



TRANSALTA  
Tri Leisure  
Centre

# 2016 Annual REPORT

*Connecting the Community*



Thank you to all our partners  
and sponsors for 15 years of

*Healthy,  
Active Living!*

CELEBRATING  
**15**  
YEARS

2016 Annual  
REPORT

CELEBRATING  
**15**  
YEARS

**Partners**



**Sponsors**



**Wellness Partners**

Tri-Community Health and Wellness Foundation  
Spruce Grove Rotary Club  
Stony Plain Kinsmen  
Spruce Grove and Stony Plain Legions  
Jennifer Heil

**Athletic Partners**

Spruce Grove Minor Hockey Association  
Stony Plain Minor Hockey Association  
Spruce Grove Minor Soccer Association  
Stony Plain Minor Soccer Association  
Spruce Grove Ringette Association  
Tri-Area Skating Club  
Spruce Grove Barracudas  
Parkland Pirates  
Parkland Water Polo  
Parkland Posse Lacrosse

**Restaurant and Retail Partners**

The Fix  
Custom Grind  
Shotz Lounge  
Mountain Top Market  
Parkland Rehab  
Booster Juice



 Click the buttons

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# 1. Vision & Mission

## Vision

The vision is the basis for strategic planning. Vision answers the question "Where are we going?" It is the organization's desired future state.

**Transforming Lifestyle and Community**

## Mission

The mission articulates the organization's purpose, both for those within and those external to the organization. The mission answers the question, "Why do we exist?"

**We bring community together to inspire quality life experiences and healthy, active living**

## Core Values

Our values guide our behaviors and define what we stand for.

**Integrity, Respect, Our People, Health and Wellness, Leadership, Our Environment**

# HIGHLIGHTS from 2016

2016 was a tremendous year for the TLC. Our team accomplished a number of strategic initiatives:

## PLAY PARKLAND PROGRAM

- Providing industry-leading programs to seven Tri-Region schools and more than 2,000 students.

**THE TLC HAS REPRESENTATIVES ON THE FOLLOWING INDUSTRY COMMITTEES:** Swimming and Water Safety Technical Advisory Group, Northern Alberta Pool Managers Group, PLAY Great representing PLAY Parkland, Youth Development through Recreation and Services Symposium Planning Committee, ARPA High Five Task Force and Ever Active Schools.

## CONTINUED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- The TLC participates in the following regional initiatives and groups: PLAY Parkland, First Five Forever, Early Childhood Coalition, WestView Primary Care Network, The Steadward Centre, Got Pain Alberta, PSD Triathlon Event Organizing Committee, Regional Recreation and Wellness Committee and Parkland Area Volunteer Action Committee.

**ACHIEVING AN OPERATING SURPLUS OF \$112,255.**

**ADOPTION OF 10-year strategic plan.**

**LAUNCH OF**  
new website and registration software.

**SHARING INDUSTRY EXPERTISE:**  
Donna McKean, Heidi Paul and Jenine Armstrong were part of creating a new Aquatic Resource for teachers and rec leaders promoting physical literacy skills in the aquatic environment called "Dip, Dive and Glide!"

# 2. Greetings from the Board

## A Message from the Chair of the Board of Directors

The Tri-Municipal Leisure Facility Corporation Board of Directors is pleased with the TransAlta Tri Leisure Centre's growth in 2016. The following report summarizes notable highlights, events and happenings that occurred at the TLC over the last calendar year.

The TLC's focus in 2016 was all about the customer's experience, which translated into a brand new website design and online registration software. We are proud of the website's improved functionality and aesthetic thus far, and we will continue to make improvements in 2017.

The Board of Directors is committed to fostering healthy, long-lasting relationships with the TLC's stakeholders, with innovation and unparalleled engagement at the forefront of our vision for prosperity in 2017.

The TLC has been the beating heart of the Tri-Municipal Region for 15 years now, and it continues to be a hub for healthy, active living. TLC members and guests enjoyed plenty of programs, classes and special events in 2016, and we can't wait to see what the coming year brings.

Sincerely,  
Gary Fulmore



# 3. Greetings from the General Manager

## A Message from Graig

As we reflect on 2016, many significant items come to mind that have helped to shape the direction of the TLC. Whether it was exciting partnerships with local community groups and organizations, successful completion of important infrastructure updates, continued opportunities to support all of our members and user groups, the challenges brought by a tough economy or the humbling experience of working with community members to assist with the evacuees from Fort McMurray, the past year was certainly a learning experience for us. We aim to use these experiences to continue making improvements in our operations here at the TLC.

As an organization, a 10-year strategic plan was developed, adopted and implemented to ensure that we have a strong foundation to build from. Focusing on four PEAK priorities (Personnel, Engaging Stakeholders, Asset Management and Key Service Levels), the TLC commits to the development of key initiatives and the achievement of results that will ensure steady advancement towards our mission of "Transforming Lifestyle and Community". Our commitment to the ongoing review of this plan will allow us to be flexible and adaptive to the needs of our communities moving forward.

The facility continues to showcase itself as more than just a community recreation centre. This past year included a myriad of unique events and activities that reinforces the flexibility of a multi-use facility of this nature. In addition to the traditional slate of events and activities that have become commonplace for the TLC, major special events were also held including Toopy & Binoo Family Day shows, Collective Soul, Brett Kissel and George Canyon. These events brought close to 5,000 people to the facility and provided unique opportunities for community members to gather. The events also provided additional exposure outside of the Tri-Municipal Region. We hope to complement our traditional sport and recreation offerings by providing a variety of community events and activities for people of all ages and interests that will continue to encourage residents to use the facility as a true community hub.

Graig Walsh  
General Manager

# 4. Profile Sponsor



Realty Executives has been an important part of the Tri-Municipal Region since its opening in 1994 in Spruce Grove. Their commitment to community is evident through their sponsorship of the Aquatic Complex, as well as their ongoing support of minor sports and youth recreation. Realty Executives embodies a community-centred approach to doing business.

Realty Executives has been an important partner of the TLC, as the naming sponsor of the Aquatic Complex, since the facility opened in 2002. Additionally, through their Supporting Our Youth Program they have been able to help over 800 youth in the Tri-Region participate in educational, sports or cultural events and programs they otherwise would not have access to. They also donate a TLC family membership yearly to a family in need.

The Realty Executives team is an important part of our community and we appreciate all they do to make the Tri-Municipal Region a more active place!



# 5. Strategic Plan Overview

The TLC has gone through significant transformation on many levels over the last several years. Recent adjustments to the makeup of the Board of Directors, new members of the administrative team, a rapidly changing community and an enhanced focus on key areas of operations will provide many new opportunities moving forward. It is this context that served as the impetus for the TLC to define its future and develop a new 10-year strategic plan.

The TLC's Strategic Plan is focused on four PEAK priorities which form the pillars of both our future strategies while guiding the allocation of resources and informed decision making at an operational level.



- P**ersonnel
- E**ngagement with Stakeholders
- A**sset Management
- K**ey Service Levels (internal and external)

The TLC's short- and long-term planning process consists of three key components. These three steps are interconnected and include the strategic plan, corporate plan and service levels to outline the roadmap for advancing the organization forward.



# Special Project Feature

## PLAYPARKLAND

Physical Literacy and You

It all began with a question, "why don't more school groups use the TLC?" The answer when it came to Jen Telfer, TLC Wellness Supervisor, was "why not?"

Working with Felicia Ochs, the Wellness Coordinator and activity advocate in the Parkland School Division, Jen Telfer started small. In the pilot project, which began in 2014, there were only two schools and 200 kids through the program. In only two years the program has grown to include seven regional schools and over 2000 students. Such a simple concept, yet the only of its kind in western Canada and perhaps further afield, it takes the five key environments of air, water, land, ice and outdoors and offers students a meaningful way to explore movement and build skills and confidence in a fun way that aims to provide a lifelong love of physical activity.

The PLAY Parkland program provides schools with facility space and links to regional sports organizations, coaches and experts. Each time the students come to the TLC they experience skill-building physical literacy principles disguised as games and fun activities in at least two of the five different environments. Air activities take place at

Aerials Gymnastics with their certified coaches and specialized equipment. Ice activities are run by TLC facilitators or area skating instructors and often include obstacle courses and games to get the kids moving in new ways on the ice. Land games and skills have included TLC staff teaching fundamental movement skills, martial arts instruction, hip hop dance and lacrosse. Fun in the water has been led by our own TLC Aquatics instructors or by regional water polo instructors. The results of all this activity have been surprising and encouraging to Jen, Felicia, participating teachers and parents.

- **Aerials Gymnastics**
- **Tri-Area Skate Club**
- **Griffin Taek Won Do**
- **Phoenix Taek Won Do**
- **Miss Maddi's Dance**
- **Parkland Polo Bears Water Polo**
- **Parkland Posse Lacrosse**
- **Fit Kids**
- **Special Olympics Sledge Hockey**
- **Dance PL3Y**

*And more to come!*

Stony Plain Central School was one the first schools involved in PLAY Parkland during the pilot year with their Grade 5 students. This group of students had been through two full years of the program, participating each time in a variety of different activities that encourage participation and fun, not skill mastery and competition.

The surprising benefit of being part of PLAY Parkland is apparent as this group of now Grade 7 students moves through other aspects of the school's Phys. Ed. program. Whereas junior high students in the past were generally not keen to participate in physical activity outside of the gymnasium environment – things like skating days – the teachers continue to see high participation with the pilot group.

This cohort of students remains keen to try anything that is thrown at them despite the traditional drop off of activity among 12-year-olds.

"We feel like we got them at the right time to alter this trend", says Jen Telfer.

So much so that the junior high teachers are now looking at this group of students moving through the grades and wondering about all the new things they can do in the upcoming years to challenge them at school.

This has also altered the future planning for the program.

"Moving forward we are now focusing on Grades 3-6", Jen says. "Determining the grades that we think will benefit the most from the experience allows us to accommodate more schools next year – and even another school division (Evergreen Catholic)."

It is rare that a program garners the accolades from students, parents, administrators and community rec leaders alike. PLAY Parkland proves that community recreation and schools can work together to provide new and different opportunities for kids to find a lifelong love of movement.

"It is the best example I have experienced of a program that works for everyone", says Jen. "But the best part is that the kids learn to love being active at the TLC."

#### **PLAY PARKLAND PROGRAM:**

An authentic learning experience design delivered by the TLC in partnership with community partners to support student success and well-being. Designed to meet the shared goals of educators, parents, coaches and recreation partners, PLAY Parkland provides a learning space for students to actively participate in a new way.



# 6. At a Glance: TLC Usage 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Drop-in admission sales **INCREASED** by **5%** over 2015
- Member and pass sales **INCREASED** by **6%** over 2015
- Program revenues **INCREASED** by **1%** over 2015
- Total facility rentals (hours booked) **INCREASED** by **2%** over 2015
- Arena rentals (hours booked) **INCREASED** by **1%** over 2015
- Indoor field rentals (hours booked) **INCREASED** by **1%** over 2015

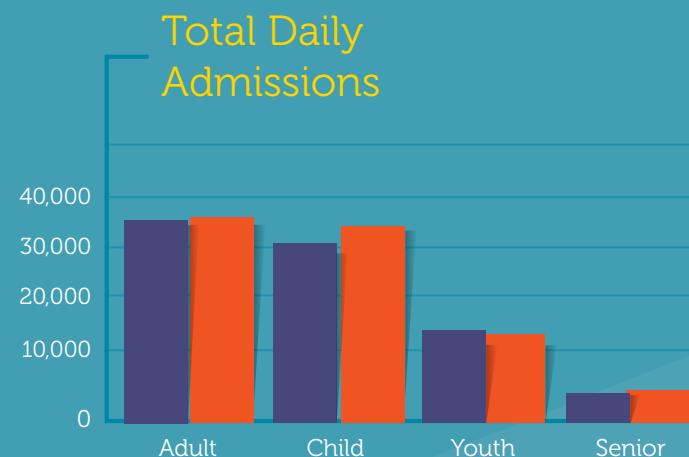
# Annual Pass and Daily Admissions

Daily admissions increased in all categories except youth, while pass holders increased in adult and senior categories, with only a slight decrease in youth and child pass sales.

Overall, pass holders and daily admissions sales both increased in 2016.

