



New  
Adelaide  
Aquatic  
Centre

For  
the  
Future

South  
Australian  
**Labor**



#### Acknowledgment of country.

We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Custodians whose ancestral lands we live and work upon and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge and respect their deep spiritual connection and the relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to Country. We also pay our respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their nations in South Australia, as well as those across Australia.

# Foreword

**The Adelaide Aquatic Centre has been part of the city's recreational landscape for more than half a century.**

Generations of children have learned to swim and dive at the centre. Some have joined swimming clubs and competed and even gone on to represent Australia at the Commonwealth Games and Olympics.

Older South Australians have also used the pool to maintain their fitness and mobility.

Many of us have our own story about how the centre has been part of our lives, indeed my young family regularly join the almost one million visitors to the centre each year.

But this piece of infrastructure is ageing and the costs to maintain it, escalating.

Seating areas have been fenced off because of concrete cancer, the diving tower closed because of safety concerns and the spa facilities permanently closed down.

The centre is past its use-by date.

It's time for a new Adelaide Aquatic Centre.

A Malinauskas Labor Government will build that new centre, investing \$80 million to ensure a fit-for-purpose centre to provide a facility for generations to come.

It will include an undercover 50m pool to ensure this centre can be utilised year-round by schools, learn to swim programs, sporting clubs and recreation swimmers.

This redevelopment will ensure the Adelaide Aquatic Centre will continue to serve the local community for many years to come, delivering public health and wellbeing benefits for people of all ages.

Whether it's swimming lessons for the kids or elite competition, the new centre is a huge win for the community.

Following strong advocacy from the Labor Candidate for Adelaide Lucy Hood, we have made this commitment. It will be a community-driven project that will make a big difference to the quality of life for all those that use it on a regular basis.

The new Adelaide Aquatic Centre will be built either on the current site or in the adjacent corner.

In our first 100 days of Government, my team and I will work with the community – residents, users, and stakeholders – to determine together, what is the best location.

And we commit there will be no net loss of Park Lands through the development.



**Peter Malinauskas MP**  
**SA Labor Leader**

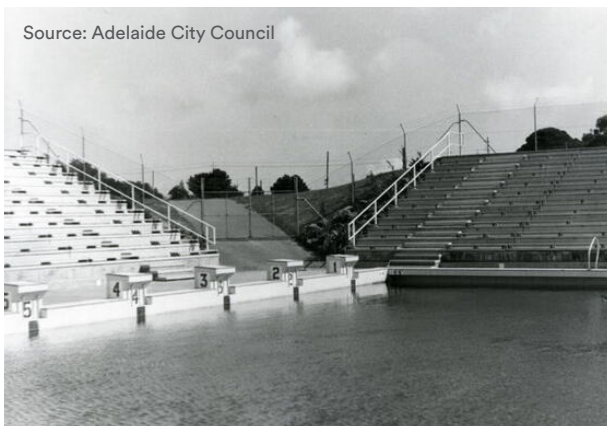


It started as an outdoor swimming centre in 1969

1970

Adelaide (Aquatic) swimming centre - Diving Tower

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1970

Main 50m outdoor lap pool and grandstands

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1970

Pools and Park Lands

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## A Malinauskas Labor Government will:

# END MORE THAN 50 YEARS OF PATCHWORK DEVELOPMENT

While the Adelaide Aquatic Centre may appear to the general user as a functional facility, to keep the centre open, the capital maintenance works over the next 10 years alone have been estimated by the City of Adelaide in the range of \$14 million to \$21 million.

While these maintenance works would address the condition of the current community asset, they would not enhance the services or reduce the operational costs of the facility.

The high maintenance cost of the current Adelaide Aquatic Centre can be traced back to how this centre evolved over the past 50 years.

The Adelaide Swimming Centre, now known as the Adelaide Aquatic Centre, started out as an outdoor pool in 1969. As the years went by, new swimming facilities were incorporated into the site.

It wasn't until 1985 that a roof was constructed over the pools, and in 1990 the addition of some shallow water spaces were included to help bring the centre in line with community needs and expectations.

The 'patchwork' expansions have played a role in exacerbating the deterioration and declining usability of the centre.

A Malinauskas Labor Government will step in and take ownership of the centre. We will end 'patchwork' development of the site and invest in a fit for purpose new Aquatic Centre, owned by South Australians, for all South Australians to enjoy.

## A Malinauskas Labor Government will:

- ✓ Step in, take ownership and build a new Adelaide Aquatic Centre
- ✓ Invest \$80 million into the project to ensure a fit for purpose, modern recreational hub is developed for the use of future generations
- ✓ Commence community consultation in the first 100 days of Government to determine the best location for the new centre – be that in its current location, or an alternative adjacent location
- ✓ Ensure there is no net loss of Park Lands through the development
- ✓ Build a facility capable of accommodating, as a minimum, an inside 50m lap pool, splashdown play spaces and health and wellbeing services

# City council to seek state and federal funding for new Aquatic Centre

The Adelaide City Council plans to ask the state and federal governments to contribute \$55 million towards the cost of building a new aquatic centre in the park lands in the hope that taxpayers can foot the bulk of the bill.

InDaily | 5 October 2021

# Revealed: Full list of aquatic centre's \$16m problems

The aging Adelaide Aquatic Centre requires \$16m in repairs if a replacement is not built, with warnings a spending freeze could endanger the public.

The Advertiser | 16 March 2021

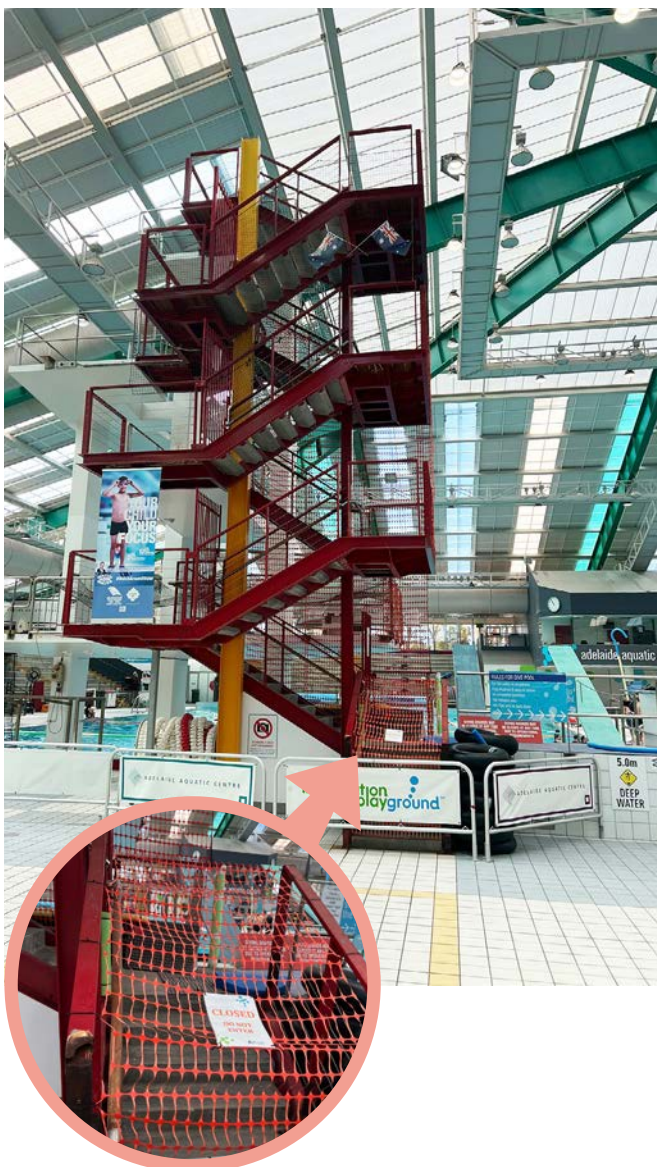
# Aquatic Centre decline continues as spas permanently turned off

InDaily | 14 May 2021

# \$15 million: Aquatic Centre repair bill revealed

The Adelaide Aquatic Centre requires a big investment to get it up to standard. The council wants to keep it running, but are wary of how much they can invest.

The Advertiser | 11 March 2019



### Identified key weaknesses of the current Adelaide Aquatic Centre include:

- ▶ Structural decay in elements of the centre
- ▶ No family changerooms
- ▶ Spa baths permanently closed
- ▶ Diving tower closed because of safety concerns (pictured)
- ▶ Seating areas fenced off because of concrete cancer
- ▶ Limited shallow water space
- ▶ Limited health and wellness areas
- ▶ Limited facilities for people with disability
- ▶ Very high energy and operational costs

Despite these identified weaknesses, more than 955,000 visitors utilise the Adelaide Aquatic Centre each year according to the City of Adelaide’s 2019 ‘Needs Analysis Study’.

By 2030, it is projected the number of visitors to the centre could grow to more than 1.3 million per year.

That’s why Labor is stepping in to build a brand new Aquatic Centre for the community.

