MEMBER MOTION

Section 5.4.4(b) of Procedure By-law

Meeting:	Committee of the Whole
Meeting Date:	July 2nd, 2025
Subject/Title:	Pickleball Motion
Submitted by:	Mayor West

Whereas pickleball continues to be an increasingly popular sport for many Richmond Hill residents, providing health and social benefits to our community,

 Whereas in July of 2023 Council considered staff report SRPI.23.063, which outlined concerns associated with proceeding with construction of a year-round 16 court pickleball facility in David Dunlap Observatory Park at an estimated cost of $9.2 million; and,

Whereas in response to the July 2023 report Council decided to pause work toward implementation of the pickleball facility at David Dunlap Observatory Park due to:

> • The cost of the facility (given that the 10 Year Capital Forecast already included expenditures from the Parks and Recreation Development Reserve Fund more than anticipated available funding)
>
> • The fact that 10 seasonal pickleball courts had just been installed in Richmond Green in 2022 and the extent that these courts would address demand for summer pickleball was still unclear
>
> • Concerns raised through public consultation about potential noise and lighting impacts to adjacent residents, as well as inconsistency with the David Dunlap Observatory Park vision, and
>
> • The desire to monitor the extent to which new indoor and outdoor pickleball facilities and programming (including the seasonal courts at Richmond Green) would meet demand.

Whereas the City currently has the following outdoor pickleball facilities:

> • 12 "pop-up' pickleball courts at Richmond Green to be in place through 2026
>
> • 2 pickleball courts at Kings College Park

• 4 pickleball courts at Bayview Hill Park

• 7 multi-lined courts (available for tennis or pickleball play) at Town Park (2), Morgan Boyle Park (1), Grovewood Park (1), Oak Ridges Lion's Club Park (1), and Russel Farm Park (2)

Whereas the City currently offers year-round indoor pickleball opportunities at the following locations:

• Rouge Woods Community Centre - 6 courts with 7th being added

• Elgin West Community Centre - 3 courts

• Oak Ridges Community Centre - 6 courts

• McConaghy Centre - 2 courts

• Langstaff Community Centre - 3 courts (1 per gym)

• Bayview Hill Community Centre - 3 courts

Whereas the City is aware that there is a private company running pickleball programs (including leagues and lessons) at the Curling Club in Richmond Hill and a number of schools in Richmond Hill.

Whereas the City is currently working on a Master Plan for the revitalization of Richmond Green, which will determine, amongst other matters, a long-term vision for the location of pickleball facilities in this park.

Whereas the City recognizes the growth in popularity of pickleball and aims to meet the needs of two types of pickleball players – those that play casually and are interested in easily accessible courts for recreational play in their local neighbourhood, and those who are frequently playing pickleball and looking for a permanent large-scale facility that accommodates a social gathering of players for more organized play.

Therefore Be It Resolved That:

The existing 12 "pop-up" courts at Richmond Green Park be confirmed as an "interim facility" to remain in place until such time as a permanent year-round multi-court facility is constructed, and:

In recognition of the interim status, staff continue to improve the quality of the courts at Richmond Green through measures such as smaller gauge fencing, an approach to mitigating the impacts of sandbags, more picnic tables, and increased washroom facilities; and,

The draft Richmond Green Master Plan contemplate the provision of a year-round multi-court pickleball facility, in Phase 1 of implementation; and

New indoor pickleball courts be provided in the Elgin Barrow Arena and Bond Lake Arena from mid-May to mid-August when there is no ice in these facilities; and,

Pickleball lines be added to the gymnasium in the Richvale Community Centre to facilitate additional new indoor courts.

Moved by:	Mayor West
Seconded by:	