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June 13th 2020

Mayor and City Council
City of Saskatoon
222 3rd Avenue North
Saskatoon Saskatchewan S7K 0J5

Your Worship



We hope this letter finds you and your colleagues in good spirits and healthy in these very trying times.

In addition to updating you on our project as the City's Gordie Howe Sports Complex, we would like to illustrate a process to possibly move 2 construction phases forward. Saskatoon's 66-acre Gordie Howe Sports Complex has been a vital gathering place for athletes, their families, friends and fans for well over 60 years. The Complex welcomes a wide range of user groups – elementary schools, high school athletics, community and club leagues, provincial, national and international league teams as well as university athletics. It is the largest athletic park in our city and hosts over 100,000 athletes, coaches and officials each year from across Saskatoon, Saskatchewan and the world.

Normally at this time of year the park is in full swing, our sports fields, ball diamonds, track and field and other athletic facilities bursting with kids who can't wait to get out and play. This year, however, is far from normal. Fields and facilities sit ominously empty; athletic gear and sports equipment untouched. All levels of sport have suspended programming, and sports camps, clinics, competitions and tournaments have been cancelled or indefinitely postponed. Our eager athletes of all ages remain isolated at home, anxious and downcast.

This pandemic reminds us how interconnected we all are. Measures put in place to reduce the spread of coronavirus are having a profound impact on the physical and mental health of *all* Canadians.

We know, however, that as the need for physical distancing lessens, this place will bring kids and families together again – in our community, and right across Canada – to play and cheer, heal and grow!

Saskatoon's Gordie Howe Sports Complex can play a critical role in reconnecting our citizens and rebuilding our city, province and country.

Prior to the pandemic, Friends of the Bowl Foundation board members and campaign volunteers were optimistic about raising the additional \$5.5M in refunds required to complete the master plan for the park. Leveraging over \$15.3M in funding committed through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program, including an \$8,352,000 million contribution from

the Federal Government, \$6,959,371 for the Provincial Government & \$5,568,749 required from the ultimate recipient, which in this case is the Friends of the Bowl.

Conversations with individual private investors, families and small business were promising. Unfortunately, due to the COVID 19 those conversations have minimized to a delayed process pending the outcomes of the present economic situation. All developments planned for the Gordie Howe Sports Complex are shovel-ready, pending funds raised, when coronavirus hit. The pandemic has been a critical blow, and its implications to project completion devastating. Donors' priorities have shifted to contributing to emergency relief efforts.

Investing in infrastructure is a proven strategy for economic recovery. Completing planned developments and infrastructure upgrades at the Gordie Howe Sports Complex will promote and facilitate significant individual and community social and economic development, benefiting our city, province and country – now, and well into the future.

“This world-class multi-sport complex will bring high-level events to Saskatoon like never before, greatly benefiting the economy and profile of our city. It will be accessible to people of all ages, abilities and financial means – a hub for health and social wellbeing... a place to play and grow!”

– Judy Warick, Coach, Official, Athlete

Saskatoon’s Gordie Howe Sports Complex has 21 shovel-ready projects. [See table, below.]

| | Shovel-Ready Projects at the Gordie Howe Sports Complex: | Budget: |
|----|--|-------------|
| 1 | K+S Multisport Centre | \$5,786,934 |
| 2 | Spectator Bleachers – Cairns Field | \$502,624 |
| 3 | Spectator Bleachers – Track/Speed Skating | \$296,966 |
| 4 | Landscaping, Fencing – Track/Speed Skating | \$138,645 |
| 5 | Ticket Centre / Plaza Area – Multisport | \$126,572 |
| 6 | Storage Building – Track & Field | \$154,443 |
| 7 | Storage Building – Nordic Ski Groomer | \$124,369 |
| 8 | Timing Hut – Nordic Ski | \$34,660 |
| 9 | Storage Building – Operations Equipment | \$400,291 |
| 10 | Exterior Ball Practice Complex - Field Turf, Equipment | \$849,813 |
| 11 | Multipurpose Field – Field Turf, Lighting, Scoreboard, Stands | \$2,259,018 |
| 12 | Access Road – Paving & Landscaping | \$310,991 |
| 13 | South Parking Lot – Walkways, Asphalt Roadwork, Landscaping, | \$2,701,213 |
| 14 | Public Access Walkways, Lighting, Landscaping | \$601,647 |
| 15 | North Parking Lot –Roadways, Lighting, Landscaping, Wayfinding | \$1,672,834 |