Pass Holders at December 31		2015	2016
Adult	2,572	2,847	▲
Child	753	668	▼
Youth	502	480	▼
Senior	631	728	▲
	4,458	4,723	▲

Daily Admissions	2015	2016
Adult	35,286	35,502
Child	30,014	33,731
Youth	12,928	12,719
Senior	2,937	3,234
	81,165	85,186



# Facility Allocation

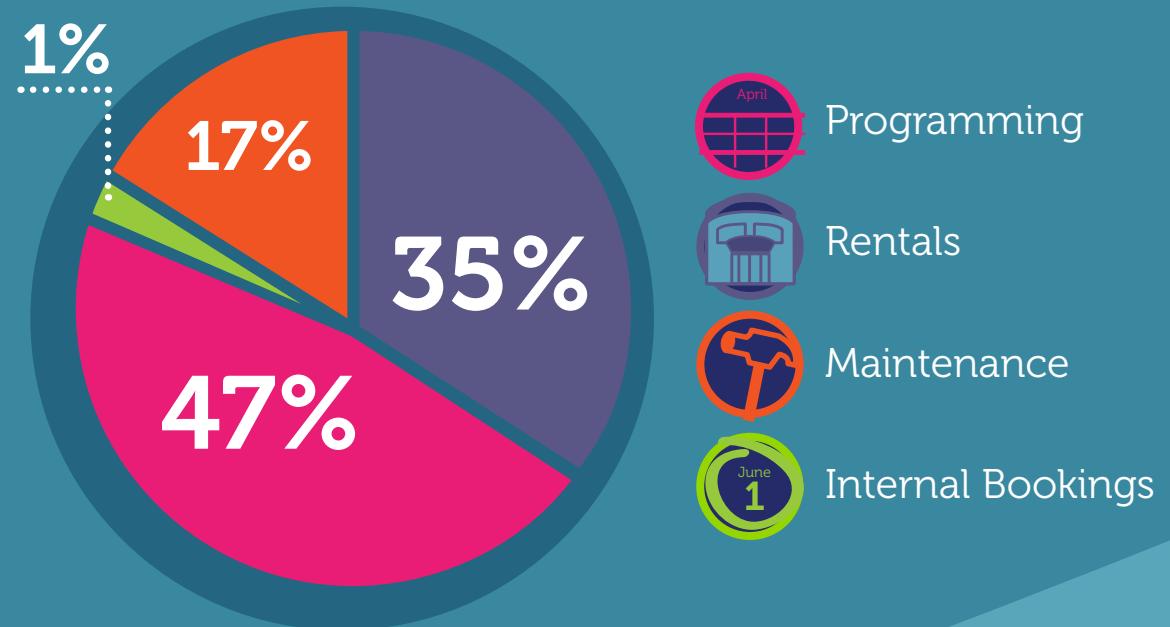
TLC facilities were allocated to a wide variety of uses in 2016, from community sporting events to small business trade shows and teacher education sessions. Total facility hours allocated were consistent in 2016 with a slight 2% increase in revenues.

Rental Revenues  
2015 vs. 2016



Facility Rental hours booked in 2016 were consistent with those booked in 2015, while space booked for TLC programs increased by 2% in 2016.

Breakdown of Total Hours Booked in 2016



Rental Hours



Programming



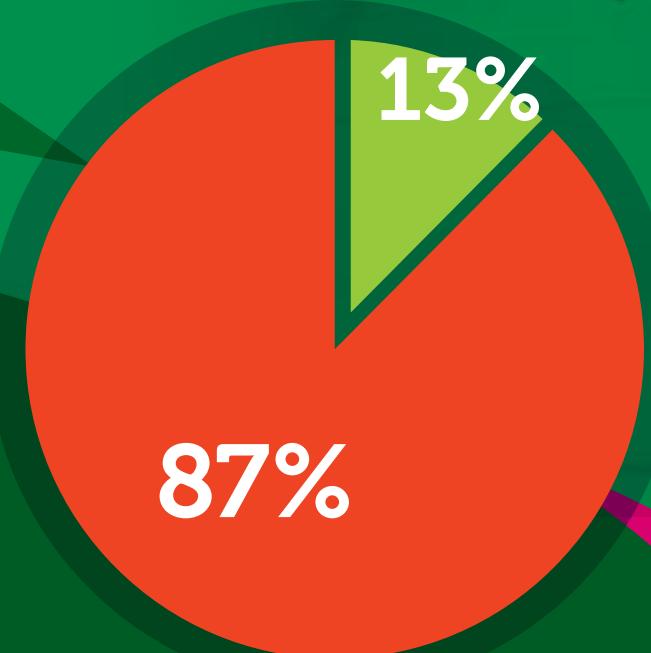
# 7. Program Stats

## Highlights

In 2016, TLC program offerings continued to be a popular draw for residents. The TLC offered a wide array of active programs delivered by professional staff in a variety of environments. 2016 saw program registrations increase slightly over 2015, with just over 14,000.

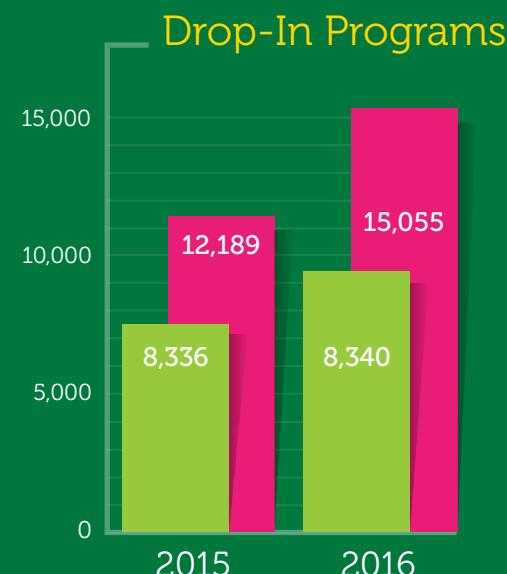
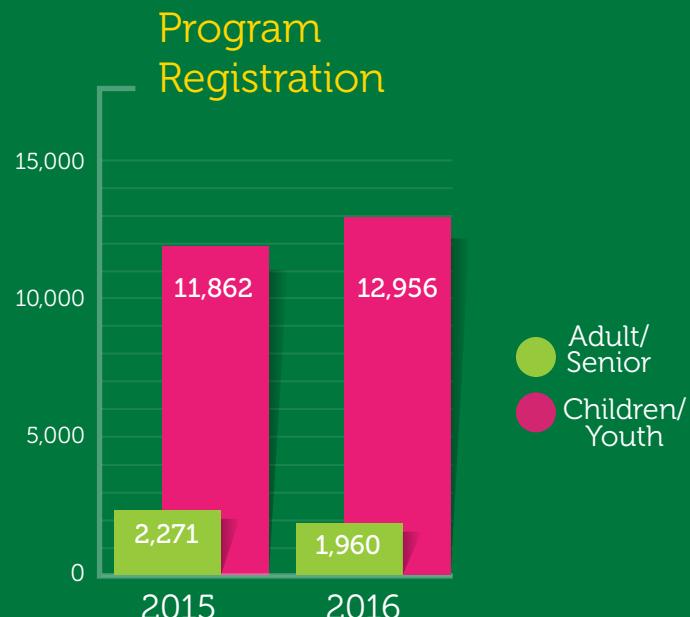
- Overall program revenues **INCREASED 1%** in 2016.
- Aquatic program revenues **INCREASED 3%** over 2015.
- Registrations in children and youth programming saw steady **GROWTH** again in 2016 increasing **1%** over 2015.
- Professional services (personal trainers and dietitians) revenues **DECREASED** by **2%** in 2016.
- Revenues generated by children and youth programming increased by **6%** in 2016.

