



RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURE

Outdoor Sport Fields

PART B: Strategic Direction Report

September 2014



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Preface

This report fulfills the recommendation in the Recreation, Parks & Culture (RPC) Department's 2008 Community Asset Needs Assessment (CANA) to develop a strategy that identifies gaps and user group needs, increases the efficiency and function of the current inventory of outdoor sport fields, and addresses the planning needs for future outdoor sport field sites.

In response to the volume of information gathered related to this project two separate, but complementary and cumulative, reports were created to capture the intent and extent of the work and content:

1. Part A: Inventory, Assessment & Analysis
2. Part B: Strategic Direction Report

The topics covered in the Inventory, Assessment & Analysis report are:

- Purpose and Project Outcomes and Process Overview
- Benefits of Sport
- Community Profile
- Municipal Influences and Priorities
- Sport and Facility Trends
- City Outdoor Sport Fields
- Local Sport Organizations
- Analysis and Observations
- Supporting Research and References

Source citations in this report coincide with the Endnotes and References listed in Part A.

The list of acronyms, terms and definitions are found in Part A.

Inventory, Assessment & Analysis Report Highlights

To serve as a basis for the content in the Strategic Direction, the following are key highlights from the Part A: Inventory, Assessment & Analysis Report:

The community vision, plans and opportunities for sport development and delivery are not currently coordinated between the sport community, the municipality and business community. *Strategies to improve this are outlined in the Governance recommendations on page 10.*

It is confirmed that there is a sufficient supply of developmental sport field spaces, and this will only improve with the completion of the recommended re-purposing and enhancements.

As the community grows, though, so will the needs and demands of the various outdoor sport field user groups, therefore it is critical that new neighbourhood sport fields are created with consideration and care, based on need and not a 'what-will-fit' approach.

Through research and other community comparisons, it is evident that number and quality of Red Deer's major tournament and hosting sites, for outdoor sport field user groups, are limited and behind other similar size communities.

As a result, the city is at a disadvantage compared to other communities in its ability to successfully bid for, and host, regional, provincial, national and international outdoor sport field events. While there are other sports that are limited in their ability to host events, the scope of this report focused on outdoor sport fields.

The tournament and hosting needs of the majority of Red Deer's summer outdoor sport groups, for the next 20 years, could be addressed through the development of a few key outdoor sport field tournament sites. The development of larger hosting and tournament sites require significant planning and investment.



There are a number of opportunities to meet the identified outdoor sport field needs of Red Deer with the planned redevelopment and enhancement of Great Chief Park; the proposed development of sport infrastructure at Red Deer College; the corporate direction to identify future site(s) and re-develop/replace Edgar Athletic Park; and the North of 11A MASP outlining the opportunities for a future multi-purpose facility to accommodate recreation and sport amenities.

Building on the baseline data collected through this process the impact of the recommendations can be measured. In addition, established performance measurements related sport field development and operational cost, use, customer satisfaction and revenue could be monitored.

With appropriate engagement of sport organizations, businesses and The City of Red Deer there will be an increased ability to meet the resource needs to achieve desired outcomes and benefits of all stakeholders.

Report Observations

It will be critical for the long-term success of outdoor sport field users in Red Deer, that a coordinated approach and common vision is identified, developed and supported.

The central location of Red Deer and vibrant sport community, creating appropriate sport tourism sites will be extremely beneficial to the sport organizations' sustainability and the city of Red Deer's identity and economy.



Implementation of the recommendations outlined in this report will support RPC staff and community sport organizations in their efforts to realize short and long-term goals and to address current and future outdoor sport field needs by enhancing capacity and use. Benefits will also be recognized by individuals, organizations, businesses and the community as a whole.

Finally, implementation of the recommendations will also solidify and inform policy development direction, department service levels, and capital planning rationale as well as enhance operational efficiencies and economic development and sport tourism potential.

Strategic Direction

Rationale

The Outdoor Sport Fields Inventory and Assessment and resulting recommendations proposed in this Strategic Direction report propose changes to the historic planning approach and guide future sport field (re)investment, planning, and development.

The recently updated Neighbourhood Planning and Design Standards now outline a variety and mix of park types and gathering spaces, including sport fields and provide more flexibility to ensure required facility development occurs; however, historically the standards and requirements for sport fields specified a ‘one-of-everything’ approach to neighbourhood park site development.

This approach meant that each site featured at least one ball diamond and one rectangle field. Often the fields on one site would overlap in an effort to accommodate community and school needs and opportunities using minimal space.

