

Kitchener Indoor Recreation Complex

An architectural rendering of the Kitchener Indoor Recreation Complex. The building features a modern design with a curved, dark-colored upper section and a lighter-colored lower section. A large, curved entrance canopy is visible. The surrounding area includes trees, a sidewalk, and a parking lot. The sky is blue with some clouds.

PROJECT UPDATE

City Council Strategic Session
May 26, 2025

Kitchener Indoor Recreation Complex

A Premiere Sports Venue Where Community Comes Together

- Opening in 2026 – next year!
- 570,000 users each year
- City's first net-zero building
- City's most accessible building
- Multi-use facility that meets community needs:
 - Indoor turf (divisible into four fields)
 - Aquatic centre (2 pools)
 - Quad gymnasium
 - 2 Cricket practice nets
 - Elevated walking track
 - 4 multi-purpose rooms



Operational Readiness Planning

- Significant amount of work underway to ensure the City is ready to operate the facility once construction is complete and it has opened later next year.
- KIRC Operational Readiness Team has already identified 17 operational priorities, encompassing more than 100 individual activities that need to be completed before doors open. Examples:

• Local athlete showcase	• Technology strategy (user experience)
• Inventory (non-furnishing items)	• Digital screen location/content plan
• Stakeholder communications plan	• Digital roadside sign (Fischer-Hallman)
• ActiveNet registration/booking set-up	• Rental intake process
• SOPS and emergency plans	• Staff & Community facility opening

Facility Vision Statement

Connect. Compete. Belong.

Actions to Date:

- ✓ Staff worked together to create a vision for the facility to guide future operational decision making, hiring, onboarding and training.
- ✓ Commitment to create a space:
 - ✓ where sport and recreation bring people together
 - ✓ where there are a wide variety of sports and activities available
 - ✓ where memories are made
 - ✓ where athletes and sports lovers are supported

Next Steps:

- Incorporate vision statement into KIRC staff hiring and onboarding plans
- Finalize shorter version for public

Staffing Model

Actions to Date:

- ✓ Research and analysis of 10 similar facilities in Ontario
- ✓ Interviews with 12 City staff (Sport Division, Facilities Management, Parks Operations)
- ✓ Financial analysis of staffing model

Next Steps:

- June 2025 – staff report on KIRC operating model (including staffing model) to Council
- August 2025 – begin recruitment on management positions



Financial Model:

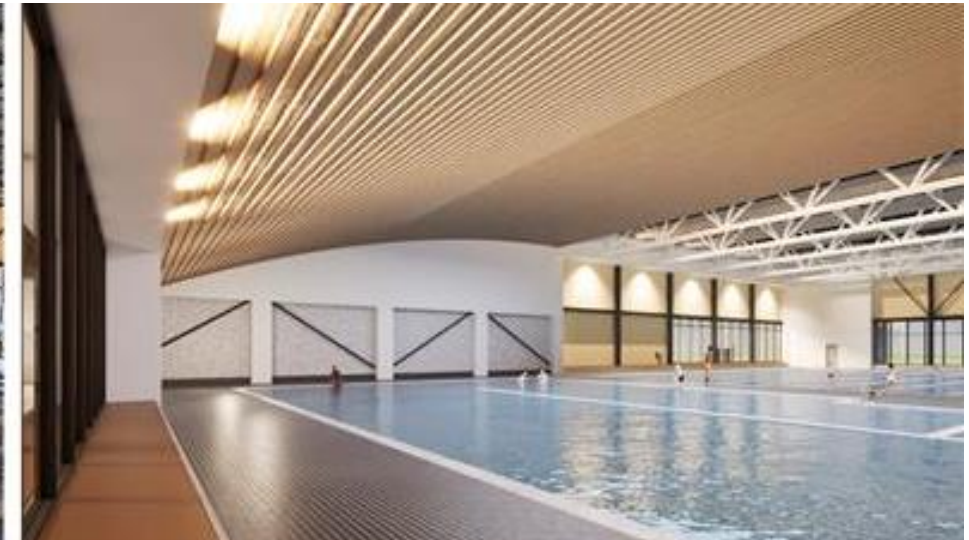
Operating & Capital Budgets, User Fees & Revenues

Actions to Date:

- ✓ Working group of CSD, INS and Finance staff established – building operating/capital budgets
- ✓ Initial facility usage, user fee and revenue projections created

Next Steps:

- Consultations with variety of user groups re: proposed user fees
- June 2025 – staff report on KIRC operating costs to Council



Sponsorship & Naming Rights

Actions to Date:

- ✓ Consultant onboard with expertise and experience in municipal sponsorship sales
- ✓ Detailed valuation of facility specific assets underway
- ✓ Started to develop list of potential leads for sponsorships

Next Steps:

- Finalize asset valuations and prospect leads
- Begin to approach potential sponsors



Questions re: Operational Readiness?

Construction Update

- **Field House** – steel structure ongoing. 12 of 18 roof trusses installed.
- **Aquatics Centre** – stainless steel pools installed. Roof is 50% complete.
- **Quad Gymnasium** – foundations and footings underway.
- **Walking Track** – deck 25% complete



Design Update & Virtual Tour of Facility

Things to watch for during virtual tour...

- Accessibility – City's most accessible building
- Scale of the building – City's second largest community facility next to The Aud
- Spectator areas – very deliberately designed to maximize viewing
- Interconnect spaces – supports multi-use nature of the facility