



New Edinburgh Community Partners
New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA)
Crichton Community Council (CCC)

203 Stanley Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario



November 19, 2024

Councillor Rawlson King
City of Ottawa
110 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 1J1

Re: New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse Roof Extension

Councillor King,

The New Edinburgh Community Building Fund was established by the City of Ottawa after the New Edinburgh Community and Arts Centre (NECTAR) property at 255 MacKay Street was sold. In 2019 a memorandum of understanding was signed by Crichton Community Council (CCC), New Edinburgh Community Alliance (NECA), and NECTAR, confirming that the New Edinburgh Community Building Fund is to be used in its entirety for capital improvements to the New Edinburgh Park Fieldhouse.

Following a process of consultation with Fieldhouse users and the community at large a prioritized list of recommendations for improvement to the Fieldhouse was established that are slowly being implemented. In the past year the fund has been used to fund the installation of rubberized flooring, and the modification of the electrical system for on-site electrical generation. We expect that in the coming year the fund will be used for the purchase and installation of a moveable room partition wall and sound attenuation panels.

Given that the fund's purchasing power decreases every year due to inflation, we are motivated to continue using the fund to serve expressed needs of Fieldhouse users and community groups.

The CCC and NECA concur that the fund should be used to create a covered outdoor space adjoining the Fieldhouse, that would increase the functionality of the building by providing protection from the sun and precipitation.

The Fieldhouse building is approximately 30 feet wide with a roof canopy that provides limited cover from the elements, extending about five feet beyond the building's walls on only two sides. The existing roof canopy does not provide sufficient protection for existing events like the farmers' market, seasonal community picnics, fitness programming and outdoor films. The need for a covered outdoor space in New Edinburgh Park was particularly evident in the

planning for the annual Chief Pinesi Day. In 2024 event organizers needed to dedicate approximately \$8,000 of their event budget for a temporary tent that was erected immediately adjacent to the Fieldhouse to accommodate this unique event's needs for open-sided protection from the elements.

A portico is an architectural term used to describe a covered porch leading to the entrance of a building, with a roof structure over a walkway, supported by columns.

The CCC and NECA directors propose that a portico be created on the street side of the Fieldhouse to provide a covered outdoor space at least 20 feet deep and 30 feet wide. The architectural concept proposed for the creation of a covered outdoor space attached to the Fieldhouse involves projecting the distinctive roof form above the front door toward Stanley Avenue, supported by columns echoing the form of those that currently exist.

Our conceptual study concludes that an extension of the existing roof form could create sufficient space without influencing any trees or permanent public space elements. (The footprint of the proposed roof extension would influence approximately 10 feet of grass lawn, a deteriorating 5-foot-wide asphalt skirt that provides access to the building's front door, a bicycle rack and a 10-foot-wide muddy pit on the high-traffic street side of the building.

Discussions at both NECA and CCC public meetings in the spring of 2024, confirmed that both organizations believe the project has merit, is an appropriate use of the Community Building Fund and should be explored in more detail by City staff.

The CCC and NECA introduced this prospective capital improvement to the community in the June 2024 edition of the New Edinburgh News. The published article described and illustrated the proposal, and comments were invited. No opposition to the proposed roof extension has been received by NECA, the CCC or the NEN since the spring of 2024.

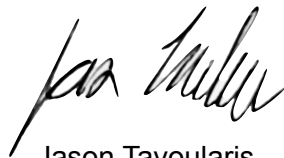
The New Edinburgh Community Partners continue to delegate responsibility for the exploration of this prospective Fieldhouse improvements to the CCC, given the organization's familiarity with the specific needs of the building's users.

Please help the CCC to begin working with City of Ottawa staff to evaluate this project's feasibility.

Best regards,



Chris Straka
CCC President



Jason Tavoularis
NECA Vice President

(encl.)