It was common, for example, to have two ball fields on a site with overlapping outfields such as G.H. Dawe and Lindsay Thurber High School or the ball diamond outfield overlapping a rectangle field such as Maryview School, Grandview School, G.H. Dawe Centre/Anders Park, Elizabeth Seton School sites.



Other past neighbourhood development scenarios included the use of detention pond basins to locate sport fields. The frequent water in the basins makes the fields unavailable and undesirable for use as it either hard packs or washes away the shale or turf and makes it unsafe for the players. Examples of these are located at Notre Dame, Eastview Middle School, and Johnstone Park fields.

While past Area Structure Plan practices outline the fields to be a certain size classification, due to imprecise placement of other landscaping, or built amenities, the actual available field space is compromised, resulting in the field dimensions to be ‘modified’. This practice created a number of fields that while good for sport development use, but do not meet competition requirements.

The recommendations in this report align and support the new 2013 version of the Neighbourhood Planning and Design Standards. It is hoped that the strategies position RPC to, either directly, or through partnerships, provide relevant sport field assets that serve the

community now and in the future, thereby fostering improved individual and community health, economic benefits through sport tourism, community identity and increased capacity for sport and play.

Strategy Identification

The following principles were considered when identifying potential strategies that:

- Existing and future resources are optimized;
- Where necessary, multi-use sites are explored;
- Accessibility to spontaneous, leisure use sport fields are still available within (regional) neighbourhood areas;
- The potential to enhance sport tourism opportunities are identified;
- Potential relationships and partnerships be identified, fostered and supported to achieve goals;
- Consideration is given to new capital development and operational models, where appropriate and effective;
- Future development of sport fields continue to be considered and identified in long range plans;
- Ongoing assessments be completed to ensure the types of amenities reflect current and changing demands; and
- Enhancements related to existing sport fields consider elements such as safety, demand, costs/savings, usability, etc.



Specifically, the anticipated outcomes of the report's recommendations and strategies are to:

- make the outdoor sport fields in Red Deer desirable for users;
- identify opportunities to (re)develop the sites so that they meet the everyday needs of users at all community levels; and
- foster an appropriate tournament environment in Red Deer.

Overview of Actions

Proposed recommendations consider local and industry research yet recognize that the ability to implement the recommendations may be influenced by changing municipal priorities and resource limitations.

These recommendations and actions are classified under three areas:

1. Governance and Processes
2. Redevelopment and Enhancement Strategies
3. Hosting and Tournament Site Development

Each action was then prioritized in the following way:

Priority	Type
Level 1	Immediate
Level 2	As soon as possible, but requires some planning
Level 3	Once required resources are identified
Level 4	For future consideration

Recommendations for existing sport field enhancement(s) or changes were identified and prioritized based on several key considerations.

These include:

- Impact, demand and need for the field in that location for both the community and sport groups;
- Costs and savings related to the change or ongoing operation and maintenance;
- Safety of users; whether the field in a location that is not ideal due to hazards;
- Available resources, including time and human resources; and
- If other changes that are required are dependent on the prior completion of the recommendation.

Governance and Processes

Strategy Objectives

- Existing and new City policies, practices, plans and service-levels related to sport field (re)development and operations are transparent and consistent.
- Administration and community stakeholders are aware of policies, practices, plans and service-levels related to sport field (re)development and operations.
- City policies, practices, plans and services align with Provincial and Federal Sport and Recreation Policies.
- City Policies complement and support the CS4L framework and LTAD models.
- RPC supports and engages the sport and business community in contributing to common visions and resource needs related to sport delivery and development in Red Deer.
- A sport group coalition (i.e. Sport Council of Red Deer - SCoRD) becomes a key stakeholder in the coordination, planning and development of sport facilities.

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Establish department philosophy related to City Land and Facility use for community groups and agencies.	RPC Department	RPC Manager	1
Support the rejuvenation of SCoRD and discover LSO awareness and compliance of LTAD model.	Neighbourhood Facilities (NF) & Neighbourhood Community Development (NCD)	Recreation	1
Consistent naming convention of fields web sites, bookings, GIS and operations staff are used.	Information Technology Services (ITS) & GIS support	Recreation Parks Amenities Staff	1
Referenced Sport field sites by a number that can be used and linked to REGIS. (D-Diamonds; R-Rectangle, Class (P,A,B,C and D).	ITS & GIS support	Recreation Staff	1
List fields by their address first and then if applicable school names. Align CLASS with proposed naming conventions.	CLASS updates	Recreation Staff Pass & Bookings Parks Staff	1