Adult/  
Senior  
Children/  
Youth



# Program Participation

Program Registration by Demographic		
Year	Adult/Senior	Children/Youth
2015	2,271	11,862
2016	1,960	12,956



# 8. Financial Summary

## Financial and Membership Statistics

Operating Revenues	2015	2016	
Administration	\$846,672	\$813,659	⬇
Facility Rentals	\$976,807	\$1,173,986	⬆
Programs	\$1,146,838	\$1,161,286	⬆
Membership/Passes	\$2,918,831	\$2,949,400	⬆
Municipal Contribution	\$1,872,781	\$2,124,516	⬆
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$7,761,929</b>	<b>\$8,222,847</b>	⬆



Membership/Passes



Municipal Contribution



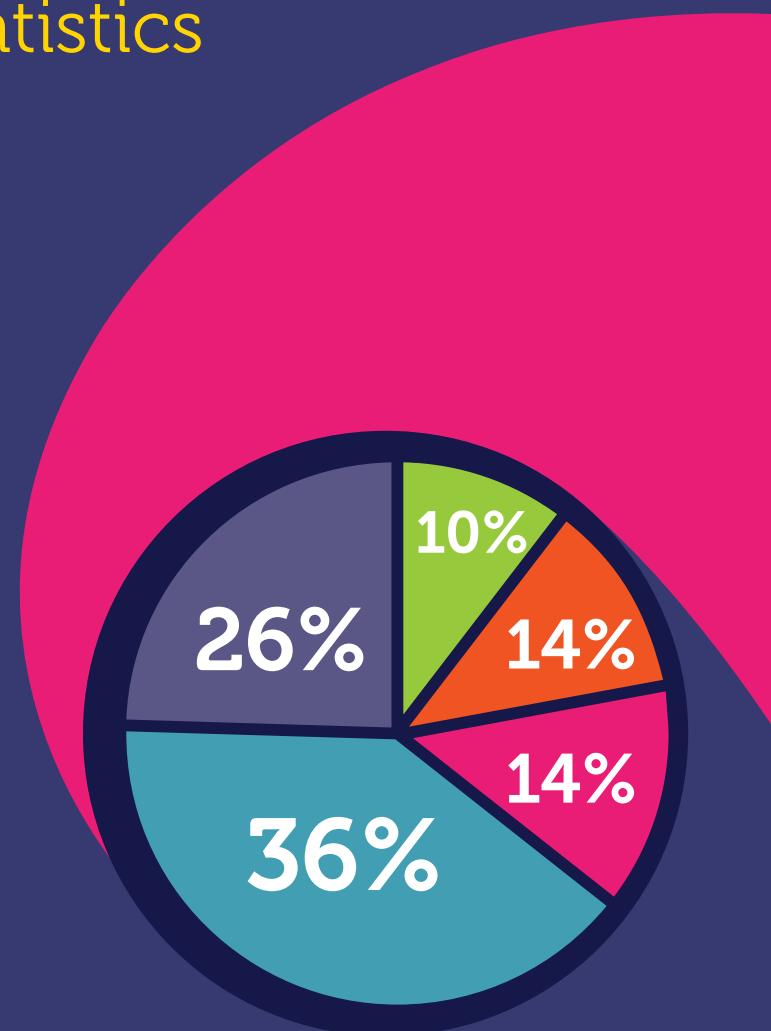
Programs

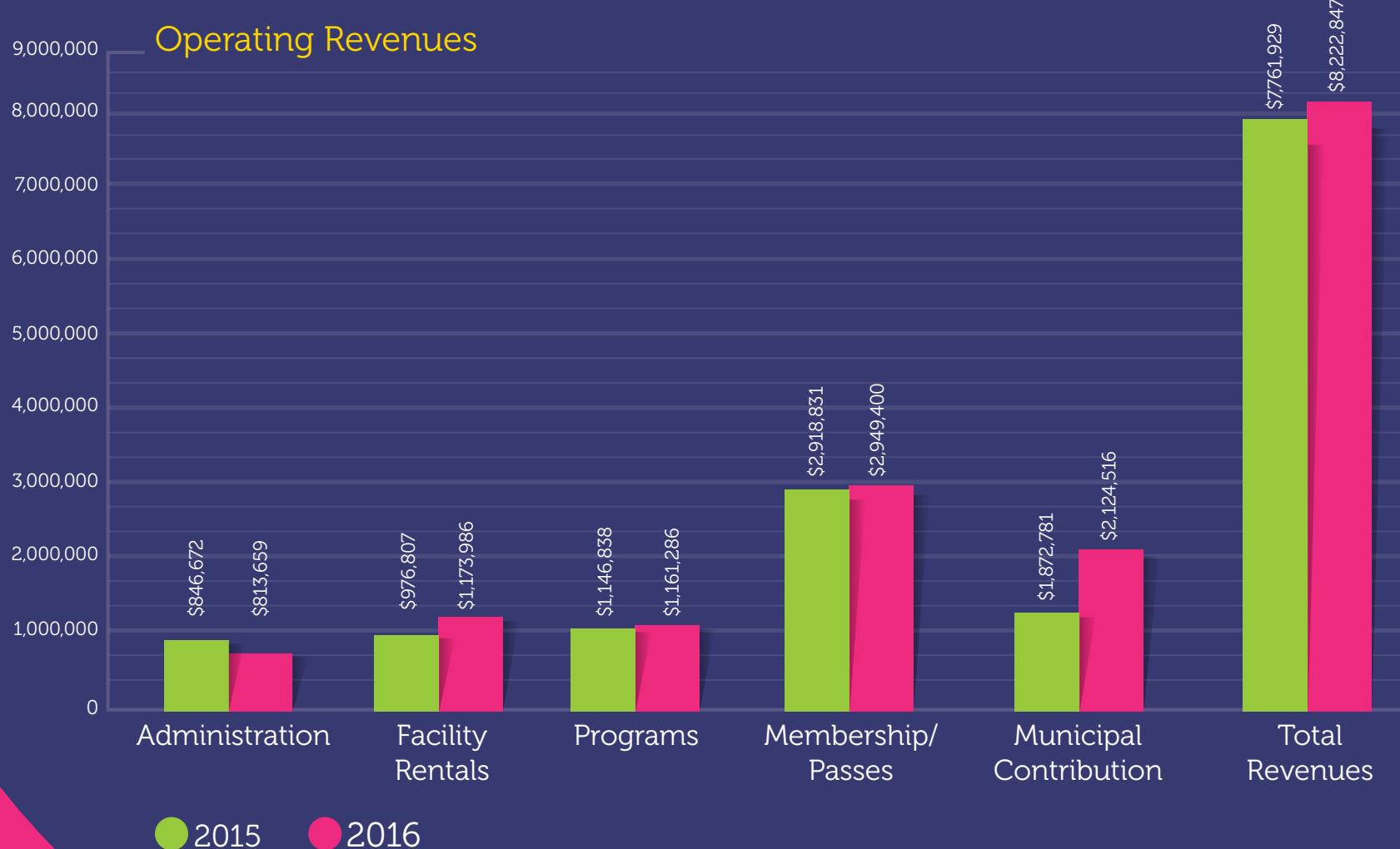


Facility Rentals



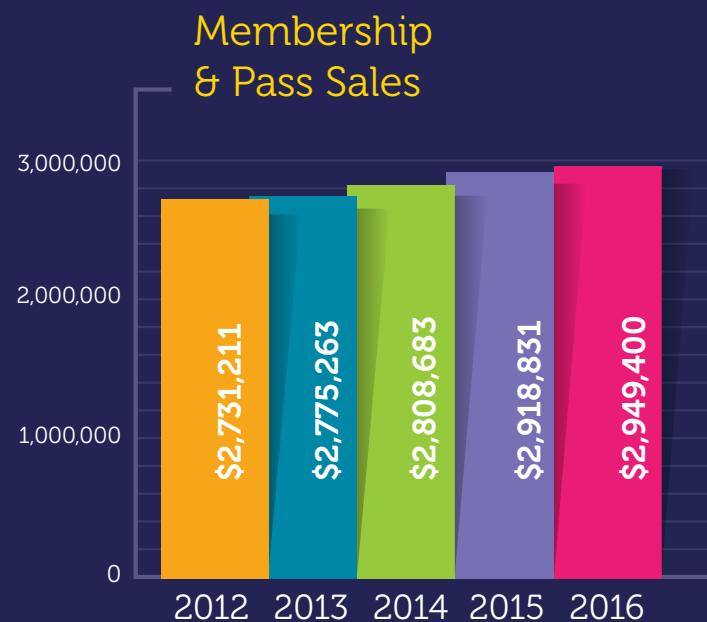
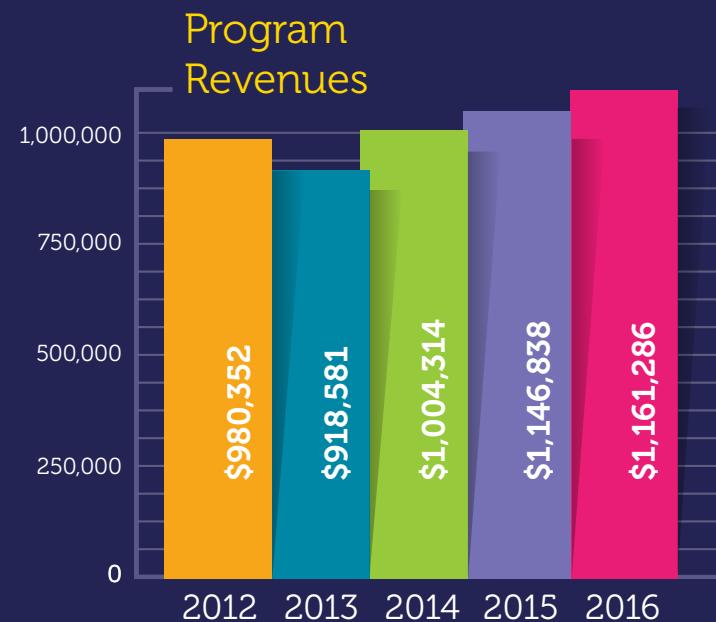
Administration





5-Year Program Revenues	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
	\$980,352	\$918,581	\$1,004,314	\$1,146,838	\$1,161,286

5-Year Membership/Pass Revenues	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
	\$2,731,211	\$2,775,263	\$2,808,683	\$2,918,831	\$2,949,400

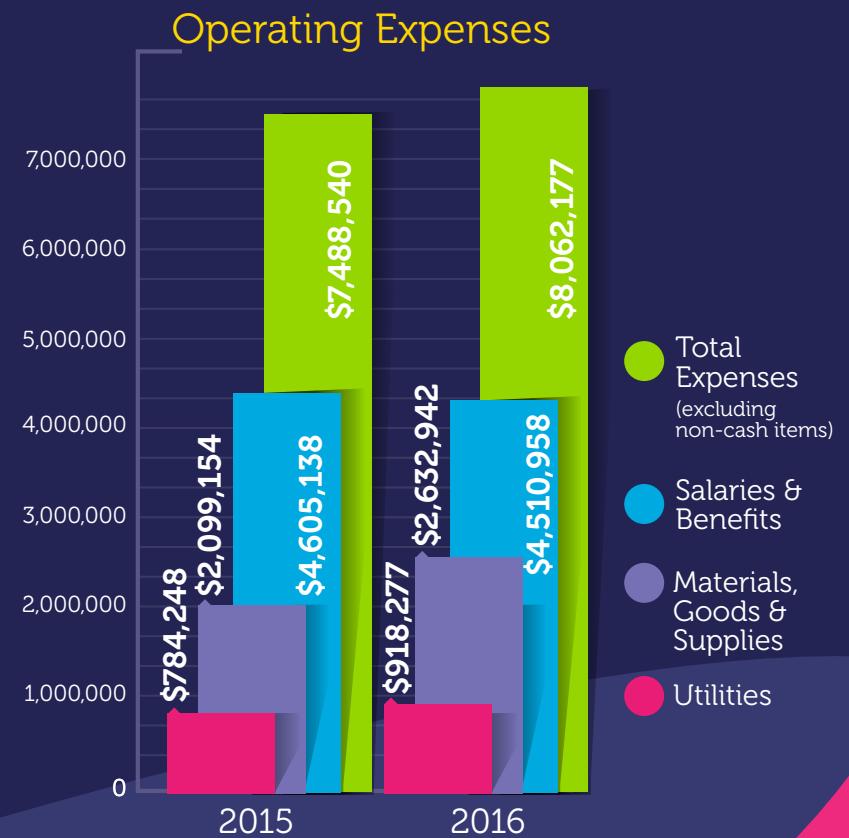
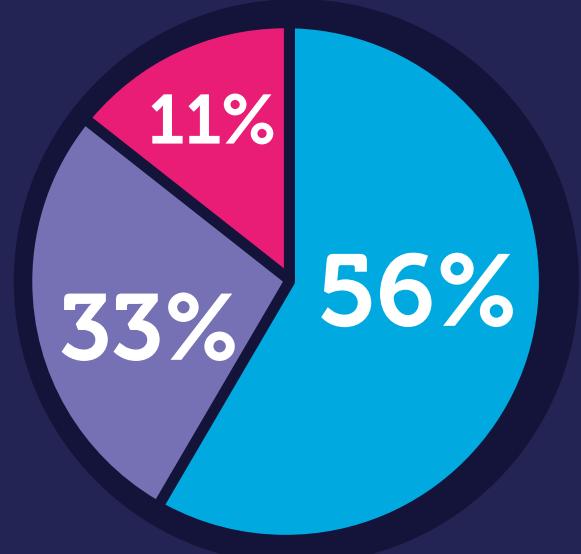


