

# Recreation Program

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*Site C Clean Energy Project*

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## Table of Contents

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Camp Recreational Programs and Services.....</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1.1	Worker Camp Capacity and Workforce Characteristics.....	3
2.1.2	Camp Recreation Coordination and Management .....	4
2.1.3	Facilities.....	4
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Regional Recreational Programs and Services.....</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1.1	North Peace Leisure Pool .....	5
3.1.2	Pomeroy Sport Centre .....	5
3.1.3	Coordination for Access with the City of Fort St. John.....	5
<b>4.0</b>	<b>References.....</b>	<b>6</b>



## 1.0 Introduction

The purpose of this Recreation Program is to describe (a) recreation programs and services to be offered for Project workers at the worker camp, and (b) recreation programs and services to be offered for Project workers off-site, in coordination with the City of Fort St. John.

This Recreation Program has been developed and must be implemented in accordance with Condition 55 of Environmental Assessment Certificate # E14-02, dated 14 October 2014 (the EAC), which was issued in respect of the Site C Clean Energy Project (the Project).

Condition 55 of the EAC states that:

- BC Hydro must manage increased demands on community recreational programs and services resulting from the influx of the Project workforce by implementing mitigation measures detailed in a Recreation Program for residents of the work camp, in consultation with the City of Fort St. John; and
- If the recreational services required by residents of the camp extend beyond that provided through in-house (EAC Holder) facilities and programming, BC Hydro must identify, through consultation with the City of Fort St. John, additional facility and/or programming needs and must provide the resources required to meet those needs.

Section 2.0 (Camp Recreational Programs and Services) and Section 3.0 (Regional Recreation Programs and Services) of this Recreation Program address the first and second requirements of Condition 55 listed above respectively.

## 2.0 Camp Recreational Programs and Services

While developing the requirements for camp recreational facilities and services, BC Hydro researched facilities for other construction project camps to determine which facilities were well-used by a rotational camp workforce. This included visiting existing facilities in northern BC and Alberta and speaking with camp operators. This research identified that convenient on-site recreation facilities are important to worker well-being while on-site and also for worker attraction and retention. The Health and Medical Service Plan Best Management Guide for Industrial Camps noted that facilities which encourage physical activity and healthy lifestyles support positive health outcomes (Northern Health 2015).

As a result of the research undertaken, the camp facility will include a variety of recreational programs and services to support socialization, entertainment and physical fitness. The programs and services will be coordinated and managed by staff members from the camp provider.

### 2.1.1 Worker Camp Capacity and Workforce Characteristics

The worker camp will have a capacity of 1,600 beds by the end of 2016 with the capability of expanding to 2,200 beds if required. The camp is further described in the Housing Plan and Housing Monitoring and Follow-up Program, submitted to the City of Fort St. John, Aboriginal Groups, and the Environmental Assessment Office on June 5, 2015. The annual average occupancy of the camp is anticipated to be approximately 700 over the course of all years of construction (BC Hydro 2013).

Construction workers staying in the worker accommodation facility are anticipated to work rotations (i.e. # of days working and # of days off) and these construction workers would likely return to their home communities on their turnaround days (i.e. days off). Workers are not generally anticipated to have days off other than their turnaround days. Rotations and daily shifts will be determined by Project contractors, but common characteristics of other construction workforces in BC and Alberta entail daily shifts that are typically 10 hours, though shifts may be up to 11 or 12 hours per day. Workers living in the camp are anticipated to make limited use of off-site recreational facilities given these daily shifts, and because workers will likely be returning to their home communities on turnaround days.

A leisure shuttle will operate between the worker camp and local businesses and services as described in the Construction Safety Management Plan: Appendix C – Commuter and Carpool Plan (2015).

### **2.1.2 Camp Recreation Coordination and Management**

The camp operator will provide a staff member responsible for developing, managing and coordinating recreational activities and events for camp residents. The staff member will be responsible for:

- Developing personalized physical fitness training programs for camp residents on request
- Organizing recurring activities that effectively utilize the facilities and meet camp resident needs. Activities may include:
  - Film showings in the movie theatre
  - Fitness classes
  - Card game tournaments
  - Sports teams and tournaments
- Surveying camp residents on a regular basis to assess interest in the above activities and level of participation.

