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NEWS RELEASE

Wellington (Arena) Community Centre Facility Review Report

Picton ON: A feasibility assessment for the future investment strategy for the Wellington Arena is now completed and under review by Council. The Wellington Community Centre Facility Review Report (the report), prepared by F.J. Galloway Associates Inc., Management and Planning Consultants, provided recommendations on:

1. Preferred Arena Strategy,
2. Facility Profile,
3. Capital Funding,
4. Capital Costs, and
5. Preferable Sites.

The report identifies many deficiencies in the 33-year old arena that would need to be addressed and brought into compliance with today's standards (including Ontario Building Code, Fire Code and Accessibility requirements). Based on the current conditions and estimated costs associated with refurbishing the existing facility, the report recommends replacing it with a contemporary arena and community centre, potentially developed on a multi-use basis. The report recommends a location within the Wellington community or, as an alternative, a twin pad facility centrally located in the County.

Council received the report and is inviting public input prior to taking further action. Public meetings will be held in February 2008 with staff reporting to the March Recreation, Parks & Culture Standing Committee with recommendations for next steps.

"This will be a significant undertaking for the County", said Mayor Leo P. Finnegan. "It is imperative that we receive feedback on the idea of a new arena from our ratepayers. I invite the public to attend our public meetings or to submit their comments to us in writing."

The report can be downloaded from the County website at www.pecounty.on.ca and copies are available at the following locations:

Wellington and Picton Arenas,
Recreation, Parks & Culture Department (Picton),
Shire Hall, and
County Libraries.

Written comments can be provided to:

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