



City of  
**Peterborough**

---

**To: Members of the Committee of the Whole**

**From: Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services**

**Meeting Date: October 16, 2017**

**Subject: Report CSRS17-008  
2018 Special Olympics Ontario School Championships**

---

## **Purpose**

A report to inform that the 2018 Special Olympics Ontario School Championships will take place in the City of Peterborough from May 29<sup>th</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018, and that support from the City is being requested.

## **Recommendation**

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report CSRS17-008 dated October 16, 2017, of the Director of Community Services, as follows:

That a financial contribution of \$40,000 be provided to support the 2018 Special Olympics Ontario School Championships, to be funded from the 2017 Capital Levy Reserve.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

Special Olympics Ontario has identified a preliminary budget of \$334,000 to host the Provincial Championships. The projected revenue equals \$294,000, comprised of sponsorship, registration, senior level government funding, and grants. The Games Organizing Committee is requesting City support in the amount of \$40,000.

Approximately \$35,000 would be used to cover the cost of the City services and facilities necessary for the event to take place. If the recommendations of this report are approved, the \$40,000 municipal contribution can be accommodated within the Capital

Levy Reserve. The Provincial Championships are estimated to generate more than \$1 million in sport tourism revenue to the host community.

## Background

Since 2013, City Council has supported the development of new sport facilities within the City, including three new FIFA certified all-weather turf fields, one official sized natural turf field, and an official sized baseball diamond. The presence of these facilities improves the City's ability to host major sporting events, generating sport tourism revenue for the community. Council is encouraging a pro-active approach to attracting major sport tourism events to the City. Currently, a bid to host the 2020 Ontario Summer Games in Peterborough is pending a decision by the Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport. The 2019 Women's Lacrosse U-19 World Championships will occur in Peterborough. Most recently, Special Olympics Ontario chose Peterborough as the host community for their 2018 Provincial School Championships.

The 2018 Special Olympics Provincial School Championships will be held in Peterborough from Tuesday May 29 to Thursday May 31, 2018. The event will bring 1,000 plus athletes, coaches and officials to the City, along with thousands of spectators. In recognition of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Special Olympics movement, this event will be the only Special Olympics Games held in 2018. The championships will be the premier event to kick-off the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. As such, there will be a number of observers in attendance from other provinces and the United States. There is growing interest in viewing the way that Special Olympics Ontario involves school age athletes in a Special Olympics program, which is the first of its kind in North America.

### **Special Olympics Ontario School Championships Program**

Special Olympics Ontario School Championships program provides sport training and competition opportunities to high school athletes with intellectual disabilities. The initiative strives to offer a fun and inclusive sport environment where youth, ages 13-21 years, can compete in high level competition, regardless of their level of skill or experience. The Championships include five sports: Basketball, Bocce, Soccer, Floor Hockey, and Track & Field. Each sport will have a unified division, in which half of the teammates on each team are persons with an intellectual disability and the other half are students who demonstrate leadership traits.

There will be 61 qualifier events across the province leading up to the 2018 Championships, one of which will be held at St. Peter High School in March 2018. In April 2018, a School Sport Festival will be held in Peterborough to promote the Provincial Championships.

**Venues**

The student residences at Trent University and Fleming College will serve as the Athlete Villages. Athletes will be assigned to a village based on proximity of the village to the venue where their sport will occur.

The Games Organizing Committee is in the early stages of scheduling venues for the various sports. While local high schools will be utilized as sport venues, the Kinsmen Arena and the sport complexes at Fleming College, Thomas A. Stewart and Trent University will also be key sport venues. The Peterborough Memorial Centre will be the site of the opening and closing ceremonies.

**Transportation**

Special Olympics Ontario will look after all external transportation arrangements, to transport the participants to and from Peterborough. The Games Organizing Committee will make all internal travel arrangements for participants to move between the Athlete Villages and event venues within the City. Arrangements are being made with the City's Transit Division for coordination of internal transportation.

**Request for City Financial Support**

The estimated budget for the Championships is \$334,000. The projected revenue equals \$294,000, comprised of sponsorship, registration, senior level government funding, and grants. The Games Organizing Committee is requesting a municipal contribution of \$40,000 to support the expenses related to internal transportation, sport venue rentals, volunteer services, and facility rental for the opening and closing ceremonies.

Given that approximately \$35,000 of the \$40,000 City contribution will be used to cover the cost of City facilities and services, and that the Championships have the potential to generate more than \$1 million in sport tourism revenue for the community, Staff recommends that the City supports the request to provide a financial contribution of \$40,000.

For the past several years, the Peterborough Police Service has been one of the top fundraisers in the Province for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. As the charity of choice for the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, Special Olympics Ontario and Law Enforcement have a 30 year partnership that continues to grow. It is estimated they will be able to provide a \$100,000 sponsorship to the 2018 Championships, utilizing funds generated through fundraising.

**Summary**

Peterborough has been selected by Special Olympics Ontario as the host community for the 2018 Special Olympics Ontario School Championships. More than 1,000 athletes, coaches and officials will converge on the City from Tuesday May 29 to Thursday May 31, 2018. The Championships will involve five sports, utilizing various

schools, post secondary and community facilities. The Games Organizing Committee has requested a municipal contribution of \$40,000, toward the \$334,000 budget. Staff recommends supporting the contribution, as requested.

Submitted by,

Ken Doherty  
Director of Community Services

Rob Anderson  
Recreation Division Coordinator

Contact Name:  
Rob Anderson  
Phone: 705-742-7777 Ext. 1833  
Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755  
Fax: 705-748-8824  
E-Mail: [randerson@peterborough.ca](mailto:randerson@peterborough.ca)