



RECREATION AND CULTURE STANDING COMMITTEE  
AGENDA

Monday, February 3, 2025, 5:30 pm  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

	Pages
1. CALL TO ORDER	
2. ROLL CALL	
3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST	
4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS	
4.1 January 8, 2025	3
5. PUBLIC INPUT SESSION	
6. PUBLIC PRESENTATION	
7. INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE REPORTS	
7.1 Memo from the Museum Curator Re. Canada Cultural Spaces Fund Application Update	6
7.2 Memo from the Director of Recreation and Culture Re. Parsons Park and Rogers Arena Retaining Wall Update	8
7.3 Memo from the Director of Recreation and Culture Re. Winterfest 2025 Update	12
7.4 Memo from the Director of Recreation and Culture Re. Pool Update	15
8. PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS	
9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS	
10. CORRESPONDENCE	

11. ADDENDUM
12. CLOSED SESSION
13. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING
14. ADJOURNMENT



**RECREATION AND CULTURE STANDING COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 8, 2025  
5:30 pm  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

- Present: R. Bull, Chair  
H. Lefebvre, Councillor  
C. Flintoff, Councillor
- Regrets: A. Wannan, Mayor (Ex- Officio)
- Resources: K. Kluke, Director of Recreation & Culture  
A. D'Amato, Museum Curator  
A. Laurence, Deputy Clerk & Accessibility Coordinator

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
4. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**4.1 December 2, 2024**

**Res#: 1/25**

Moved By: H. Lefebvre

Seconded By: C. Flintoff

That the following minutes be adopted:

December 2, 2024

**Carried**

5. **PUBLIC INPUT SESSION**

**6. PUBLIC PRESENTATION****7. INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE REPORTS****7.1 Report from the Museum Curator**

Re. Amendment to ARIEL Agreement

**Res#: 2/25**

Moved By: C. Flintoff

Seconded By: H. Lefebvre

That Council approve the amended agreement between the City of Elliot Lake and the Arts and Culture Roundtable in Elliot Lake (ARIEL) for operation of the Elliot Lake Arts & Heritage Centre (ELAHC); and

That the appropriate by-law be passed.

**Carried**

**7.2 Memo from the Director of Recreation and Culture**

Re. Westview Park Improvement Survey Results

**Res#: 3/25**

Moved By: H. Lefebvre

Seconded By: C. Flintoff

That the memo from the Director of Recreation and Culture regarding Westview Park Improvement Survey Results be received.

**Carried**

**7.3 Memo from the Director of Recreation and Culture**

Re. All-Wheels Park Update

**Res#: 4/25**

Moved By: H. Lefebvre

Seconded By: C. Flintoff

That the memo from the Director of Recreation and Culture regarding All-Wheels Park Update be received.

**Carried**

**8. PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

**11. ADDENDUM**

**12. CLOSED SESSION**

**13. SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING**

The next scheduled Recreation and Culture Committee meeting is Monday February 3rd.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

**Res#: 5/25**

Moved By: C. Flintoff

Seconded By: H. Lefebvre

That the meeting be adjourned at the hour of 5:53 pm.

**Carried**



# MEMO

**To:** The Recreation & Culture Standing Committee

**From:** Amelia D'Amato, Museum Curator

**Date:** January 29, 2025

**Subject:** Canada Cultural Spaces Fund Application Update

---

At the January 15, 2024, meeting of Council, staff received approval to submit an application to the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund (CCSF) on behalf of the City. The aim of this application was to offset the costs for specialized equipment and renovations in the City's arts, heritage, and cultural facilities, namely the Elliot Lake Arts & Heritage Centre (ELAHC) and the new cultural facility at 40 Hillside Dr. N.

At the time of presenting the report for approval, staff planned to submit an application before the end of March to align with Canadian government's fiscal year. Unfortunately, due to delays experienced while working out the conceptual designs of the facility and acquiring quotes, we were unable to meet this deadline.

Despite this setback, staff continued working with our program advisor in anticipation of CCSF program updates scheduled for July 2024. One significant change in the updated program is the removal of funding for construction projects. In response, staff adjusted the application to focus exclusively on specialized equipment essential for maximizing the functionality of the ELAHC and the new cultural facility at 40 Hillside Dr. N. Some of the specialized equipment featured in the application includes:

- ELAHC upgrades such as a card lock access system, kilns, and TV advertising displays.
- Essential equipment for 40 Hillside Dr. N., including exhibit display cases, storage units, flexible seating and tables, and sound equipment to support a functional museum and performing arts space.

Confident in the new direction, staff submitted our CCSF application in late 2024. The Ontario Regional Office acknowledged receipt and initiated their review process on December 23. While we hope for a timely response, CCSF decisions can take up to 30 weeks.

