

NOTICE OF MOTION

Activating Unused Seasonal Recreational Facilities in the Off-Season

Moved by: Councillor

Chernos Lin

Seconded by: Councillor

Morley

SUMMARY:

Toronto's recreational facilities are vital assets for our communities, providing space for residents to play, exercise and connect with their neighbours in a shared environment. As our City continues to grow, demand for access to recreational activities will grow as well. Securing new recreational space and ensuring we are getting the most out of existing space will be essential.

Some of Toronto's recreational spaces are activated on a seasonal basis, such as ice pads, and may sit unused during the off-season. While there are examples of these spaces that are activated with alternative uses during the off-season in the City, this approach is not consistent. The City should adopt an approach that sees alternative programming, such as temporary pickleball courts or space for camps, deployed in our unused recreational space as a standard practice.

This approach would not only promote access to recreational opportunities for Torontonians – it could also support the City's objectives for youth employment. Seasonal programming creates opportunities for short-term employment, ideal for students seeking work in the summer months.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. City Council request the General Manager, Parks and Recreation, to explore options and report back in Q1 2027 on opportunities to activate unused seasonal recreational space in City recreational facilities, such as inactive ice pads, during the off-season for uses including, but not limited to, pickleball and camps, and to consider opportunities to leverage any additional programming to support Toronto's youth employment objectives.

Date: July 8, 2026