

To: COUNCIL

Meeting Date: 06/08/2021

Subject: Archery Canada National Training Center Location

Submitted By: Lesley Head, Director of Recreation & Culture

Prepared By: Don Crowder, Recreation Coordinator – Sport

Report No.: 21-158(CD)

File No.: C1101

Recommendations

THAT Report 21-158(CD) Archery Canada National Training Center location is received;

AND THAT Council endorse the recommended location at Moyer’s Blair Landing, 780 Fountain Street South, Cambridge as the temporary home of the Archery Canada National Training Center.

AND FURTHER THAT Council enter into a two-year licence agreement until June 10, 2023 with Archery Canada for the duration of the facility use.

Executive Summary

Purpose

- Archery Canada is the National Sport Organization responsible for the promotion and development of the sport of archery in a safe and ethical manner. They have set out to find a new National Training Center for elite athletes, located west of the GTA with quick access to the 401 corridor and Pearson Airport.
- The City of Cambridge has been identified as a possible location for Archery Canada’s National Training Center.
- Based on the training center requirements, staff are recommending a temporary location of Moyer’s Blair Landing located at 780 Fountain Street South for Council’s approval as shown in Appendix A.

- Staff from the City and Archery Canada will continue to meet with the intention of finding a permanent training center within the city limits. This information will be brought back to Council for consideration.

Key Findings

- Staff met to discuss possible facilities within the City's existing inventory that could accommodate the physical space requirements.
- Due to the nature of the sport and the need for a physical space of 40x100 meters, three locations were identified as a potential venue.
- The possible locations are:
 - Churchill Park, 200 Christopher Drive – south side near the two softball diamonds
 - Hespeler Optimist Park, 640 Ellis Road– baseball diamond
 - Moyer's Blair Landing, 780 Fountain Street South – open field
- Given the heavy community use of Churchill Park and Hespeler Optimist Park, these venues would require significant modifications to accommodate the training center and therefore are not recommended.
- Moyer's Blair Landing does not have any sport fields or playground on site. A dedicated, enclosed area can accommodate Archery Canada without interfering with community access to the pathway, parking lot or waterway.
- Upon Council approval for a location, staff would prepare a license agreement with Archery Canada for the use of a dedicated area.

Financial Implications

- Moyer's Blair Landing is not a rented space to the community and as a result does not have any associated revenues which would be impacted by this proposal.
- The proposed license agreement would be for \$1/year and all associated operating expenses would be the responsibility of Archery Canada.
- Currently the City of Cambridge maintains grass cutting of Moyer's Blair Landing. City staff would continue to cut the dedicated space and charge back the amount to Archery Canada for their use of the space.

Background

In October 2020, Archery Canada reached out to Waterloo Region Sport Hosting Office with regards to two (2) facility needs for their National Team:

- A short-term training space to support its National Team in preparation for the Tokyo 2021 Olympic & Paralympic Games (nine months)
- A long-term home for Archery Canada to centralize its National Team training and development programs

With specific attention to the short-term needs, Archery Canada was specifically looking for a location west of the GTA in proximity to Pearson International Airport, ideally along the 401 corridor.

With the support of the Waterloo Region Sport Hosting Office and Cambridge Youth Soccer, the immediate need for indoor training was accommodated at the ComDev soccer dome. A four-day camp took place in January, 2021, permitting training for Archery Canada's Olympic hopefuls while in the provincial lockdown. In order to ensure compliance with the provincial orders, staff worked with Archery Canada, Cambridge Youth Soccer, the Sport Hosting Office, Waterloo Region Public Health and appropriate governing bodies.

Given the success of the four-day training, Archery Canada requested use of the Soccer Dome for ongoing training on a weekly basis and to host additional indoor training and selection camps at the facility. The request has been accommodated to date and has been beneficial to all parties involved.

During the planning of the extended indoor training, Archery Canada expressed interest in finding a dedicated outdoor training facility in the City of Cambridge to assist with the short term needs as well as finding a permanent location for Archery Canada's National Training Center.

Understanding the need for an unobstructed outdoor space that is at least 40x100m, staff from Recreation and Culture, Engineering & Transportation Service and Infrastructure Services met to discuss possible venues that could accommodate this request without significant impact to the community. Three locations were determined to be large enough to accommodate the request – the south side of Churchill park, the baseball diamond at Hespeler arena and the open field at Moyer's Blair Landing. Staff recognized that Hespeler Optimist diamond and Churchill Park are well utilized by the community and would present significant logistical challenges. The third and preferred location is Moyer's Blair Landing. As there are no additional park amenities in this location such as sports fields or playgrounds, this space can safely accommodate the need without restricting community use.

Staff further discussed the preferred site location with Archery Canada, including a site visit and determined that this was a suitable location for their needs. After speaking with the City's Chief Risk Officer, it was recommended that a license agreement for the space be prepared that would give Archery Canada exclusive use of a defined designated space, and mitigates the risk to the City. For security purposes the site will comply not only with the City's safety guidelines but as well with the Archery Canada Range Safety Guidelines (ACRSG). The ACRSG identifies safety exclusion zones combined with physical barriers where optimal safety zones are constrained by the site dimensions.

Recommended Location: The chance to be recognized as the host city for Archery Canada provides an increased global presence in sport, increased opportunities to host sporting events at a Provincial level or higher and an opportunity to promote the sport of archery in our community. Therefore, staff recommend entering in to a license agreement for the designated space at Moyer's Blair Landing, that would end on June 10, 2023. Any associated expenses would be the responsibility of Archery Canada. Appendix A provides an overhead view and 3D image of the proposed area.

The timing gives both parties an opportunity to review the current practice and look for a permanent National Training Center, which may accommodate some of the additional needs, such as access to an internet connection and office space, within the city limits.

Analysis

Strategic Alignment

PEOPLE To actively engage, inform and create opportunities for people to participate in community building – making Cambridge a better place to live, work, play and learn for all.

Goal #6 - Economic Development and Tourism

Objective 6.3 Identify local economic strengths and leverage opportunities through collaboration with our partners.

Cambridge and Waterloo Region provides a lifestyle that is attractive to athletes, coaches and their families including quick access to the 401 corridor, a strong technology industry and three post-secondary institutions. Archery Canada has identified a number of benefits to moving their training facility here taking advantage of the economic strength of our community and a more affordable cost of living.

Comments

Staff have consulted with our Chief Risk Officer to determine additional potential safety measures which need to be implemented given the nature of the sport. Given that this

space does have public access, fencing around the entire perimeter of the programming space is required with additional screening behind the archery butts.

Moyer's Blair Landing is a designated property within the Blair Heritage Conservation District. Heritage staff reviewed the proposed plans and determined that there would be no adverse heritage impacts on the property's cultural heritage value or interest due to the small scale and temporary/removable nature of the installations. On this basis, review of this proposal is not required by the City's Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee.

As this is training by elite level athletes and not a recreational program, the Chief Risk Officer did not have additional concerns or recommendations. To aid in mitigating risk to the City the suggestion is to lease the designated space to Archery Canada, naming the City as an additional insured in their certificate of insurance.

The grass maintenance of this space is completed by City operations staff. Staff will require a key to access the controlled space but do not foresee any issues maintaining this space.

Recognizing the proximity to the Grand River, staff are working closely with Archery Canada to determine appropriate construction materials. All materials must be temporary in nature with the ability to be moved to higher ground if needed.

Storage of equipment is primarily the archery butts and similar materials. Equipment that may be considered dangerous such as bows and arrows are not stored on site.

This license agreement serves as an opportunity to create a long-term relationship with Archery Canada and allows the City to have continued discussions to look at creating a permanent home for outdoor training.

Archery Canada is excited with the proposed location and is eager to recognize Cambridge as a partner and their home training center. Should Council decide against staff's recommendation, Archery Canada would continue to look for a new training centre in a different municipality as Cambridge is limited to the three outdoor locations mentioned in this report.

Existing Policy/By-Law

There is no existing policy/by-law.

Financial Impact

Currently the City of Cambridge maintains grass cutting of Moyer's Blair Landing and incurs the associated expense. Staff estimate the cost recovery for grass maintenance with this agreement would be approximately \$2000.

Public Input

Recreation & Culture staff has been in communication with Archery Canada through this process to ensure public and participant safety remains top priority in addition to clearly outlined expectations for use of space. This report is posted publicly as part of the report process.

Internal/External Consultation

Staff in Recreation & Culture, Engineering and Transportation Services, Office of the City Manager – Legal Services, Corporate Enterprise – Risk and Compliance, Community Development – Planning Services and Infrastructure Services have contributed to the content of this report.

