

## Letters of Support

This initiative was driven by Community support as demonstrated through the following letters of support provided by:

1. Sport Calgary, voice of amateur sport in Calgary
2. Hockey Calgary, governing body for minor hockey in Calgary
3. Councillor Andre Chabot, Ward 10
4. Max Bell Foundation, Allan Northcott, President
5. Gretchen Bell-Dinning, executor of Max Bell's estate
6. Dr. David J. Carter, author, historian, parliamentarian
7. Don Phelps, coach and fixture of the Calgary sporting scene
8. R.C. Clark, fellow community volunteer and sport community leader
9. Evelyn Bracko, wife of the late Ken Bracko

October 25, 2016

Priorities and Finance Committee  
City of Calgary  
P.O. Box 2100, Stn. # M  
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

Dear Committee:

**RE: NAMING OF A CITY OF CALARY ARENA IN MEMORY OF KEN BRACKO**

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It is our understanding that the City of Calgary is giving consideration to the naming of one of the arenas in the Max Bell Centre in memory of the late Ken Bracko.

Sport Calgary understands the value of volunteerism and the impact strong community involvement has in Sport. Mr. Bracko exemplified a sport community leader and this naming would be a great way of honouring Mr. Bracko's lifetime of contributions to hockey and all sports. This recognition will provide a sense of pride and value to all community and sport volunteers.

Sport Calgary is pleased to offer support to the naming of the "Ken Bracko Arena" in the Max Bell Centre in honour of the late Ken Bracko.

Yours truly,

  
Murray Sigler  
CEO, Sport Calgary

  
Perry Cavanagh  
Board Chair, Sport Calgary



November 18, 2016

City of Calgary  
Greg Steinraths  
Gregory.Steinraths@calgary.ca

Re: Re-naming of Max Bell Arena

Dear Greg:

Further to our discussion I have discussed the re-naming of one of the ice sheets within Max Bell arena to the Ken Bracko arena with key members of Hockey Calgary and nobody is opposed to this proposal.

Mr. Bracko was a lifelong volunteer in the hockey community, and well respected among his peers. He was very involved in Hockey Calgary when his sons were younger and more recently his major volunteer involvement was primarily with the Calgary Canucks. I believe he is most recognized for his involvement with the Canucks over recent years, and working to make them a viable organization.

Hockey Calgary is fully supportive of the re-naming initiative and will do anything we can to help out with the process. If you have any further questions you can contact me at 403-245-5773.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Kobelka'.

Kevin Kobelka  
Executive Director  
Hockey Calgary



THE CITY OF  
**CALGARY**  
OFFICE OF THE COUNCILLORS

**COUNCILLOR ANDRE CHABOT**

2016 October 27

To Whom It May Concern:

**Re: Re-naming rink within Max Bell**

As Councillor for Ward 10 I am writing this letter of support to rename the ice surface in the Max Bell Arena complex to the Ken Bracko Arena.

Ken Bracko was involved in the City of Calgary hockey and sports communities for many years; his dedication and passion for the game focused on encouraging youth participation in team building activities through the promotion of the sport in Calgary.

Ken was instrumental in bringing the Calgary Canucks Junior A Hockey Club and served as the president of the Canucks organization for more than 20 years. During his tenure, he organized many local tournaments which provided more game opportunities to Calgary's youth hockey players.

I am privileged to be able to offer this letter of support for Ken who was well known for his volunteerism and dedication to sport in Calgary.

Yours truly,

**Andre Chabot**  
Councillor, Ward 10

# Max Bell Foundation

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Suite 380  
1201, 5th Street SW  
Calgary, AB T2R 0Y6

January 11, 2017

Heather Cowie  
Manager North & East Region  
Calgary Recreation, Community Services  
The City of Calgary | Mail Code #150  
P.O. Box 2100 Station M  
Calgary AB Canada T2P 2M5

Dear Ms. Cowie:

Please accept this letter as confirmation that Max Bell Foundation has no reservations about naming one of the arenas inside the Max Bell Centre after the late Ken Bracko.

With best wishes,



Allan Northcott  
President

October 3, 2016

Priorities and Finance Committee  
City of Calgary  
P.O. Box 2100, Stn. # M  
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

Dear Committee:

**RE: NAMING OF A CITY ARENA IN MEMORY OF KEN BRACKO**

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I understand that the City of Calgary is giving consideration to the naming of one of the arenas in the Max Bell Centre, which is named for my late father, Max Bell. The two arenas in the Max Bell Centre are currently called Max Bell Arena 1 and Max Bell Arena 2 but the City is considering naming one of the City arenas the "Ken Bracko Arena".

Understanding that the late Mr. Bracko was a notable Calgarian who displayed extraordinary community service throughout his life, in particular making significant contributions to hockey in Calgary, this naming would be a great way of honoring Mr. Bracko's lifetime of contributions to sport and the community.

