



Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Draft Final Report Presentation to Committee of the Whole
December 14, 2020 | Virtual Presentation

Project Overview & Scope



Parks and Recreation Master Plan to guide municipal planning in the sector over the next **10** years.

Service Delivery & Programming



Programming
Partnerships
Staff Resources & Organization

Indoor Facilities



Arena
Gymnasium
Community Hall
Meeting Rooms

Outdoor Facilities



Sports Fields
Sport Courts
Outdoor Rinks
Pool & Splash Pads
Playgrounds

Parks & Trails

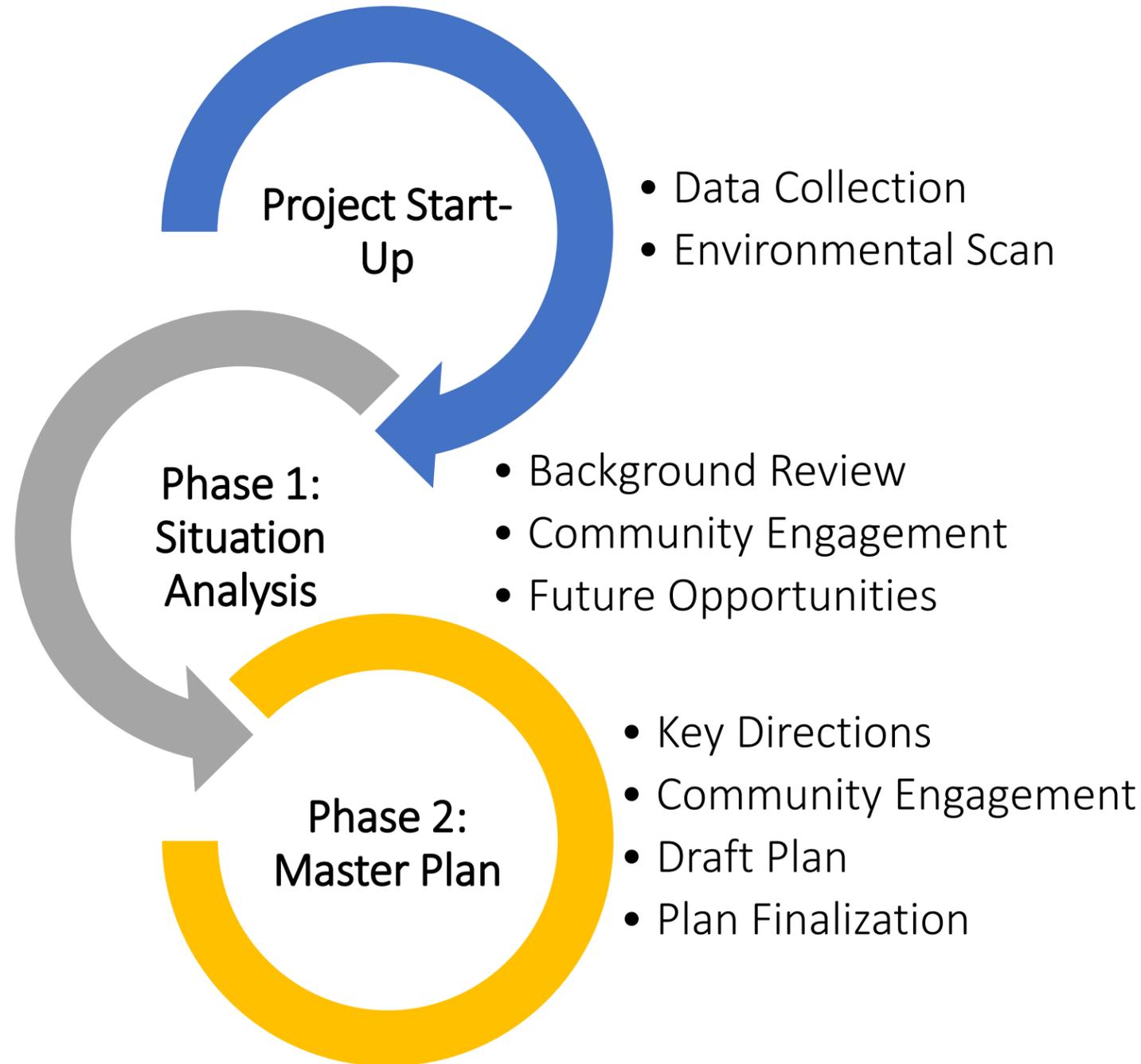


Parkland
Trails
Open Space

Project Process & Engagement



Study Process



Engagement + Outreach

- **1** Initial public and stakeholder meeting
- 1** Public online survey (**618** responses)
- 1** User group online survey (**8** responses)
- 1** Virtual engagement on key directions (over **500** video views, **96** survey responses)
- Staff and senior management interviews
- External stakeholder outreach

Plan Goals & Objectives

The Master Plan contains **63 recommendations** for Council’s consideration, accompanied by a suggested timing for each recommendation.

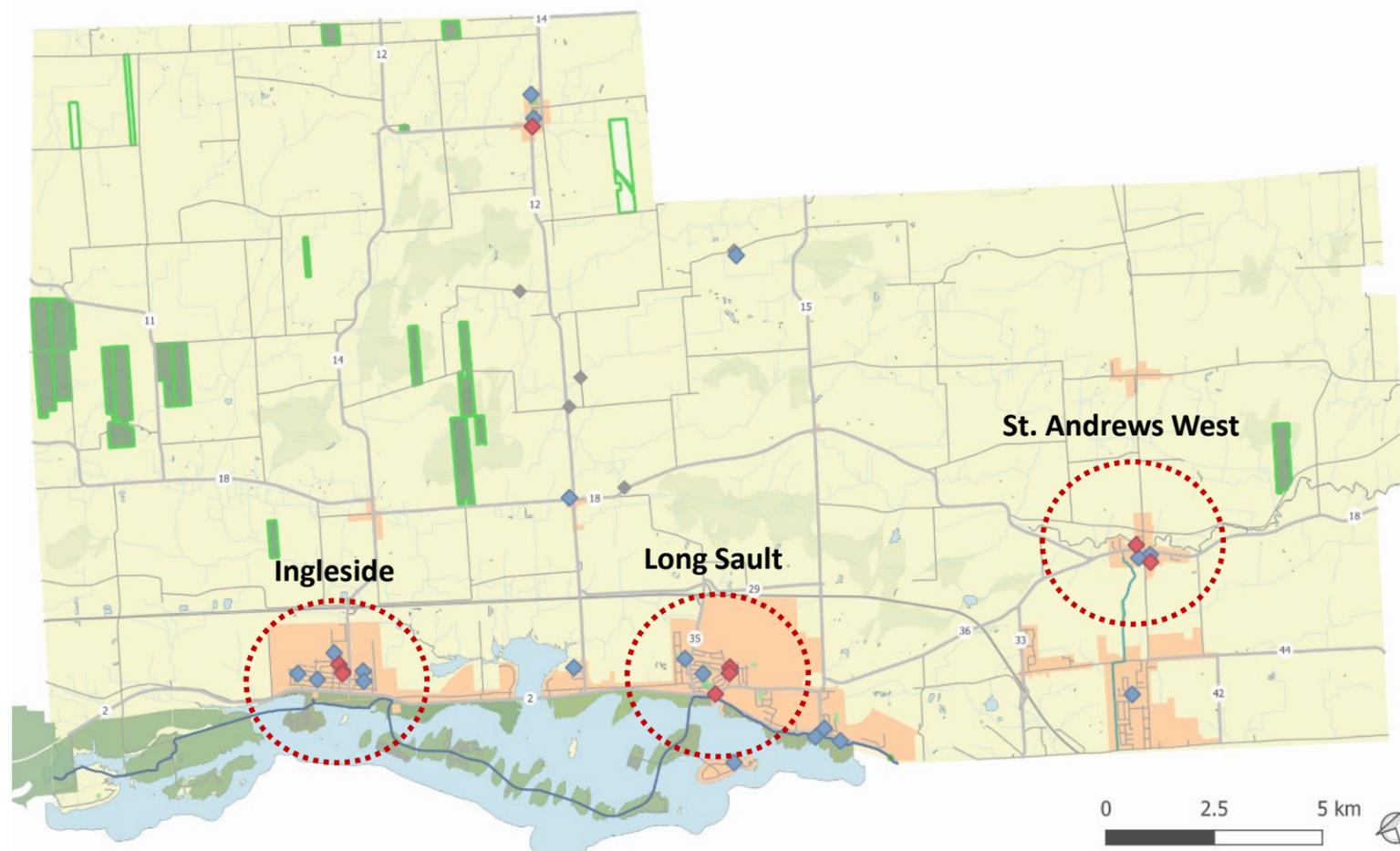
The Plan and its recommendations are based on the following **vision** and **goals** for planning and investment:

“The Township of South Stormont’s parks, recreation facilities and recreational programs support a high quality of life for its residents and in turn drive a vibrant local economy. These essential assets provide opportunities for active living through a wide variety of quality recreation services and accommodate a diverse range of groups.”



Level of Service

- The Master Plan focuses on a **Community Recreation Hub** approach and recognizes Long Sault, Ingleside and St. Andrews West as the primary service areas for recreation.
- These hubs will offer the **broadest range of recreation facilities and services** to residents centralized into 3 service areas.



