



**City of Kingston  
Report to Council  
Report Number 25-021**

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**To:** Mayor and Members of Council  
**From:** Jennifer Campbell, Commissioner, Community Services  
**Resource Staff:** Amy Elgersma, Director, Recreation & Leisure Services  
**Date:** December 17, 2024  
**Subject:** International Hockey Hall of Fame and Museum Inc. License Extension

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**Council Strategic Plan Alignment:**

Theme: Corporate business

Goal: See above

**Executive Summary:**

On December 16, 2014, Council approved Report Number 15-016, authorizing the Mayor & Clerk to extend the license agreement with the International Hockey Hall of Fame and Museum Inc. (IHHOF), to occupy space at the INVISTA Centre for an annual rate of \$1.00, for a period of five years from 2015-2019 with an additional five-year term from 2020-2024 ending December 31, 2024.

Staff have confirmed that the IHHOF would like to extend the agreement at the INVISTA Centre for an additional term.

Staff recommends renewing the license agreement for an additional three-year term, with the option to extend for two additional one-year terms, at the City's discretion. The same conditions will apply as in the current agreement for a period of three years and any extensions thereafter, as the IHHOF is an added service and program available to the INVISTA Centre patrons.

This space and these services within the facility will also be evaluated as part of the greater scope/considerations of the future INVISTA Centre aquatics expansion project.

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**Recommendation:**

**That** Council authorize the Mayor and the Clerk to extend the license agreement with the International Hockey Hall of Fame and Museum Inc., to occupy 1,450 square feet of space at the INVISTA Centre for the annual rate of \$1.00 for a term of three years from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2027, with the option to extend the agreement for two additional one-year terms, in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services.

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**Authorizing Signatures:**

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER

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**Jennifer Campbell,  
Commissioner, Community  
Services**

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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**Lanie Hurdle, Chief  
Administrative Officer**

**Consultation with the following Members of the Corporate Management Team:**

Paige Agnew, Commissioner, Growth & Development Services	Not required
Neil Carbone, Commissioner, Corporate Services	Not required
David Fell, President & CEO, Utilities Kingston	Not required
Brad Joyce, Commissioner, Infrastructure, Transportation & Emergency Services	Not required
Desirée Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer	Not required

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**Options/Discussion:****Background**

Kingston's pedigree in the history of hockey is unrivalled, stretching back to the beginnings of the game. Queen's University, the Royal Military College and the Canadian Armed Forces are all intimately involved in the origins of the sport, and the development of Canada's amateur leagues. Kingston has been home to some 70 NHL players, legendary coaches, and promoters of the game. Kingston's International Hockey Hall of Fame and Museum is the Original Hockey Hall of Fame (OHHF) and the oldest sports hall of fame in Canada. Captain James T. Sutherland of Kingston spearheaded the bid to bring the Hockey Hall of Fame to Kingston, and in 1943 it was established by the National Hockey League and the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association.

On July 17, 2012, Council approved Report Number 12-256 to enter into an agreement with the International Hockey Hall of Fame and Museum Inc., (IHHOF) to utilize meeting room D at the INVISTA Centre to display their collection. Previously, the IHHOF had operated at 277 York Street where the City of Kingston covered the operational costs of this facility (heating, utilities, etc.). The same terms and conditions are still in place at the INVISTA Centre where the City of Kingston covers the daily operational costs of this space as part of the overall building envelope.

**Analysis**

On March 1, 2013, the IHHOF opened their doors at the INVISTA Centre. This relocation significantly increased the IHHOF's visibility and has provided an additional service and programming to patrons of the INVISTA Centre.

The IHHOF believe that the popularity and appeal of the Hall of Fame has increased based on the enhancements and upgraded visitor experience at the INVISTA location. Key features of the IHHOF now include a small theatre, a documentary film narrated by Don Cherry that illustrates Kingston's rich hockey history, and other interactive displays that make the artifacts come 'alive' for visitors. The new displays and exhibits are of high quality and showcase the history of hockey in the Kingston area. The cost for these upgrades were fully covered by the IHHOF and the exhibits and interactive games are available to the public free of charge seven days a week.

To continue these operations, services and programming, the IHHOF has requested a renewal to its license agreement of City property at the INVISTA Centre.

Planning is currently underway for the development of a new aquatic and wellness facility at the INVISTA Centre. As part of the design development phase, scheduled for 2025-2026, the licensed space will need to be evaluated to assess whether there is a need to incorporate it into the design of the new facility and its supporting amenities. Given the anticipated procurement and construction timeline from 2027-2029, the proposed renewal of the license agreement aligns with the project schedule. Specifically, the term of the agreement would not exceed three

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years but would allow for extension for two additional one-year terms to allow flexibility for decisions made during the design development stage.

**Public Engagement**

No public engagement was conducted on this request for license extension.

**Indigenization, Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility (IIDEA) Considerations**

The IHHOF is fully accessible and meets all AODA requirements. It also includes stories on the rise of women's hockey and local hockey heroes such as Jayna Hefford, a Canadian female hockey superstar. The exhibits inspire players of all sorts to pursue their game.

**Existing Policy/By-Law**

The proposed license agreement complies with the terms for a Community License under the City's Revenue Leasing and Licensing Policy. The updated agreement will be a license in which the IHHOF will be open during the operating hours of the INVISTA Centre and will share common facilities with others. In return, the IHHOF will be open to the public at no cost which contributes to the programs and services offered at the INVISTA Centre.

**Notice Provisions**

None

**Financial Considerations**

None

**Contacts:**

Amy Elgersma, Director, Recreation & Leisure Services, 613-546-4291 extension 1351

**Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:**

Tony Gargaro, Manager, Recreation Services, Recreation & Leisure Services

**Exhibits Attached:**

None