

The Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton - Council Meeting

Agenda Number: 6.1

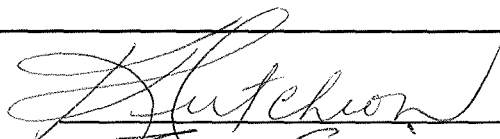
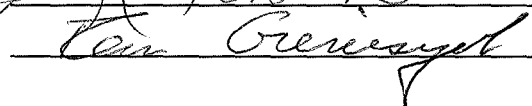
Number: 19-08-05

Title: Motion on Bi-Lateral "Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program"

Date: Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Moved By:

Seconded By:

Whereas The Municipality of Brockton believes that building modern infrastructure is important, and that good quality infrastructure supports job creation and helps attract businesses and residents to our community and communities across the Province of Ontario; and

Whereas Recreation Infrastructure is one of the most important core investments that can be made into the prosperity, health, and security of urban and rural communities; and

Whereas the need for infrastructure renewal projects far exceeds the capital available in municipalities for investment in Recreation Infrastructure; and

Whereas Recreation Infrastructure is often put to the bottom of the list, as other infrastructure takes priority; in fact, there has not been a meaningful Recreation Infrastructure program since 2008; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario places long term borrowing restrictions on Municipalities; and

Whereas Brockton does not have the borrowing capacity to fund these large scale projects; and

Whereas some Municipalities do have the capacity to fundraise and borrow to 1/3 of project costs but rely on other levels of Government for remaining partnership funding; and

Whereas, while the Municipality of Brockton welcomes the inclusion of Recreation Infrastructure funds through the Gas Tax Fund, it is apparent that Gas Tax Funds alone are not sufficient to support large scale Recreation Infrastructure projects; and

Whereas the Municipality of Brockton agrees with both Parks and Recreation Ontario and with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario that the infrastructure gap will continue to grow, especially once all of the municipal asset plans are completed; and

Whereas both the Federal and Provincial Government could leave a positive and lasting impact on rural communities by helping municipalities to renovate or build new Recreation Facilities, and in the process create cost savings to our health system. After all, health is a Provincial expense, and as citizens live healthier lifestyles and maintain healthy bodies, this leads to less frequent visits to doctors' offices, hospital emergency departments and rehabilitation centres, and consequently less costs towards medical costs; and

Whereas in 2016 the Federation of Canadian Municipalities study found that nearly half of all types of sport and recreation facilities in Canada are in fair or poor condition, with a replacement value of \$23 billion across Canada; and

Whereas in Ontario, the replacement value for aging pools, arenas and community centres in fair or poor condition in Ontario is estimated to be\$6 billion (Parks and Recreation Ontario); and

Whereas the Province of Ontario has endorsed the Framework for Recreation in Canada 2015: Pathways to Wellbeing; and that the vision for the Framework is "a Canada where everyone is engaged in meaningful, accessible recreation experiences..." and that the first goal of the Framework is that governments should enable participation in physically active recreation; and

Whereas the Framework for Recreation in Canada has as priority 4.3 as follows: "Enable communities to renew Recreational Infrastructure as required and to meet the need for green spaces by securing dedicated government funding at all levels.... for the necessary development, renewal and rehabilitation of facilities and outdoor spaces"; and

Whereas through the Investing in Canada Plan, the Government of Canada is investing over \$180 billion over 12 years in Infrastructure projects across Canada with these investments being made by 14 Federal Departments and Agencies; and

Whereas the Governments of Canada and Ontario signed a bi-lateral agreement on March 14, 2017 and created the "Investing in Canada Infrastructure Plan"; and be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Brockton requests that the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario move forward with accepting applications for funding agreed to by the Governments of Canada and Province of Ontario under the "Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program" to help address the Recreation and Culture Capital Infrastructure deficit that currently exists across Canada; and

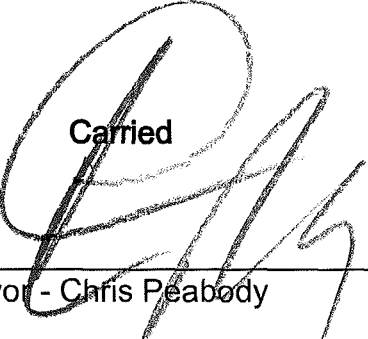
Further, that this resolution and background Council Report be forwarded to all Ontario Municipalities, Provincial and Federal Government's, local MP's and MPP's, Parks and Recreation Ontario, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, requesting their support.

Carried

Tied, Defeated

Defeated

Tabled



Mayor - Chris Peabody