### **2.1.3 Facilities**

The camp will include the following recreation and leisure facilities. Fitness facilities will be available 24 hours a day with scheduled programs at appropriate times based on worker shifts.

- Fitness
  - gymnasium with track
  - weight room
  - fitness studios for classes
  - aerobics machines, such as treadmills, bicycles, recumbent bicycles, elliptical machines, and rowing machines
  - outdoor flex space for basketball or hockey
- Recreation and Games
  - recreation area equipped with equipment such as pool tables, ping pong, and card tables
  - games room with electronic gaming consoles and equipment

- all guest rooms will include packaged television, wired Ethernet and wireless internet and cable
- Leisure and Gatherings
  - Theatre with tiered seating
  - TV room
  - Spiritual room for gatherings and observances
  - Lounge with limited hours to serve beer and wine and show sporting events
  - BBQ fire pit area
  - Coffee shop

The lounge facility will have a drink limit and also provide snacks. No alcoholic beverages will be permitted elsewhere in the camp other than in the lounge during serving hours.

### **3.0 Regional Recreational Programs and Services**

BC Hydro and the City of Fort St. John have worked together to develop an approach to provide resources to support potential camp resident use of the North Peace Leisure Pool and Pomeroy Sport Centre.

#### **3.1.1 North Peace Leisure Pool**

The North Peace Leisure Pool is owned by the Peace River Regional District and operated by the City of Fort St. John. The facility consists of a leisure pool and a 25 meter lap pool. The Leisure Pool has a zero beach at one end and a maximum depth of 1.5 meters (five feet) at the other end. The lap pool has 6 lanes. The shallow end is 1 meter (3.6 feet) deep and 3.7 meters (12.1 feet) at the deep end. There is also a 3 meter and 1 meter dive platforms. Other amenities include two full size water slides, sauna, steam room, whirlpool, family change rooms, cardio fitness room and a meeting room (Fort St. John 2015a).

#### **3.1.2 Pomeroy Sport Centre**

The Pomeroy Sport Centre is a three floor ice and sport facility located in the City of Fort St. John. The first and second floors include 2 NHL sized ice rinks, skate sharpening vendor, dressing rooms, and an Olympic-sized long track speed skating oval. The third floor of this facility has a 340 meter indoor walking/running track with lockers (Fort St. John 2015b).

#### **3.1.3 Coordination for Access with the City of Fort St. John**

Both the North Peace Leisure Pool and Pomeroy Sport Centre are supported by a combination of funding from taxes and user fees. During operation of the worker camp, BC Hydro will annually pre-purchase a block of entry tickets for the public swimming pool and skating rink facilities for use by Project workers. The number of tickets purchased will be equivalent to four tickets per person resident in the camp (BC Hydro 2013). The total value of the tickets over eight years will be approximately \$425,000. By pre-purchasing tickets, the City will receive guaranteed income in advance to support these facilities and services. The purchase of these tickets will be in addition to those purchased directly by workers living in the camp or the community for access to these facilities.

## 4.0 References

- BC Hydro. 2013. Site C Clean Energy Project Environmental Impact Statement: Volume 4 Appendix A Part 3 Population Effects Model. Vancouver, BC.
- BC Hydro. 2015. Housing Plan and Housing Monitoring and Follow-up Program. Vancouver, BC.
- BC Hydro. 2015. Construction Safety Management Plan: Appendix C – Commuter and Carpool Plan. Vancouver, B.C.
- Fort St. John. 2015a. North Peace Leisure Pool. Available at: <http://www.fortstjohn.ca/north-peace-leisure-pool>. Accessed November 16, 2015.
- Fort St. John. 2015b. Pomeroy Sport Centre. Available at: <http://www.fortstjohn.ca/pomeroy-sport-centre>. Accessed November 16, 2015.
- Northern Health. 2015. Health and Medical Service Plan Best Management Guide for Industrial Camps.