

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Ryan Mitchell Swim Centre Public Opening**

Port Augusta City Council are pleased to announce the Ryan Mitchell Swim Centre will be open to the public on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023, after being closed since the end of the 2022 swim season due to a significant upgrade. An official opening of the upgrade will also occur at a later date, which will be advised.

Port Augusta City Council endorsed the Ryan Mitchell Swim Centre upgrade construction project with new water splash play area in January 2022.

Following community consultation on the proposed concept for the upgrade Council endorsed the construction project which included replacing all pipes, pumps, and filters to the 50-year-old pool, plus upgrades to the main pool shell which included a ramp for people with impaired mobility to enter the water with dignity, new permanent steps into the pool, and re-lining the pool to end persistent leaking.

The upgrade was made possible by the Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program and the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program for providing over \$1million and \$700,000 respectively to help fund the \$3million project.

"The upgrade has been monumental and thanks to Hydrilla contractors for working on this project. A new access ramp now leads into the main pool, this is great for people in our community who have mobility issues, they now also get to enjoy our wonderful pool." Mayor Shine stated.

"Pipes have also been replaced as well as a new plant room and equipment, a new pool liner, and a new children's splash pad with sprinklers, splash buckets and water cannons, which is going to bring kids so much fun." Mayor Linley Shine stated.

"The Pool Manager, and Council staff have also been very active in getting the site and gardens ready for the public opening, I would like to thank them for all of their hard work and dedication." Mayor Shine stated.

"The weather is warming up next week, so we can't wait to see people from the community utilising this amazing facility, we hope that it now brings lot of joy to families and creates some terrific memories. I would like to thank the community for getting behind this wonderful project and also thank them for their patience." Mayor Shine stated.

SOS Lessons registration night is Thursday  $9^{th}$  February from 4:00pm-6:00pm at the pool, with lessons commencing on Saturday  $11^{th}$  February 2023. Online forms are available to fill in if you are unable to attend the session. You can download the forms here: <a href="https://www.portaugusta.sa.gov.au/attractions/ryan-mitchell-swim-centre">https://www.portaugusta.sa.gov.au/attractions/ryan-mitchell-swim-centre</a>

Season swim passes can be paid for can collected from the Civic Centre at 4 Mackay Street, Port Augusta – the passes this year are reduced due to the smaller season timeframe.

To find out further information about the pool and the entry price list please visit: <a href="https://www.portaugusta.sa.gov.au/attractions/ryan-mitchell-swim-centre">https://www.portaugusta.sa.gov.au/attractions/ryan-mitchell-swim-centre</a>

For further information please contact Council's Media and Communications Officer on (08) 8641 9100

JOHN BANKS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
3/02/2023



Ryan Mitchell Swim Centre Manager Sylvia Hogg



New Splash Play pad in action at the Ryan Mitchell Swim Centre.