



# 2023 Neepawa Pool Survey

*Your questions, answered!*

---

## 222 Responses

102

Neepawa residents

Answers to all of those burning questions!

120

Minnedosa, Rosedale, North  
Cypress Langford or Other

All responses are from Nicole Cooper  
Director of Recreation for the Town of Neepawa

### **A rail and zero entry ...**

Both will be installed after the pool closes for the season and will be ready to use for the 2024 swim season. As part of the Building Sustainable Communities Grant.

### **Some type of roof that can cover the complex on rainy or cool days, as few people attend on those days and this year we had a lot of those days.**

Our pool is an outdoor pool. Weather will always be a challenge. Our water is always kept at 82-84 degrees - that's warm and comfy for cool days. If you're in the pool, you're going to get wet - a pricey overhead roof that blocks the heat from the sun wouldn't be ideal.

### **Debit payment available**

We accept cash, cheque, debit and credit and have had a machine at the pool since 2020.

### **Would be nice to have a drink or vendor machine! Freezies**

Totally! This is in the works for 2024 - a canteen with drinks, popsicles, freezies, snacks etc.

### **More picnic tables, areas to sit.**

Agreed. We will be placing more tables under the shaded area to the south and purchasing more plastic chairs and benches for the other areas. Please feel free to bring your own lawn chairs too!

### **The times for public swim are not ideal, we have gone in the evening but live out of town which is not ideal for bed time. Would like a 3:30-8:30 option**

This is a tough one. The schedule is already jam packed to fit in as many things as we can. Swimming lessons are from 4-6pm daily and the survey has confirmed that this is the best option for parents that are working to get to lessons and they would like to keep them the same.

### **I think sometimes there are some patrons who do not respect the lifeguards enough, and as they are young, it is hard for them to deal with adults who are being obtuse.**

Also true! Not sure how to fix this one. People have been very rude to our staff. We are a seasonal facility that is trying to fit as much programming into three short months. We provide lessons for over 698 kids and it is a shame that no matter how on top of things the staff are, they are always getting negative comments from some. I guess it goes to show you cannot make everyone happy.

### **Would be great to have a toilet that is directly accessible from the pool area to try to keep the toilets in the change rooms a little cleaner / drier**

We have plans to create a new building on the East side of the pool. This will be included in the new design. As of right now, this is not possible as we are working with an old brick building and cannot be renovated easily to accommodate this.

### **I think having lap swim set up like a membership where we got a key to let ourselves in in the morning would be nice. I think the risk of no life guard is outweighed by the benefits**

As a public facility, there are regulations in which a certified National Lifeguard MUST be present if patrons are using the pool. If public health got wind of us allowing people into our facility while "closed" we would be shut down.

**I wish the new slide would be more exciting and I think it should be landing on the water.**

There are a couple reasons why we chose a stand alone slide. 1. It is more user friendly for patrons with varying abilities. 2. Our pool foot print is not large - it would have to go in beside the diving boards - which means both features could not be used at the same time (safety reasons). 3. Placement of the future building.

**Can you offer public lessons in the evening after 7:00pm.**

Could be a possibility - would take away from Public Swim time. Anyone else interested? If so email recreation@neepawa.ca.

**Having a big mural painted on the wall of the building would really make the place pop**

YES! We always struggle with the paint on the cement wall. It's South facing so sees ALOT of heat during the summer. We will have to look at stripping the old paint down or attaching a painted board on top - like the Highschool students did for the Tourism Murals around town.

**I realize it is a new feature, but it would have been more beneficial to have the new water slide be higher/longer. It is definitely not going to hold the attention of teens. Also, as a slower slide, I find the height restriction annoying. Our 3 year old grand daughter does the larger Brandon, Souris and Portage slides by herself - with parental supervision at top and bottom.**

This has been a common complaint that we have received. Our consultants sourced a couple of designs that fit into our budget (\$250,000). The slide that we chose was the biggest and best of the options. That is a lot of money for a feature that is used for 3 months - which doesn't even include the costs associated with upkeep and running the slide. Height and weight requirements are from slide manufacturer. I myself have a three year old that has gone down Portage, Brandon, Elkhorn Resort alone. He went alone in Neepawa and 3 times somehow got turned around and backwards and was taking in water the whole way down. Under the advice of our trained Lifeguards, we are going to continue following the height requirements until we can accurately determine if the standards can be lowered based on user experiences.

**Keeping the pool open year round**

This is just not possible with a seasonal pool. We would need a whole new facility that has the proper set up: heating, ventilation, insulation etc. The list goes on... and so does the price tag \$\$\$

**I can't think of any. It has always served my needs**

Awe, this is great! We are lucky to have such a great facility in our little (growing!) town!

**We would love if there were time slots available to book the pool for private functions like birthdays, family get togethers, etc.**

With our schedule as jam packed as it is, and the amount of lifeguards - this just isn't a possibility like it was years ago. It's hard to justify closing the pool to the public (potentially 215 people) so that maybe 50 people can swim privately. Sounds harsh, but we have to look at it from a community-owned facility standpoint. We are however looking at doing a "Birthday Space Rental" where you will get a designated area to celebrate where your guests can walk right in, swim, eat cake, open gifts etc.

## **Would be nice if babies could have access to the pool (parent supervised) during swimming lessons on particularly hot days when their siblings are in lessons**

We have 5+ trained staff teaching lessons throughout the 2 hour time slot. There is also an additional guard on duty responsible for overseeing the all of the patrons taking lessons. Any given session has 60-110 kids registered - so there is a lot going on! We want to ensure all of the children in lessons are participating/paying attention and not feel like they are "missing out" while other siblings/children get to play in the pool.

We also want to ensure that all of our lessons are spread out so that 5 different lessons can take place at the same time, without running into other groups.

## **Things people identified as their "Favorites"**

- The great staff!
- Gradual entry, blue water slide, diving boards, kids can touch in the end with the water slide.
- Lots of places to sit and watch. Warm water. Clean.
- The water temp is great!
- New Slide
- My grandchildren loved the new slide. I took them to public swim 4 out of 5 days they were in lessons
- Water slide and diving boards
- Slide
- Great exercise for my kiddos and love the new slide.
- Lots of things to keep kids busy
- Something for everyone, lots of different areas for kids of all ages to swim- shallow, deep, slides
- Enjoy attending aquafit
- The heated water
- New slide
- Has lots to offer with the two slides and shallow area, deep area and diving boards
- Swimming lessons Temperature
- The pool depth suits all ages
- Beach entryways, yellow and red slide
- Slide
- Aqua fit
- Red waterslide. Kiddy and shallow area. Diving board.
- Family swim
- Everything!
- We love the pool! The affordability and size of pool are great for everyone to enjoy
- Friendly staff, good fun
- Friendly staff!
- The slide and the kids pool
- Watching my kids learning life saving skills and how happy they are swimming
- The new slide
- We love spending our summers at the Neepawa pool. It's clean and welcoming, reasonably priced, and close to home.
- The water slide is a great addition to the pool! Great lifeguards and instructors!
- Lessons!
- That it's heated!
- Heated