



5.1.b. ONTARIO CURLING ASSOCIATION

1400 Bayly Street, Unit # 10, Pickering, ON L1W 3R2

May 2, 2019

SUPPORT LETTER – HAMILTON AREA CURLING

The Ontario Curling Association strongly endorses the group attempting to continue providing the sport of curling to the local Hamilton area. The sport of curling is an excellent activity for engaging the community in a sporting activity that is open to all and creates opportunities for youth to the senior demographic to become or remain active citizens.

The economic impact from a typical curling centre in Ontario is between \$1.8 – \$ 2.5 million annually from activities. CurlION would support this venture with further events that would impact the community annually. CurlION currently operates twenty-two Provincial Championships with an economic impact annually of \$ 4.0 million dollars. With a dedicated arena facility in the Hamilton area, CurlION would be able to schedule events annually that impact the economic opportunities for this facility and the local area. Other opportunities revolve around athlete performance training, with very few dedicated arena facilities in the Province of Ontario the potential for using a facility in Hamilton for athlete development from U-18 to Olympic levels and continuing the long tradition of winning by Ontario teams at National Championships would be secured.

CurlION welcomes the opportunity to work with the dedicated group who are working to maintain the opportunities for curling in the Hamilton area. The economic impact to the community from the sport's continuation will be felt by local businesses and the community for many years to come. A facility of this nature would quickly become the hotbed of curling activity in Eastern Canada and with proper growth and development could rival the Saville Centre in Edmonton, which is currently recognized as the development go to location in Canada for National and Olympic team programs.

I look forward to continuing discussions with the local community and working towards achieving this momentous action for the curling community in Hamilton and all of Ontario.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen Chenier".

Stephen Chenier
Chief Executive Officer / Executive Director
CurlION