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Identified future sport field needs are considered long-term planning and growth-sequencing forecasts.	RPC Department Parks Planning Recreation – NF & NCD	RPC Manager	2
Consider timing and strategies related to sport field (re)development on school sites through the engagement of Joint Use - Reciprocal Use Committees.	RPC Department Parks Planning	RPC Manager	2
Change reference to site orientation to numeric references versus NE, SE, NW and SW.	Recreation Staff Pass & Bookings	Recreation Staff	2
Develop department service standards related to the care and maintenance of the various classifications of fields and diamonds.	RPC Department	Parks Staff	2
Review allocation procedure for sport fields. This includes increasing the weight given to PSO Standards of Play requirements, monitoring changes in sport trends, user group numbers, needs and demands.	Research (i.e. New Zealand document) Sport group reps SCoRD RPC Staff	Recreation Staff	2
Ensure future land-use planning processes align and consider this report's recommendations in addition to inter-departmental input. MASP / NASPs incorporate recommendations, classification standards and requirements.	Parks Planning Planning Services Department Recreation – NF & NCD	RPC Manager Parks Staff	2
Identify a department process to respond to emerging requests and potential (re)development that would consider timing, resources, public consultation and processes.	RPC Department	Parks Planning NF	2
Regular updates and review of existing inventory should be done every 3-5 years to ensure accuracy, considering sport and population growth statistics.	Parks Amenities Recreation – NCD	Recreation and Parks Amenities staff	2

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Proposed sport fields in new neighbourhood development plans should consider equity in the number and types of sport field-types provided in an area of the city.	Parks Planning	Parks Planning	2
Review and consider creating an adult rental rate for Class B fields to offset the recommendations to change Modified A fields to a lower classification.	Business Support Parks Amenities	Parks Amenities	2
Utilize SCoRD and the sport community in the creation of a community-wide sport master plan(s). The Sport Master Plan should outline priorities, opportunities and strategies for short, medium and long-term.	Funds for consultant and contract Sport Council of Red Deer & Sport Group Reps	RPC Department	3
Establish consistent processes to inform and/or engage neighbourhoods regarding changes to central park site amenities.	Communication support	RPC Leadership	3
Work with ITS to establish online access to booking schedules for sport fields. When possible allow for online payment and bookings of certain fields.	ITS support Software compatibility	Business Support Pass and Bookings	3
Establish performance measures related to the operational cost and use of sport fields.	Recreation, Parks and Business Support	Parks/Rec	3
Create baseline data to measure the impact of report recommendations on sport groups, community economic activity and City budget.	NF & NCD	Recreation	3

Redevelopment and Enhancement Strategies

Strategy Objectives

- Current inventory of neighbourhood park site fields are used efficiently to accommodate a maximum number of user group's needs on the appropriate classification of field.
- Unnecessary field maintenance costs are reduced due to increased efficiencies and application of standard-of-play allocations. *(i.e. 4 teams of younger participants can share the use of one Class B field, reducing the need for the lining of 2 separate fields.)*
- A balance of the various classifications of sport fields across the community is maintained, including leisure and spontaneous use and open green space.
- New neighbourhood sport fields are created for sport development based on the current needs and demands.
- Unnecessary sport field infrastructure (i.e. back stop - goal post) is removed where identified.
- Recommendations for redevelopment of existing sport fields are completed.

Note:

The following strategies and actions identified for sites where enhancement or change is recommended ranging from reclassification, reconfiguration and removal or future development considerations for some form of action.

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
<p>New central park sites are planned and developed to accommodate sport field sites that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Are not modified from the proposed plan. ▪ Do not cross/ overlap outfields. 	<p>Parks Planning User groups Bookings NF & NCD</p>	<p>NCD Staff - sport liaison Parks Planning</p>	<p>1</p>

