



# INFORMATION REPORT

<b>TO:</b>	Chair and Members Public Works Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	December 5, 2016
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Relocation of Golf Canada's Office to Hamilton and Hosting of High Profile Golf Tournament at King's Forest (PW16109) (Ward 5) (Outstanding Business List Item)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	Ward 5
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Rob Gatto Manager, Sports & Entertainment Facilities (905) 546-2424, Extension 5448
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Rom D'Angelo Director, Facilities Management & Capital Programs Public Works Department
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

## Council Direction:

At Council on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016, staff were directed to engage an outside agency to peruse requirements needed to host the Canadian Open at King's Forest, and to contact Golf Canada to determine interest in moving their office to King's Forest.

## Information:

Further to Council's direction on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Facilities staff met with Bill Paul, Chief Championship Officer of Golf Canada to discuss the requirements needed to host the Canadian Open at King's Forest, and the relocation of Golf Canada to a permanent office in Hamilton. Currently Golf Canada has their offices at Glen Abbey Golf Club, owned by ClubLink Corporation, and is located in Oakville Ontario. Designed by the legendary golfer Jack Nicklaus in 1976, it is one of Canada's most famous golf courses, and is home to the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame. Glen Abbey has hosted over 25 RBC Canadian Open Championships, more than any other golf course, with the first having been in 1977.

In November of 2015, ClubLink Corporation filed preliminary paperwork to convert the Oakville, Ontario club into a residential community, featuring 3,000 homes, along with offices and retail space.

After two site visits of King's Forest Golf Course, Golf Canada's assessment of King's Forest has a number of comprehensive renovations from a design point that would need to be completed in order to meet PGA Tour standards. Such as, access to the course

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for spectators, on-site parking, television broadcasting, operational compounds, hospitality structures, new clubhouse, and new locker rooms. A golf range would also be needed to be constructed, to house Golf Canada's Golf Academy. For King's Forest to even be considered to host a RBC Canadian Open, a extremely large capital investment would need to be committed to undergo the renovations mentioned.

Although King's Forest has the course layout that could potentially host the RBC Canadian Open, Golf Canada's mandate is to create a multi-use and multi-sport property which would include a Championship venue to host the RBC Canadian Open, along with a Golf Canada Village, Youth Development, and Golf Academy.

Presently, reported through their assessment by Golf Canada, King's Forest, and the City's adjacent properties do not have the land area to accommodate Golf Canada's vision in their near future. Attached hereto as Appendix A, a letter from Bill Paul, Chief Championships Officer of Golf Canada, stating their position moving forward.

Golf Canada has, and will continue to have a strong relationship with the City of Hamilton's Golf Courses, with respect to hosting future Golf Canada events. In the past, King's Forest has hosted the Canadian University Championships in 2009, and two previous Regional RBC Canadian Open Qualifiers, in 2012 & 2016.

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