Naming one of the arenas in the Max Bell Centre in honour of the late Mr. Bracko's volunteerism would be a noteworthy and meaningful way to recognize his efforts.

I am pleased to offer my full support to the naming of the "Ken Bracko Arena" in the Max Bell Centre in honour of the late Ken Bracko.

If you have any questions, you can email me at [gbelldining@shaw.ca](mailto:gbelldining@shaw.ca).

Yours truly,



Gretchen Bell-Dining

## Don Phelps

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**From:** djcarter <djcarter@memlane.com>  
**Sent:** September-14-16 9:14 PM  
**To:** donpmcmahon@shaw.ca  
**Subject:** Ken Bracko arena nomination

I am both pleased and honored to support the possibility of having a rink adjacent to the Max Bell facility named after the late Ken Bracko.

He was a quiet dedicated fan and supporter of local hockey but contributed to young persons of all nationalities in sports and to their education and personal growth in numerous ways

He was supported by his wife , family and a veritable army of volunteers in Northeast Calgary and beyond.

This was a good man...a humble man who lived his life well, with quiet dignity and purpose

Dr David J Carter  
Former Calgary MLA 1979-1993  
Former Alta Speaker 1986-1993  
Author-historian parliamentarian  
403 894.2222 or 403 502 6800  
Box 39 Elkwater Alta t0j 1c0

Sent from Samsung Mobile

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Ken Bracko Naming of Max Bell Arena

### Historical Significance

The naming of one of the rinks at the Max Bell Centre to the Ken Bracko Arena is a perfect fit.

The Max Bell Centre is synonymous with minor hockey in Northeast Calgary and it is only fitting that someone who has been so instrumental in the success of minor hockey in the Northeast and in all of Calgary Have their name on the arena.

Ken Bracko was a hardworking minor hockey volunteer long before the Ma Bell Centre was constructed. He was instrumental in the forming of the "Sam League", the Southern Alberta Major Midget Hockey League who play out of the Max Bell Centre.

The Max Bell Centre has long been the home of the Calgary Junior A Canucks of the Alberta Junior A hockey League. The Calgary Canucks have enjoyed tremendous success in graduating local hockey players to the N.C.A.A. hockey scholarships and professional careers.

The Max Bell Centre was the scene of the Calgary Junior A Canucks famous run to the Canadian Championship Centennial Cup where seats were being scalped to the watch the local players battle to a national championship.

Ken Bracko was one of the individuals responsible for the financial success and survival of the Calgary Canucks.

Christmas in Calgary means the Mac's Tournament. This tournament is respected worldwide and is identified with the majority of the games being played at the Max Bell Centre. This has translated into Calgary's local players getting maximum exposure. Ken Bracko was one of the original group who created the Mac's Tournament.

In all the years that I worked with Ken Bracko in the Northeast Athletic Association he would always say to me "let's give the local kids an opportunity and a place to play".

The Max Bell Centre has provided a place to play and the countless hours and sacrifices by people like Ken Bracko has provided the opportunity. His name on one of the arenas represents and is recognized by all the volunteers who give so generously of their time with no recognition.



Don Phelps



R.C. CLARK  
BOX 533  
CARSTAIRS, ALBERTA  
TOM ONO

City of Calgary

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Potential Naming of One of the Max Bell Arenas for Ken Bracko

I understand that Ken Bracko's name has been put forward for the naming of one of the Max Bell Arena's. I strongly support this recognition of Ken Bracko's work and dedication to young people and hockey in Calgary.

From 1984 until 1995 I was the volunteer General Manager of the Olds Grizzlies of the Alberta Junior Hockey League (AJHL) and from 1996 until 2004 was chairman of the Board of the League. During my tenure as General Manager, Ken was the voice and face of the Calgary Canucks. They were hard competitors and a strong team during that period of time. We didn't often agree on League matters but Ken was committed, honest and always working for the best interest of his players, coaches and the community. We had many good battles but he always was an honourable competitor.

During my time as Chairman of the Board of the AJHL, Ken was the Governor for the Canucks – one of sixteen in the AJHL. At the table, Ken could be difficult but always tried to look after the best interests of his team and the League. That ability was not always evident in all Governors.

Ken Bracko was a remarkable gentleman who touched the lives of many young people in the Calgary community. I strongly support favourable consideration of using his name at the Max Bell Centre.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Clark', written in a cursive style.

Robert Clark

To Whom it May Concern,

I, Evelyn Bracko, wife of the late Ken Bracko and sole executor of his estate, on behalf of myself and my family give permission for an arena at the Max Bell Centre to be re-named the Ken Bracko Arena.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Evelyn Bracko". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Evelyn Bracko