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Ensure new school sites are planned and developed to accommodate sport field sites that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet curriculum requirements Are not modified from the proposed plan. 	Parks Planning Stakeholders NF & NCD	Parks Planning	1
Maintenance staff for fields have access to booking schedules to reduce unnecessary maintenance.	CLASS training Parks Staff time	Business Support	1
Review for efficiencies to meet services levels for different maintenance standards for Performance, A and B Class fields/diamonds versus C and D Classes.	Parks Staff	Parks	2
Anders on the Lake			
Class (mod) A soccer should be changed to B.	Pass & Bookings	Pass & Bookings	1
Address any issues with grading.			4
Anders Park			
Remove D South West Diamond & backstop are not required.	Parks Staff time	Parks Amenities	3
Change combination football soccer field to only soccer – changing posts and moving them to A length. Remains a Class B field due to width.	Financial resources needed	Parks Amenities	3
Aspen Ridge			
Install a new Class B rectangle field in the proposed school location – pending school board decisions. This field could be temporary.	\$ for posts School board approval	Parks Amenities Parks Planning	4

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Bower – Kin (B Fields)			
Determine impacts of new electrical infrastructure towers to existing site.	Alta Link	Parks Planning	1
Remove West shale diamond (due to manhole and Alta link right-away).	Parks Amenities	Parks Amenities	2
Remove B Soccer Pitch due to manhole.	Parks Amenities	Parks Amenities	2
Remove C soccer field on N E part of site.	Parks Amenities	Parks Amenities	2
Remove scrub diamond D from site.	Parks Amenities	Parks Amenities	2
Add lights and a third boarded rink to accommodate winter classic and pond hockey.	\$ for light fixture additions 3 rd Party Funding		2
CJLC (Camille)			
Explore the need for agreement related to the use of Class B soccer/football field. Located on Department of National Defense land.	Reciprocal Agreement	NCD	4
Clearview			
Change NE diamond (Class C) to a full shale infield B Class diamond.	Financial resources needed for shale infield	Parks Amenities	4
Remove SE and SW diamonds and create a Class C rectangle field.	Financial resources needed to remove diamonds and re-seed sport field	Parks Amenities	4
Collicutt			
Potential parking lot expansion or other city development will result in the loss rectangle field(s) and / or diamond(s). May also impact or require realignment of the Cricket bowling pitch.	Loss of revenue; Cricket realignment costs	Recreation Staff	1
Consider moving Cricket field and amenities to GH Dawe site.	Cricket realignment costs	Parks Amenities	2

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Davenport			
Grass diamond Class A size but due to detention pond not bookable. Change to Class D - Rec Use Only	NA	Pass & Bookings	1
Douglas Park			
Class C grass infield (NE) change to shale infield to upgrade to Class B.	Financial resources needed for shale infield	Parks Amenities	4
Ecole La Prairie			
New Class A Soccer field (2015).	Construction costs	Parks Amenities	1
Removed Class B & C Diamonds.		Parks Amenities	1
Eastview – Joseph Welsh			
2 Class D diamonds – school use, consider removing one.		Parks Amenities	3
GH Dawe School			
Explore potential for designated Cricket Performance pitch changing diamond from shale to turf.	Financial resources needed School Board approval	Parks Amenities Recreation Staff	1
Remove Class C soccer.	Financial resources needed School Board approval	Park Amenities	2
Class A soccer - Reconfigure 90 degrees to south end of the site, drawings on file.		Parks Amenities	2
Highland Green			
Consider off street parking options.	Financial resources needed	Parks Projects Rec	4

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Hunting Hills			
HH N Class A baseball – additional maintenance needed regularly.	Possible joint maintenance with RDMBB Parks	Parks Amenities	1
HH N Class A soccer / football additional maintenance needed regularly.	Parks	Parks Amenities	1
HH SW Class A slo-pitch / softball – potential site for new parking.	Replacement location identified	Parks Amenities	2
Remove half rectangle field to create a practice-sized field.		Parks Amenities	4
Inglewood – Central Park			
Change to Class B to reflect actual infield type.	Pass & Bookings	Pass & Bookings	1
Ironstone (Inglewood East)			
Changed to Class B due to size.	Pass & Bookings	Pass & Bookings	1
Johnstone Park			
Change from Class A to Class D due to detention pond.	Pass & Bookings	Pass & Bookings	1
Johnstone Industrial			
Change from Class A soccer to Class D due to detention pond.	Pass & Bookings	Pass & Bookings	1
Kentwood Alliance Church			
Change to Class D in CLASS – recreational use soccer.	Pass & Bookings	Pass & Bookings	1
Kentwood W			
Class B turf infield - consider adding shale.	Financial resources needed Rec Amenity Fund	Parks	2
Kingsgate			
Change Class A turf-only diamond in detention pond to Class D.	Pass & Bookings	Pass & Bookings	1

