



May 26, 2021

Mr. Greg Steinraths
Regional Operations Manager, Calgary Recreation
The City of Calgary | Mail code #76
P.O. Box 2100, Station M,
Calgary, AB Canada T2P 2M5

Via Email : gregory.steinraths@calgary.ca

Re: Arena Naming Support – Wally Kozak & Perry Cavanagh

Dear Mr. Steinraths:

The City of Calgary has a great tradition of naming city owned arenas in the Calgary area after dedicated community leaders who have gone above and beyond in furthering a sport, a charity, or a community. You do not have to look very far to see the great Calgarians whose names adorn the arenas, a lasting legacy to these individuals who unselfishly contributed to help make Calgary a great place to live and play!

At this time Hockey Calgary would like to propose that the City of Calgary add to this great tradition by honoring 2 great leaders who tirelessly volunteered to improve the game of hockey in our community. Most notably, these 2 individuals focused on improving **'Access to the Game'** for all Calgarians, albeit in very different ways.

Wally Kozak

- Instrumental in fostering the growth of the female game in Calgary.
 - Technical Advisor to Girls Hockey Calgary
- Internationally recognized Coach & Leader
 - Olympic Gold Medalist, multiple National Championships; coach, scout, development director for both men's and women's national teams
- Mentor
 - Strong belief in 'Paying it Forward' and passing on his knowledge so that those who came behind can continue to grow the game.

Perry Cavanagh

- Leading Force behind the building of the Max Bell 2 Arena
 - His vision was to create 'Access to the Game' by ensuring there was adequate ice to meet the needs of a growing community.

Max Bell Arena, 1111 Barlow Trail SE, Calgary, Alberta T2E 6S2
Tel: (403) 245-5773 Fax (403) 228-0578



- Pioneer for 'Fair Play'
 - A strong desire to ensure that all participants of the game were treated equally, and that no one group took priority over another.
- Sense of Community
 - The arena was not just a place to play, but it was a community that provided a safe haven for young athletes.

This is just a very high level summary of what these two gentlemen have done for the hockey community and the community as a whole. We look forward to providing more information to meet the needs of the selection committee to help guide the decision. We respectfully ask that you provide us a timeline and any further documentation that is needed to move this process forward.

After reviewing the available arenas in Calgary, the two arenas that we propose to honour these individuals are:

- Max Bell 2 – Perry Cavanagh
- Village Square – Wally Kozak

We thank you in advance for your consideration of this request and are hopeful that we can work together to honour some deserving Calgarians. If you have any further questions or require any more information, please feel free to reach out and let me know. I can be reached at 403-245-5773.

Regards,

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

Kevin Kobelka
Executive Director
Hockey Calgary

CC: Michelle McDonald

Max Bell Foundation

105 12 Avenue SE, Suite 970
Calgary, AB T2G 1A1

February 15, 2022

Michele McDonald
Civic Partnership Consultant, Naming Rights & Sponsorship
City of Calgary Recreation
P.O. Box 2100, Stn. M
Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2P 2M5

Dear Ms. McDonald:

Please accept this letter as confirmation that Max Bell Foundation has no reservations about re-naming one of the arenas inside the Max Bell Centre in honour of either Wally Kozak or Perry Cavanagh.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allan Northcott', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Allan Northcott
President

(403) 215-7310
www.maxbell.org



2424A University Drive NW
Calgary, Alberta T2N 3Y9
403-993-8183
www.sportforcalgary.com

January 17, 2022

Mr. Greg Steinraths
Regional Operations Manager, Calgary Recreation
The City of Calgary | Mail code #76
P.O. Box 2100, Station M,
Calgary, AB Canada T2P 2M5

Via Email: gregory.steinraths@calgary.ca

Re: Arena Naming Support –Perry Cavanagh

Dear Mr. Steinraths:

The City of Calgary has a great tradition of naming city owned arenas in the Calgary area after dedicated community leaders who have gone above and beyond in furthering a sport, a charity, or a community. You do not have to look very far to see the great Calgarians whose names adorn the arena as a lasting legacy to these individuals who unselfishly contributed to help make Calgary a great place to live and play!