Conclusion

The opportunity to be the home of a National Sports Organization has the potential for significant economic investment and returns in the future including the relocation of individuals moving from across Canada to Cambridge, attracting elite athletes to attend College and University in Waterloo Region, sport tourism and the opportunity to be recognized as a leader in the sporting community – locally, provincially, nationally and internationally. As our community looks to recover from the pandemic this is a welcome opportunity for new growth in our city. A partnership with Archery Canada supports the City's strategy of creating opportunities for tourism and economic development; thus supporting the vision of making Cambridge a better place to live, work and play.

Signature

Division Approval



Name: Lesley Head
Title: Director of Recreation & Culture

Reviewed by the CFO

Reviewed by Legal Services

Departmental Approval



Name: Hardy Bromberg
Title: Deputy City Manager Community Development Department

City Manager Approval

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Calder". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Name: David Calder

Title: City Manager

Attachments

- Appendix A – Site Plan



2021 Interim National Training Centre

Moyer's Landing
Cambridge, ON

Overhead View



Washroom

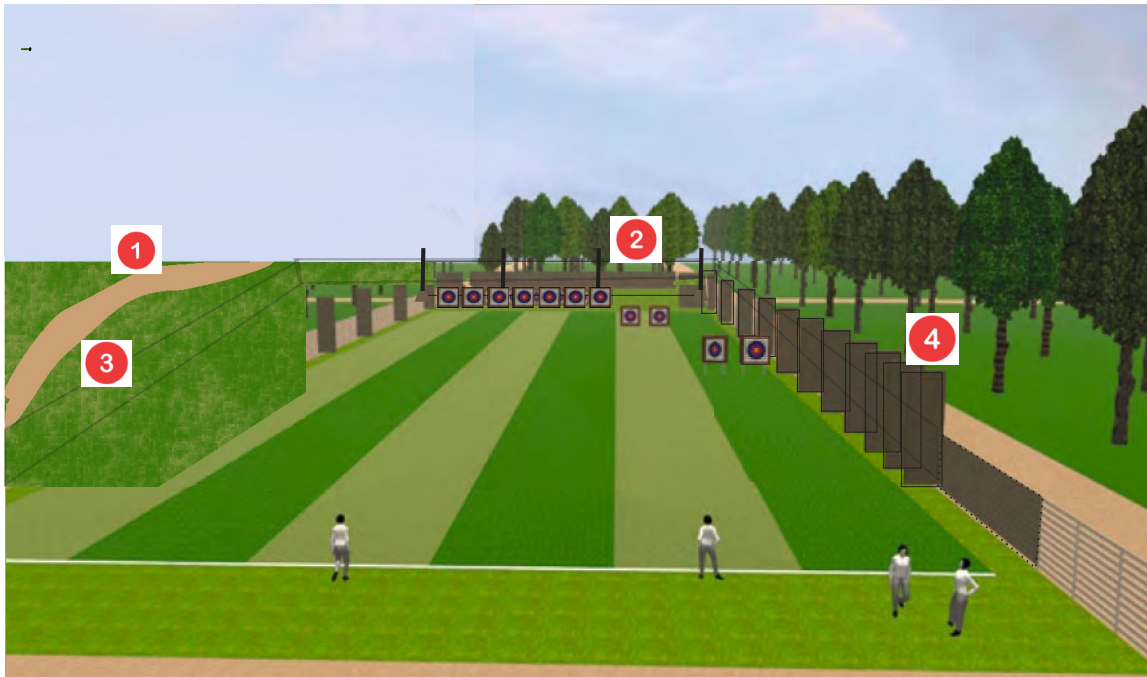
Trailer

Gate

= 20m

1. Dotted line represents archery backstop netting at 12 feet high
2. Archery butts at furthest target line (75m)
3. Shooting line
4. White line represents perimeter fencing at minimum 6' height

Simulated 3D Range View



1. Brown path represents trail located along river. Actual distance between the trail and target line is ~80 feet
2. 12' height fencing with archery netting, secured with concrete pylons
3. Thin line represents perimeter fencing with a 6' height
4. Perimeter fencing directly along the site line will be set up in an accordion style, providing additional safety measures with plywood and/or archery fencing securely attached to the fencing at a 10' height

References

French Archery Federation "Guide des Equipments" - <https://www.fft.fr/nos-clubs/equipements-et-securite/le-guide-des-equipements>

World Archery "How to Build an Archery Range"

Archery Canada Range Safety Manual

ATA Community Archery Park Guide

Range Layout