Operating Expenses	2015	2016
Salaries and Benefits	\$4,605,138	\$4,510,958 
Materials, Goods & Supplies	\$2,099,154	\$2,632,942 
Utilities	\$784,248	\$918,277 
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES EXCLUDING NON-CASH ITEMS</b>	<b>\$7,488,540</b>	<b>\$8,062,177 </b>

 Salaries & Benefits

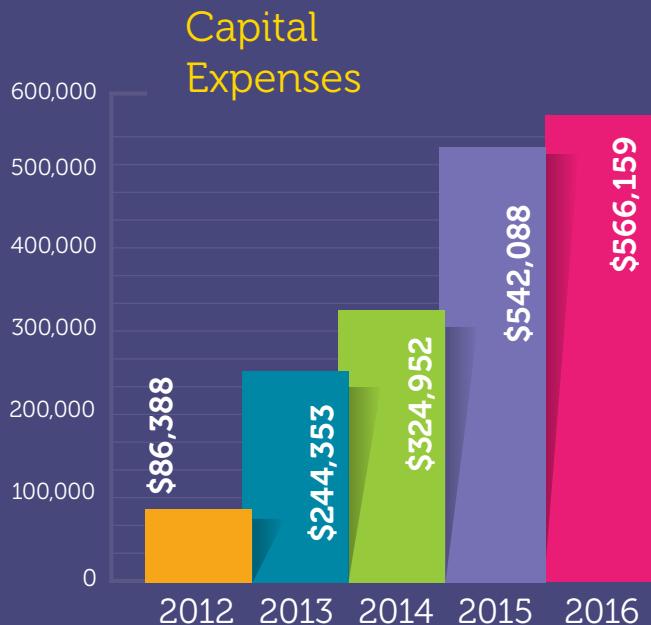
 Materials, Goods & Supplies

 Utilities



5-Year Salaries and Benefits	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
	\$4,290,419	\$4,157,485	4,386,994	4,605,138	4,510,958
5-Year Materials, Goods and Supplies	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
	\$1,318,536	\$1,397,734	1,886,291	2,099,154	2,632,942





**2016 Capital Expenses Included:**

- Batting Cage
- Aquatic Play Structure
- Fitness Equipment
- Volleyball Nets
- Aquatic Sound System
- Gator Utility Vehicle
- Indoor turf (1 field)
- Custodial Equipment
- Score Clock
- Event Equipment
- Exterior Sign

**Capital Expenses: 2015 \$542,088**

**2016 \$566,159**

**2016 Infrastructure Projects**

- Radiant Heater Arena
- Lighting Replacement Field
- Renovations/Upgrades Arena Dressing Rooms and Public Washrooms
- Water Fountain Upgrades
- Facility Painting
- Handrail Replacement

**Infrastructure Expenses: 2015 \$243,292**

**2016 \$326,894**

# 9. Special Events Summary

The TLC was pleased to be the host facility for a number of events in 2016. These varied broadly and included diverse interests and organizations. Events ranged from sporting events, to trade shows, to educational events.

## Monthly Features

Each month  
we featured...



### SENIORS' DAY

Every second Wednesday  
(except during summer),  
we offered free live music,  
tea/coffee and dancing  
for our community  
seniors.



### TOONIE SWIM

On the last Friday  
of each month,  
pool admission  
was just \$2 for  
every visitor!



- FC Memorial Cup Soccer Tournament (ENZSA)
- National Ringette League: Black Gold Rush vs Edm WAM
- Sweetheart Ringette Tournament (SGRA)
- Family Day Toopy and Binoo LIVE show:
- SGSA Mini Soccer Tournament
- Slush Cup Soccer Tournament (EWZSA)
- Blood Donor Clinic
- Battle of the North Powerlifting Competition
- Cheerific Western Cheer Challenge Cheerleading Competition
- U19B Ringette AB Provincials
- 2016 Tri Municipal Trade Expo
- Collective Soul: See What You Started Tour
- Little Monster's Swap Meet
- Alberta Champions Cup Hockey Tournament
- U16 Girls Provincial Volleyball Championships
- Blood Donor Clinic
- Spruce Grove Rotary Club Lobsterfest
- 1st Kids of Steel Triathlon in partnership with Parkland School Division
- Barracudas Swim Meet
- Brett Kissel LIVE in Concert
- Tri Regional Information & Registration Night

- Faul Haul Garage Sale
- Strongman Competition
- Post Secondary Education Fair
- Volunteer Fair
- Post-Secondary Education Fair
- Little Monster's Swap Meet
- Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Competition
- SGCHS International VB Tournament (North/ South Field)
- SGSA U10-18 Competitive Earlybird Tournament
- Pain Society of AB – declaration and event
- Remembrance Day Ceremony
- SGSA U10-18 Community Earlybird Tournament
- Glenn Hall Hockey Tournament (SPMH)
- Silver Bells Winter Market
- Junior Lifeguard Competition
- Polar Cup (EMSA)
- New Year's Eve LIVE: George Canyon

# 10. Marketing & Communications



## SOME OF OUR FAVOURITES INCLUDED:

**In 2016, we welcomed these new marketing partnerships/sponsorships:**

RUSH Nutrition  
Booster Juice  
The Fix Coffee Co.  
Allstate Insurance  
Re/Max (re-signed)

### Initiatives

Tower Gardens (PSD 70)  
New website launch  
New wayfinding signage  
Concert promotions  
TLC Athlete Development Project

**The TLC supported the following community events in 2016:**

Life & Leisure Expo – Spruce Grove Chamber of Commerce  
Grove Cruise Poker Run Stop  
Tri-Regional Information and Registration Nights  
Acheson Business Association Golf Tournament – Hole Sponsor  
Rotary Run for Life Water Station

# 11. Staff Feature

## A Look at Our Aquatics Programming

At the TLC we have adopted a new digital character that we feature in our video series on TLC etiquette. Her name is "Iron Granny", one tough TLC customer who asks that we all "respect each other at the TLC". Donna McKean, however, is a real "Iron Granny" – a fit, fun, motorcycle-riding, canoe-paddling grandma of our very own.

