



City of Hamilton Information Report

To: Chair and Mayor and Members
Public Works Committee

Date: April 28, 2025

Report No: PW25018

Subject/Title: 2024 Year End Report on Community Bookings at
Hamilton Stadium

Ward(s) Affected: Ward 3

Recommendations

That Report PW25018 2024 Year End Community Bookings at Hamilton Stadium **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Key Facts

The purpose of this Information Report is to provide Council with a 2024 Year-End Report on 'Community Use' at Hamilton Stadium.

Financial Considerations

Not applicable

Background

The Facility Agreement between Toronto 2015 Organizing Committee and the City of Hamilton calls for the Hamilton Stadium be made available for high performance athletes and community usage for 1,100 hours per year, with an associated obligation to report such use on an annual basis.

Utilization of the stadium is measured on two categories of use: (1) Field of Play Usage and (2) Room & Space Bookings.

Analysis

Hamilton Stadium remains a standout venue, consistently hosting major international, national, and high-profile local events, reinforcing its reputation as a top-tier destination for sporting and community gatherings.

At Hamilton Stadium, the playing field is generally available for bookings from March to November, operating seven days a week between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. Extended hours, considered 'non-prime' time, are available Monday to Friday from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., and on weekends from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. During the winter months, the playing field is typically closed due to adverse weather conditions. However, over the past three years, the stadium has hosted significant events such as the FIFA World Cup Qualifier, the CONCACAF Champions League Finals, the NHL Heritage Outdoor Classic, the Outdoor OHL Showcase, and the 110th Grey Cup.

Hamilton Stadium provides a variety of flexible interior spaces, perfect for events ranging from small meetings and conferences to large trade shows and private gatherings. The venue is ideal for rehearsals, dinners, presentations, weddings, and more. Additionally, the stadium features a range of rooms that can be configured to accommodate both intimate functions and larger events. The club suites can be easily transformed from five smaller rooms into one expansive banquet hall, offering versatility for any occasion.

In 2024, Hamilton Stadium saw a 20% increase in community usage compared to 2023. This is a positive development, with over 1,100 hours dedicated to field usage and an additional 448 hours for room and space bookings, as outlined in Appendix "A" to Report PW25018.

The success of the stadium is attributed to the collaboration among a diverse group of partners. This includes the stadium's anchor tenant, the Hamilton Sports Group organization, who have played a key role in engaging and promoting community use. Additionally, strategic partnerships with the two major School Boards in Hamilton, as well as local Colleges and Universities, have helped create a strong network of support. The involvement of various community sporting organizations, neighbourhood associations, and both non-profit and for-profit organizations has collectively made a significant impact on how the stadium is utilized, ensuring it serves as a hub for a wide range of activities.

Alternatives

There are no options available should Committee not wish to receive the staff recommendation of the 2024 Year End Community Bookings at Hamilton Stadium.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

Council's Strategic Priorities are part of our ongoing commitment to fostering community engagement and improving public spaces. The Hamilton Stadium is a vital hub for both recreational and social activities. Staff are dedicated to ensuring that the stadium continues to serve the needs of the local community while aligning with our broader priorities for sustainable development, inclusivity, and public well-being.

Previous Reports Submitted

- 2023 Community Bookings (PW18075(c)) (Ward 3)
[Public Works Committee - June 17, 2024](#)
- 2022 Year End Report on Community Bookings at THF(PW18075(b)) (Ward 3)
[Public Works Committee - March 20, 2023](#)
- 2018 Mid-Term Report Community Bookings at THF (PW18075) (Ward 3)
[Public Works Committee - August 16, 2018](#)

Consultation

Rob Gatto, Manager of Sports & Entertainment Facilities – Public Works, Corporate Facilities & Energy Management.

Lisa Morrow, Stadium Operations Facility Booking Coordinator – Public Works, Corporate Facilities & Energy Management.

Appendices and Schedules Attached

Appendix A: Year Over Year Community Use at Hamilton Stadium

Prepared by: Rob Gatto, Manager of Sports & Entertainment Facilities,
Public Works, Corporate Facilities & Energy Management

Submitted and recommended by: Chris Herstek, Acting Director
Public Works, Corporate Facilities & Energy Management