

## Report to Council

**Report Title:** Cargill Homecoming 2024 Facility Use

**Prepared By:** Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) and Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services

**Department:** Recreation

**Date:** February 6, 2024

**Report Number:** REC2024-01 **File Number:** C11REC

**Attachments:** Agreement with Cargill and District Community Fund

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### Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby accepts Report Number REC2024-01 – Cargill Homecoming 2024 Facility Use, prepared by Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) and Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services and further approves allowing the Cargill Homecoming event to use the Cargill Community Centre, ball diamonds, soccer fields and a portion of the Greenock Shop without paying any rental fees for the duration of the Homecoming event in accordance with the terms of the Agreement with the Cargill and District Community Foundation.

### Report:

#### Background:

The Municipality of Brockton entered into an Agreement with the Cargill District Community Foundation (“CDCF”) in 2022 that allowed the CDCF to use the Cargill Community Centre without paying the hall rental fees for a period of five (5) years. The Agreement also acknowledged in paragraph 6 that the CDCF would be organizing and hosting the Cargill Homecoming event, as it stipulated that Brockton would provide \$20,000.00 as an interest-free loan for start-up costs. When read in its entirety, a consistent interpretation of the Agreement would suggest that the CDCF would also get the use of the Cargill Community Centre for free for the 2024 Cargill Homecoming event only, and the CDCF would otherwise be responsible for direct expenses such as staffing costs, security (if not already arranged separately by the CDCF, etc.). Given the scope of the Homecoming event, the baseball diamonds and the soccer fields at the Centre would need to be included in the Homecoming reservation.

Overall, it is expected that the expenses for the Homecoming event will exceed \$10,000, but the facility rental costs (the building, baseball diamonds and soccer fields) would be approximately \$7,000.

Staff have also worked with the Cargill Homecoming group and they are using part of the Greenock Shop as a base for merchandising. This space is not generally rented out such that there was no fee set in the fees and charges by-law.

**Analysis:**

At the time the Agreement was signed, the CDCF had completed a major fundraising campaign to pay for a new entranceway, meeting room, accessible washrooms and coat room at the facility. These upgrades will extend the life and use of the facility for many decades.

The 2024 Cargill Homecoming event will also bring back many people to the area and, much like the homecomings that have been organized in Brockton’s other hamlet communities, is part of the strong sense of community that is central to Brockton’s identity.

It should also be noted that the space at the Greenock Shop would otherwise not be used for anything other than storage, does not interfere with the use of the space by the Brockton Heritage Committee or the Operations Department, and provides a convenient and secure location for residents and the Cargill Homecoming committee.

It should also be note that there is a strong expectation that the CDCF will be in the position to make another significant contribution to the Municipality of Brockton as a result of fundraising activities that will occur throughout the event.

Staff recommend confirming the use of the Cargill Community Centre, ball diamonds and soccer fields and the use of the Greenock Shop until October 4, 2024 free of any rental costs such that no amendments would be required to the Agreement with the CDCF.

**Strategic Action Plan Checklist:**

|   |  |     |
|---|--|-----|
| What aspect of the Brockton Strategic Action Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance? |  |     |
| • Recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision   |  | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Heritage, Culture, and Community                                      |  | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Quality of Life   |  | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Land Use Planning and the Natural Environment                         |  | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development  |  | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Municipal Governance  |  | Yes |

**Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:**

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

As noted above, the use of these space would be for the 2024 Cargill Homecoming only as an extension of the five (5) year agreement with the CDCF.

**Reviewed By:**



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

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**Respectfully Submitted by:**



Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)



Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services

**Reviewed By:**



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer