

Subject: Ontario Trillium Foundation Community Building Grant**Recommendation:**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Report # 2021-0158- Corporate Services;

AND THAT Council approve the grant application for Ontario Trillium Foundation's Community Building Fund-Capital stream for Pickleball Courts at Centennial Park.

Background:

The Community Building Fund – Capital stream funded by Ontario Trillium Foundation provides support for non-profits, Indigenous communities and municipalities in the community sport and recreation sectors. The fund will help strengthen communities by supporting the repair, renovation or retrofitting of existing sport and recreation facilities to address: local community need by extending the life and maximizing the use of existing facilities (e.g. playgrounds, splash pads, etc.) or COVID-19 related public health requirements which support future preparedness.

Applications are due by September 29, 2021.

Definitions For the purpose of this fund, the following definitions are used:

Recreation: Physical activities engaged in for the purpose of health, well-being or enjoyment with the primary focus on human activity.

Sport: Regulated and organized form of physical activity between two or more participants. Such activity may be in the form of a game, match, race, or other form of event.

Repair: Fixing or restoring a facility to increase its useful life.

Renovation: Updating the functionality of a facility to improve its usefulness.

Retrofit: Adding new features or parts to improve the functionality or efficiency of a facility.

Funding Amount:

Organizations can apply for up to 100% of their total project cost up to a maximum of \$500,000, with the exception of Municipalities with a population over 20,000 that can only apply for up to 80% of their total project cost. Eligible project costs will be supported up to a maximum of \$500,000. Minimum request amount is \$10,000.

Analysis:

There was a request presented at the 2022 Budget Open House for dedicated pickleball courts at Centennial Park. Pickleball is very popular sport amongst seniors and retirees. It makes exercising enjoyable and it is a very good social sport as well.

Hamilton has 24 new dedicated pickleball courts, Sarnia has 8 new courts, Niagara-on-the-Lake converted 6 tennis courts to pickleball courts, Grimsby has dedicated funds for 6 pickleball courts and Welland is putting in 13 new pickleball courts.

In Pelham, there are no dedicated pickleball courts. There are 6 indoor courts shared with Basketball at the Meridian Community Centre (MCC) and 5 outdoor courts shared with tennis at Centennial Park. These courts are not dedicated for pickleball and they are not enough to handle the demand of this popular sport.

Playing on dedicated pickleball courts will have courts that will have properly marked court lines, nets and posts. This will eliminate confusing multiple lines, adjusting nets, retrieving balls and stoppages in play because of errant balls on the court.

Dedicated courts will provide the opportunities for competition and tournaments. These tournaments generate revenue for the community.

Financial Considerations:

The funding available for this grant is up to \$500,000. There is no Town matching required. The estimated cost of the pickleball courts is \$480,000.

Alternatives Reviewed:

The alternative is not to apply for the grant.

Strategic Plan Relationship: Build Strong Communities and Cultural Assets

Dedicated Pickleball courts will provide many benefits to the residents of Pelham by providing an activity that is physically and socially healthy.

Consultation:

Director Recreation, Culture and Wellness

Other Pertinent Reports/Attachments:

None.

Prepared and Recommended by:

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