

# Saving the Inglewood Pool



## Other Benefits



# Misalignment with Other City / Provincial Priorities/Issues



- High Growth Rates
- Densification in inner city – more people / less parking
- More Bike Lanes
- Climate Emergency
- Rising Health Care Costs
- Misaligned with Health, Social & Cultural Principles

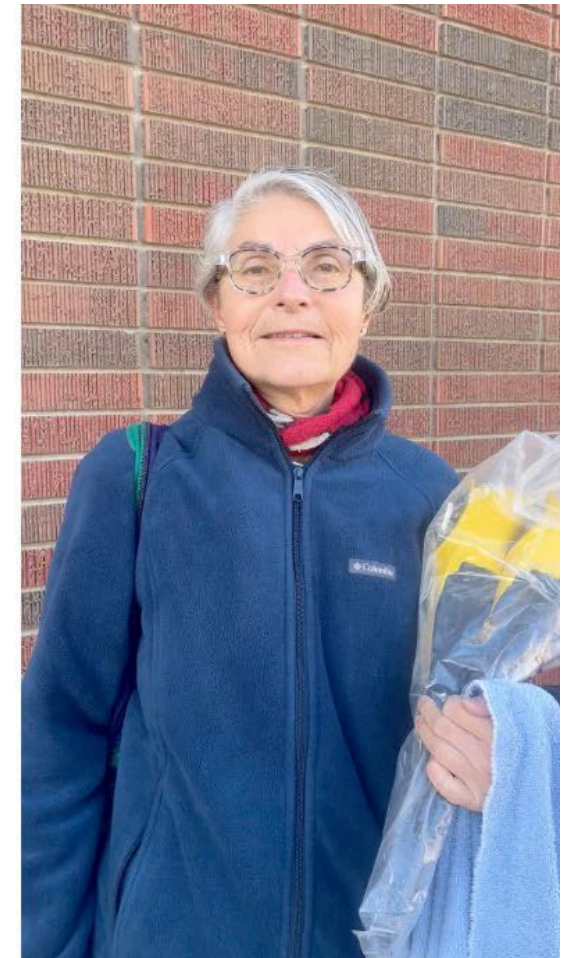
# Letter from Dr. James Stone re: Closure of Inglewood Aquatic Centre

BPHE, BA, MSc, MD, PhD, FRCPC, FAACVPR, FACC

- I am writing to you this morning with a heavy heart. I am aware of the City's plans to close Inglewood swimming pool. This will have devastating consequences for the community. Children and seniors will not drive through downtown to access other facilities. Their fitness levels will fall, their social engagement will fall, and you might as well encourage them to eat more deep-fried foods. The overall negative effect on their general health will be about the same.
- I have spent my entire cardiology career trying to prevent heart attacks and strokes. Encouraging people to obtain regular physical activity and exercise is crucial to realizing that goal. When people live in a community where they can easily obtain daily physical activity, this goal is relatively easily obtained. However, in a recent study published in Canada, Calgary ranked amongst the least friendly physical activity friendly communities in North America. We love cars. Not swimming, cycling, and walking. Closing pools is not the answer.
- If you vote to close this pool, or other community exercise and physical activity facilities, you are driving nails into coffins. And you can watch with pride, as the mortality rates in these communities rise in the coming years. Vote as you think best. But do not delude yourselves into thinking that closing community facilities will benefit the mental, physical, or social health of the residents and voters who live in those communities.



# Health Benefits – So Many Stories



November 18, 2024

Attention:

Mayor Gondek  
City of Calgary Councillors

We are writing to express our support for the preservation and continued operation of the Inglewood pool in Calgary's oldest continuous community. The Cross family has proud roots in this historic area and believes that community-based gathering places are essential to thriving municipalities. The donation of land through the Calgary Brewing and Malting company in 1963, enabled the first public indoor pool to be built in Calgary. This rich history has provided all Calgarians, including numerous aquatics organizations, affordable access over the years.

The City's continued support of this facility would demonstrate a commitment to the community's heritage, ensuring that it remains for future generations of families, children and seniors to enjoy. The promotion of affordable, inclusive recreational facilities resonates with us all. As you consider the proposal to extend the life of the pool, we hope that you will honour the history and continue to invest in this vibrant growing community.

Respectfully,



Gretchen Cross Thompson



Jill Cross

## Conversation with Lois Haskayne

One of her greatest regrets in life is that she never learned how to swim – as a child nor later in life. Shew was always paranoid of water and embarrassed that she could not swim.

Her own brother drowned in Rosebud Creek when he was trying to fix a pump. He was 65 years old at the time while Mrs. Haskayne was on her honeymoon.

She is glad that all of her grandchildren/great grandchildren have learned to swim . Swimming is an essential Lifetime skill, that should be available to everyone.



# Economic Benefits to the Community



- There are currently groups and individuals that come to the pool from outside of Inglewood and Ramsay
- One group talked to has had after swim social events at Cold Garden, Dandy Brewing, Ol' Beautiful, HighLine Brewing, Hose and Hound, Dirty Duck, etc.
- People stop for coffees, spices, flowers, many businesses in the area
- Expanding hours to have morning and afternoon swim and fitness and later evening hours will significantly increase the economic spillover benefits of the pool.