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Lancaster Green			
Change from Mod A to Class B soccer-only.	Rec Staff Pass & Bookings	Pass & Bookings	1
Change Class A slo-pitch / softball to Class D; turf field overlaps soccer in detention pond.	Rec Staff Pass & Bookings	Pass & Bookings	1
LTCHS			
400m 8 lane track – upgrade to the track as per capital plan	Rec – NF 2015	NF	2
Long jump, discuss, javelin, hammer throw, shot put facilities need to meet current distance requirements and local/provincial competition standards.	Rec – NF 2015	NF	2
McLean Park			
Complete agreement with Renegades, if applicable following department philosophical review.	NFCD staff – agreement Parks currently does not charge for lining.	NCD& NF	2
Remove shale / grass SE diamond – leave for community use if Renegades get site	Parks Amenities	NCD & NF	4
Parking lot development north west corner by Activity Centre	Parks Planning, Projects, Parks Amenities, NCD/NF	Parks Amenities	4
Expansion of Activity Centre – change rooms/washrooms and storage	Parks Planning Projects Recreation Staff 3 rd party funding	NF	4
Michener Hill			
Remove Class D diamond	Parks Amenities	Parks Amenities	2
Passive recreation opportunities such as park trails, benches, and little dog off leash park.		Parks Amenities	2

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Mountview School			
Removed Class C for 2 mini soccer fields.	Parks Amenities	Parks Amenities	1
North Red Deer			
North Red Deer NE – recreation use diamond, school use only, backstop enclosed by forest, consider significant pruning.	Parks	Parks Planning	2
Notre Dame			
ND NE Class A slo-pitch / softball diamond in detention pond, hard to maintain, compacts shale - change Class A to Class C due to the quality of support amenities.	Pass & Bookings	Pass & Bookings	1
ND SW Class A slo-pitch / softball – in detention pond, hard to maintain, compacts shale – change Class A to Class C due to the quality of support amenities. Possible re-use of fencing on a different site.	Parks Pass & Bookings	Pass & Bookings	1
Oriole Park Extension			
Remove Class C diamond.	Parks	Parks Amenities	3
Oriole Park W			
Class B slo-pitch / softball, 250' outfield. Consider upgrade to shale infield	Financial resources needed	Parks	3
Large site that has the potential for additional softball diamonds.	Financial Resources needed	NF	3
Oriole Park School			
Remove one of the 2 Class C turf diamonds with shale pads. They overlap with soccer field.	Financial resources needed School Approval	Parks	3
Upgrade remaining Class C diamond to shale infield.	Financial resources needed	Parks Amenities	4
Pines			
Pines NE – Class B turf diamond.	Parks		3

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Red Deer College			
RDC E – RPC needs to confirm with RDC RE maintaining as football / soccer combination field.	TBD	RDC	1
Potential RDC site redevelopment – wellness centre.	TBD	RDC	3
RDC Track – 400 m 8 lane shale track, poor quality – Inquire if upgrades contemplated.	TBD	RDC	4
Potential removal of RDC N – Class A slo-pitch / softball.	TBD	RDC	4
Potential removal of RDC S – Class A slo-pitch / softball.	TBD	RDC	4
Rosedale			
Add boarded rink to the east and shift snow bank to the west side of existing boarded rink.	\$ for boarded rink 3 rd party funding	Parks Amenities NFCD	2
Extra bank of lights.			2
Consider addition to activity centre and use by Pond Hockey and RD Minor Football.	\$ for activity centre 3 rd party funding		2
St. Martin De Porres			
RDMSA 1 expand shale area to be a Class C shale diamond.	Permission from School Board. \$ for site work and additional shale	Parks Amenities	1
Realign the soccer posts for better site configuration.	Financial resources needed	Parks Amenities	2
RDMSA wish to add storage shed and second batting cage running parallel and attached to the south of the existing one.	Permission from The City, School Board and development permit. Resources - RDMSA	NF & NCD	2
If a suitable replacement is found, consider moving RDMSA out of this area.	\$ for construction of new site, 3 rd party funding	Parks Amenities	4

