

## Staff Report

**To:** Chair Bazinet and Memorial Arena Task Force Members  
**Report From:** Janice Hallahan, Chief Administrative Officer  
**Meeting Date:** May 12, 2025  
**Subject:** Ontario Government - Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (Stream 2) Opportunity – Memorial Arena

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### **Recommendation:**

That the Memorial Arena Task Force receive the Chief Administrative Officer's report for information;

And That Chief Administrative Officer requires direction from the Memorial Arena Task Force surrounding a recommendation to Goderich Town Council on the Ontario government's Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (Stream 2) application, regarding the Memorial Arena.

### **Report Summary:**

To provide the Memorial Arena Task Force with information surrounding a Province of Ontario funding opportunity for the Memorial Arena.

### **Background and Analysis:**

In April of 2024, the Ontario Government announced a \$200 million Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF). Delivered by the Ministry of Sport, this capital funding program ending March 31, 2027, was established to support Ontario's growing communities to revitalize existing community sport and recreation infrastructure and support the construction of new facilities across the province.

The CSRIF is a cost-shared program launched as part of the 2024 Budget: Building a Better Ontario. The programs objectives are to invest in sport and recreation infrastructure that will:

- Extend the lifespan of existing sport and recreation facilities
- Improve local sport and recreation programming and accessibility features to meet community need
- Provide assets that do not currently exist in a community
- Create local jobs
- Increase physical activity and improve community health and wellness
- Promote local participation and affordable access to sport and recreation
- Allow the opportunity to host more provincial, national, and international sporting events

To be an eligible project for Stream 2, the project must:

- Be for the construction of a new or replacement sport or recreation facility/space or other community facility/space that offers sport or recreation programming.
- Be for a community facility/space in Ontario that is open primarily for use by the public and that will continue to be open primarily for use by the public upon the completion of the project.
- Be submitted by an applicant that meets the eligibility requirements
- Not receiving any Ontario provincial funding for the same project.

Examples of eligible Stream 2 supports projects include:

- Public infrastructure projects for which there is a demonstrated need, such as replacing an existing facility that has reached the end of its lifespan to meet community programming needs.
- Projects that make transformative investments in community sport or recreation infrastructure, including the repurposing or expansion of existing structures to create net new community sport and recreation facilities

## **Funding**

Applications for Stream 2 are being accepted on an ongoing basis until funding has been fully allocated. Approved projects could receive up to \$10 million for Stream 2, with eligible project expenses incurred no later than March 31, 2027.

## **Provincial Cost-Sharing**

Provincial cost-sharing for this program is up to 50% for municipalities, local services boards, and not-for-profit organizations. Under unique and exceptional circumstances, the Province may consider provincial contribution of up to 70% of eligible project costs for not-for-profit organizations, local services boards, or municipalities with a population of less than 20,000.

## **Expenses**

Eligible project expenses include:

- Development costs associated with construction
- Transportation and delivery costs
- Fixed Equipment and Technology costs
- Construction and/or Renovation costs
- Costs to purchase, produce and install Ontario Builds signage at the project site

**Stacking**

Applicants may not use other Ontario provincial funding for the project.

**Linkage:**

- Corporate Strategic Plan Priority #1: Safe and Reliable Infrastructure
- Corporate Strategic Plan Priority #2: Welcoming and Caring Community
- Corporate Strategic Plan Priority #3: Strong Local Economy
- Corporate Strategic Plan Priority #4: Good Government
- Corporate Strategic Plan Priority #5: Environmental Stewardship

**Financial Impacts and/or Source of Funding:**

Successful recipients (and their partners, if applicable) must cover all remaining project expenses. The project work must be carried out with all eligible project expenses incurred no later than March 31, 2027.

**Consulted With:**

Deanna Hastie, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer

**Approved By:**

Janice Hallahan, Chief Administrative Officer

Andrea Fisher, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk