

P.O. Box 1749 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5 Canada

# Item No. 04 Halifax Regional Council March 8, 2016

| TO:           | Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council |
|---------------|--|
| SUBMITTED BY: | Original Signed by Director                          |
|               | Brad Anguish, Director, Parks and Recreation         |
| DATE:         | February 22, 2016                                    |
| SUBJECT:      | Women's National Volleyball Team Training Centre Bid |

## **INFORMATION REPORT**

### <u>ORIGIN</u>

September 22, 2015 Halifax Regional Council motion:

MOVED by Councillor Whitman, seconded by Councillor Outhit that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report that explores opportunities to provide financial/value-in-kind contributions of up to \$40,000 annually to support the Province and the private sector in a successful bid to become home of the Women's National Volleyball Team Training Centre starting in 2016/17. MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

## LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, Section 79 (1), The Council may expend money required by the Municipality for; (k) recreational programs; (x) lands and buildings required for a municipal purpose; (ah) playgrounds, trails, including trails developed, operated or maintained pursuant to an agreement made under clause 82(c), bicycle paths, swimming pools, ice arenas and other recreational facilities; (ai) public grounds, squares, halls, museums, parks, tourist information centres and community centres; (av) a grant or donation....to (v) any charitable, nursing, medical, athletic, educational, environmental, cultural, community, fraternal, recreational, religious, sporting or social organization within the Province.

## BACKGROUND

On June 1, 2015 a bid was submitted by Volleyball Nova Scotia to Volleyball Canada for Halifax to host the Women's National Volleyball Team Training Centre. The Halifax bid proposed the training venue for the team be hosted at the Canada Games Centre (CGC). In addition, the program would be supported by the Canadian Sport Centre Atlantic (CSCA) which is a tenant within CGC. CSCA is part of a national network of sport performance centres which share the following objectives:

- 1. To support the achievement of high performance sport excellence by Canadian athletes, including athletes with a disability, through fair and ethical means, in a harassment-free environment;
- 2. To contribute to the holistic development of high performance athletes;
- 3. To provide an enriched training environment in key locations across the country;
- 4. To promote the profession of coaching; and
- 5. To stimulate sport development across the country.

Volleyball Nova Scotia and the CSCA approached HRM to request assistance in both financial and inkind contributions to help support the bid. As a result, on September 22, 2015, Regional Council requested a staff report outlining options to address the requested level of support.

#### DISCUSSION

Staff had discussions with both the CSCA and the Canada Games Centre to explore options for support should HRM be selected as the home of the Women's National Volleyball Team in order to ensure that the team would have been successful in Halifax. During those discussions, staff was advised that Volleyball Canada would be making an announcement regarding the successful host city in early 2016. Volleyball Canada announced on February 2, 2016 that the Women's National Team Training Centre would be based in Richmond, British Columbia, beginning in January 2017. As a result of that announcement, there is no further opportunity or requirement for support for HRM towards the bid.

While ultimately unsuccessful, the bid submission put forward by the province, the municipality, Canadian Sport Centre Atlantic (CSCA) and various corporate sponsors was strong enough to be included among a short list of front runners under consideration. It is noteworthy that Halifax was viewed throughout this process as an important place for sport in Canada and "open for business" regarding sport opportunities.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

No financial implications associated with this report.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community members make up Volleyball Nova Scotia.

## ATTACHMENTS

None

A copy of this report can be obtained online at http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.php then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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