



May 8, 2019

Mr. David Serwatuk, Mr. Brad Hoad, Mr. Bill Mackay

**Re: new curling venture in the City of Hamilton**

Dear Sirs,

Curling Canada appreciates your request for support as your organization moves towards acquiring an existing hockey rink potentially converting it to a stand-alone curling rink in Hamilton. And we are happy to extend that support!

Since arriving on our shores in 1759, curling has connected Canadians and united diverse communities on the rink. Although the sport has changed over the centuries, the qualities which capture our imagination persist; the tradition of fraternity, the spirit of sportsmanship, and the drive for excellence.

Today, Canada is the world leader in the sport. From thriving grassroots play to the international athletic stage, 90% of all curlers hail from Canada. Curling is a definitive national pastime, with traditions and values that mirror our distinctly Canadian outlook. We are fierce but friendly competitors. We are proud but humble.

Curling rinks are inclusive, volunteer driven, accessible, and safe gathering places. They are vital to communities, providing a venue for people of all ages and abilities to gather and engage in sport. The curling community is a diverse group of people of widely varying ages, backgrounds and socio-economic circumstances. Rinks are also economic drivers in every community. From youth events, to fun tournaments to major events, the sport contributes positively to every local economy and at many levels.

With growing numbers of recreational curlers across the country\* – from youth to adults to seniors – our buildings are experiencing renewed success resulting in need of more dedicated ice. Your concept is one that has recently happened in Canada (Parksville, BC and Kemptville, ON) where older hockey rinks were successfully converted to curling rinks. This move was financially beneficial for both the community coffers and the volunteer groups wanting to start a new curling business.

We have many resources we can access to help you achieve your dreams while fully supporting your efforts!

Sincerely,

**Danny Lamoureux**

Curling Canada, Director, Curling Club Development & Championship Services

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\* (source) Vividata 2019