At this time, on behalf of Sport For Calgary Foundation, I am pleased to propose that the City of Calgary add to this great tradition by honoring Perry Cavanagh, who has tirelessly volunteered to improve amateur sport in our City, including most recently as a founding Director of Sport For Calgary Foundation.

Perry Cavanagh has had an impressive influence on both local and international sport over the last 30 years. Perry has devoted the majority of his volunteer time to youth based sports associations and programs. Perry began coaching hockey 30 years ago for his son's team. His skills were quickly recognized and he soon became the president of Southern Alberta Tyke Hockey Association, the Properties Sports Hockey Association and Minor Hockey Association of Calgary.

Perry was elected to the Board of Directors for Calgary Minor Hockey in 1998. He quickly worked his way to President and held that position for 2 terms. Perry took on a new challenge in 2012 by participating as a Co-chair of the IIHF World Junior Champion organizing committee.

In 2013, Perry transitioned to Hockey Alberta Foundation, with the sole mission of "improving the quality of life in Alberta through hockey". From 2013 to 2019, Perry was the Chairman of Sport Calgary, a volunteer non-profit society, representing all sport in the city of Calgary. During his tenure Sport Calgary was fundamentally reshaped and relaunched as a full Civic Partner under the City's new Sport For Life Policy. He also made an impact while on the Comrie's Sport Equipment Bank Society Board and was the Executive Director and General Manager of the Don Hartman North East Sportsplex Society.

Building community through the power of sport



2424A University Drive NW
Calgary, Alberta T2N 3Y9
403-993-8183
www.sportforcalgary.com

Perry's many outstanding contributions to amateur sport include Perry's lead roles in architecting and implementing the Respect in Sport parent program. Perry has won many awards for his many years of athletic service and he continued to give back through many community initiatives including "All Sport One Day" and "All Sport One City", two signature events run by Sport Calgary.

In 2014, Perry Cavanagh received the Community Hero Award from Hockey Calgary
In 2017, Perry Cavanagh was named Honoured Athletic Leader by Calgary Booster Club.
In 2019, Sport Calgary created the Perry Cavanagh Sport Leadership Award in recognition of Perry's life commitment to amateur sport.

Thanks in advance for your consideration of this request. If you have any further questions or require any more information, please feel free to reach out and let me know. I can be reached at 403-615-2229.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Sigler', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Murray Sigler | **Chair, Board of Directors**
Sport for Calgary Foundation
Phone: 403.615.2229

CC: Michelle McDonald



Calgary

Office of the Councillors

COUNCILLOR GIAN-CARLO CARRA

February 16, 2022

RE: Application for Renaming

As City Councillor for Calgary's Ward 9, I am delighted to write a letter of support for the application for honorary naming of two Calgary arenas. Hockey Calgary has brought forward to very deserving names for this distinction.

Perry Cavanagh and Wally Kozak are recognized throughout the hockey community for their contributions to advancing hockey in Calgary. Mr. Cavanagh pioneered Fair Play, a Hockey Canada code of conduct for participants and their guardians ensuring equal, fair treatment. Mr. Kozak has been instrumental in fostering the growth of female hockey and served as the technical advisor to Girls Hockey Calgary.

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 403-268-5330 or by email at ward09@calgary.ca at your convenience.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "GIAN-CARLO" followed by a stylized flourish.

GIAN-CARLO CARRA
COUNCILLOR, WARD 9



February 3, 2022

Re: Letter of Reference for Wally Kozak

Known to most as the “Grandfather of Female Hockey,” Wally Kozak is a true champion of the women’s game. His influence echoes every day in ice rinks across Canada — more young girls than ever can access female-focused hockey programs, from grassroots to high-performance, and feel pride in their representation in our country’s greatest game.

I’ve had the pleasure of knowing Wally since I was 19 years old. His selfless and steadfast mentorship has become a beacon of perspective in my decision-making. Wally’s guidance can always be relied upon for moving hockey forward, or as he states “for the good of the game.”

Wally possesses the perspective and knowledge to see hockey from every angle, to break it down and re-build, unparalleled to any other. He evolves his approach and delivery as today’s athlete changes, a perfect example of his commitment and mastery. Wally’s understanding of the impact a coach has on a player is paramount, and easily adapts his mentorship to the individual, whether in the Elite stream or Community stream.

