

Town of Riverview
PARKS, RECREATION, FACILITIES &
COMMUNITY RELATIONS DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY REPORT



To: Colin Smith

Prepared by: David Shea

Date: September 19, 2023

Month & Year: July, August, September 2023

Section 1: Operational Dashboard

Metric	Current Period	Previous Period	Annual Result	Trend
Pro Kids Placements:	Summer 2023: 51	Spring 2023: 27	2023 total: 148	2022 Total: 267 2021 Total: 284 2020 Total: 283
JUMPSTART (Riverview):	Summer 2023: 2	Spring 2023: 0	2023 total: 8	
TOTAL # of children helped (P.R.O. Kids + Jumpstart):	Summer 2023: 53	Spring 2023: 27	2023 total: 156	
Total placements from previous year:	Summer 2022: 70	Spring 2022: 25		
60 + Adult Fitness & Wellness Classes	Summer 2023: 39 Summer 2022: 93 *instructor availability	Spring 2023: 100 Spring 2022: 75	2023 YTD: 254	Total 2022: 327 Total 2021: 294 Total: 2020: 473
Adult Fitness & Wellness Classes	Summer 2023: 22 Summer 2022: 21	Spring 2023: 71 Spring 2022: 94	2023 YTD: 147	Total 2022: 266 Total 2021: 254 Total 2020: 391
Children's Programs	Summer 2023: 21 <u>Note:</u> We did not run Outdoor Adventurers / Tiny Adventures program. We ran dance programs for 1 st time. Summer 2022: 50	Spring 2023: 44 Spring 2022: 53	2023 YTD: 107	Total 2022: 147 Total 2021: 102 Total 2020: 69

Metric	Current Period	Previous Period	Annual Result	Trend
Aquatic Activities	Swim Lessons: Summer 2023: 321 Fall 2023: 653	Swim Lessons: Summer 2022: 291 Fall 2022 Session 1: 547	2023 YTD: 2,205	Total 2022: 2,488 Total 2021: 2,069 Total 2020: 1,298
Skate Park Participants & Revenue	604 (254R, 350NR)	259 (85R, 174NR)	2023 YTD: 2,898	2022: Total 3,725 2021: Total 2,795 2020: total 2,478

