

Date: 2022-03-30

Subject: **Community Sport Group Policy – Additional Consultation Plan**

Contact: Rob Gasper, Acting Director, Recreation,
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Report Number: Community Services-2022-351

Recommendations:

1. That the report from Rob Gasper, Acting Director, Recreation, dated March 30, 2022, to the Council Meeting of March 30, 2022, re: **Community Sport Group Policy – Additional Consultation Plan**, be received; and
2. That staff be directed to initiate the revision of the Sports Facility Allocation Policies utilizing the Community Sport Group priority listing outlined in the draft policy; and
3. That staff be directed to facilitate additional consultations starting April 2022 and return to Council to present the Community Sport Group Policy and Sport Facility Allocation Policies for final approval with implementation no earlier than the onset of the respective sport seasons in 2023 or an agreed upon suitable time.

Overview:

- The City of Brampton created the Community Group Affiliation Policy in 1996, and has since made one update in 2010 (see Appendix B). The Policy is outdated, not inclusive or reflective of the current population and diverse needs of Brampton residents, and presents challenges to sport groups.
- Recreation staff engaged consultants in fall 2019 to revise and develop the proposed Community Sport Group Policy (see Appendix A) to better support public needs, improve fairness and transparency, ensure well-utilization of public spaces, align with the City's strategic priorities and reflect Brampton's diversity.
- Key proposed changes include expanding categories of sport groups, lowering residency requirements and permitting more than one

Community Sport Group per sport based on stakeholder input. A comparison of all changes is listed in Appendix C.

- **The Community Sport Group Policy defines the levels of support provided by the City to each type of qualifying Community Sport Group, speaks to working better as one sport community, aligns with the principles of the Canadian Sport for Life model, and addresses the diversity, equity and inclusion of all sport participants.**
- **Sport groups were engaged in 15 in-person focus groups in 2019, an online survey in 2019, and 3 virtual sessions in 2021. More recently, staff met virtually with sport groups on March 2, 2022 to review the upcoming Council Report documents, and on March 15 and March 23 to jointly identify items for further discussion and an engagement plan.**
- **Staff are committed to hosting regular meetings to facilitate discussion and information sharing on items identified by sport groups starting in April 2022 and continuing through to the implementation of the revised Community Sport Group and Sport Facility Allocation policies.**

Background:

Since its inception in 1996, the Affiliation Policy was updated once in 2010 with minor changes and it is due for a refresh to reflect the current state of the municipality and align with the objectives of the City of Brampton.

In fall of 2019, the Recreation Division engaged Monteith Brown Planning Consultants Ltd. and Tucker-Reid & Associates (the “Consultants”) to develop the Community Group Sports Policy (the “Policy”) as an update to the existing Affiliation Policy. The Consultants led a significant number of meaningful engagements with a wide range of sport groups, including the Brampton Sports Alliance, with Mayor and Council, and with Community Services staff. The Consultants conducted a survey and benchmarking exercise to further inform the review. The Policy is informed by careful consideration of all the inputs and outcomes from the various processes and methodologies.

Sport Group Consultations included:

- 15 in-person focus groups (2019)
- Online survey (2019)
- 3 virtual sessions to present a draft policy (2021)
- 1 virtual session to review the Council Report for March 2, 2022 (2022)

Staff originally brought the Community Sport Group Policy report (Community Services-2022-351) to Committee of Council on February 16, 2022. The Consultants delegated,

providing an overview of the process and presenting the draft Policy. Brampton North Soccer Club and Brampton Hill Skating Academy, two non-affiliated sport groups, delegated in support of the draft Policy. Council deferred the report to March 9, 2022 to allow additional time for groups to review the draft Policy and delegate.

At the March 9, 2022, Committee of Council, the Consultants delegated to address questions regarding process, benchmarking, and feedback incorporated. Aspire for Higher delegated in support of the draft Policy, and request further review of the \$100 non-resident surcharge. Brampton Sports Alliance Group, represented by two individuals, raised concerns about the impact of the draft Policy. Council referred the draft Policy back to staff for further targeted consultation with Brampton Sports Alliance and unaffiliated groups, and report back at the March 30, 2022 Committee of Council.

Current Situation:

In response to the latest Council motion, the staff facilitated two additional engagement meetings during off-work hours, one on March 15 and another on March 23, 2022. Invitations to both were extended to 130 sport groups. A total of 11 groups attended these sessions and all invitees received a summary presentation via email and the opportunity to provide input. 16 items for further discussion were identified during these sessions:

1. \$100 Non-Resident Surcharge
2. Residency percentages
3. Minimum ages, maximum ages and considerations of exceptions for specialty add-on programs with limited participation (e.g. women's hockey, women's soccer)
4. Minimum participant numbers
5. For-Profit/Commercial group status
6. Legal standing
7. Rates and Fees (annual by-law process)
8. Sport Facility Allocation Policy refresh (subsequent policy)
9. Level of engagement
10. History and amalgamation
11. Impact to existing groups
12. Review preamble in draft policy
13. Exception for Youth A Groups to include adult groups representing persons with disabilities
14. Exclusions and cancellations for Special Events
15. More than 1 group per sport
16. Learn-to programs delivered by private groups and certification and safety considerations (e.g. Learn-to-Skate, soccer programs)***

At the request of sport groups present, staff sent out a survey following the March 23, 2022 meeting for all groups to vote on their engagement preference. Staff plan to host regular consultations with all sport groups beginning in April 2022 to enhance

communication and transparency, and offer an opportunity to discuss and answer any questions. Staff are also available to sport groups on a need-be basis to discuss and receive feedback.

Corporate Implications:

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications at this stage, but will be assessed for the subsequent revision of the Sports Facility Allocation Policies that is expected to have financial implications.

Term of Council Priorities:

The recommendations contained in this report directly support Brampton in achieving its priorities as a City of Opportunities, a Healthy and Safe City, and a Well-Run City.

Conclusion:

The Community Sport Group Policy refreshes the current policy to promote fairness, diversity, and inclusion, and remove barriers for new and existing groups, while creates opportunities for responsible growth. This updated policy outlines the principles for the subsequent revision of the Sports Facility Allocation Policies, furthering the City's goal to ensure public spaces are utilized for the highest public good and that Brampton's growing diverse population continues to be well served and represented.

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Attachments:

Appendix A – Community Sport Group Policy (2022)

Appendix B – Affiliation Policy (2010)

Appendix C – Summary Chart of Community Sport Group Policy Changes