

March 6, 2017

Demand Exceeded for Pelham Community Centre Facilities

Several prominent community groups have signed 5-year agreements with the Town of Pelham for use of the Pelham Community Centre, which is currently under construction. These agreements exceed the Town's revenue goals for the Centre, confirming the demand for a second arena in the new facility.

In June 2015, a report commissioned by the Town suggested there was significant demand for two ice surfaces. This LeisurePlan report projected 100% prime-time usage of one arena and 70% usage of a second arena. This report influenced the design of the new Pelham Community Centre, which features two arenas, two gymnasiums, and multi-purpose space, among many other much-needed features.

The recently signed agreements with the Town mean that the Accipiter Arena will have 100% prime-time usage and the Duliban Insurance Arena will have more than 90% prime-time usage. This exceeds estimates from the LeisurePlan report, which projected 70% prime-time usage for the second arena. These user groups will also have an opportunity to renew or extend their agreements, allowing them to secure their preferred times moving forward.

"The binding agreements with major facility users exceed our expectations for community usage and revenue projections," said Mayor Dave Augustyn. "These 5-year agreements also show that the Pelham Community Centre will be the place for residents of all ages to gather and enjoy a wide-variety of recreational, social, health and community activities for many, many years."

The Town of Pelham is thrilled to enter into these partnerships with Pelham Minor Hockey Association, Pelham Panthers Basketball Association, Pelham Jr. B. Hockey Club and Southern Tier Admirals AAA Hockey. The Town is also excited to welcome the Welland Raiders Minor Lacrosse and the Niagara Centre Skating Club back to Pelham. These agreements will also allow the Town to rent and program the rest of the available facility time.

"We are fortunate to have access to such a great facility being built in Pelham," said Brian Bleich, President of Pelham Panthers Basketball Association. "Our agreement with the Town of Pelham guarantees that we can support youth basketball for many years to come."

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“Pelham Minor Hockey has faced challenges in past years finding ice space within our Town or during reasonable hours for our minor hockey participants to play on,” said Todd Major, President of Pelham Minor Hockey. “Our user agreement with the Town will be instrumental for the future success of our Pelham teams while ensuring our programs meet our members’ needs and our Association’s goals.”

After years of public consultations and deliberations, Town Council approved the construction the \$36.2 million Pelham Community Centre in April 2016. The official groundbreaking took place in November 2016. Major fundraising gifts, including the naming of the two arenas, was announced in December 2016. Structural steelwork on the Community Centre is expected to begin this month with substantial completion scheduled for Spring 2018.

For more information about this transformational project, visit www.ourpcc.ca. If you wish to be a part of Pelham Community Centre’s capital fundraising efforts, please contact Martin van Zon, Capital Campaign Consultant at 905-332-8315 or at mvanzon@interkom.ca.

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About the Pelham Community Centre: The new Pelham Community Centre will serve as a place for residents of all ages to gather and enjoy a wide-variety of recreational, social, health and community activities. The stunning facility will include adaptable and multi-purpose community rooms, two gymnasiums, two NHL-size arenas, an indoor walking/running track, a concession area, change rooms & washrooms, and an atrium/lobby area.