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Once there was a swimming pool in the park between LCVI and Central Senior. Kawartha Park used to spread all the way east to the Peel Street extension, and the pool was located at the north end of the current track and football field.

The idea for a public swimming pool in Lindsay had often been discussed but never amounted much until 1945. Citizens had been swimming in the river, but this was becoming a safety and public health risk. In January, Reeve Richard Butler addressed members of the Kiwanis Club and Rotary Club at the service for the 30th Anniversary of Kiwanis International, at which time Butler reviewed the many possible locations for a pool, including near the cemetery, the foot of Ridout Street, and at the locks, but none were favourable save Kawartha Park. In November 1945, the town granted the Rotary Club the necessary area of Kawartha Park and the project was finally underway.

On the afternoon of April 19, 1950, the Honourable Leslie M. Frost, then Premier of Ontario and charter member of the Rotary Club, stuck a shovel in the ground and “turned the first sod” in connection with the construction of the pool. A large crowd of students, town officials and citizens gathered at Kawartha Park for the dedication ceremony performed by Rev. W. J. Scott. Then President of the Rotary Club, Joseph Tangney, welcomed the audience. Mayor Charles Lamb, also a member of the Club, introduced the Premier and presented him with a miniature silver shovel, a replica of the one used in the ceremony. The contract for building the pool went to Hagris & Fair of Omemee. Plans for the pool were approved by the Provincial Board of Health.

The swimming pool officially opened on June 23. Again, Premier Frost did the honours. At that time the pool was available from 1 o’clock in the afternoon until ten in the evening during the week and until six on Sundays. The pool was about 50’ x 100’ in size. All swimmers were required to take a shower and foot bath before entering the pool. Girls and women were required to wear bathing caps. Lifeguards were on duty at all times.

In 1952 the pool accommodated slightly over 600 swimmers. At that time, options for air-conditioned buildings included some restaurants and theatres, so the pool provided much needed relief from the heat. The Town of Lindsay sponsored swimming lessons for youngsters from age 6 to 14 to learn the fundamentals of swimming, diving and water safety. The cost back then for a day of swimming for one adult was $0.35 or season tickets could be purchased for $3.50.

The pool is now filled in and replaced with sports fields for the secondary school. Lindsay’s pool is now indoors at the Lindsay Recreation Complex