Girls Hockey Calgary Association (GHC) has benefitted from Wally’s expertise for almost 15 years. He has provided valuable guidance to our Board of Directors and its mission and structure; mentored our Elite coaches and Community coaches; and assisted with player development of our flagship U18 AAA team. Most recently, Wally developed programming for our “Intro to Hockey” program and consulted on our “Skills Sequence” training, both long-term development initiatives created to give the volunteer coaches and our youngest players the best possible start. Wally has also served our Community Development team with a mission statement exercise to ensure we are all speaking the same language, and working towards a common goal. A goal that, for Wally, has never changed: mentoring coaches, teaching fundamentals and making better people.

True mentorship is one of our greatest inheritances. Wally’s legacy is his ability to use his expertise, passion and kindness to make everyone around him better. He doesn’t just build great hockey players, he builds great people.

Naming an arena after Wally would be a well-deserved honor as to this day he continues to grow and influence coaches and players worldwide.

Sincerely,

Samantha Holmes-Domagala
Vice President Community
Girls Hockey Calgary Association (GHC)
community@girlshockeycalgary.com
(403) 808-7776

Girls Hockey Calgary Association (GHC)
📍 5749 76 Ave SE, Calgary, AB T2C 4S6
☎ +1 (403) 278-9223
✉ admin@girlshockeycalgary.com
🌐 girlshockeycalgary.com



To: Kevin Kobelka
and selection committee

January 30, 2022

Kevin, as per your request for a references and recommendations on Perry Cavanagh. NESS, the Northeast Sportsplex Society Board of directors is honored to provide information on each of our individual past and present experiences and relationships with Perry. I have included the personal comments of each director of the NESS Board, Lou Baisi, Graham Brockway, Brian Cochrane, Ray Jones, Shiraz Shariff, Ed Stamler, Jim Stevenson, see below:

I have known Perry for about 15 years, 5 years prior to him being the GM of the Sportsplex and the 10 years after he was the GM of the Sportsplex, in that time I found Perry to be one the most honest and sincere people I have ever known both as a person and as an employ, when Perry started at the Sportsplex there were a number of problems at the arena, in the ten years he was there he made the arena one of the best run arenas in the City of Calgary, something that both myself and the Board could be very proud, I sincerely wish him and his family the best in the years to come.

**Lou Baisi,
Business Owner
VP NESS board**

I have known and worked as a volunteer with Perry in various capacities over the last 25 years. As a minor hockey coach: Perry always made himself available to get advice from and get pointed in the right direction for information. I was a rookie coach and Perry guided me in a lot of positive ways, but never down to me – always at my level. As I progressed through the years, Perry seemed always to be a step ahead in the advice he gave me. He made it easy for me to come to him with questions about handling certain situations, no matter how positive or negative the situation was. A great mentor. As a NESS Board member: Perry was always the one to look up to in how to guide the NESS ship. He took the job of Director very seriously, but had a knack of making it enjoyable at the same time. We, as a Board went through times when we did not have the right manager in place and so managed the property for the most part ourselves. Perry, as the Board Chair took this position in stride and made many major decisions for the wellbeing of NESS, but always with the total agreement of all the Board members. Perry took over the position of Manager of NESS, and the rest of the Board members took a big sigh of relief as we knew it was now in good hands and we did not have to be “hands on” in the running of it. Perry has taken the initiative to not only steer the ship on the right course, but put in place many improvements that enhance the popularity of NESS plus decrease the cost of operations. He has set in place a great guideline for our current manager and any future ones to come.

**Graham Brockway
Realtor,
2VP NESS Board**



- I met Perry in 1995 when he would drop over to the Sportsplex and volunteer his time.
- Perry helped at NESS to resolve any electrical issues we had.
- When Perry became GM at NESS he asked me join the board
- Perry's work at NESS in making it a first class facility is recognized by all arena managers in Calgary.
- Perry is highly respected in the Calgary recreation industry.
- Perry helped lead many Boards and Recreation associations in the city.
- Perry was always looking for ways to make NESS better , his mechanical knowledge and management skills sets him apart from most others.

