

## Council Member Motion For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of July 4, 2024

To: Committee of the Whole Date: June 27, 2024

From: Mayor Alto

Subject: Support for the Victoria Hockey Legacy Society Bid for the 2025 U17 Hockey

Challenge

## **BACKGROUND**

The Victoria Hockey Legacy Society, the community organization that organized and presented the successful Hockey Day in Canada series of events in Victoria earlier this year, is preparing a bid to host the 2025 World Under-17 Hockey Challenge (WU17 Hockey Challenge).

The bid requires letters of support from local governments and other agencies, including an indication of potential in-kind and/or financial support.

Hockey Canada is currently accepting bids for the 2025 World Under-17 Hockey Challenge (WU17 Hockey Challenge). The WU17 will be comprised of six (6) teams in (2) two pools. Each team plays one (1) exhibition game, followed by two (2) preliminary round games. Quarter final matchups include the bottom (4) seeded teams after the preliminary round. The top (2) seeded teams after the preliminary round move directly to the semifinal round. The teams include two (2) Canadian Teams (Red, White) and four (4) international teams which in the past have included Czechia, Finland, Sweden and the USA. Participants include 6 teams of 25 players, with 10 staff per team, plus 20 Officials, 10 Hockey Canada employees, at least 10 International Hockey delegates and many hockey scouts.

The WU17 Hockey Challenge is a Hockey Canada event, hosted in partnership with a Host Organizing Committee and a Host Member. The Host Organizing Committee for the WU17 Hockey Challenge will report to a Steering Committee consisting of representatives from Hockey Canada, and a Host Member. The Host Organizing Committee is made up of representatives from the local community, local minor hockey programs and a Host Member with representation from the local Indigenous community and diverse representation reflective of local communities. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring equitable representation related to gender, age, cultural diversity, as well as other considerations that can support a diversification of ideas and opportunities for the host community.

Currently, the proposed dates for the event are October 31 to November 8, 2025. Event locations are Save-On Foods Memorial Centre and the Q-Centre. Based on previous experience, the expected local economic impact is estimated between \$5-\$6 million.

The final bid submission is due by September 13th, 2024, but early expressions of support are due July 5, 2024. At least \$300,000 in grants (in cash and/or in-kind equivalents) must be

secured from municipal, provincial and federal governments. Victoria Hockey Legacy Society is reaching out to other local governments, the province of BC (which has indicated support in an amount yet to be determined), the government of Canada, and corporate and private donors.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- That Council request the mayor write to the Victoria Hockey Legacy Society, indicating support for their bid to host the 2025 World Under-17 Hockey Challenge, indicating contributions of in-kind and/or financial aid up to a value of \$100,000 which may be derived from an application to the City's Major Community Initiatives and Events Grants program.
- 2. That should this Motion be adopted, it be further considered at the daytime Council meeting July 4, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Marain all

Mayor Alto