| | | |
|----|---|---------------------|
| 16 | Service Roads – Gravel Enhancement | \$108,291 |
| 17 | LED lighting – Bob Van Impe Stadium | \$350,910 |
| 18 | LED Lighting – Lealos Field | \$689,901 |
| 19 | Storage Building – Cairns Field | \$30,995 |
| 20 | Nordic Ski Hills | \$42,290 |
| 21 | Complex Landscaping – Trees, Shrubs, Wayfinding, Lighting | \$2,439,423 |
| | Total | \$19,622,830 |
| | PST | \$1,177,369 |
| | TOTAL | \$20,880,200 |

The fully envisioned Complex will produce *long-term economic benefits*:

Worth \$6.5 billion each year, sport is the fastest growing tourism segment in Canada. The economic impact of the Gordie Howe Sports Complex is already significant; fully realized, these numbers will only GROW.

More than 125 events have been held at the Complex over the past 5 years, generating tens of millions in tourism dollars and tax revenue for municipal, provincial and federal government priorities. The economic impact is expected to substantially increase. Upgrading existing facilities to international standards and the addition of several important new developments will transform Saskatoon’s Gordie Howe Sports Complex into Western Canada’s premier athletic park, attracting more national & international sporting events year-round, and providing a significant boost to our municipal, provincial and federal economies.

“The new Gordie Howe Sports Complex will help to positively impact the lives of many of the inner-city youth by addressing some of the barriers that currently prevent them from participating in a number of different sport activities.”

– Bob Fawcett, Saskatoon Track and Field Club & Kinsmen Inner-city Track and Field

Completing the master plan for the Gordie Howe Sports Complex will contribute substantially to Individual and community social health & well-being:

Due to economic downturn with the COVID 19 situation the FOBF Board of Directors is requesting additional consideration for support from the City of Saskatoon to assist with the present funding structure requiring the FOBF to provide the 26.67% cash support for the costs of all capital work undertaken. To assist with this, FOBF is requesting consideration to extend conditions for the present ‘interim financing agreement’ with the City, which was approved by City Council in 2018.

The current interim financing limitation is to a maximum of \$10 Million in financing, with all funds being accessed, required to be covered by signed contribution or donation agreements. To date, we have accessed approximately \$8.0 Million with secured donations, and are now requesting consideration to access additional funds through this agreement. The request is for

an additional \$1.93 Million, bringing the total funds being financed to approximately \$9.93 Million, still below the cap of \$10 Million, however the request to access this additional \$1.93 Million would be in advance of newly secured funding commitments. This request would then provide the support to move forward and allow for the construction of some additional facilities and support amenities.

I have listed the highest priority funding projects that the Friends of the Bowl Foundation deem as critical components to ensure the requested capabilities are met to ensure activities can move forward in 2021

A1 Project Funding

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Multi-Sport Centre | \$5,876,934 | Map Item 01 |
| Speed Skating /Track Landscape | \$ 138,654 | Map Item 04 |
| Ticket Centre Plaza Area | \$ 126,572 | Map Item 05 |
| Structure Track Storage | \$ 154,443 | Map Item 06 |
| Structure Ski Groomer | \$ 124,369 | Map Item 07 |
| Structure Ski Timing | \$ 34,660 | Map Item 08 |
| Structure Cairns Events | \$ 30,995 | Map Item 19 |
| Complex Ski Hills | \$ 42,290 | Map Item 08 |
| Road Access & Landscape | <u>\$ 310,901</u> | Map Item 12 |
| | \$6,839,818 | |
| | <u>\$ 410,389</u> | PST |
| | \$7,250,207 | 26.67% contribution |
| | | \$1,933,630 |

Yes, there are many other shovel ready projects at the Gordie Howe Sports Complex & they will be accomplished as we move forward with many avenues of the Capital Fundraising Campaign to ensure all financial requirements are met now & in the future.

In closing the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Bowl Foundation, members of the 9 partnering Sporting Organization along with thousands of families Thank You & the City Councilors, along with City Administration for your past and continued support of the unique partnership.

Yours sincerely,

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