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
St. Patrick's School			
Consider removing one of the St. Patrick's Class A slo-pitch / softball, shale diamonds.	\$ for removal	Parks Amenities	4
Class C soccer upgraded to a B Class field if realigned following the diamond removal.	\$ for realignment	Parks Amenities	4
Timberlands			
Class A shale diamond ready 2015.	Parks	Parks Amenities	1
Class A soccer only ready for use in 2015.	Parks	Parks Amenities	1
West Park Elementary			
Consider moving RDMSA out of this area if tournament hosting site is developed.	Land acquisition/ identification, cost to construct 4-6 diamonds, parking, and support services. 3 rd party funding required	RPC Department	4
Add angle parking in front of activity centre.	\$ for parking lot 3 rd party funding	RPC	4
West Park Middle School			
Eliminate or move Class C rectangle field N and re-align baseball field to the East to increase to a Class A size.	\$ for development 3 rd Party funding	Recreation staff Parks Amenities	4
To increase number of RDMBA diamonds on the site, consider removing Class A soccer field. Development of additional soccer fields at RDC may eliminate the need at this site.	\$ for development 3 rd Party funding	RPC	4
Victoria Park			
Potential location for an Activity Centre on the B soccer field location.	\$ for planning design and construction of an activity centre.	Parks Planning, Projects and NF& NCD	4

Potential Sport Field Changes Summary

These current figures reflect the field inventory as per the January, 10, 2013 document referenced and utilized by Parks and the Pass and Bookings Specialist.

The chart below illustrates the potential for change - increase, decrease or no change - in the inventory and reflect the recommendations presented in pages 10-18.

Examples:

- A formal Performance Field classification is needed to include the Great Chief Park field.
- Some of the increases and decreases are due to fields having Class A dimensions, however due to their location in detention area they are not able to be booked or used as a Class A. Therefore, the classification for these fields can be changed to Class D.

Due to variables such as timing, costs, and user need, implementation process will determine actuals.

Rectangle Field Inventory Potential for Change

CURRENT FIELDS	CLASSIFICATION	POTENTIAL FOR CHANGE*
0	Performance Field	Increase
9	Class A Soccer / Football	No Change
6	Class A Soccer only	Increase
8	Class B Soccer / Football	Increase
21	Class B Soccer only	Decrease
1	Class C Soccer / Football	Increase
21	Class C Soccer only	Decrease
15	Class D – Recreational Use Sport Field	Increase

Diamond Inventory Potential for Change

CURRENT FIELDS	CLASSIFICATION	POTENTIAL FOR CHANGE*
0	Performance fields	Increase
1	Class A Baseball	Increase
2	Class B Baseball	No Change
28	Class A Slo-pitch / Softball - shale and turf	Decrease
20	Class B Slo-pitch / Softball- shale and turf	Decrease
18	Class C Slo-pitch / Softball - shale and turf	Decrease
13	Class D - Leisure use	Increase

Sites Identified for Redevelopment and Enhancement – At a Glance

Includes both Rectangle Fields and Diamonds

LEVEL 1 Immediate	LEVEL 2 As soon as possible, but requires some planning	LEVEL 3 Once required resources are identified	LEVEL 4 For future consideration
Anders on the Lake Bower Collicutt Centre Davenport Ecole la Prairie GH Dawe Hunting Hills Inglewood Central Park Ironstone Johnstone Park Johnstone Industrial Kentwood Alliance Kingsgate Lancaster Green Mountview Notre Dame Red Deer College St. Martin de Porres Timberlands	Bower Collicutt Centre GH Dawe Hunting Hills Kentwood W LTCHS McLean Park Michener Hill North Red Deer Rosedale St. Martin de Porres	Anders Park Eastview – Joseph Welsh Oriole Park Extension Oriole Park W Oriole Park School Pines Red Deer College St. Patrick’s School	Anders on the Lake Aspen Ridge Camille Clearview Douglas Park Highland Green Hunting Hills McLean Park Oriole Park School Red Deer College St. Martin de Porres St. Patrick’s School West Park Elementary West Park Middle School Victoria Park

Hosting and Tournament Site Development

Strategy Objectives

- Future sport field hosting and tournament site location(s) are identified and integrated into future Land Use plans.
- Strategies for the acquisition and development of future sport field hosting and tournament site location(s) include plans for long-term sustainability and involvement sport organizations.
- Sport groups and other stakeholders are engaged in planning and development of tournament and hosting sites.
- Hosting requirements for regional, provincial and national events are reviewed and confirmed when developing future tournament and hosting site plans.
- Outdoor sport field user groups understand and plan for the need for shared contribution to capital development and operation of future hosting and tournament sites.
- Hosting site planning focuses on clustering sports that share similar infrastructure and operational needs.

Notes:

- The current and future capacity of Great Chief Park to host major sporting events does not change the need for additional hosting facilities for both ball diamonds and rectangle fields.
- The lack of adequate tournament and hosting facilities for sport field user groups has not impeded their ability for basic participation in sport development for their respective sports. It does however limit their ability to take on hosting opportunities expectations which are typically shared mutually among regional and provincial communities.

