

Southfields Community Centre set to open next week, includes new EV charging stations

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Caledon Council came together alongside community members, local organization partners and other dignitaries, including Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seebach, last week to celebrate the soon-to-be open Southfields Community Centre.

The public first learned about the community centre back in September of 2017. The vision has now come to life as the centre gets its final tweaks before opening day.

The facility is a total of 65,000 square foot and comes equipped with a two-tank swimming pool, a fitness and aerobics studio, multi-purpose space and collection of meeting rooms dedicated for seniors and youth.

"I'm excited that our newest community centre, in Southfields is opening soon," said Mayor Allan Thompson. "This new community centre will not only provide traditional recreation opportunities but also service as a unique hub to help meet the broader social needs of the community."

Also included in the centre is space for several community members and organizations, who will be able to set up offices within the building.

They include, Caledon Community Services, Bright Scholars Montessori Caledon, Punjabi Community Health Services, Ontario Provincial Police, and Caledon Parent-Child Centre/EarlyON Centre.

The centre is to be opened officially on Monday (Sept. 21), but due to the pandemic some services and programs may be limited for the time being. Residents are asked to schedule an appointment to register for swimming, aqua fitness and for the fitness room.

Caledon Public Library revealed that, as the community centre opens, more information would be made available shortly regarding the Southfields Village library branch.

"In the past, stimulus funding and partnership projects enabled the Town to renovate existing recreation facilities but for the first time in 18 years, the Town has built a brand-new community centre," shared Mayor Thompson online. "It's been very rewarding to see this project come together. The 65,000 square foot facility is an integral investment towards a healthy community. 17,500 square feet is dedicated to Caledon's newest Community Hub."

The Town of Caledon made sure to provide constant updates on the facility from the beginning to keep the community informed and aware of the progress.

Along with the ribbon-cutting ceremony, local and provincial partners also introduced a row of new electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at the site, which are now open to the public.

Through NRCan Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program (ZEVIP) from Natural Resources Canada, seven new charging stations were able to open right outside the new Southfields Community Centre. The federal program has a total of \$130 million in funding over a span of five years, that is committed to installing and refueling charging stations in localized areas to support and encourage zero-emission vehicles.

For more information on Southfields Community Centre, please visit caledon.ca.