

**Subject:** Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF)**Recommendation:**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Report # 2021- 0129- Corporate Services- Canada Community Revitalization Fund; for the resurfacing of the tennis courts at Centennial Park and for the new Community Event Space at Peace Park; AND THAT Council receive this report for information.**

**Background:**

The Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF) is a two-year, \$500 million national infrastructure program to revitalize communities across Canada. Not-for-profit organizations, municipalities and Indigenous communities can apply for funding for projects that aim to:

- revitalize downtown cores and main streets
- reinvent outdoor spaces
- create green infrastructure
- increase the accessibility of community spaces.

Examples of projects that could receive funding under this program include:

- farmers markets
- community and cultural centres
- parks or community gardens
- recreational trails and public outdoor sports facilities
- multi-purpose centres

Projects funded under the CCRF could receive a maximum contribution of up to \$750,000 or \$1 million (depending on project location), with funding to cover up to 75% of the total project costs. Indigenous community projects may qualify for funding to cover 100% of total project costs. All contributions will be non-repayable. Application submission is due on July 23, 2021.

## **Analysis:**

The Town is applying for two grants: (1) Resurfacing of the tennis courts at Centennial Park; and (2) Community Event space at Peace Park.

### 1. Tennis Courts at Centennial Park:

The tennis courts in Centennial Park, Fenwick require reconstruction and rehabilitation with a safe surface and reconfiguration to accommodate both tennis and the increasingly popular game of pickle ball. The existing tennis courts are cracking, unsafe in areas, the base is no longer structurally sound, and they are not configured for pickle ball. With support from the CCRF, the courts will be reconstructed, resurfaced with asphalt, the lines of play for both tennis and pickle ball will be painted, and the safety issues will be addressed. Residents' use of the parks, recreational areas and active transportation infrastructure has increased significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic. This, coupled with the noteworthy growth of pickle ball, has resulted in an accelerated deterioration of the tennis courts.

The revitalization of the tennis and pickle ball courts in Centennial Park will provide an important outdoor recreation area for the residents of the Town of Pelham. Many of the Town's recreation, culture, leisure and social venues have been closed during the COVID-19 pandemic, impacting all residents and particularly those who are older adults and seniors. The outdoor tennis and pickle ball courts have been available intermittently, but due to the structural and surface issues, it has become increasingly difficult to use the courts. With resurfacing and the addition of court markings for pickle ball as well as tennis, the courts will once again be available to all residents who wish to play for recreation and leisure. As is the case in many communities, older adults and seniors in Pelham have embraced the game of pickle ball and have been eager to resume play outdoors. Both tennis and pickle ball provide mental and physical benefits, as well as critical social activity for seniors and other users. Wheelchair tennis has been suspended due to the condition of the courts and users are eager to resume play once it is safe to do so. With the support of CCRF, the courts will be refurbished and residents will once again be able to play tennis, wheelchair tennis and pickle ball in a safe, outdoor public space.

### 2. Community Event Space for Peace Park

The Town Hall and Peace Park complex hosts residents and visitors to the Town of Pelham. This project will add much 216 sqm (2400 sqf) of much needed community meeting space and accessible, exterior-facing washrooms to accommodate Peace Park visitors. Thousands of residents and visitors attend community events and activities in Peace Park, which include the Farmer's Market, the weekly outdoor summer concert series and Supper Market, the annual award-winning Pelham

Summerfest, the Christmas Market and other events throughout the year. By adding community meeting space and public washrooms, Town Hall will be more accessible and it will provide services required by the public. All residents will have access to and benefit from the community meeting space and the washrooms.

### **Financial Considerations:**

The total project cost for the resurfacing of the tennis courts is \$269,000 of which the grant requested will fund 75% of the project or \$201,750.

The total project cost for the Community Event Space at Peace Park is \$1,210,000, of which 75% (or up to \$750,000) will be requested by this grant in the amount of \$750,000.

### **Alternatives Reviewed:**

The alternatives are to not resurface the tennis courts or not build the new community event space at Peace Park.

### **Strategic Plan Relationship: Build Strong Communities and Cultural Assets**

Funding, if approved, will enable the Town to resurface the tennis courts which are in need of repair due to the cracks. The funding will also enable the Town to have public washrooms and event spaces in a location that has a lot of community events.

### **Consultation:**

Discussion with the Director Recreation, Culture and Wellness and the Director Public Works.

### **Other Pertinent Reports/Attachments:**

Photos of the cracked tennis courts.

### **Prepared and Recommended by:**

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