Section 2: Status of Department's Operational Priorities for 2023

Priority	Status
<p>Safe and Inclusive Community</p> <p>Active and Engaged Community</p>	<p>PRO KIDS HIGHLIGHT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Moncton Wildcats Hockey Club donated \$100,000 to Riverview PRO Kids, Dieppe PRO Kids and MYRAP during the 13th annual Wildcats Celebrity Golf Classic tournament held on Monday, August 28 at the Moncton Golf and Country Club. • Staff setup a booth at both block parties this summer to increase awareness about the program. <p>OUTDOOR RECREATION PROGRAM TEAM- SUNFEST</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Indigenous Peoples' Day- On Saturday, June 24, as part of SUNFEST and in celebration of National Indigenous Peoples Day, staff organized for two school buses to take folks to the Elsipogtog Mi'kmaq Culture Centre to participate in their Heritage Nature Path tour. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two groups of thirty people (one all-ages, one 55+) attended this cultural experience. By visiting the reserve, hearing stories of lived experience, oral traditions and learning, Riverview residents took active steps towards reconciliation. ○ This was the largest group the Cultural Center had ever had. • Town Wide Yard Sale- Held on Saturday, June 24 as a part of SUNFEST. The number of hosts increased 34% from 67 (2022) to 90 (2023). • Drag Bingo for 55+ - On June 30th, as a part of SUNFEST and in celebration of June Pride month, staff partnered with local drag artist Nova Gyna to offer a drag bingo event for ages 55+. There were 86 participants in total. A handful of participants identified they were from out of town and visiting the Greater Moncton Area. <p>OUTDOOR RECREATION PROGRAMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campfire Circles- A new program was designed to draw people of all ages outdoors on Tuesday evenings in Mill Creek Nature Park. Each week was a different theme: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ June 27- Multiculturalism Day, approximately 20 people.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ July 4- Family Game Night, approximately 25 people ○ July 11- Wildlife and Nature Photography, 18 people ○ July 18- Outdoor Cooking with BPSA Scouting, 22 people ○ July 25- Seed Saving with Petitcodiac River Keepers, 5 people ○ August 1- Paint Night, 20 people ○ August 8- Bark in the Park with PAW, approximately 60 people (+30 dogs) ○ August 22- Mill Creek Nature Park's 10th Anniversary, approximately 100 attendees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Card Parties- Staff organized weekly card parties for ages 60+ in Riverview Middle School's cafeteria from June 29-August 17. The average weekly attendance was 24 people. ● Carriage Rides- Staff partnered with a local company to offer horse drawn carriage rides for small groups (4 adults) along a 4-kilometer route highlighting the eastern section of the Riverfront Trail. From July 27 to September 13, there have been 38 rides booked. ● Equipment Loan- Over 7 weeks, a total of 109 packages designed to help people become active were borrowed by residents. Popular items (borrowed more than 60%) were giant connect 4, bocce ball, giant Jenga and giant Yardzee. This is a free, accessible service, with items dropped off and picked up from residents to eliminate all barriers. ● Tech Tuesdays- Staff paired up seniors in the community with youth volunteers to assist one on one with technology devices at the Riverview Public Library. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ June 13- 1 senior + 2 youth volunteers ○ July 11 - 1 senior + 2 youth volunteers ○ July 18 - 3 seniors + 3 volunteers ○ July 25 - 1 senior + 2 youth volunteers ○ August 1 – 2 seniors + 2 youth volunteers ○ August 22 – 1 senior + 1 staff ○ Total- 20 community participants ● Wednesday Walkers- This program continued throughout the summer with participants meeting at the gazebo for a weekly walk and social. This group has grown to 114 subscribers. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff partnered with Fredericton City Staff and Recreation New Brunswick to organize a friendly competition between our Wednesday Walkers groups on June 27th. The "Silly Walk" was a success and Riverview proudly took the title, and there is already talk about a repeat competition next year. ● Parks for All- This guided park program helped residents with physical and cognitive challenges to be able to access Mill Creek Nature Park via an electric golf cart to enjoy the benefits of being outside, immersed in nature. Staff added an afternoon time slot to accommodate folks who were not able to get out the door in the mornings due to impairments. Over a 7-week period, staff guided 28 participants. Most participants were from a local nursing home. ● Meteor Shower Party- On Friday, August 11, staff hosted over 100 people at the Mill Creek Nature Park lookout to enjoy the Perseids meteor shower. Participants enjoyed a campfire, snacks, and guidance about what was happening overhead from local astronomy expert Emma MacPhee.
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- **Line dancing for 60+** - On August 14 staff organized a line dancing workshop attended by 25 participants. This was such a success that it was developed into a program being offered permanently.
- **Quill Workshop for 60+-** On July 26 a quill workshop was hosted at Riverview Fire and Rescue, facilitated by internationally renowned Indigenous artist Tara Francis. All 25 participants were new to this artform and had a blast learning to make them. This was such a success that we've chosen to host another Quill Workshop during Harvest Fest for another group of older adults.
- **Acadian Day-** Staff organized an Acadian Day house decorating contest- there were 10 participants. The grand prize was 7 tickets to Akadi Lumina, an Acadian cultural experience of lights and music throughout the outdoor path at Pays de la Sagune. Program staff visited Memramcook on August 15 to partake in Acadian Day festivities, visit Monument Lefebvre Historic Site and participate in the Tintamarre to learn more about Acadian culture and history. This opportunity was organized by the Outdoor Recreation Team Lead.
- **Fundy Hiker Recognition Program-** Recognition program launched to celebrate the achievements of hikers completing the Dobson Trail, Fundy Footpath and Fundy Trek (Dobson Trail, Fundy National Park and Fundy Footpath, ~120 km). We have had 15 applications to date.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **Block Parties-** There were two block parties held this past summer.
 - **Tuesday, July 18 for Wards 1 & 2** at Hawthorne Park. Approx. 250 people attended.
 - **Thursday, August 17, for Wards 3 & 4** at Lions. This was very well attended with close to 500 people.
 - **There were several community partners** with booths set up however the turnout was lower than expected. Booths at both included: Info. Butterfly Ranger, Sustainability, Eco 360, Fundy Biosphere River Keeper, Neighborhood Watch, RCMP cruiser & community police officer, RCMP booth The BBQ served hot dogs, burgers, lemonade, and water, with ice cream for dessert.
 - **The Community Madala project** was started with those attending organized by the Riverview Art Council. It was well-received.
- **Concerts-** Concerts went very well. Attendance ranged from 100 for a concert that had to be moved indoors to 1000 for a couple others like Signal Hill and the Circus group. Overall close to 4000 people attended throughout the summer. (Double last summer) The 35–59-year-olds were the majority at a few of the concerts and all ages came to the circus and the magician. Positive feedback was received about the lineup and having other entertainers besides musicians. Most people heard about the concerts via Facebook or word of mouth. People came from over 28 communities to attend our concerts.
- **SUNFEST/Canada Day-**Canada Day in Caseley Park and RHS field was a hit. It was accessible and the crowd was even more diverse with a Cultural market being added. All ages attended and the weather cooperated.

YOUTH SECTION

- **Junior Leadership Program** - 2023 Junior Leadership saw a heightened level of interest this summer with over 60 applicants applying. Our Junior Leadership Team, implemented some new initiatives and delivered an impactful and meaningful program to all participants over the course of the summer.
- **Recruitment** - The JL team began recruitment by visiting schools to speak directly to the youth about the benefits of applying for the program. Our team also hosted a recruitment night party at the Riverview Community Hall where parents and youth were invited to come learn a little bit more about the program. This offered a chance for parents to be engaged in the recruitment process and ask any questions they might have. Interviews were held over a 4-day period where the student team interviewed all applicants.
- **Training** - Once our team selected the 20 youth who would be participating in this year's program, we began planning our training nights to have the group prepared for SUNFEST and rapidly approaching community events. Moving forward we plan to have longer training session to help improve comfortability and we will also be asking organizations we partner with to sign an agreement between the JL team and their organization that details protocol, procedures, risks and liabilities and other notes.
- **Placements** - The Junior Leadership Team were a great help to the community events. Aside from their help with events such as Canada Day and Block parties, they were out in the community volunteering at various organizations. The organizations they partnered with were:
 - Dayzees Thirft shop
 - Coverdale Community Garden
 - PAWS
 - MAGMA
 - Ronald Macdonald House
 - New Grass homes
 - Old Grass homes
 - Parkland Riverview

We were very excited to be welcomed back to the Ronald Macdonald House and PAWS after a couple years of inactivity due to the pandemic. Our JL team reached out to MAGMA, a new partnership for us, which was a success. The JLs ran programing in their family house making crafts and playing games with the children there. PAWS (formally SPCA) was another favourite of the JLs and they spent their time there not just interacting with the animals, but building toys for them as well.

- **Fundraising** - The Junior Leaders fundraised throughout the summer. This year, they chose Crossroads for Women as the organization they would donate a portion of their funds to. The JLs ran canteens at various events, held car washes and donated bottles to raise funds.
- **Trips** - The Junior Leaders spent Thursdays engaging in various recreational activities or going on small trips. These days offer a chance for the group to bond and get to know each other better after a week of hard work volunteering. A few highlights were the programming offered by Mad Science and the Wild Wisdom excursion.

- **Banquet** - The 2023 Junior Leadership program concluded with the end of summer banquet. Our summer team did a fantastic job decorating and preparing the Community Hall and certificates and awards were handed out to participants. Parents and family members were invited to attend along with members of various organizations that the JL's volunteered with.
- **Feed back from the JL** has us investigating the potential of raising the capacity of the Junior Leadership program to allow for 25 youth. We will also be looking into the possibility of adding another coordinator to the group, bringing the summer JL student team to 4.

SKATEPARK

- **June was** busy preparing for events related to our Participaction Active Community Grant, and Sunfest. The facility also entered our summer hours of operation beginning June 24th. Visitors already traveling from all over NB, across Canada and several newcomers from Ukraine.
 - **Skate Like a Girl Clinic** - June 20 - Attendance: 16
Registration opened June 4th at 1pm and filled within two hours! Ages ranged from 4 to 44. Registrants were surprised with a Skate Like a Girl T-shirt upon entry. Instructors for this clinic were Ross Smith, Aaron Roberts, Annika Welling, and Anderson Beers. The funding for the clinic provided an opportunity to provide the junior instructors their first paid clinics!
 - **Maritime Kitchen Party** - June 28 – Attendance: 160+
This event was a great success with more than 160 community members, and community partners ranging from the Riverview Youth Network Parental Engagement Committee, Codiatic Regional Community Policing Services, Canadian Blood Services, Uturns (United Way), as well as members from council Cecile and Sarah, as well as Mayor Leblanc in attendance. Chris Glidden put on an amazing performance of Maritime favourites and sea shanty's. Dozens of newcomers came to the facility to gave skateboarding a try with the help of East Coast Street Styles instructors and enjoyed playing the giant outdoor games we had spread throughout the facility and outside on the lawn.
- **July was busier** than past years. The weather enticed people to find indoor activities. Staff noted an increase of visitors traveling from areas outside of the Atlantic Provinces and a steady flow of newcomers moving to the community from other countries such as Dubai, China, and Ukraine. Jeff Boudreau from Jeff Boudreau Productions was working on a promotional video shoot at the facility on July 28th. The facility saw several upgrades including new stair flooring heading up to the youth centre, levelling of floors leading into bathrooms, levelling of outside front steps, crack repair along the walkway, and overhang painted black with future plans to add some more color.
- **August highlights** an increasing number of visitors we had from all over Canada and beyond. Global Amateur skater Kaede Fraser was here with her family from Japan where their family runs an extreme skateboard-based daycare. Kaede filmed some tricks and promoted the park to her followers. The facility also saw a couple new homeschooling groups visit.

	<p>AQUATIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lion's Pool helped played host to numerous special all-town events, such as the Block Party in August and no-admission swims in celebration of Canada Day, New Brunswick Day, and Labour Day. • During the Summer 2023 season at Lion Ken Gabbey Community Outdoor Pool, we not only met but exceeded any prior year on record with drop-in sessions, fitness programs and swimming lessons. • On August 29th, we proudly launched the "Embracing Responsibility Scholarship" in honor of Barb Hurlbut's remarkable dedication as the former Aquatics Coordinator for over three decades. This new scholarship is our response to address the persistent staffing shortages in Aquatics, counteracting the trends observed both in Canada and our region, as underscored in recent years. • For the Fall season, we launched a recruitment campaign in collaboration with our communications and HR departments. Our objective was to onboard over a dozen new employees, and we are excited to announce that we have successfully achieved our staffing target, enabling us to operate our programs at full capacity.
<p>Building a Sustainable Community</p>	<p>MILL CREEK TRAIL MINERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adults and youth age participants met on Tuesdays evenings May 30 – August 22 to work on developing single track trails in Mill Creek Nature Park. This volunteer led program by Aaron Steeves helped extend the trail network along the northern side of the reservoir. • Older adults were given the opportunity to learn how to blaze trails on the newly constructed single-track trails in Mill Creek Nature Park. The hands-on workshops were led by local trail expert and volunteer Alonzo Leger. Becoming familiar with trails and learning a new skill, the two trail blazing events were a success. Staff will be hosting another workshop at the end of September. Winter trail users will be able to navigate the trails effortlessly after snow storms this winter. <p>50TH ANNIVERSARY GRANTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are in contact with recipients of the first round of grant money to remind them to complete their report and send in receipts. Numerous events have taken place over the course of the 50th year so far that have engaged the community and brought much enjoyment. • Still to come: Tosh is presenting a 10-part podcast series, chatting with local Riverviewians. The Veteran's are hosting an Open House during Harvest Fest, The Codiac Concert Band is bringing music to local senior/nursing home later this fall, the senior's group is hosting a Christmas dinner and the Lions Club is hosting a New Year's Eve celebration. <p>NB SMART ENGERY COMMUNITIES ACCELERATOR PROGRAM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quest has completed their benchmark assessment exercise in preparation for working with us over the next 6 months to help us formulate our Community Energy Emissions Plan to reduce our Greenhouse Gas Emissions and work towards Net-Zero. <p>COVERDALE COMMUNITY GARDEN</p>

- ***The community garden was very active this summer***, with all plots taken, seed saving workshops happening and the installation of our new greenhouse, which will extend the gardening season earlier into the spring and later into the fall, allowing local gardeners more time and better conditions to start their gardens. The community teaching plots in the garden produced 102 pounds of assorted produce for the foodbank so far this season, with more harvesting to come, as well as 8 pounds of Saskatoon berries that were picked from the community bushes and were used in a recent jam making workshop. Additional fall crops have been planted in the teaching plots, which will grow even more food for the foodbank in the weeks to come.

