

Memo

To: Members of Council

From: Teresa Quinlin-Murphy, Director of Corporate Services

Date: October 2, 2024

RE: Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund – Stream 2: New Builds/Signature New Builds

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Memo Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund – Stream 2: New Builds/Signature New Builds, for information;

AND THAT Council approve the grant application to the Ontario Ministry of Sport’s Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund – Stream 2: New Builds/Signature New Builds Grant Program and a request for special consideration as a municipality with a population of under 20,000;

AND THAT Council approve \$1,000,000 or 50% of the total cost of the Centennial Park new build grant project in the 2025 and/or 2026 budget(s). These projects are currently in the Town’s 10-year Capital Plan.

The Ontario Ministry of Sport has issued a call for grants to invest in new, transformative community sport and recreation infrastructure, including assets that do not currently exist in a community or the replacement of existing assets that have reached the end of their lifespan. The program is called the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund – Stream 2: New Builds/Signature New Builds Grant.

This program funds up to \$10 million or 50% of project costs for eligible projects. As a municipality with less than 20,000 people, the Town of Pelham is also eligible to submit a request for special consideration, which could provide an additional 20% in funding, bringing the total grant amount up to \$10 million or 70% of eligible costs.

The application deadline is October 29, 2024, with an anticipated decision in early winter 2024. The completion date for projects under this grant is March 31, 2027.

The funder requires documentary proof of the Council approving the decision to apply for the Centennial Park new build project and that necessary funds will be included in the Town's future capital budget(s).

The installation of a new recreational support facility, including washrooms, changing rooms, a pavilion and other related sports infrastructure, has been identified as a recommendation in the Town of Pelham Recreation, Culture and Parks Master Plan developed in 2023, as well as the Centennial Park Master Plan developed in 2003. This improvement responds to requests from multiple community groups, including Pelham Minor Soccer, Pelham Minor Baseball, users of the Centennial Park courts, and general park users for additional infrastructure to support their activities at the park.

The current total anticipated costs for this project is \$2,000,000. The Town's funding portion is anticipated to be up to \$1,000,000. If the Town receives the additional funding top-up as a special consideration project, the Town's contribution will decrease to \$600,000.

New build projects to Centennial Park align with the Town's strategic plan objective of infrastructure investment and renewal and meet recommendations set out for the Town in the Recreation, Culture and Parks Master Plan. These projects are currently in the Town's 10-year capital plan; therefore this grant will decrease the required transfer from reserves.