



## **Staff Report for Committee of the Whole Meeting**

**Date of Meeting:** April 23, 2018

**Report Number:** SRCS.18.11

**Department:** Community Services  
**Division:** Recreation and Culture Services

**Subject:** Indoor Winter Tennis facility David Hamilton  
Park – Operating Agreement

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### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council as to the re-opening of the indoor winter tennis facility at David Hamilton Park and to have Council approve the execution of an Agreement between the Corporation of the Town of Richmond Hill and Blackmore Tennis Club Inc.

### **Recommendation(s):**

That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute the agreement between the Corporation of the Town of Richmond Hill and Blackmore Tennis Club Inc. upon written recommendation of the Commissioner of Community Services.

### **Contact Person:**

Contact: Darlene Joslin, Director of Recreation and Culture, extension 2423.

### **Report Approval:**

**Submitted by:** Shane Baker, Commissioner of Community Services

**Approved by:** Neil Garbe, Chief Administrative Officer

All reports are electronically reviewed and/or approved by the Division Director, Treasurer (as required), Town Solicitor (as required), Commissioner, and Chief Administrative Officer. Details of the reports approval are attached.

## **Background:**

849400 Ontario Inc. has operated a winter tennis facility at the location of the Town owned tennis courts located within David Hamilton Park, known as the Blackmore Tennis Club, since 1989 and a number of agreements were in place over that period of time to specify the operating terms. In April 2017, the agreement came to an end and in consideration of the park construction the facility was closed for the full 2017-2018 season.

On October 5, 2016, per staff report SRCS.16.32, Council approved the Tennis Strategy. One of the key recommendations within the strategy was the development of a process to determine the indoor winter tennis facility delivery approach. The report recommends the Town initiate a process to compare the merits of developing and operating the facility utilizing a municipal management model with the benefits and drawbacks of partnering with an outside interest group. As a first step, the municipality should establish basic public service parameters for the facility that would act as guiding principles that describe the purpose for the indoor tennis complex, its service standards and the municipality's expectations for the facility in terms of accessibility, affordability and other virtues normally inherent in sport and recreation facilities that the Town owns. Staff are currently working on the development of a business case reflecting the estimated operational and financial performance of the facility if the Town were to undertake the operations on its own. Once the business case is complete, staff will be testing the marketplace for potential and willing partners. The responses arising from this process will be evaluated to consider their relative service attributes, proposed business relationships, financial propositions, risk allocation strategies and other pertinent facility delivery or operational elements. The responses would be compared to each other and evaluated against the municipal management option reflected by the business case.

Staff will work on the business case and marketplace testing with a target of bringing a recommendation forward to Council on the future operations of indoor winter tennis through the 2019 budget process.

In the meantime, to ensure the Town has an indoor facility operational to meet the demand in the community, staff have reached out to the previous partner, 849400 Ontario Inc. to see if they would be willing to operate at the Blackmore site for another season. They have agreed to operate under the same terms as were previously in place for the 2018 – 2019 season and they have also agreed to a one year renewal, 2019 – 2020 season, should that be required. 849400 Ontario Inc. has established another company specifically for the operation at the David Hamilton Park site known as the Blackmore Tennis Club Inc. The indoor tennis season is defined as October 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>.

In addition to operating the indoor winter tennis facility, Blackmore Tennis Club Inc. partners with the Town to deliver a variety of tennis lessons and camps throughout the

summer and winter months at a variety of locations. These programs are delivered year round.

## **RECOMMENDED TERM OF AGREEMENT**

- Term to be implemented for a one year period September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019. Indoor winter tennis season defined as October 1 to April 30. Indoor and Outdoor tennis program partnership defined as September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31.
- With an option to renew for a further one year period, September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020, should the Town deem that necessary. Indoor winter tennis season defined as October 1 to April 30. Indoor and Outdoor tennis program partnership defined as September 1 to August 31.
- The Licensee shall pay 100% of all operating costs.
- The Licensee shall fully operate the facility from October 1 to April 30 of each year that this agreement is in place.
- The Licensee shall install the tennis bubble, temporary lighting and any other equipment and/or facilities required to operate the bubble no more than 10 days prior to October 1.
- The Licensee shall remove the tennis bubble and all equipment within 14 days of the end of the season and pay for any damages to Town property where found.
- The Licensee shall maintain the clubhouse in a good state of repair.

## **Financial/Staffing/Other Implications:**

Blackmore Tennis Club is responsible for 100% of all operating costs associated with the indoor winter tennis facility. Payment that is received is to be deposited into account # 831-109690.

## **Relationship to the Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation in this report is in keeping with the Corporate Strategic Plan specifically by providing opportunities and places for people to connect and get involved.

## **Conclusion:**

Based on the excellent relationship with this club in the past, further considering they are willing to operate at this site for a temporary term while the David Hamilton Park construction is completed at no cost to the Town and in consideration of the demand for indoor tennis from the community, staff recommend that the agreement for a one year period with the option for a one year renewal be approved.

### **Report Approval Details**

Document Title:	Indoor Winter Tennis Facility - David Hamilton Park - Operating Agreement.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Apr 16, 2018

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Darlene Joslin - Apr 16, 2018 - 12:51 PM**

**Shane Baker - Apr 16, 2018 - 5:04 PM**

**Neil Garbe - Apr 16, 2018 - 8:08 PM**