Donna is a very humble person, not wanting too much to be said about the accolades that she receives. Yet Donna is the epitome of what hardworking and committed look like. If she's not in the water helping instructors with their classes, she is on deck teaching AquaFit, talking to parents, on the phone answering program questions or Swim at School inquiries, setting up the never-ending requests for private swim lessons or in the aquatics office sharing swim lesson ideas.

**Donna McKean**

Aquatics Program  
Coordinator



Donna is well known and considered an expert in the field of Aquatics outside of the TLC. She is not only a Master Instructor Trainer with the Canadian Red Cross, but in 2014 she received the top Water Safety Instructor Trainer Award, in 2015 she received the Award of Merit, and this past October she received a Service Award, all of which are considered top honours in this national aquatic safety organization. Also in 2014, Donna was selected to be part of SWSTAG (Swimming and Water Safety Technical Advisory Group). It is a national committee made up of swimming and water safety experts selected from the different regions of the country. Donna was the only person from Alberta selected to be on the committee. But one of her biggest recent accomplishments in the past couple of years was when she completed her Kinesiology degree in 2014. And she brings all of this expertise and leadership in the field of Aquatics to the TLC!

Not only does Donna walk the walk in her work life, she is a poster grandma for activity and healthy living in her personal life as well. She swims laps (almost) daily at the pool year-round. In the summer Donna is the president of her canoe club and keeps herself busy paddling as an instructor with Paddle Canada. In the winter she loves cross country skiing and is a Canadian Association of Nordic Ski Instructor. Last year she added AFLCA Trainer of Fitness Leaders to her growing list of certifications.

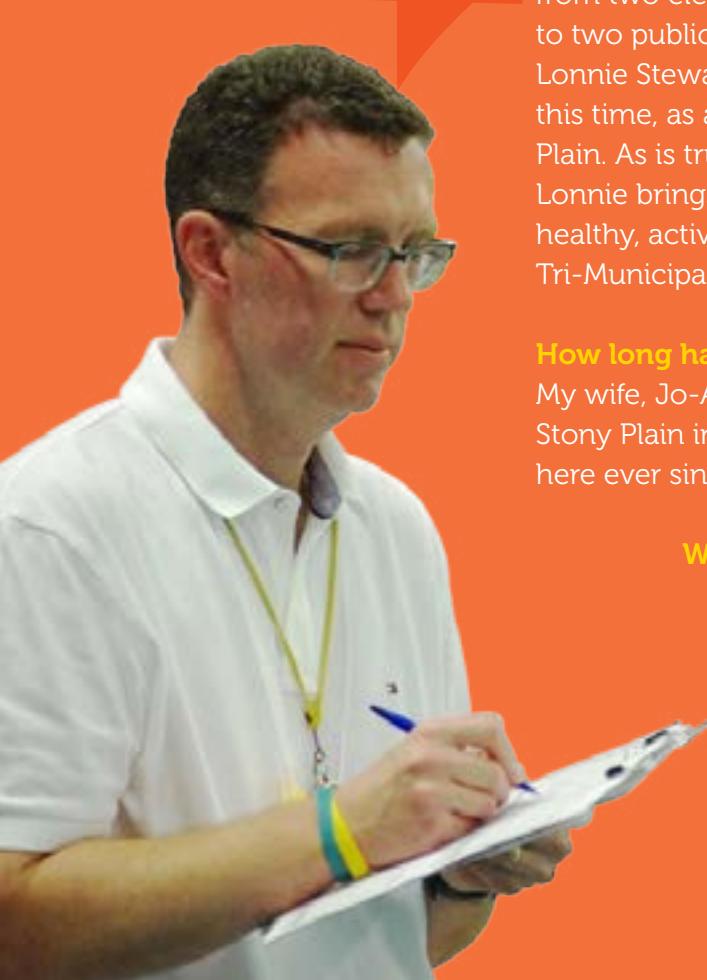
We are proud to call her a member of our staff, our very own, real-life Iron Granny!



# 12. Board Member Profile:

## **Lonnie Stewardson**

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE  
TOWN OF STONY PLAIN



In 2015 the composition of the TLC board changed from two elected officials and one public member to two public members and one elected official. Lonnie Stewardson became a board member at this time, as a representative for the Town of Stony Plain. As is true of each of our board members, Lonnie brings a wealth of experience and a love of healthy, active living to the board and to the Tri-Municipal Region.

### **How long have you lived in the region?**

My wife, Jo-Anne, my son, Jack, and I moved to Stony Plain in the summer of 1997 and have lived here ever since.

### **What do you like most about the TLC?**

Whenever I am in the TLC I am always impressed by the wide range of activities that are underway at the facility. It is great to see so many active people (of all ages) making use of the many recreational opportunities available there. I am

most proud when I stop by on a Tuesday evening in February to go to the gym for a workout and see the parking lot almost full. That always makes me smile!

### **What are some of your favourite activities to do at the TLC?**

Cardio and swimming. I also like to chat with the friendly staff when at the TLC. I need to take a group class soon. When I see people taking them, the participants and instructors look like they are enjoying themselves.

### **How did you decide you wanted to be on the TLC board?**

Our family has enjoyed being members of the TLC practically from its opening. We all have taken classes there and have enjoyed working out and attending activities and events in the TLC ever since. I served on the 2012 Alberta Winter Games Board of Directors and witnessed first-hand what a fantastic facility the TLC was for so many different functions during the months, weeks, and days leading up to that spectacular weekend in February of 2012. Of course during the Games themselves the TLC was the host



of five different sports, as well as the site of many cultural events and the athletes' and coaches' social events. Knowing how important the facility was for those Games and for the tri-municipal region on a day-to-day basis, I felt compelled to put my name forward to serve as one of Stony Plain's community board representatives.

**What do you enjoy most about being on the board?**

Definitely the interaction with the other board members with whom I serve. All of us are dedicated to providing governance oversight with a view toward delivering quality leisure experiences to the facility's owners- the citizens of Stony Plain, Spruce Grove, and Parkland County. It is a very dynamic group of people from a variety of backgrounds.

**Has your profession had an impact on your role as a TLC board member?**

For the past 15 years I have been employed by Alberta Justice and Solicitor General as a lawyer for the provincial government. It is a very fulfilling job. While I do not provide legal advice to the Board, my training and experience does come into play when we are discussing issues that may have legal implications.

