

## Report to Council

<b>Report Title:</b>	Walkerton Agricultural Society, Municipality of Brockton and Walkerton Minor Hockey Final Agreement		
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services		
<b>Department:</b>	Recreation		
<b>Date:</b>	November 4, 2025		
<b>Report Number:</b>	REC2025-22	<b>File Number:</b>	C11REC, L04
<b>Attachments:</b>	Draft Agreement		

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### Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2025-22 - Walkerton Agricultural Society, Municipality of Brockton and Walkerton Minor Hockey Final Agreement, prepared by Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services and in doing so approves a By-Law coming forward entering into memorandum of understanding agreement with the Walkerton Minor Hockey Association and the Walkerton Agriculture Society.

### Report:

#### Background:

At the April 8, 2025, Council meeting, approval was granted to work collaboratively towards an agreement between The Municipality of Brockton, the Walkerton Agricultural Society and Walkerton Minor Hockey to support ice operations located at the Power Workers Union (PWU) Centre.

The PWU Centre, commonly referred to as the "Ice or Horse Palace" historically has been operated by many volunteers over the years with the assistance of Brockton staff flooding the ice until the winter of 2014/2015. At that time the committee purchased the older Zamboni from Brockton to have their own volunteers flood the ice surface. Much like many volunteer groups, over the years the volunteer base has decreased leaving the committee with limited options for the operation of the facility.

In January 2025, staff entered into discussions with the Walkerton Minor Hockey Association (WMHA) regarding the revitalization of ice operations within the Power Workers Union Centre. The Municipality's cooperation, particularly in ice maintenance and custodial support, is vital to this initiative, with the Walkerton Agricultural Society affirming its commitment through a facility lease agreement. This collaboration ensures that the facility meets high operational standards while providing the community with a much-needed second ice pad, helping to relieve pressure on existing facilities and allowing for expanded access to ice time for local teams, programs, and recreational users.

Acknowledging the necessity of formal agreements, staff met with WMHA in consensus with Walkerton Agricultural Society, resulting in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This document outlines the responsibilities and expectations for the municipality, WMHA and Walkerton Agricultural Society, ensuring clarity of expectations and accountability.

**Analysis:**

The agreement facilitates a collaborative approach in supporting community sports infrastructure between the municipality and local organizations. It defines responsibilities, obligations and expectations while maintaining risk mitigation via structured insurance and indemnity clauses.

The key elements of the agreement include:

1. Municipality Responsibilities:
  - Perform general ice maintenance tasks.
  - Provide general custodial services
  - Agreement to provision of staffing resources
  
2. Walkerton Agricultural Society Obligations:
  - Lease Agricultural Building 3 (Horse Palace) at negotiated rates to WMHA
  - Grant Municipality employees access for maintenance activities
  
3. WMHA Responsibilities:
  - Provide ice resurfer for Municipal employees to operate upon staff inspection
  - Responsible for cost and facilitating maintenance and repairs to equipment.
  - Schedule and compensate staff as per Municipal by-law rates.
  - Ensure compliance with ice system safety advisories
  
4. Insurance and Indemnity:
  - Each party is responsible for maintaining insurance with a minimum liability of \$5,000,000.
  - WMHA and the Ag. Society indemnifies the Municipality against claims related to operations and facility use.

This agreement sets the foundation for an effective, sustainable partnership benefitting the community while fortifying our mutual commitments to facility safety, maintenance, and financial responsibility.

**Strategic Action Plan Checklist:**

What aspect of the Brockton Strategic Action Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

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|---|-----|
| • 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 | N/A |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development                          | N/A |
| • 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

Staff wage and benefit expenses will be tracked and invoiced to Walkerton Minor Hockey at the applicable rate for full cost recovery.

### Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

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### Respectfully Submitted by:



Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services

### Reviewed By:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer