

January 19, 2026

Marnie Cluckie
City Manager, City of Hamilton
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Marnie:

On behalf of Mohawk College and Hillfield Strathallan College, we are writing to request the opportunity to present to the City of Hamilton's Emergency and Community Services Committee regarding a potential partnership to develop a new, high-quality community recreation asset in Hamilton.

Our two institutions share a grass athletic field located on our adjacent campuses. Through a collaborative investment by the City of Hamilton, Mohawk College and Hillfield Strathallan College, this field could be transformed into a high-performance artificial turf facility that supports postsecondary athletics, and year-round community recreation. The proposed facility would increase access to much-needed turf capacity, support local sport organizations, and alleviate pressure on City-owned fields.

This proposal aligns with the City's Recreation Master Plan and responds to the demonstrated need for additional turf facilities across Hamilton. The partnership would include a rental model, generating revenue to support ongoing operations and offset some of the project's initial capital costs.

From our perspective, this initiative supports several key objectives:

- Creation of a centrally located community hub for sport and recreation;
- A shared-use facility serving postsecondary athletics, secondary school athletics, and the broader community; and
- A cost-effective approach that maximizes field usage, while reducing long-term operational pressures.

Converting the field to artificial turf would significantly increase its value and usability by:

- Extending the outdoor sports season into early spring and late fall;
- Reducing maintenance requirements compared to natural grass;
- Supporting multiple sports and recreation activities on a single surface; and
- Addressing a gap in accessible outdoor greenspace for both varsity and community use.

City participation is critical to unlocking this opportunity. An investment by the City will:

- Activate land that currently has limited usability for the broader community;
- Address the city-wide shortage for turf facilities;
- Deliver a multi-use athletic facility to Hamilton residents; and
- Ensure the land is used in the most effective and beneficial way for all partners.

Together, we see this proposal as an opportunity to deliver lasting community benefit through a shared, innovative approach to recreation infrastructure that aligns with the City's goals related to community well-being, recreation access, and efficient use of infrastructure.

We respectfully request the opportunity to present this concept to the Emergency and Community Services Committee and to explore how a partnership could be structured to deliver shared value for the City of Hamilton, Mohawk College, Hillfield Strathallan College, and the surrounding community. We would be pleased to provide supporting material, including the proposed contribution of each partner, in advance of our participation in a future Committee meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further and are available at the Committee's convenience.

Sincerely,



Paul Armstrong
President, Mohawk College



Marc Ayotte
Head of College, Hillfield Strathallan College

cc: Councillor Rob Cooper
Mayor Andrea Horwath