



CANNINGTON LIONS CLUB

CANNINGTON, ON
CANADA
LOE 1E0

June 4, 2024

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

The Cannington Lions Club wishes to express its support of a proposed community initiative to relocate and expand the existing half-size basketball court at MacLeod Park. This half court was initially funded and installed by the Cannington Lions Club in 2006, and has, over the years, served as an outdoor amenity that has provided youth with a surface for 3x3 basketball or to simply “shoot hoops”.

On May 30th, 2024, The Cannington Lions Club heard a presentation from Cannington resident Darren Facey and Councillor Angela Canavan about the increasing interest from the town’s youth for basketball and the need for a full-sized court that could accommodate multiple players and that would include a minimum of 2 basketball nets.

The MacLeod Park Master Plan, a concept drawing from 2012, suggested a relocation of the basketball court and transition from half size to full size at the location currently occupied by one of the baseball diamonds. While the concept drawing is currently being updated as recommended in the recent Brock Township Recreation and Master Plan, the probability of that baseball diamond being relocated is slim due to financial constraints. Presently, to the north of the arena, there are 2 asphalt pads. One is the current half court and one is the old skateboard park. The Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities along with the former Director of Public Works viewed the site in mid-March and suggested that the former skateboard park could be resurfaced as a full basketball court, leaving the small pad for pickleball.

The Cannington Baptist Church recently removed their basketball nets as part of their auditorium renovations. Mr. Facey approached the church pastor and has acquired their two nets as a donation. He has also approached Nordstrong who have agreed to build posts that the backboards can be affixed to. As well, he has been able to secure a local general contractor, Phil Heggarty from Towerview, to auger holes for the posts. Mr. Heggarty has generously offered to pay for the locates, concrete and labour to install the posts.

This improvement to MacLeod Park is possible because of advocacy and perseverance from local residents and generous donations from the community. It will provide our youth with a full basketball court with proper nets that they can be proud to use, with the benefits of physical activity, engagement, team building and social interaction. With coordination of work being arranged through Township staff, we are hopeful that Council will give approval for this project and that it can commence as soon as possible for the youth to utilize this summer and in the years ahead.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cannington Lions Club