

2016 CALGARY COMBATIVE SPORTS COMMISSION BUDGET

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As required by Bylaw 53M2006, the Calgary Combative Sports Commission (CCSC) and Administration is providing Council with the CCSC 2016 updated work plan (Attachment 1), and the 2016 CCSC budget (Attachment 2). Going forward on a yearly basis, the annual report for CCSC will be presented in May of each year, with a work plan and projected budget for the upcoming year being provided to Council in September.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the SPC on Community and Protective Services recommends that Council receive this report for information.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPC ON COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES, DATED 2016 JANUARY 15:

That the Administration Recommendation contained in Report CPS2016-0019 be approved.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

Council approved the 2014 CCSC Annual Report (CPS2015-0704) on 2015 December 15. This report highlights the implementation of the Commission review, which commenced in 2014 and has continued over the course of 2015. The report includes the 2014 Commission events summary, 2014 statement of revenues and expenditures, 2015 budget and minor bylaw amendments, to clarify definitions and align the bylaw with industry terminology.

On 2014 November 03 Council approved report PFC2014-0761 which included amendments to the Calgary Combative Sports Commission Bylaw 53M2006. These amendments fulfilled the direction provided in PFC2014-0418, with the exception of the requirement for an annual report. Council directed that the annual report be provided to the SPC on Community and Protective Services, and the bylaw was amended accordingly.

At the 2014 June 09 combined meeting of Council, report PFC2014-0418 was approved, which included several recommendations relating to the administration of the CCSC.

BACKGROUND

The Calgary Combative Sports Commission (CCSC) has been regulating combative sports within Calgary for over 100 years. The CCSC's mandate is to ensure combative sports events are conducted in a safe environment for the participants, officials and spectators. Under Bylaw 53M2006, CCSC has the authority to control and regulate all aspects of combative sports events held in the city, such as the provision of officials and medical staff along with the coordination of pre-event activities such as weigh-ins.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

As required by Bylaw 53M2006, CCSC and Administration is providing Council with the CCSC 2016 updated work plan (Attachment 1), the 2016 budget (Attachment 2). The budget and work plan ensure that the CCSC can continue to regulate, govern and control professional combative sporting events and contestants in Calgary.

2016 CALGARY COMBATIVE SPORTS COMMISSION BUDGET

Within the 2016 work plan, the CCSC has identified a number of initiatives that will be explored throughout the year, including drug testing, technology enhancements, and staff training. These initiatives enhance safety, improve sustainability, strengthen customer service and will support the growth of combative sports in Calgary.

Enhancing Safety – To further enhance the safety, fairness, and integrity of combative sports in Calgary, the CCSC is exploring the potential to make drug testing available at a number of local events. The testing would align with *The World Anti-Doping Code*, the core document that harmonizes anti-doping policies, rules and regulations within sport organizations and among public authorities. Drug testing will increase the protection of participants at all levels, align with sports standards, allow Calgary to host a number of regional, national and international competitions that require drug testing, and enable local suspensions to be effective throughout North America.

Improving Sustainability – To ensure that the CCSC is able to learn and apply best practices and sustainable processes utilized in other jurisdictions, the Commission members and staff will participate in ongoing training through the Association of Boxing Commissions and the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA). Through this enhanced training and education, the CCSC will increase its knowledge of safety practices such as technical standards, regulations, appropriate combative gear, and health and medical protocols for sports participants.

Strengthening Customer Service – The CCSC is examining options to enhance service delivery to event hosts and the general public through its website content, with a focus on increased accessibility of information. The CCSC will develop an improved website to provide more robust information to the combative sports community. Further planned technology enhancements include the use of mobile technology (i.e. smartphone apps) at weigh-ins and sporting events to streamline operations and support customer service. These technology enhancements will benefit the Commission, promoters and the public by increasing ease of interaction with the CCSC, providing timely updates on events, and streamlining information access for the public.

The CCSC 2016 work plan is outlined further in Attachment 1, with the 2016 budget provided in Attachment 2.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

CCSC works closely with Administration and the combative sports community in the development of the CCSC annual report and ongoing Commission activities. This includes research partnerships to support Commission process efficiencies along with fostering the development of industry best practices.

Strategic Alignment

The 2016 budget and work plan ensure that CCSC can achieve its goal to regulate, govern and control professional combative sporting events and contestants within the city of Calgary, in consultation with Administration.

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Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

Council, over 100 years ago, determined that combative sports are part of a vibrant and diverse sporting environment. Today, combative sports continue to be a source of culture and entertainment for many Calgarians. A volunteer Commission has been identified as a valuable community resource to ensure the future success of combative sports within Calgary.

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

CCSC utilizes a self-supporting financial model, securing event gate fees to fund the regulation and coordination of combative sports events. While Commission members are volunteers, they receive an honorarium for supporting events. Administrative coordination is provided by the City and funded through the CCSC. In 2016, the commission plans to action several work plan items, funded through an existing contingency fund. The 2016 CCSC budget is provided in Attachment 2.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

There are no capital funding implications associated with this report.

Risk Assessment

Combative sports, such as those sanctioned by the CCSC, carry inherent risks for competitors. The CCSC mitigates risks by providing oversight through the bylaw provisions for licensing, rules, monitoring of events and enforcement. Risks are further mitigated through awareness of combative sports best practices including safety processes.

REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):

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ATTACHMENT

1. Calgary Combative Sports Commission 2016 Work Plan
2. Calgary Combative Sports Commission 2016 Budget