

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update to the Expression of Interest (EOI) process completed for the former Hall of Fame space located at the Gerry McCrory Countryside Sports Complex (Countryside). At the March 18, 2019 Community Services Committee meeting, a resolution was approved directing staff to issue an EOI for the space previously allocated to the Greater Sudbury Sports Hall of Fame Committee at Countryside. This report also provides information on how the space has been utilized since constructed, and provides a recommendation to continue to use the space to support arena operations and events and considerations for capital improvements through the 2021 budget process.

Background

As part of the 2010 project to add a second ice pad at the Gerry McCrory Countryside Sports Complex, Council approved the inclusion of 5,000 square feet of additional programming space to be dedicated to the Greater Sudbury Sports Hall of Fame Committee. The space has remained vacant as the committee has not been able to secure necessary funding to develop the space. In November 2017, the Greater Sudbury Sports Hall of Fame committee advised the City that the group intends on locating the hall of fame at another facility. A report to the Community Services Committee presented on March 18, 2019 noted opportunities to utilize the space at Countryside for City of Greater Sudbury purposes or by third parties to generate financial and leisure benefits for the City. Direction was received to issue a Request for Expression of Interest (RFEI) to properly canvas the community for potential proponents.

The RFEI was issued on two different occasions. The first RFEI was issued on October 4, 2019 with closing date of October 31, 2019. One proposal was received, however after review of the proposal, it was deemed incomplete and not suitable for the space or facility. A second RFEI was issued on March 6, 2020. To help raise awareness of the RFEI, Arenas Section staff reached out to Economic Development and the local Chamber of Commerce advising them of the RFEI and requested support to communicate the opportunity with their contacts/members. In addition, information about the opportunity was sent to all arena users. The second RFEI did not generate any submissions.

With no plan takers and COVID-19 impacting the community the RFEI was cancelled on April 16, 2020.

Current Status of Gerry McCrory Countryside Space

The 5,000 square feet of programming space previously dedicated to the Greater Sudbury Sports Hall of Fame committee remains unfinished and vacant. The space has been informally utilized over the years to support the numerous tournaments and events hosted at the Gerry McCrory Countryside Sports Complex. The space has been used as program space for the 2019 Esso Cup, Canada's National Female Midget Championship. In addition, Greater Sudbury won the rights to host the 2020 Under 18 Canadian National Curling Championships at the facility, with the availability of the

former Hall of Fame space being a critical factor in the event bid. The space has also served as an area for pre-competition stretching for user groups at the facility.

Below is a summary of the use of the space and for what purpose:

Regular Users

- Dry land training area
- Team meetings
- Hockey photos
- Temporary hockey equipment storage (between games & try outs)
- Team Christmas gatherings
- End of season gatherings
- Pre delivered supplies storage
- Tournament storage
- Meal area
- Award ceremonies

Special Events

- Skate Canada events
- Hockey Canada Events (tournaments & development camps)
- Curling Canada events
- Speed Skating Canada events
- Laurentian University hockey events

Other

- Community engagement sessions
- Filming lunch room
- Staff training

Summary

Due to the lack of responses to the two (2) EOLs issued and the demonstrated need to utilize this space for arena operations it is recommended that the space be formally approved for arena use to support regular users and event organizers. The additional program space also supports physical distancing for facility events and activities in a COVID-19 environment.

In a review of the vacant space with Building Services, it has been noted that there are capital investment requirements for permanent occupancy, including fire separation work and emergency egress improvements. The value of these improvements is estimated at \$60,000. Current use of the facility has been permitted under temporary occupancy.

In addition, there is minor electrical work that needs to be completed, including the upgrading of light fixtures to commercial LED grade at an approximate cost of \$12,000.

Further, the existing floor is polished concrete and it is recommended that rubber sports flooring be installed over areas used for pre-game stretching and dryland training. Cost

would be approximately \$50,000 for rubber sports flooring. Once the sports flooring is installed there would be the opportunity to promote the space for training such as dryland training, team training, personal training, fitness classes, dance, yoga, etc.

Approximate amount to be identified for capital prioritization as part of the 2021 budget process would be \$127,000.

Resources Cited

Gerry McCrory Countryside Sports Complex Hall of Fame Space – Request for EOI
Community Services Committee (March 18, 2019)

<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&id=1351&itemid=16394&lang=en>

Greater Sudbury Sports Hall of Fame Presentation, City Council (November 1, 2017)

<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&attachment=20656.pdf>

Sports Hall of Fame Update Report/Presentation, Community Services Committee (June 25, 2012)

<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&agenda=report&itemid=1&id=549>

Countryside Arena Expansion/Sports Hall of Fame, City Council (November 24, 2010)

<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&attachment=4869.pdf>