

KENSINGTON COMMUNITY AQUATIC AND RECREATION CENTRE

Expression of interest for ongoing bookings



Artist impression

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1. Introduction

The Y Victoria is seeking expressions of interest (EOI) from clubs and associations regarding future potential regular and ongoing bookings of the indoor court, pool (aquatic lane hire) and rooms at the City of Melbourne's new Kensington Community Aquatic and Recreation Centre (KCARC), expected to open in mid-2025.

The EOI process is being conducted to ensure a fair and transparent process for potential user groups to register their interest in facility hire while the new KCARC is under construction. The intent of the facility is to accommodate a variety of activities within the community and will not be considered a home base for any one club or group. The courts space will be allocated to a variety of different user groups across a range of sport and recreational activities, to encourage shared community access for people of all abilities.

Importantly, the EOI process is specifically for groups to express their interest in ongoing bookings only. Ongoing bookings are those that occur at regular intervals throughout each week or month over a period of a year. Guiding principles have been developed by the Y Victoria, to ensure the EOI process for court, pool and room usage meets the vision for the facility.

These principles are:

- A commitment to gender equality and women's rights.
- Focus on gender equality via sports through seeking increased participation for women and low-income residents.
- Demonstration of social inclusion activities for people with disabilities or socio-economic disadvantages; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples; The CALD community; older people; LGBTQIA+ community; and/or new and emerging communities.
- Encouragement of active and sustainable transport modes and environmentally sustainable practices.

For groups seeking a one-off or short-term booking, these options will be made available closer to the facility re-opening in mid-2025.

2. Fair Access

City of Melbourne and the Y Victoria are committed to implementing the [Fair Access Sport and Recreation Allocation and Use Policy](#) within KCARC. Fair Access in the City of Melbourne aims to improve opportunities for women and girls and other under-represented groups to participate in community sport and recreation activities.

The purpose of the policy is to:

- Establish a clear, consistent, transparent and equitable approach to allocating the City of Melbourne’s recreation infrastructure.
- Outline expectations for user groups regarding their role in improving gender-equitable access and use of The City of Melbourne’s recreation facilities.
- Establish criteria for prioritizing the allocation of spaces within community sport and recreation facilities.

The aim is also to reach traditionally under-represented communities such as:

- Women and girls
- Older adults
- People with disability
- Children and youth
- People from low income or disadvantaged backgrounds
- The CALD community
- Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander people
- People with chronic health conditions
- People who have traditionally been non-users of the facilities
- LGBTQIA+ community



3. The new facility

City of Melbourne is redeveloping the much-loved Kensington Community Aquatic and Recreation Centre in JJ Holland Park, delivering a modern recreation experience that puts community first. The facility is managed by the Y Victoria, who is conducting this EOI process in partnership with City of Melbourne.

After two rounds of consultation, construction kicked off in 2022 and the new centre is expected to open in mid-2025.

The new facility will include:

- 25 metre indoor pool with eight lanes.
- Learn to swim pool.
- Children’s water play area.
- Improved gym facilities with modern equipment and 24-hour access.
- Accessible change rooms, and a Changing Places facility funded by the Victorian Government.
- Three full-sized multipurpose courts.
- Health and wellness areas.



4. Available areas for booking

Court 1

Basketball, netball, futsal and badminton markings. Available for training and competition for a wide variety of sports. This court also has a curtain so that groups can be active in private.

Court 2

Basketball, and netball. Available for training and competition for a wide variety of sports.

Court 3

Basketball, netball, volleyball, and badminton markings. Available for training and competition for a wide variety of sports.

25m pool (eight lanes)

Available for hire on a per lane basis.

Meeting room

Has a total size of 40m² and can accommodate approximately 30 people, inclusive of TV, table and chairs, and videoconferencing.

Variable program rooms

Three program rooms that vary in size from 95m² to 200m², inclusive of TV, table and chairs, and audio system with microphone.

Opening hours

The proposed facility opening hours:

Monday to Thursday from 6am to 10pm

Friday from 6am to 8pm

Saturday to Sunday from 8am to 7pm

Booking hours

The facility has pre-existing programming run by the the Y, and therefore spaces during certain times will not be available for ongoing booking requests.

Spaces are available to hire during the facility opening hours, however please bear in mind that the pools close 15 minutes before the facility closes.

Area charges

(prices are subject to change in line with annual fees and charges review)

Stadium Hire	Cost (per hour)
Full court (ie. Basketball, netball, futsal, volleyball etc)	\$62.70
Pool Hire	Cost (per lane, per hour)
25m pool	\$59.50
Room Hire	Cost (per hour)
Meeting Room	\$37.80
Variable Program Room Hire	Cost (per hour)
Meeting Room	\$62.70

5. Expression of interest (EOI) process

Organisation eligibility

Criteria and the scoring for assessing the applications will be based on the user groups' ability to clearly demonstrate their commitment to the Guiding Principles mentioned in section 1 of the Fair Access Sport and Recreation Allocation and Use Policy section 2. The Y's vision at KCARC is to encourage and facilitate an extensive mix of user groups and activities across the facility.

EOI application process

- The EOI process will be advertised.
- Applications will be submitted to the Y via the attached application form.
- Applications will be reviewed and assessed by a panel without preference or bias.
- Successful applicants will be notified and will need to sign off on the Y's Venue Hire Agreement and provide relevant documentation.
- Unsuccessful applicants will be notified and may be offered alternative times or access.
- The bookings will be from mid-2025 and a similar process will be replicated towards the end of each year for the following year.

Timelines

- Applications must be submitted via the application form.
- Applications close on Tuesday 10 December 2024.
- Applications will be reviewed and assessed by a panel without preference or bias.
- Applicants will be contacted and notified of the outcome of their application in December 2024.

For more information about the EOI for KCARC, please contact us KCARC at kcarcenquiries@ymca.org.au.

Assessment criteria

Category	Assessment criteria
<p>Mandatory/ Eligibility Criteria</p>	<p>Groups must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have public liability insurance for a minimum of 20 million dollars, if you are an organisation, agency, company, not-for-profit group. • Be a registered legal entity (such as an incorporated association). • Accept and adhere to Kensington Community Aquatic and Recreation Centre’s Venue Hire Agreement terms and conditions. • Not have any outstanding debts owed to the City of Melbourne or the Y (unless a payment plan is in place and being adhered to). • Adhere to the Y’s Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and Procedure and the child safety standards • Commit to the Fair Access Guiding Principles and Objectives. • Complete and submit an annual inclusion self-assessment. • Demonstrate connection of participants to the City of Melbourne. • Adhere to the Victorian Government’s Fair Play Policy. • Adhere to City of Melbourne’s policies and requirements regarding smoking and vaping, alcohol, gambling preference for the provision of healthy food and sun safety. • Provide facility usage date i.e. participation information, program details and any other supporting documents as requested. • Affiliation with a State Sporting Association (SSA) or National Sporting Body, if applicable.

Assessment criteria (cont.)

Championing Gender Equity and Fair Access Indicators***	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide a current Inclusion Action Plan• Membership and team composition demonstrates gender equity and Fair Access participation pathways (e.g. junior or senior, all gender or mixed, women only, all abilities).• Evidence of undertaking modified programs or activities encouraging participation by women and girls and underrepresented groups. Examples include non-competitive, accessible, developmental, social or family friendly activities or initiatives• Ability to demonstrate diversity and equity in leadership positions, including board or committee members and coaching and support staff• Ability to provide evidence of completed training and education in diversity, equity and inclusion in community sport and recreation• Proof of equitable scheduling for all users, with women and girls and underrepresented groups allocated favorable times
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*** Please note that the Champion Gender Equity and Fair Access indicators are not mandatory, however priority access will be given to groups that comply with the indicators.

6. Hire agreement

All successful applicants must enter into a legally binding annual Venue Hire Agreement. The service agreement will outline the terms and conditions.

