

January 2, 2018

Dear Chair and Members of Community Development and Recreation and Committee,

Re: Supporting Skate Rentals at City-Operated Outdoor Rinks

Recently, staff from Parks and Recreation informed me that the City was unable to accept a donation of over 100 pairs of skates for the purpose of running a skate rental program at Christie Pits. This generous offer would have allowed for thousands of families to enjoy our great Canadian pastime without the need for the costly investment in ice skates.

With a refugee shelter and a two TCHC buildings within walking distance, there are many families in the neighbourhood that would benefit from such a program. I know of one community-led program at Dufferin Grove Park that provides skate rental services and am interested in seeing how and under what conditions this model could be replicated City-wide.

I am sure Ward 19 is not the only one with a neighbourhood rink that would benefit from such a program.

Recommendation:

1. Community Development and Recreation Committee request the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation report back by July 2018 on possible approaches to starting skate rental programs at City-Operated Outdoor Rinks.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours,

Mike Layton
Ward 19 - Trinity Spadina