Key Recommendations:

- Maintain the current distribution of recreation amenities in the **main settlements areas** as Community Recreation Hubs.
- Maintain the current distribution of recreation amenities within the **hamlets / rural areas**, where feasible and with consideration for future asset management priorities.

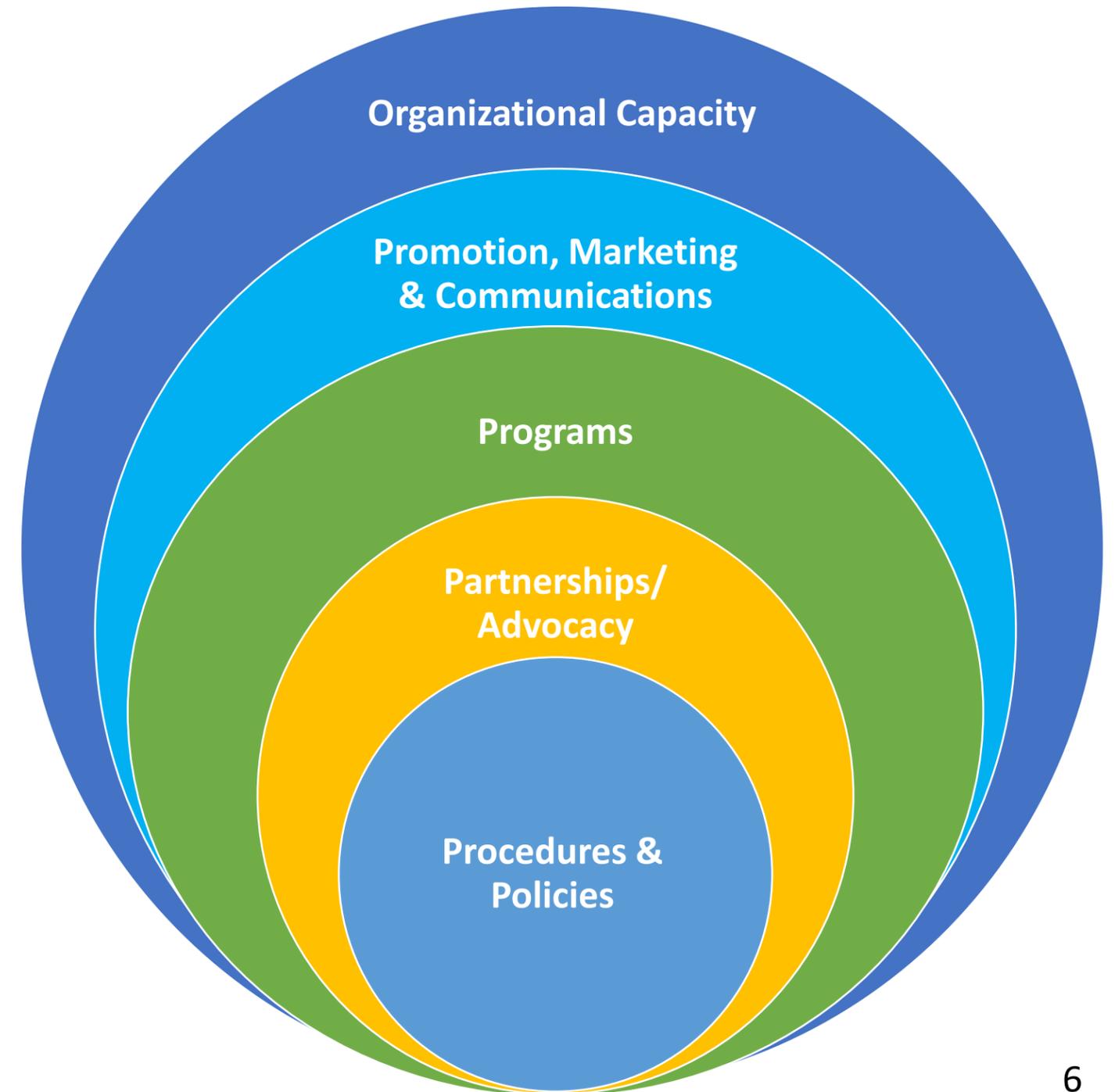
Programs, Services & Partnerships



Changes since 2009 Plan:

- Expanded the suite of programs and events offered.
- Expanded portfolio of recreation and cultural assets since 2009:
 - Splash pads, washroom facility
 - 5 cemeteries
 - Lost Villages Museum
 - Community Hall
 - Waterfront parks (as developed in future)

The Plan addresses multiple layers of program and service delivery:



Programming: Recreation & Culture



- Township has continued to improve the program offer to residents:
 - Minor sports programs
 - Summer events
 - Swimming lessons, classes
- Cultural programming and exposition within the region is becoming more prominent.