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Tournament Site Planning & Development			
Engage appropriate sport groups in future tournament site planning and development for identified sites.	SCoRD RDMSA RDMBA CASPA BMX 90-160 acres of land in one or more locations. Facilitation Planning & Design	Recreation – NFCD Parks Planning	4
Ensure sport field needs are communicated for inclusion in MASP planning and to NASP Review Team representative for the RPC Department.	Sport Field Inventory & Assessment Report	Parks Planning NF & NCD	1
NE High School Site			
<p>(Multiple) high schools site is developed as outlined in the initially proposed plan. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1 performance soccer field with lights, seating etc.; ▪ 2 additional Class A soccer fields; ▪ Washroom and change room access; ▪ Adequate parking and bus access; ▪ 1 football and soccer field, surrounded by a regulation athletic running track; and ▪ Other regulation track and field amenities. <p>*Note: finalized site planning may reflect changes in the above elements based on needs and available space.</p>	School Boards School staff RPC Sport groups and stakeholders	RPC	1

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Red Deer College			
<p>Red Deer College sport field development related to their health, wellness and sport centre.</p> <p>This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Indoor, non-boarded turf field, (also ice arena, gymnasium and fitness and dryland training) ▪ Removal of two existing shale diamonds to accommodate construction of the wellness centre. ▪ Creation of an additional Class A rectangle and soccer field and two Class B practice fields. This would bring the total number of fields on the site to three – 1 Class A and 2 Class B soccer fields. 	<p>RDC City of Red Deer RPC staff Local Sport Groups</p>	<p>RDC</p>	<p>3</p>

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Edgar Athletic Park			
<p>Consider a replacement site or redevelopment of the Edgar Athletic Park (soccer, baseball, slo-pitch) to create a ball-focused tournament facility. This will require up to 160 acres and could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relocate baseball diamond use to GCP or other suitable location. • Develop 4-6 Class A Softball diamonds – clustered / fenced, 1-2 with lights. Could use additional slo-pitch fields, with portable fencing for major tournaments. • 6-8 Class A Slo-pitch diamonds – clustered / fenced, 1-2 with lights - with portable fencing sleeves in two of the diamond outfields to allow for cross-over use with softball. • Score Clocks • Bleacher seating • Landscaping • Playground • Municipal servicing • Parking, bus drop offs • Change Rooms / washrooms near each field ‘cluster’ and / or centralized • Concession, beer garden areas • Equipment and vehicle storage • Office space • Entrance Gate(s) • 4-6 Class A Baseball diamonds – clustered / fenced • <i>Note:</i> <i>-Phasing and development over time is likely required and capital resources from sport groups, grants, and sponsorship will be required.</i> <i>-BMX facility may also be included if appropriate depending on location.</i> 	<p>RPC Parks Planning Planning Services SCoRD Sport field user group reps Capital resources needed 3rd party funding</p>	<p>RPC</p>	<p>3</p>

Recommended Actions	Resources	Lead Role	Level
Future Regional Tournament Site			
<p>Once the location is identified for a major indoor, multi-purpose recreation facility (250,000 ft²) it could support a multitude of outdoor recreation amenities as well.</p> <p>Depending on the size of the site, as well as community needs and priorities, indoor amenities could include, but are not limited to, field house, dry space, fitness facilities, program and performance spaces.</p> <p>Other amenities such as outdoor sport fields, camp ground, rowing facilities, picnic areas, walking trails, spray park, playgrounds, natural and cultural heritage components, edible plantings and community gardens could all be considered.</p> <p>The sport field facility planning will depend on the amount of developable space, need and demand for various facility space.</p> <p>Below are potential considerations when establishing the plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ *4-6 Baseball Diamonds ▪ *4 Softball Diamonds ▪ *6-8 Slo-Pitch Diamonds ▪ *BMX facility ▪ Indoor field house for indoor training for off season ▪ Fitness training / gymnasium spaces for training ▪ Indoor batting cages ▪ Bus access and parking ▪ Outdoor park spaces – picnic areas, trails, playgrounds, environmental interpretation signage (bird watching, conservation practices). <p><i>*Note: Facility development at the 'Edgar replacement site' may inform the needs and priorities for regional sport field development.</i></p>	<p>RPC staff</p> <p>Sport User Groups</p> <p>SCoRD</p> <p>Contractors – Design & Planning</p> <p>Planning Services</p>	<p>RPC</p>	<p>4</p>

While current demand and resources do not warrant larger premier fields (stadium sized) facilities at this time, consideration should be given for long-term planning (20 year +) for the following:

- Stadium-style outdoor, artificial turf football / soccer facility with covered seating that could be phased in to seat upwards to 2000 – 3500 people.
- Stadium-style baseball field with covered seating that could be phased in to seat upward to 800-1000 people.

