

# CANADA GAMES PARK OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

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**Date:** Monday, February 10, 2025  
**Hosted by:** Niagara Region  
**Location:** Zoom Meeting  
**Meeting Chair:** Geoff Holman, City of Thorold  
**Recorder:** Kathy Beach, Executive Assistant, Corporate Services, Niagara Region

**Attendees:**

Dave Baldoni	City of Thorold
Brooke Nicholson	City of Thorold
Eric Lamothe	City of St. Catharines
Phil Cristi	City of St. Catharines
Lara Verdone	Meridian Centre
Jeff Dixon	Meridian Centre
Edward Wall	Brock University
Salee Johnson-Edwards	Brock University

**Guest(s):** Tammy Dumas, Niagara Region

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**1. Adoption of Agenda** – Approved –

- a. Agenda Item 3.b. “Unsold Ice Time Mitigation Plans” is deferred to a future meeting; and
- b. Agenda Item added by Phil Cristi “Totem Pole Update”.

**2. Approval of Minutes – January 20, 2025**

Motion:

That the CGP Operations Committee Meeting minutes dated January 20, 2025, be **APPROVED**.

Moved by Ed Wall

Seconded by Phil Cristi

**Carried.**

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## 3. Business -

- a. Update – Abilities Centre Whitby – Accessible Spaces Service (Tammy)

Tammy indicated that herself and Kathy Beach attended a meeting recently with the team at the Whitby Abilities Centre where they discussed information regarding conducting an on-site audit of the physical components of the CGP Building as part of their accessibility review and next steps. Tammy confirmed the following:

- The CGP Management Committee approved moving forward with the audit of the CGP facility.
- An in-person tour of their facility in Whitby is scheduled for April 15, 2025.
- The scope of the audit includes their Accessible Space Service providing a facility audit, testing to OBC and AODA provincial legislation. They also test the Universal Design Standards and best practices.
- If the facility audit moves ahead, they would provide a summary of barriers (if found), what is required to meet legislation, and recommendations for best practices for greater accessibility.
- The assessment cost estimate would likely be greater than \$10k (based on examples they provided) and will be based on the requested work this committee would want assessed.
- Given municipal timelines, the audit would be likely be performed in June or early Summer after our visit to their facility in Whitby in April.

### Actions:

1. For Jeff and Lara to connect with the Whitby Abilities Centre to schedule an audit date after the in-person April 15 visit to their centre; and
2. For each CGP Operations Committee partner to appoint 1 or 2 members to a new accessibility sub-committee to fully participate in the audit review and to provide comments.

### Motion:

For the management team at CGP to submit a formal request to the Whitby Abilities Centre to begin the audit process, be **APPROVED**.

Moved by Geoff Holman

Seconded by Ed Wall

**Carried.**

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## 4. Other

### a. Totem Pole Update

(Jeff)

Jeff provided an update on the installation of the Totem Pole at the CGP facility. He indicated the project tender has been submitted by St. Catharines and is closing this week. They anticipate the construction project will begin around March 10 and should be completed by early May.

Phil indicated they plan to have a storyboard sign, including interpretive signage at the location and will hold opening ceremonies on June 21, 2025, which is National Aboriginal Day.

Further updates will be provided at a later date.

**Next meeting:** March 10, 2025