Key Recommendations:

- **Expand the program offer** to address the needs of a variety of groups (e.g. seniors, youth, adults, etc.) through tracking trends and best practice.
- Work with local partners (e.g. SDG, SLPC, local artists, etc.) to improve localize programming and events related to **culture and heritage**.

Organizational Capacity



Key Recommendations:

- Designate a **Cultural Program Officer** to oversee cultural programming and events.
- Review the **administrative support** for the Department and consider adjustments to better align staff skills.
- Envisioned **Waterfront Master Plan** will impact municipal resource requirements over the medium and long-term (gradual process).
- Continue to **monitor the impact of internal and external pressures** on P&R staffing requirements linked to the maintenance of appropriate levels of facility and service delivery.

Service Delivery & Partnerships



Key Recommendations:

- Undertake a detailed **User Fee Study** to confirm the true cost of service for the delivery of recreation (facilities and programs).
- Expand the **online facility booking tool capabilities** to simplify the process for public and reduce staff time.
- Develop and implement a **corporate partnership framework policy** for capital and operating agreements with third parties.

Indoor Facilities: Arena



Key Recommendations:

- Maintain **current planning approach** for arena – support continuous incremental improvements to building as required.
- **Protect land base** at Arena property for potential future modest expansion (multi-use dry amenities, community space).
- Explore the **purchase of land** to the north of the Arena.
- Undertake a **conceptual site planning exercise** for the municipally-owned properties surrounding the Arena.

 Township owned properties

Indoor Facilities: Community Hall, Meeting Rooms, Lancer Centre



Key Recommendations:

- Continue to **strengthen partnership with school board** for priority use of Lancer Centre (hub for indoor recreation in Ingleside).
- Improve use of meeting rooms through **expanded program / workshop opportunities.**

Parkland



Regional Parks



Community Parks



Neighbourhood Parks



Key Recommendations:

- Adopt a **parkland classification** to guide future investment.
- Continue investment in the **3 Community Parks** as hubs for outdoor activities.
- Focus on investing in:
 - a) **existing neighbourhood parks** through prioritized renewal and replacement to address lifecycle requirements, and
 - b) **undeveloped parkland** to provide amenities for local residents.
- Undertake a comprehensive **Tree Inventory** and develop an **Urban Forest Management Plan**.

Trail Network



Key Recommendations:

- Prioritize the implementation of the **dedicated multi-use pathway** along County Road 2 (between Ingleside and Long Sault).
- Further develop / implement the **Trail Network Plans** for Ingleside and Long Sault.
- Strive to **become a Bicycle Friendly Community** through the implementation of a variety of infrastructure, programming, engagement, education, and incentives.
- To help achieve this:
 - Develop a **cycling map**
 - Create a **signature cycling event**
 - Install **bike and pedestrian counters** on key routes
 - Consider **winter maintenance** of trail network



Local Trail Network Opportunities



Long Sault Trail Network and Future Opportunities



Ingleside Trail Network and Future Opportunities



Outdoor Facilities: Active Amenities



- Soccer fields
- Ball diamonds
- Tennis/pickleball courts
- Beach volleyball courts
- Basketball courts
- Outdoor rinks
- Outdoor pool
- Splash pads

Key Recommendations:

- Maintain and maximize **use of outdoor facilities** focused in the 3 recreation hubs over the Plan period.
- Focus on **enhancing existing amenities prior to building new amenities** in existing parks, with renewal of active amenities within older neighbourhood parks being a priority in the short-term.
- Renew parks infrastructure based on changing recreation and demographic needs (**community lifecycle approach**).

Outdoor Facilities: Playgrounds



- Good playground distribution based on 800m walking distance.
- Supply is supplemented by playgrounds provided in school properties.

Key Recommendations:

- Immediately **address playground safety issues** and plan for structure replacement where appropriate.
- Assess the feasibility of **developing new playgrounds** in areas where service gaps exist.
- Adopt a program of **prioritized replacement** through good Asset Management planning.

Outdoor Facilities: New Facility Types



Key Recommendations:

- Assess the feasibility of **developing off-leash dog facilities** in South Stormont, including:
 - Fenced dog park at Long Sault Waterfront Park
 - Natural dog area outside of settlement areas.
- Explore the potential for a **mountain bike park** within the Township.

Outdoor Facilities: Waterfront



- Waterfront lands largely undeveloped within Township.
- Collaboration with SLPC required to resolve land issues associated with waterfront development to provide a basis for Township to invest in infrastructure and programs efficiently.

Key Recommendations:

- Working closely with the St. Lawrence Parks Commission, pursue implementation of the recommendations identified within the **Waterfront Development Plan** to improve access to the water's edge, enhance resident quality of life, and boost the economic vitality of the community.



Thank You!