



City Council Meeting - 4 July, 2022

Hamilton Challenger Baseball Association

Mike Moore

bright future.

Hamilton Challenger Baseball Association (HCBA)

COMMUNITY

- HCBA offers sports and social programs for people with disabilities
- Approx. 220 players – aged 4-over 70 years; Approx. 60 volunteers

SPORT

- Most of our sports are at a 'Recreational' skill level with a focus on fun and social interaction
- 3 months of **baseball** on Mon and Tues evenings at Inch Park, Hamilton
 - 4 age / skill level divisions
 - Challenger Tournament – 2022 in Peterborough, Ontario
 - JaysCare Jamboree each summer for Challenger players and includes volunteer opportunities
- 6 months of Off-Season sports programs at Westmount Rec Centre, Hamilton
 - Gymnasium style **bowling, curling** and **boccia**, along with indoor baseball and 3 on 3 basketball

SOCIAL

- Special Events including Annual Banquet, Valentine's Dance, Halloween & Christmas parties
- Treat for players after each game (very popular); Hot Dog Night
- Benevolence

HCBA & Parasport

CREATING INTEREST and HOPE

- HCBA, in partnership with Hamilton Accessible Sports Council (HASC) seeks to promote the growth of Para Sports in Hamilton
 - Para-Basketball
 - Indoor Baseball
 - ‘Boccia Skills and Fun’
 - skills training in a fun environment for members who want to learn the rules of play and want the challenge of higher competition
 - ‘Introduction to Para Sport’ is being considered for 2023 Fall / Winter program

BUILDING A PLACE TO GROW

- **Project** initiated for building **a destination park and playground** at Inch Park, Hamilton that is “physically, socially and emotionally inviting”;
- Building a destination where our players can not only play baseball but ‘hang out’ with families & friends, increase physical activity and nurture wellness;
- **HCBA Fundraising** has raised **~100,000\$** in confirmed donations and grants, in addition to City of Hamilton’s commitments

Benefits of Commonwealth Games

- Creates opportunity for **para-athletes to compete and succeed** at a higher level;
- Opportunity to **showcase** the potential for people with disabilities to **enhance their lives** through sport and fitness and to encourage the community to take positive action in their own behaviors;
- Develop a broader **Multi-Sports** plan in Hamilton;
- Vision for **fully accessible centre** for track & field at Mohawk Sports Park;
- Kickoff an infrastructure that would support **ongoing opportunities** in parasports;
- Inspires **pride and confidence** amongst the challenged community
- Inspires excitement and hope for all residents of Hamilton



Support of Commonwealth Games

THANK-YOU. ❤️

- On behalf of the membership of HCBA and having been invested in life's trials for people with disabilities since the birth of our son, I genuinely thank the city of Hamilton for support for HCBA sports for over 30 years – especially for the enhancements to accessibility at Inch Park and for joining our vision for Inch Park as a future destination for people of all abilities.



BE BRAVE – LET'S TRY!

- I firmly support and encourage the approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between Hamilton100 and the Corporation of the City of Hamilton that would effectively provide the Municipality with the ability to have a seat at a Multi-Party Agreement (MPA) table and to negotiate benefits for the community in the event we host the 2030 Commonwealth Games.

"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take." - Wayne Gretzky