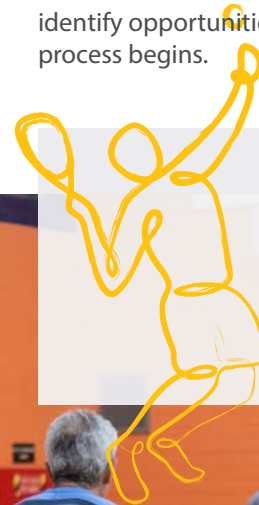
The best designs always emerge from a spirit of collaboration and inclusivity, where everyone's voices are heard and curiosity and openness are encouraged. Over the next couple years, the City will implement a phased engagement approach to the facility design, ensuring the final design is both feasible and reflects the vision and needs of the community. Follow this project to stay informed about upcoming engagement opportunities.

[Letstalk.Kamloops.ca/CurlingComplex](https://Letstalk.Kamloops.ca/CurlingComplex)

## Thoughtful Conversations

The engagement process for the Kamloops Curling and Racquet Sports Complex is rooted in inclusivity, transparency, and respect for the community's deep connection to the existing facilities. As the project moves forward, engagement aims to create meaningful opportunities for residents, user groups, partners, and interested parties to help shape both the vision and the detailed design of the new complex.

The Memorial Arena has longstanding ties to the community, particularly for seniors, veterans, and athletes. The City has been hosting conversations with impacted parties including veteran groups—such as the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 52 and the Rocky Mountain Rangers—heritage groups and facility user groups. Early and thoughtful engagement with these groups ensures their histories, memories, and contributions are respected, and helps identify opportunities for memorialization within the new design when the process begins.



*The engagement process for this facility over the next few years will be inclusive, transparent, and designed to give the community meaningful opportunities to help shape the complex's design.*





# INDOOR FIELD FACILITY

A multi-use indoor field space will provide year-round training opportunities for a variety of field sports, including soccer, rugby, ultimate frisbee, and football. It increases our opportunity to host international competitions, training camps, and events that will expand the Tournament Capital program's economic spinoff.



Kamloops Youth Soccer Association

## BUILDING OUR CAPACITY:

As part of the Build Kamloops program, the City has authorized a low interest loan to the Kamloops Youth Soccer Association to aid in repairs of their soccer dome. This community collaboration will preserve indoor field capacity while plans progress for a City-owned facility.

## 2019 RECREATION MASTER PLAN:

*"As Kamloops grows and there continues to be demand for both structured and spontaneous dry-floor space, it is probable that the City will need to expand the provision of gymnasium and fieldhouse space."*

### Current Supply:

- full-sized gymnasium/fieldhouse at the Tournament Capital Centre
- school gymnasiums across the city (with varying levels of community access and use)
- indoor dome facility with artificial turf managed by the Kamloops Youth Soccer Association
- private facility available through Soccer Quest
- no City-owned indoor turf facilities

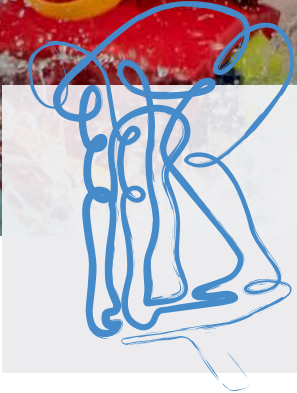
### Current Need:

- In 2018, there were nearly 15,000 hours booked on outdoor fields, and we continue to experience moderate levels of growth.

# AQUATICS FACILITY



Mary Putnam



**2019 RECREATION MASTER PLAN:**  
*"The City should explore the development of a new aquatics space that focuses on recreation-based aquatics."*

With a severe shortage of leisure swimming facilities, we are actively evaluating locations that could be home to a new leisure pool facility. We are proud of our competitive swimming facilities at the Canada Games Aquatic Centre, Westsyde Pool, and Brock Pool; however, we are lacking leisure pool space to accommodate swim lessons, AquaFit classes, and recreational swim time for residents of all ages, particularly families with children.

*While the exact location of the new aquatics facility is still in the works, the City is committed to building it on the North Shore.*



Mary Putnam

## Current Supply:

- three indoor facilities:
  - Canada Games Aquatics Centre (includes a 50 m competition pool)
  - Westsyde Pool
  - Y-BC Kamloops
- one outdoor facility:
  - Brock Pool
- five outdoor water parks:
  - Westsyde Centennial Park
  - Albert McGowan Park
  - Riverside Park
  - Prince Charles Park
  - McDonald Park
- no major leisure pool facilities

## Current Need:

- The majority (80%) of all swim visits in Kamloops facilities occur at the Canada Games Aquatic Centre.
- The highest proportion of swim visits occur spontaneously, not as part of a lesson, program, or club.
- Within 30 minutes of registration opening, 71% of all swim lessons are fully booked.



# PROJECTS TIMELINE



## Investing in Our Community

In 2023, Kamloops City Council unanimously approved a strategic plan that prioritizes the development of amenities to cultivate diverse and equitable opportunities for recreation, arts, and culture. Through the Build Kamloops program, the City has developed a multi-year, multi-phase capital plan that will prioritize fiscal responsibility while identifying concepts, priorities, timelines, and funding options.

