

## Appendix A - Contextual information on Fitness and Recreation Centres

1. When ORC expanded in 2005/2006, Council chose to utilize a private contractor to provide fitness centre services. A leaseholder/partnership model was determined to be the best operating model to allow for seamless entry and access for all residents to all amenities within the ORC.
2. ORC is the only fitness centre with access to an aquatic centre, a gymnasium, the arenas, childcare, a concession and lounge areas in a single facility for one low fee in Okotoks.
3. The fitness centre is an integral complementary asset at ORC. It is estimated that the loss of the fitness centre could result in a 75% loss of current pass holders.
4. The fitness centre at ORC provides access to services that support social and economic well being and recovery for all residents. As per the Emergency Social Services framework, ORC provides to the community an opportunity for social supports, social engagement, and community coordination and facilitation. ORC facilitates these opportunities and fills a gap not provided by private fitness centres including:
  - a. Full access to the fitness centre for anyone aged 12+ and access to the fitness centre, with supervision, for children aged 6-11. Currently, family, diversity, youth and seniors account for 82% of all individual term passes and 54% of daily admissions and 68% of actual usage (see attached).
  - b. Family passes include options for non-traditional families such as single parent and three-guardian households.
  - c. No membership contracts and does not cater exclusively to high performance athletes. In alignment with the Social Wellness Framework, ORC offers daily options for spontaneous, impromptu, unstructured leisure and recreation and a low commitment pass model compared to other fitness centres that typically require long term annual commitments.
  - d. Lower fees and/or fee assistance for fitness is available.
5. Offering a fitness centre continues to be an important complementary amenity and is comparable to other multiuse facilities. In comparing 108 recreation facilities in Alberta:
  - a. 100% of facilities that have arenas, a gymnasium, and aquatics also have a fitness centre;
  - b. 72% of the 108 single use and multi-use facilities offer a fitness centre.
6. A scan of proposed new recreation infrastructure in Alberta illustrates that the Towns of Edson, Coaldale, and Devon all propose a fitness centre in their new or expansion construction. Offering a fitness centre in a multi-plex is common and an expected level of service.