

Staff Report



Community Services Department

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REPORT TO: Committee of the Whole

DATE OF MEETING: November 18, 2024

SUBMITTED BY: Bob Cheyne, Manager of Sport Development & Golf, 519-741-2200 x7689

PREPARED BY: Lisa Collins, Manager of Sport Development & Golf, 519-741-2200 x7688

WARD(S) INVOLVED: Ward 9

DATE OF REPORT: November 12, 2024

REPORT NO.: CSD-2024-505

SUBJECT: Waterloo Region Nordic Ski Club Licence Agreement Extension

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Deputy CAO or designate be authorized to execute an amendment to extend the license agreement term to five years and any subsequent five-year renewals for the Waterloo Region Nordic Sports Club use of Rockway Golf Course for the purpose of cross country ski programming; and, said amendment to the license agreement be to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS:

- The purpose of this report is to present a request from the Waterloo Region Nordic Sports Club (WRNSC) to amend their existing license agreement for the use of Rockway Golf Course.
- The key finding of this report is that WRNSC requires a five-year extension to the license term to secure external funding for operational improvements.
- Community engagement included consultation with WRNSC to understand their long term operational needs and how this amendment aligns with their club's goals.
- This report supports the delivery of core services related to community recreation and facility use.

BACKGROUND:

The Waterloo Region Nordic Ski Club (WRNSC) is an affiliated minor sport group with the City of Kitchener, providing programs and opportunities for youth and adults to learn and enjoy recreational and competitive cross country skiing. The WRNSC provide groomed cross country ski trails for club member and the general public use.

WRNSC has been operating out of the Rockway Golf Course since moving in 2019. The club was previously based out of Bechtel park in the City of Waterloo. The current agreement is a one-year term renewable annually set to expire at the end of November 2024. WRNSC has requested an amendment to the license agreement, specifically seeking a five-year extension.

REPORT:

City Staff have worked with the WRNSC over the past 4 seasons at Rockway Golf Course to help address expanding operational needs. This extension will allow WRNSC to secure external funding for improvements to their trail grooming operations and ensure the continued development on cross country ski programming.

The amendment seeks to extend the license term to five years, which is a requirement for WRNSC to access Ontario Trillium Foundation capital funding. This extension will ensure the continued operation and enhancement of the skiing trails and programs.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This report supports the delivery of core services related to community recreation and facility use.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Capital Budget – The recommendation has no impact on the Capital Budget.

Operating Budget – The recommendation has no impact on the Operating Budget.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

INFORM – This report has been posted to the City's website with the agenda in advance of the council / committee meeting.

CONSULT – WRNSC was consulted regarding their operational needs and the requested amendment to the license agreement.

PREVIOUS REPORTS/AUTHORITIES:

- CSD-19-034 Nordic Sports License Agreement

APPROVED BY: Michael May, General Manager, Community Services Dept.