We recognize that Build Kamloops will require investment from all levels of government as well as philanthropic, corporate, and community contributions. A capital fundraising campaign is already underway to identify and secure investments should the Kamloops voters support the City's debt financing proposal.

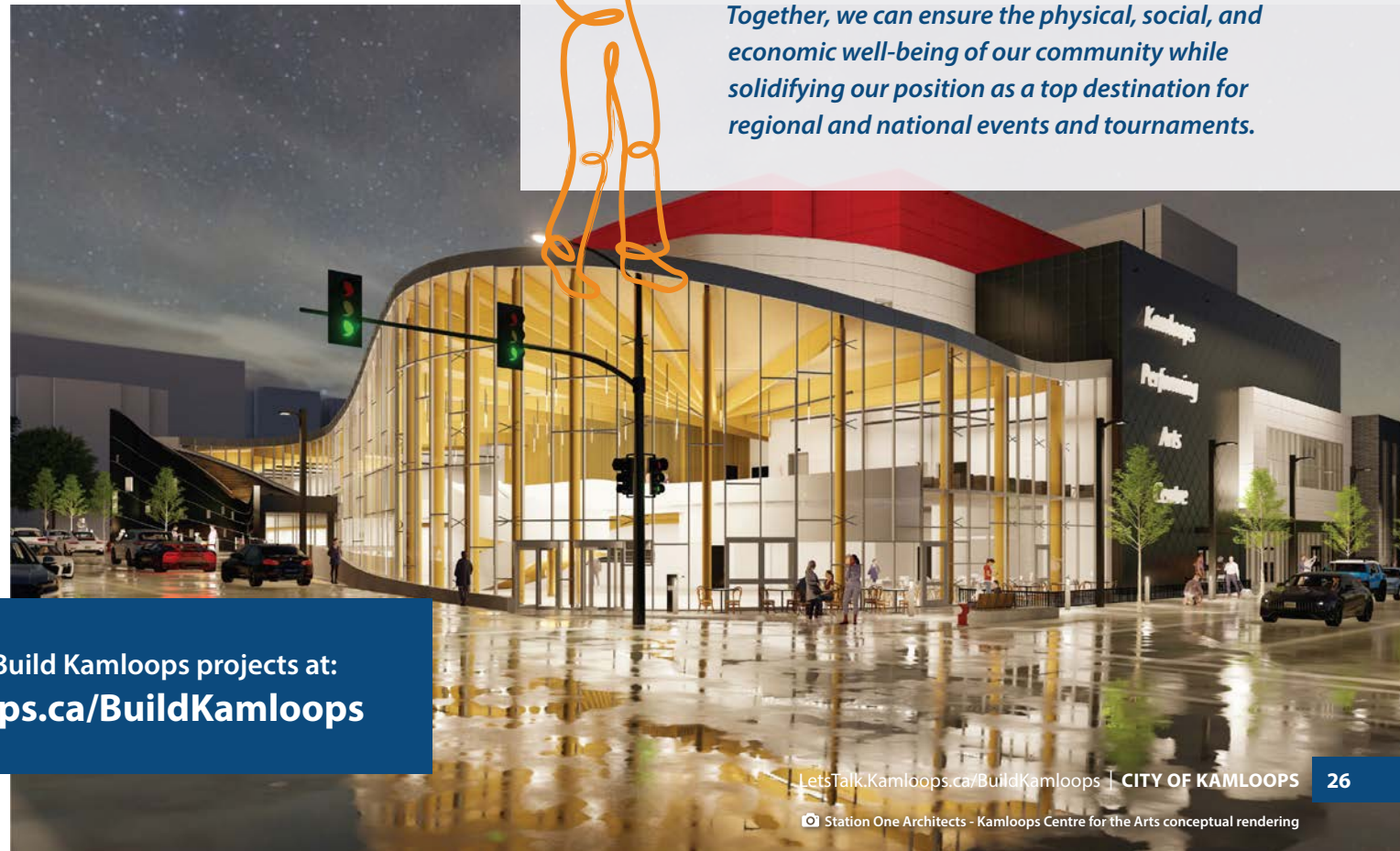
## Funding Pillars

- **COMMUNITY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN** (philanthropic, corporate, and community contributions)
- **CITY CAPITAL FUNDING** (multiple funding sources, including debt financing, to be approved by the electorate via referendum or counter petition)
- **PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GRANT FUNDING**
- **EXISTING FUNDS** (reserves, operating budgets, and non-competitive grant programs/streams)



## WE NEED TO BUILD KAMLOOPS

*Together, we can ensure the physical, social, and economic well-being of our community while solidifying our position as a top destination for regional and national events and tournaments.*



Learn more about the Build Kamloops projects at:  
[LetsTalk.Kamloops.ca/BuildKamloops](https://LetsTalk.Kamloops.ca/BuildKamloops)

**BUILD**  
KAMLOOPS

*BUILD. GROW.  
CONNECT. REPEAT.*



Canada's Tournament Capital

City of Kamloops  British Columbia, Canada

City Hall: 7 Victoria Street West, Kamloops, BC, V2C 1A2  
250-828-3311 | [info@kamloops.ca](mailto:info@kamloops.ca)

 Cover Photo: Boom Business Solutions

Stay Connected @CityofKamloops       

[Kamloops.ca](http://Kamloops.ca) | [LetsTalk.Kamloops.ca](http://LetsTalk.Kamloops.ca)