

2022 – Central Lions Seniors Recreation Centre Highlights Facility Supervisor’s Report – D. Linman

COVID changed our world and we adapt to our ever evolving world. Following nearly 18 months of shut down Central Lions Seniors Recreation Centre reopened to the Central Lions Seniors Association and its members. The Central Lions Seniors Association along with the City rose to the challenges presented by the COVID pandemic and took leading roles in providing a very safe environment for seniors to return the Centre.

The long shutdowns gave the city the opportunity to deal with a number of operational issues that needed to take place and we took the time to have a number of issues addressed with in the facility:

The hardwood floor in the Large Auditorium had the finish removed and recoated using a new type of product that has lasted longer than any product we have previously used and is a much easier product to apply and maintain that will give us a longer lifespan on the floor. The lighting in the auditorium was switched to LED with new controls that provide a better level of control and it more efficient, the stage light has also been switched out to a much simpler touch system and the sound system control board was also switched out to a more modern and simpler system to operate and maintain.

In our main hallways especially the east hallway the conversion to LED lighting has begun giving us a much brighter and cheerier hallway which is more efficient and cost saving as well. Many of the lights throughout the facility have been switched as well.

The gym floor became an issue upon reopening and we have tried a number of products to try and deal with the issue there – in December/early January a new product was tried that seems to have finally been able to remove the cause of the problem.

COVID has created a major delay in the repairs to the basement as a result of the budget expense needed to deal with the costs related to COVID and there is not a current estimate for a timeline on the repairs or what the revised basement will look like.

The Centre also hosted a temporary homeless shelter in cooperation with the Hope Mission during shutdown.

Central Lions Senior Centre is also a centre for the public and we have also returned to offering rentals to the public under the AB gov guidelines, badminton court bookings, sports gym bookings for youth and the fitness centre reopened in the evenings.

CLSA not only faced the challenges of COVID but also added the areas of programming, communications and production of the program guide, instructor liaison, program registration, cash handling, registration software management, membership renewals and refunds, and provided additional staffing to provide assistance with COVID sanitization and disinfection. All the staff at the facility (both city and CLSA) have worked very hard to ensure that that everyone coming back to our facility feels both safe and welcome back after a long absence.