Most items in the application—such as display cases, sound equipment, and seating—will not be needed until renovations at 40 Hillside Dr. N. are complete and the museum, performing arts space, and Welcome Centre are ready to open to the public. However, for items that can be used in the interim, such as ELAHC upgrades, the City can proceed

with purchases. If the application is approved, these costs will still be eligible for grant funding.

While awaiting the funding decision, staff will continue preparations for a feasibility study and architectural plans for 40 Hillside Dr. N. Price estimates for both are prepared and ready to be considered during the capital budgeting process. We hope to secure funding in the 2025 operating budget, allowing significant progress on this project within the year.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amelia D'Amato". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the "Respectfully submitted," text.

Amelia D'Amato



# MEMO

**To:** Recreation and Culture Standing Committee  
**From:** Kari Kluge, Director of Recreation and Culture  
**Date:** January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
**Subject:** Parsons Park and Rogers Arena Retaining Wall Update

---

During an inspection of Parsons Park in late summer 2024, staff identified issues with the retaining wall and seating area located between the Parson's Park ball diamond and the south end of Rogers Arena. These findings underscore the need for near-term attention to ensure public safety, compliance with building codes, and the protection of the arena's foundation.

The inspection revealed that the pathway and bleacher access at Parsons Field are shifting away from the arena building and toward the baseball diamond. This movement has also affected the retaining wall at the home team's dugout, which is being pushed out of place and encroaching into the dugout. These structural issues have been exacerbated by the deterioration of the cribbing and surface wood used in the seating area, which has exceeded its expected lifespan of 25 years and is now compromised.

Additionally, the design of the bleachers presents several safety hazards. While the individual step heights technically meet building code requirements, the cumulative drop from the top to the bottom creates a significant fall risk due to the absence of railings or barriers. This risk is further compounded by the lack of proper drainage from the arena roof, which channels water directly onto the ball diamond, particularly in the batter box and home plate area. The pooling of water on the field after rainfalls frequently creates unsafe playing conditions, often resulting in game cancellations and further highlighting the urgency of addressing these drainage and structural issues.

The bleachers were originally constructed to serve as a retaining structure for the addition to the arena, which includes washrooms access and the Junior A dressing room/entrance. If left unaddressed, the continued erosion and structural compromise of this area could jeopardize the foundation of this south addition to Rogers Arena.

To assess the situation further, staff engaged Tulloch Engineering, whose inspection confirmed the severity of the issues. Tulloch's findings indicated that the bleachers are structurally unsound and require a comprehensive reconstruction. They also highlighted the need to address the erosion of the retaining wall, which plays a critical role in supporting the foundation of the south end of the arena. Furthermore, they noted that the current design does not meet accessibility standards as outlined in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).



In response to these findings, Tulloch Engineering has provided a design plan that addresses these concerns. The proposed plan ensures compliance with AODA standards by incorporating accessible entrances to both sides of the field and viewing areas. It also includes solutions for proper water drainage to redirect runoff away from the field and the arena foundation, as the current drainage channels water from the arena roof directly onto the ball diamond, particularly in the batter box and home plate area. This has contributed to water pooling on the field, often creating unsafe conditions and necessitating game cancellations. Furthermore, the design features railings and appropriate step heights to mitigate fall risks, as well as options to access all spectator areas of the field, including the top and field-level viewing areas on the third base line and access to the spectator area on the first base line.

Staff are preparing a Request for Proposal (RFP) based on Tulloch's technical drawings and 3D renderings (see below), with the goal to commence construction of the project in September. To minimize disruption to the Spring/Summer leagues, Staff are exploring options to ensure that play can safely continue at Parsons Park during the on-going construction at Rogers Arena this spring and summer. Temporary bypasses for the seating area are being planned to maintain access, and adjusted parking plans are under consideration to address the limited availability. To mitigate these challenges, users will also be encouraged to utilize street parking on Central Avenue and access the ball diamond via the Central Avenue entrance, in addition to the limited parking spots available in the shared parking lot with Rogers Arena.





Addressing these issues at Parsons Park is essential to ensure public safety, maintain compliance with AODA and building codes, and protect the structural integrity of Rogers Arena. Staff will be budgeting this project in the 2025 Capital Budget to ensure it can be completed this year. The estimated cost for this project is between \$100,000-\$150,000. Staff will also bring the plans forward to the Accessibility Committee for review and feedback.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Kari Kluke in black ink, consisting of stylized initials 'KL' followed by a surname.

Kari Kluke  
Director of Recreation and Culture



# MEMO

**To:** Recreation and Culture Standing Committee  
**From:** Kari Kluge, Director of Recreation and Culture  
**Date:** January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
**Subject:** Winterfest 2025 Update

---

The City of Elliot Lake is excited to present the 2025 Winterfest scheduled to take place from February 21 - 23. This annual event will feature a variety of activities for residents and visitors to enjoy throughout the weekend. Below is a detailed overview of the planned events.