POLINATOR GARDENS

- ***An old overgrown rain garden behind the Splash Pad has been transformed*** into a pollinator garden, along with a small garden in front of the Coverdale Centre and a section of Hawthorne Park field, next to the Riverfront Trail, in collaboration with David Suzuki’s Butterflyway Rangers, and a group of youth from Wild Outside. The addition of these three new pollinator gardens in East Riverview will add to the already 8 established pollinator gardens helping to make our community greener and healthier for local bees and butterflies to flourish.

SUSTAINABILITY MICROGRANTS

- ***We awarded our fourth Sustainability Microgrant for the year.*** This one was awarded to the Petitcodiac Riverkeepers for their Healthy River Education Program. This funding allowed them to hire a student to offer targeted education in Riverview resulting in participants understanding how our actions can positively or negatively affect the river and give participants practice in developing healthy river habits, learn about the history and importance of the river, and what actions we can take to help support the river’s health and ecology.

WASTE REDUCTION EFFORTS

- ***Three stream waste sorting*** has been incorporated into our community events. At Canada Day alone, 4.5 cubic yards of waste was diverted from the landfill.



<p>Thriving Community</p>	<p>BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion & Awareness For Local Businesses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Business Spotlight – Throughout the summer, we spotlighted the following 14 local businesses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bob’s Sport Services ▪ Coverdale Vet Hospital ▪ Alison Dawn Voice & Music ▪ Aidex Pest Management ▪ Matt’s Media Outlet ▪ Serenity Pools & Landscaping ▪ Ice Cream Barn ▪ Ready, Set, Grow ▪ Holy Whale ▪ Luvpaws ▪ Dents & Stones ▪ Garderie Les Petits Bisounours Daycare ▪ Hydroweed ▪ Davidson’s Physiotherapy ○ Grand Openings – We celebrated with Alison Dawn Voice & Music on June 17, as well as Ready, Set, Grow on July 29. Both grand openings were very successful with great attendance throughout the day. The owners of both businesses were very pleased with the support of the Town to help generate excitement and to promote the occasion. ○ Festival partnerships – 17 businesses offered specials during this year’s SUNFEST, and 3 local businesses hosted an event, with one business coming on board as an event sponsor. ○ Coverdale Community Garden sponsors- 4 local businesses stepped up to help sponsor the community garden’s new greenhouse. ○ CCGM Business Excellence Awards- Four Riverview businesses were just announced as finalists for the 2023 awards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dayzee’s Fashions Ltd. – Give Back to the Community category ▪ Coverdale Counselling & Consulting – Give Back to the Community category ▪ Nav Canada – Excellence in Business ▪ Garderie Les Petits Bisounours Daycare – Newcomer Entrepreneur ▪ Winners to be announced at the awards presentation on October 20. • Communication With Local Businesses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Connections with local business owners – Throughout the summer, the CEW- business met with 37 different Riverview businesses.
<p>Service Excellence</p>	<p>OUTDOOR OPERATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • August was challenging month weather wise for the maintenance side of Parks and Recreation. Frequent rains have delayed some of our completion times for a couple of key projects including Mill Creek south loop. The base is now completed, and the tailing topcoat should be finished within the next three weeks, along with a new washroom being added.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mowing has been a balancing act this season with the extra rain saturating the green spaces and fields causing them to be too soft to put mowers on. The weather did cause the grass to grow faster and needing to be mowed more often, however the rain did protect the green spaces from being burnt by the heat. • A new line-painting robot is operational, which is expected to help with some of the shortage in employee resources as one person is now capable of lining all the fields instead of several completing it manually. • Staff refurbished an old set of dugouts and added them to Claude D. Taylor field. A welcomed addition for our minor ball teams. • The netting project at Hawthorne for the cricket pitch has been completed. • Both ice surfaces are installed as expected and teams transitioning into our winter operations. <p>KIDSPORT/JUMPSTART/PRO KIDS FUNDING PROCESSING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff tested and implemented a new process to handle third party funding families receive to participate in Town programs/activities. The new process will enable families to register online and improve efficiency of administrative tasks.
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Section 3: Other Notable Development & Highlights for Council’s Attention