

Renovated pool boasts unique features

Seven Oaks Pool now open to the public

BY LIGIA BRAIDOTTI
STAFF REPORTER

SEVEN OAKS MAPLES

Local families can get refreshed during summer at the brand-new indoor splash pad and water slides at the recently reopened Seven Oaks Pool.

On March 28, community members, City officials, and representatives from the provincial government gathered for the official opening of the renovated Seven Oaks Pool (444 Adsum Dr.) which houses innovative water features. Other features include updated family change rooms, universally-accessible washrooms, an improved public lobby, a new meeting space, and a small teaching pool.

"This moment means a lot to me. As the mom of a school-aged son and an auntie to many, as a resident of northwest Winnipeg... and as the councillor for Old Kildonan, I know how important public spaces like the Seven Oaks Pool are to families seeking affordable recreation," Old Kildonan councillor Devi Sharma said at the grand opening.

The Seven Oaks Pool opened in 1977 and has welcomed approximately 57,000 people annually. The renovation, which started in April 2017, was long overdue. The project cost \$9.7 million, with more than \$1 million contributed by the Building Communities Initiative, a cost-share program joined by the Province and the City. The project also received \$500,000 from the federal government's Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program. The City invested more than \$8 million on the project.

"As always, partnerships make the best things happen. As you look around the Seven



Supplied photo

Kids have fun at the new indoor splash pad at Seven Oaks Pool at the grand opening on March 28.

Oaks Pool... you'll see so many features that will add to the quality of this aquatic experience, for everyone," Sharma continued. "This is an extremely exciting day for the community, and I'm very happy to officially welcome families to the City of Winnipeg's first indoor splash pad at the renovated Seven Oaks Pool."

"Our government believes that investments in the Seven Oaks Pool will improve the health and wellness of people in northwest Winnipeg while providing space for people of all ages to have access to high-quality leisure facilities," Curry added. "This



Supplied photo

Old Kildonan Coun. Devi Sharma (middle) cuts the ribbon at the Seven Oaks Pool grand opening on March 28, along with MLA Nic Curry (far left), Point Douglas Coun. Vivian Santos (second left) and local kids.

pool is a wonderful asset to the neighbourhood and will provide recreational opportunities for years to come."

Accessibility was an essential feature for Sharma, who serves on the Winnipeg access advisory committee with Coun. Ross Eadie (Mynarski) who was also in attendance.

"Accessibility has always been close to my heart; I know it is important to my council colleagues as well," she said. "The updated amenities will inspire fun and physical activity for people of all ages, and the accessibility features will foster a welcoming environment for all."

The Seven Oaks Pool is now offering

spring and summer swimming lessons. A three-month pass is available from \$56.70 for individual children (under 12 years old) to \$238.35 for families (two adults and up to four children under 18). For more information, go to https://winnipeg.ca/cms/recreation/facilities/pools/indoor_pools/seven_oaks.stm

"To see a new generation enjoy the Seven Oaks Pool is the greatest joy I can imagine. Delivering projects of this value for families is why I wanted to become a councillor," Sharma said.