The stadium facility recommendations are to support and / or replace the ones at Great Chief Park in the long-term.

If the recommendations above are achieved, field space at Great Chief Park could be re-purposed or maintained as practice fields, or festival site.

Note: Stadium, premier diamond and/or rectangle fields could be considered and used for outdoor cultural events as well. Site plans could be similar to those at McDonald Island Park in Ft. McMurray.

Special Development Considerations for Performance Fields

Performance fields require additional planning and construction consideration to ensure that they meet current hosting requirements and maintain quality performance over time. These specifications⁶⁶ are detailed and outlined by engineering professionals, experienced in sport field development.

Below are some of the considerations that need to be included in performance field development in Red Deer:

Geotechnical Investigation - Looking at the type of soil, soil depth, ground stability, compaction, water sources, etc. is the first step in the design process; this is especially true for the location of the 'performance' sport field.

Foundation - Ensure that the foundation and site preparation for the 'performance' field is done to a high standard eliminates additional costs related to repair, maintenance and retrofitting the future facilities. The foundation below a synthetic turf or a running track is critical and similar to high-quality road construction, the difference being in the overall thickness and nature of the layers material, weeping tile, etc.

Track & Field Drainage - For a track and football field being constructed together, the track should be constructed with an interior trench drain and the field can be drained on the surface (or with subsurface) to a multi-flow drain that runs parallel to the Track drain. This would connect to the subsurface storm lines.

Phased Track & Sport Field Drainage - If the football / soccer field is only being constructed initially then it is best to install a trench style, multi-flow drain with surface inlets every 20m parallel to, but inside where the track will be. This will prevent the need for major swales along the entire length of the sidelines where the teams will stand. To catch the spring melt and major rain events, some minor swales and a couple of 'channel basins' on each sideline (around the 20 yard line) can be included. Protective covers can be purchased so that these are covered during games.

Field Subsurface Drainage - Not often specified for natural turf fields but if drainage is a concern based on soil conditions then a multi-flow type product could be installed in a herringbone pattern starting within the field area about 20 m before the sidelines and connecting into the trench drain around the field. This would ensure good drainage and a dry sideline.

Topsoil - Engage a soil specialist to specify a good, well-draining but firm root zone mix (150mm depth) and use native soils amended with sand and other materials depending on the textural analysis of the native soils.

Crowned - Field should be crowned down the middle a 1-1.5 % slope should extend from centreline of field to 10m beyond sidelines – must be specified as a “consistent, uniform grade” – should be specified that ‘grade be confirmed at subgrade, soil placement and finished grade following turf installation.’

Orientation - Preference for fields is to orient them north / south; this is especially true for the performance fields.

Irrigation & Water Access - Only for the performance field would irrigation be required. In addition, water access on or very near the field would be required for both field maintenance and player needs.

Electrical & Technological - Consideration should be given during site development for the ability to accommodate the need for field lighting, technological conduit, other amenity demands and future electrical demands on the performance field.

Location of Support Amenities - During site design it is recommended, that if space allows, the washroom/change room facilities be located adjacent to the performance track and sport field. This building will require water, gas, electrical servicing close to the building location.

Environmental Master Plan - Consideration may be required to consider recommendations within the plan, especially as it relates to water conservation.

Next Steps

With Part A: Inventory, Assessment & Analysis findings serving as the foundation and context for the recommendations, it is expected the Part B: Strategic Directions Report will be used as a reference and planning tool for staff and community to implement the recommendations.

These reports will be:

- Reviewed by Community Services senior administration for information and feedback to determine future application of reported findings and recommendations;
- Presented to Senior Management and City Council for information purposes;
- Shared with RPC Leadership Team and relevant staff; and
- Shared with the appropriate sport user groups as information and for an opportunity to confirm that the recommendations address their identified needs and wants for sport field (re)development in the community over the next 5-15 years.

It is acknowledged that recommendations requiring additional resources to implement need to receive support from City Council and/or senior administration prior to any work being completed.