



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Authorization to Accept Donations from the MLSE Foundation for Various Park and Recreation Projects

<b>Date:</b>	May 02, 2014
<b>To:</b>	Community Development and Recreation Committee
<b>From:</b>	Acting General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
<b>Wards:</b>	All Wards
<b>Reference Number:</b>	P:\2014\ClusterA\PFR\CD28-052213-AFS#19472

### SUMMARY

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The purpose of this report is to seek approval from City Council to authorize the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to accept donations from the MLSE Foundation in 2014 for various Parks, Forestry and Recreation revitalization projects. Projects will include arena and outdoor artificial ice rink refurbishments, outdoor court refurbishments and other revitalization projects identified by the MLSE Foundation throughout the year subject to the approval of the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation and in accordance with the "Policy on Donations to the City for Community Benefits".

The goals and objectives of the MLSE Foundation are in keeping with Parks, Forestry and Recreation's mandate to provide recreation opportunities and enhance and protect Toronto's public green spaces. These objectives are also aligned with strategic goals in the Parks Plan (adopted by City Council on May 7, 2013) and the Recreation Service Plan, (adopted by City Council on November 29, 2012).

### RECOMMENDATIONS

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**The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that:**

1. City Council delegate authority to the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation to accept donations of up to \$600,000 from the MLSE Foundation in 2014 and to spend these donated funds to undertake various arena, outdoor rink, sports field and program enhancement projects, in accordance with the "Policy on Donations to the City for Community Benefits".

2. City Council authorize the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation to enter into an agreement with the MLSE Foundation to spend the donated funds on mutually identified refurbishment projects on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation, and in a form and content satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

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At its meeting of April 29, 2009, City Council adopted Member Motion EX31.16 to accept a donation of \$600,000 from Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment for arena and rink refurbishment and enhancement projects in 2009 in accordance with the "Policy on Donations to the City for Community Benefits".

(<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2009.EX31.16>)

At its meeting on September 26, 27, & 28, 2006 Toronto City Council adopted the "Policy on Donations to the City for Community Benefits"

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2006/agendas/council/cc060925/pof7rpt/cl003.pdf>

## **Financial Impact**

The details of the projects to be carried out with support from the MLSE Foundation will be developed in the coming months to bring forward appropriate adjustments to the Parks, Forestry and Recreation Capital and Operating Budgets and Capital Plan.

Specific Capital and Operating Budget adjustments will be presented in the coming months to Executive Committee and Council for consideration at the August 2014 Council meeting. Any future incremental Operating Budget impacts arising from these projects will also be reported at that time.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

### **A history of investing in Toronto parks, facilities and programs**

The MLSE Foundation, a registered charity, and its predecessor organizations have a long history of contributing toward the revitalization of parks, sports facilities and programs in the City of Toronto. The organization has an interest in improving Parks, Forestry and Recreation assets to support its overall vision of, "changing lives through the spirit and the power of sports," through its mission to be, "improving the lives of youth by building facilities, giving to sustainable programs and empowering youth through sports and recreation."

Support from the MLSE Foundation has enhanced existing state of good repair projects, helped to reduce the state of good repair backlog for a number of Parks, Forestry and Recreation projects and engaged the community in exciting community events to promote the active participation of Torontonians in their community, in hockey, sports and physical activity.

The MLSE Foundation believes all kids should have access to sport and the opportunity to develop lasting dreams on the playing field. With the support of all four MLSE teams – the Toronto Maple Leafs, Toronto Raptors, Toronto FC and Toronto Marlies – the Foundation funds the refurbishment of local athletic facilities, and funds charities that support kids through sports and recreational programs.

Since 2006, MLSE Foundation funding has supported refurbishment projects at a number of Parks, Forestry and Recreation locations including: Greenwood Artificial Ice Rink, Prince of Wales Artificial Ice Rink, David Crombie Park Basketball Court and Thackeray Park Soccer Pitch, total funds donated to date for all projects is \$2,969,853.79

## **COMMENTS**

Parks, Forestry and Recreation and the MLSE Foundation would work collaboratively on refurbishment projects with the shared purpose of enhancing public enjoyment, the refurbishment of local athletic facilities, and improving access and capacity for children and youth to participate in sports and recreational programs.

All work will be conducted in accordance with all City by-laws, policies and contractual requirements.

A list of priority projects shall be developed by Parks, Forestry and Recreation based on the capital State of Good Repair capital project list, and facility audit reports.

The project list would be finalized in cooperation between the MLSE Foundation and Parks, Forestry and Recreation. Currently, the proposed project slated to be undertaken in 2014 utilizing donated funds donated by the MLSE Foundation include the refurbishment of Regent Park South Outdoor Artificial Ice Rink.

A community event would be held at each project location to celebrate the completion of upgrades and to engage the community in their newly refurbished space. These events may include a facility beautification component, including painting, replacement of dashboards, replacing bulletin boards and other minor improvements. These events will be fully funded through the donation from the MLSE Foundation and administered through the Parks, Forestry and Recreation operating budget.

All capital projects would be fully funded by the donation from MLSE Foundation.

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The City has a long relationship working with the MLSE Foundation to implement similar revitalization projects.

## **Overview of Proposed Agreement with the MLSE Foundation**

Terms of the Agreement recommended in this report would include, but not be limited to:

- A description of the scope of work for funded refurbishment projects;
- Project time lines;
- Obligations of all parties;
- Donor recognition strategies, in keeping with the City's Policy on Donations to the City for Community Benefits;
- Intellectual property rights (respective logo usage);
- All content and form in a manner satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Richard Ubbens  
Acting General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation

## **ATTACHMENT**

Attachment 1 – Letter from MLSE Foundation

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