

Memorandum

To: Members of Council

From: Ron Diskey, Commissioner, Community and Operations Services

Date of Memo: January 4, 2023

RE: Use of Campus Ice Centre Rinks by the City of Oshawa

On December 12, 2022, Council referred motion [CO-22-05](#) concerning Ontario Tech University's request for funding for Capital project repairs at Campus Ice Centre back to staff to report with further information prior to the 2023 budget deliberations.

The permitting of ice within the City of Oshawa is allocated to clients in accordance with the Council approved [Ice Allocation Policy](#). The policy defines ice hours as either prime time hours or non-prime time hours. Prime time hours vary based on the rental start times on each separate ice pad, but generally are 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Monday to Friday and all day Saturday and Sunday. Non-prime time hours are also based on the rental start time of each separate ice pad. Generally, non-prime hours are Monday to Friday from open to 5:00 p.m. and from 10:00 p.m. until close.

As per the Original Funding Agreement between the City of Oshawa, Durham College and University of Ontario Institute of Technology (since renamed to Ontario Tech University), the City of Oshawa has the ability to allocate prime time hours at Campus Ice Centre from the beginning of September to the end of March, for up to a total of 2,990 hours per year. The agreement will expire on August 31, 2024.

The City of Oshawa does not allocate prime time hours to affiliated ice clients during the hours required by the university for their varsity teams. During the 2022/2023 ice season this totaled 102 hours of prime time ice.

During non-prime time hours and the remaining months, April through August, the City of Oshawa does not allocate ice at Campus Ice Centre. Campus Ice Centre is responsible for the allocation of the ice.

Campus Ice Centre, in addition to Delpark Homes Centre, is designated as a tournament/event facility in the Ice Allocation Policy and annually hosts six to seven child/youth ice tournaments/events.

In 2022/2023, from September through March approximately 2,700 hours were allocated at Campus Ice Centre. This will generate approximately \$490,000 in revenue. This is approximately 94% of the prime time hours available at the facility.



As per the Original Funding Agreement, Campus Ice Centre is required to charge clients allocated by the City of Oshawa the Arena Rental Rates that are established in the General Fees and Charges By-law. The current fee for child/youth prime time ice is \$157.80 plus the \$25 hourly ice surcharge. The current fee for adult prime time ice is \$206.04 plus the \$25 hourly ice surcharge.

Campus Ice Centre has the authority to charge an hourly rate solely determined by them for any ice time that is not allocated by the City of Oshawa.

From October to March of the current ice season, the City originally allocated 98.5 prime time hours per week at Campus Ice Centre (45.5 weekday hours and 53 weekend hours).

Upon final allocation of the 2022/2023 regular ice season there were 73 prime time hours (15 weekday hours and 58 weekend hours) that were unallocated at City-owned and operated ice pads. Many of these hours have since been sold to one-off clients.

In comparison, in 2019/2020 which is the most recent season that has not been impacted by COVID-19 closures and restrictions, the City allocated 102.5 prime time hours per week at Campus Ice Centre (47.5 weekday hours and 55 weekend hours).

Upon final allocation of the 2019/2020 regular ice season there were 38 prime time hours (5 weekday hours and 33 weekend hours) that were unallocated at City-owned and operated ice pads.

Although there are prime time hours available in city-owned and operated facilities, there are not enough hours to accommodate all of the Oshawa based community groups that are currently using Campus Ice Centre. Based on the City's original allocation for 2022/2023, there would be a deficit of 30.5 prime time week day hours per week if the City no longer allocated time at Campus Ice Centre.

COVID-19 has negatively impacted participation rates in youth sports. When considering the allocation of 2019/2020, the most recent season that was not impacted by COVID-19, the City would have a deficit of 64.5 hours of ice time per week (42.5 weekday hours and 22 weekend hours) if the City no longer allocated time at Campus Ice Centre.

Campus Ice Centre is a valuable and required facility that allows the City of Oshawa to meet the current and future needs of the community. Without the use of that facility, the City of Oshawa would not have enough ice pads to meet the current needs of the community and would not be in a position to support growth within ice sports.

Ron Diskey, Commissioner
Community and Operations Services

November 29, 2022

City Council
City of Oshawa
50 Centre St. S.
Oshawa, ON L1H 3Z7

I am writing today, on behalf of Ontario Tech University, to request financial support from the City in fiscal 2023 for a necessary capital project at the shared Campus Ice Centre.

Ontario Tech remains deeply grateful to the City of Oshawa for their help in funding the development of the Campus Ice Centre. It is a facility that we are extremely proud of and honoured to be able to share with our local community. Currently the Campus Ice Centre is heavily utilized by the City of Oshawa. The City is allocated 96% of the 'prime time' hours at the facility with the university booking the other times for varsity or other recreational activities. The current Agreement (2004-2024) with the City addresses the operating cost process but does not consider ongoing capital renewal costs.

The Campus Ice Centre's operating budget is close to breaking even; but, does not leave room for any capital reserve or emergency expenses. Due to the age of the building this has become a major concern for the university as the repairs must be funded through other sources. This year alone, the university was required to pay approximately \$400,000 to repair the roof.

In 2023 we will be required to repair one of the ice pads that has had a failure of the heating and cooling lines. This project has gone through a competitive procurement process and is expected to cost \$1.75 million. The pad will be out of service for four to six months. If we do not make this repair, the pad will not have proper cooling and each year it would be out of service for four months. We are requesting that the City of Oshawa and the University equally share costs on this project. This would represent a capital ask from the City of Oshawa of approximately \$875,000 which will be matched from the University.

We would like to thank the City in advance for considering this request. We hope very much to be able to renew the agreement with the City and look forward to a collaborative discussion.

Sincerely,



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