**What is your favourite memory of being at the TLC?**

There are so many.

Obviously the 2012 Alberta Winter Games would be one. I have attended many Barracuda Swim Meets and Polo Bear Water Polo events as well, and they are high on my list. Really any opportunity I get to witness folks using the facility to better themselves (physically, socially and emotionally) are highlights.

**What do you like to do with your time off?**

Just last year I bought a motorcycle so that is a new hobby. I enjoy officiating at local competitive swim meets and can be found on west central Alberta pool decks most weekends of the summer watching swimmers race (Go Sharks! Go Barracudas!).

**What do you hope the future will bring for the TLC?**

I hope the TLC will continue to look for innovative ways to provide top quality physical activity opportunities for our patrons and user groups. I know that our staff is always looking for ways to enhance our communities' leisure options at the TLC. By continuing to look at how best to optimize the use of our facility and possibly to offer programs beyond our walls, I expect that the TLC will continue to be a focal point for the health and well-being of Stony Plain, Spruce Grove, and Parkland County residents.

# 13. Member Profile

## WATER AS THERAPY FOR Children WITH Autism

Living with autism and developmental coordination disorder (DCD), 10-year-old Michael's gross and fine motor skills are taking a little longer to develop than those of most school-aged children. Michael's mother, Laureen, says this delay makes it take longer for him to learn how to physically do things, but that it doesn't stop him from making a splash in the Aquatic Complex at the TLC.

"When Michael is in the water, it helps regulate him," Laureen said. "It just does something really great for his body – the water calms him."

Laureen says Michael is enjoying Swim Kids 3, adding that while his form may not look as pretty as most swimmers at first, it just takes him a little more time to learn how to execute swimming techniques properly. She says it helps when instructors let him know what's happening ahead of time.

Michael



"Michael works well with the kids, but he likes to take the lead with the instructors," she said. "He enjoys telling the kids what they should be doing and encouraging them."

While Michael may need a little extra time to learn in the pool, he is quick to socialize with the aquatics staff before and after lessons. Laureen appreciates that the TLC staff are always so awesome with her son.

"Michael would hang out with the lifeguards all day if he could," she laughed.

More than anything, Laureen says her son is just happy to be in the water. It's the calming effect that bobbing in the water has on Michael's body that helps him adjust to his surroundings and work on his motor skills with a little more ease.

Aquatic Program Coordinator, Heidi Paul, encourages parents of kids with autism to introduce them to water at the TLC, as Michael's story is a perfect example of how aquatics can benefit them physically and mentally.

"Specialists have observed that many children with autism feel more at ease in water, which is likely due to the water pressure on their bodies that they don't normally feel on land," Heidi explained.

Heidi adds that it's important for all children to be introduced to water at a young age for healthy development.

"Swimming is a physical activity that builds strength, flexibility and cardiovascular health for all kids," she said. "It's an essential skill that, if started in childhood, can turn into a lifelong love of water that contributes to physical literacy and a healthy lifestyle."

For children with autism who are uncomfortable in group settings, private lessons are also an option. Visit [trileisure.com](http://trileisure.com) for more information.

# 14. Staff Service Awards



We are pleased to celebrate the success of our dedicated staff. Congratulations to the following TLC team members who received long-time service awards in 2016.

## 10 YEAR Service Awards

- Donna McKean
- Patricia Crawford
- Roman Gutter
- Katie Lucier

## 5 YEAR Service Awards

- Jessica Duheme
- Janice Taylor
- LeeAnn Dirk
- Jennifer Telfer
- Rebecca Koehn
- Lyndsay Shwetz
- Charlene Belley
- Tara Hunter

# 15. Board of Directors

## **Gary Fulmore**

Chair  
Public Representative  
Town of Stony Plain

## **Greg Dewling**

Vice-Chair  
Public Representative  
City of Spruce Grove

## **Grant Crawford**

Public Representative  
City of Spruce Grove

## **Lonnie Stewardson**

Public Representative  
Town of Stony Plain

## **Yvan Boutin**

Public Representative  
Parkland County

## **Sharon Cornelius**

Public Representative  
Parkland County

## **Darrell Hollands**

Elected Official  
Parkland County

## **Wayne Rothe**

Elected Official  
City of Spruce Grove

## **Pat Hansard**

Elected Official  
Town of Stony Plain

With 2016 in the books, the TLC staff and management would like to thank Sharon Cornelius and Grant Crawford, outgoing Board members, for nine and six years respectively of dedication and energy. Sharon and Grant are outstanding representatives for the communities for whom they serve and their contributions to the TLC will be appreciated for years to come. We look forward to 2017 and will work to ensure that the highest quality of programs and services are offered to the Tri-Region. On behalf of the staff at the TLC, thank you for your continued support.

*For board  
member contact  
information, please  
visit our website  
[trileisure.com](http://trileisure.com)*

# 16. Corporate Sponsorship



The TLC believes that a strong and vibrant business community fuels the growth of healthy active communities. We are thrilled to have tremendous relationships with a variety of local businesses that truly value community health and wellness.

Corporate sponsorships are vital to allowing the TLC to engage with the broader community and to partner with like-minded organizations in the promotion of healthy, active living.

**Thank you to our corporate sponsors for their ongoing support:**

TransAlta, Realty Executives, SMS Equipment, NWT Promotions, Melcor Developments, Beaverbrook Developments, RE/MAX, Pizza 73, Reynolds, Mirth, Richards & Farmer, Harvest Ridge, Booster Juice and Myshak Group.



Reynolds  
Mirth  
Richards  
& Farmer LLP



# 17. Report of the Independent Auditor On The Financial Summary

To the Directors of the TransAlta Tri Leisure Centre

The accompanying 2016 financial summary for the year then ended is derived from the audited financial statements of the TransAlta Tri Leisure Centre for the year ended December 31, 2016. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated March 10, 2016. Those financial statements, and the 2016 financial summary, do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on those financial statements.

The 2016 financial summary does not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian public sector accounting standards. Reading the 2016 financial summary, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of the TransAlta Tri Leisure Centre.

## Management's Responsibility for the 2016 Financial Summary

Management is responsible for the preparation of the 2016 financial summary in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

## Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the 2016 financial summary based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard 810 - Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

## Opinion

In our opinion, the 2016 financial summary, derived from the audited financial statements of the TransAlta Tri Leisure Centre for the year ended December 31, 2016 is a fair summary of those financial statements, in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Edmonton, Alberta

March 9, 2017

*Hawkins Epp Dumont LLP*