### *All Weekend Events*

- **Beavertails** – The Beavertails truck will be back in town, stationed at Collins Hall for the entire weekend, offering a delicious treat for customers.

### *Friday, February 21*

- **Trivia Night**
  - Hosted by the Elliot Lake Museum
  - 7:00 PM - 11:00 PM at the Renaissance Centre
  - \$80 per team
  - Participants can register at [elliotlake.ca/trivia](http://elliotlake.ca/trivia)
- **Winter Carnival Dance (Hosted by ELIS)**
  - Located at the Collins Hall
    - Grade 1-3: 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
    - Grade 4-6: 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
    - Grade 7-8: 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM
  - Entry: \$5 per person

### *Saturday, February 22*

- **Masonic Lodge Breakfast**
  - 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM at 171 Spruce Ave.
  - \$10 per person
- **Park Run**
  - 9:00 AM at Sheriff Creek
  - Participants can run, walk, or snowshoe through the scenic winter trails of Sheriff Creek.

- **Coueurs de Bois Hike**
  - 12:00 PM at Spine Beach
  - A guided hike through the beautiful trails of Spine Beach hosted by the Coueurs de Bois Outdoors Club.
- **Spine Beach Fun**
  - 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM
  - Activities include: a bonfire sponsored by Rejean Cyr and Tex in the Trees, free hot dogs, hot chocolate, maple taffy, music, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and games.
  - Cross-country skis are available for use by Jack's Ski and Bike Shack
  - Snow shoes are available in all sizes by the Coueurs de Bois Outdoors Club
- **Free Public Swim**
  - 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM at the Ruben Yli-Juuti Centre
  - Free admission for all participants.
- **Coldest Night of the Year Walk**
  - 4:00 PM check-in, walk begins at 5:00 PM
  - Location: 1 College Place
  - Hosted by the Elliot Lake Women's Group, this annual fundraiser walk supports local community initiatives.
  - More information is available at [CNOY.org](http://CNOY.org).

*Sunday, February 23*

- **Science North Exhibit and Shows**
  - 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM at Collins Hall
  - Free exhibits throughout the day
  - Two free Science Shows at 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM
  - A canteen will be available on-site by the Coueurs de Bois Outdoors Club
- **Sunday Scavenger Hunt**
  - First clue released at 11:00 AM on the City's Facebook and Instagram pages.
  - Participants must solve clues and locate key spots to find the final treasure.
  - The first person (or group up to four people) to reach the final spot will win a prize.

More events may be announced leading up to Winterfest. Residents and visitors are encouraged to stay updated via the City's website ([elliottlake.ca/winterfest](http://elliottlake.ca/winterfest)) and social media pages for any new additions or changes.

This year's Winterfest promises to be an exciting and engaging event, offering a mix of recreational activities for all ages. We are looking forward to seeing everyone enjoying the different events throughout the weekend.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Kari Kluge in black ink, consisting of two stylized, cursive initials.

Kari Kluge  
Director of Recreation and Culture



# MEMO

**To:** Recreation and Culture Standing Committee  
**From:** Kari Kluge, Director of Recreation and Culture  
**Date:** January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
**Subject:** Pool Update

---

Since opening the pool in late December, operations have been running very well, and staff continue to expand programming. There has been a positive response from the community as users return to the Ruben Yli-Juuti Centre. Staff have also been actively addressing deficiencies as they arise. Contractors have resolved the hot water issues in the family change room and public female washroom and have replaced the toilets in both facilities. These areas have now been re-opened for public use.

Repairs on the hot tub are nearly complete. Staff are currently waiting for the grout to cure before filling the hot tub with water. Once filled, they will balance the water chemistry and coordinate with Algoma Public Health to schedule an inspection before re-opening it to the public.

The new saunas for both the female and male change rooms have arrived, and staff are working on the necessary electrical installations.

In addition to facility updates, a lifeguard course is currently underway, which will result in newly certified lifeguards. Following this course, staff will continue to offer additional training sessions to recruit and certify more lifeguards and swim instructors.

Registration for winter swimming lessons will begin soon. However, due to a limited number of certified swim instructors currently on staff, the number of lessons offered this session will be reduced. As a result, only group lessons will be available at this time. Private lessons will be introduced once more instructors are available to accommodate them.

Updates on the availability of the hot tub, saunas, and swimming programs will be shared with the public via the City's social media channels and website.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Kari Kluge in black ink, consisting of two stylized, cursive initials.

Kari Kluge  
Director of Recreation and Culture