



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the General Committee

From: Sheldon Laidman, Commissioner, Community Services

Meeting Date: April 2, 2024

Report: Agreements with the Peterborough Rugby Union Football Club, Report CSRS24-002

Subject

A report recommending that both a field use agreement and an update to the existing Municipal Capital Facility Agreement with the Peterborough Rugby Union Football Club to allow for the continuation of acceptance of donations on the Club's behalf be approved.

Recommendations

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report CSRS24-002 dated April 2, 2024 of the Commissioner of Community Services as follows:

- a) That the City of Peterborough continue to accept donations on behalf of the Peterborough Rugby Union Football Club through an update to the existing Municipal Capital Facility Agreement for an additional period of ten years; and,
- b) That a field use agreement providing Peterborough Rugby Union Football Club with first right of refusal for booking the Trent University rectangular field after the obligations of the existing Trent agreement have been met be approved on terms satisfactory to the Commissioner of Community Services and in forms acceptable to the City Solicitor.

Executive Summary

- On December 6, 2021, Council received a financial report recommending that the period the City accepts donations on behalf of the Peterborough Rugby Union Football Club be extended to November 30, 2026. The Club is requesting that donations continue to be received to support future development projects in alignment with the Active Outdoor Recreation study. Staff are recommending an update to the existing Municipal Capital Facility agreement to continue the acceptance of these donations for the duration of the agreement.
- Staff are recommending that the City enter into a field use agreement providing the Club with first right of refusal of the rectangular field located at Trent University, to provide the Club with additional field time to support the expansion of their programming.

Background

The City of Peterborough has a long-standing relationship with the Peterborough Rugby Union Football Club, including the relocation of the heritage Clubhouse building that was originally located at 577 McDonnell Street to Nicholls Oval Park in 2011. This agreement included a loan provided by the city to the Rugby Club for a total of \$306,138.00, which was used to purchase the clubhouse and support the relocation of the building.

To support the repayment of the loan, the city agreed to accept donations on behalf of Peterborough Rugby Union Football Club and provide income tax receipts to donors. The loan was paid back in full in November of 2023. The acceptance of donations on behalf of the Club is set to expire on November 30, 2026.

The Club, in partnership with Recreation and Parks Services, and in alignment with the Active Outdoor Recreation study, is seeking to make additional improvements to Nicholls Oval Park. To support these improvements, staff are recommending the continuation of the acceptance of donations on behalf of the Club through an update to the active Municipal Capital Facility Agreement the City has with the Club.

In support of the Club, and in alignment with the Trent University Agreement, staff are seeking endorsement from Council to enter into a field use agreement with the Club that provides a first right of refusal to permitting times at the Trent university rectangular field. This agreement will allow the Club to expand existing programming and continued growth, as the Club has indicated that they have reached capacity at Nicholls Oval Park. Even though this field is on Trent lands, the City does the permitting for this field. Trent varsity programs have first priority for this field but the City is able to prioritize for the remainder of the usage of this field and do not anticipate impacting other groups by entering into this revised agreement.

As part of the field use agreement, staff recommend a five-year agreement term with an annual fee of \$2,500 to be directed into the General Recreation Reserve account for future development opportunities that are mutually agreed upon between the Club and

the City, in accordance with the Active Outdoor Recreation study. This annual fee would be in addition to the normal hourly field rate permit fee that the Club will continue to pay for the use of this field. It is not anticipated that the granting of this first right of refusal will significantly impact other user groups as the City enjoys a healthy availability of artificial fields.

Strategic Plan

Community & Well-being

Working proactively with community partners to enhance the recreational, and sport amenities within the community.

Governance & Fiscal Sustainability

Supporting a culture of continuous improvement through cost-effective delivery by continuing the partnership and facilitating donations from the community.

Engagement and Consultation

The Rugby Union Football Club and city staff from Recreation and Parks Services, and Legislative Services were consulted in the development of the recommendation within this report.

Budget and Financial Implications

The General Recreation Reserve account will receive an annual payment of \$2,500 in accordance with the first right of refusal agreement with the Club.

Conclusion

Staff are recommending the approval of an adjustment to the existing MCF agreement with the Club in order to continue accepting donations on behalf of the Club, for the duration of the MCF agreement's term, and seeking endorsement for a new agreement, granting the Club first right of refusal to the Trent University rectangular field to support the Club in expanding their programming offerings to the community.

Submitted by,

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