Brian Cochrane
Arena Manager
Director NESS Board

*If you look under the word GENTLEMAN, Perry's picture would be there.
If you looked under Sports, Perry's name would be somewhere under the description.*

*Perry would always go beyond the call of duty to do anything for anybody.
He has a big and tender heart.
He wants to see people enjoy life to the fullest.
Perry was always involved in a committee or association and would bring that group to it's best potential. Perry is always fun to be around and enjoys a good laugh, campfire activities, games and stories.
Perry made a homemade Wash-Toss game.
Perry loved boating and was patient to teach others to water ski.
Perry was passionate about being involved in the Food Bank
An annual trophy was named after Perry through Sport Calgary
Perry was involved in PSA
Perry was the Chairman of Calgary Minor Hockey
Perry always had a title at the Don Hartman Northeast Sportsplex*

- *Board of Directors*
- *Executive director and CEO*

- *General Manager*
Everybody that knows Perry or has worked/volunteered with him has much respect and all-around great things to say about him. He is truly a great man and a real honor to know him (and call him friend)

Ray Jones,
Former: City of Calgary Councilor
Director NESS Board



I have known Perry Cavanagh for over 25 years. Perry and his wife Kathy have been family friends and we have seen their children grow during those years. During my political years – 1995 to 2008 Perry worked in Calgary and Northern Alberta and eventually as General Manager of Northeast Sportsplex. For the past eight years or so I have served on the Board of Northeast Sportsplex Society to which Perry reported as its manager. I am providing the following reference for Perry Cavanagh based on the years of working with him in various capacities.

First and foremost, Perry is a family person who has a great rapport with his family and their friends. He is a loving partner and parent and is a great role model for his children and their friends. Perry offers sound advice and counsel when consulted by young and old. He has always been involved in community initiatives and enjoys the communities respect in return. Perry has had a passion for sports and for advancing sporting activities for young and old. I would say he has literally dedicated his life to the pursuit of excellence in sporting activities for youth. To this end he has served as Chair of the Board at Sports Calgary, President Minor Hockey Association of Calgary, Director at Hockey Alberta, President of Rotary Club of Calgary East and as General Manager at Northeast Sportsplex to name a few and for his dedication he received Community Hero Award from Hockey Calgary, In my capacity as Board Member of Northeast Sportsplex Society I can vouch that Perry's professionalism comes through his work and working relations with his peers and staff. He is deeply respected for his leadership and advocacy. He is thorough and detailed in his reporting and follows through with recommendations to the Boards satisfaction. His attention to minute details of operation has saved a lot of resources at the Northeast Sportsplex. In my opinion Perry is one of the finest Albertans I have know and it is my prayer that his contribution to Calgary be recognized in a formal manor.

Shiraz Shariff
Former MLA,
Director NESS Board

I have been involved with Perry Cavanagh in many sport associations and facilities boards over 25 plus years. Serving on PSA Hockey boards in the mid 1990's to various NESS boards throughout the 2000's to 2022.

Perry Cavanagh has given countless hours of his personnel time to the betterment of amateur Sports in Northeast Calgary and Calgary Minor Hockey. He was an irreplaceable asset to minor sports in Calgary. Perry demonstrated a total commitment to whatever volunteer position he was in and preformed those positions to the highest level of professionalism, sensitivity and organizational skills.



He had given up a prominent electrical engineering managerial position in industry to take the general managers position at NESS, the Don Hartman Northeast Sportsplex. As NESS General Manager, he had set an extremely high operational standard for arenas and sports facilities in Calgary, Alberta and Canada. He was always willing and proud to share his experiences, the continuous improvements and best practices with all other arena managers. The NESS board of directors were very fortunate to have Perry Cavanagh as NESS's GM, which made the boards job much easier, gratifying and was a pleasure to serve with Perry. He was responsible for creating and maintaining a top level Sports facility in Canada, with a legacy to follow.

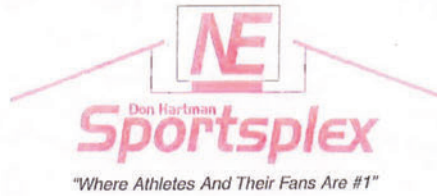
Perry is also dedicated husband, father, grandfather committed to his family and with a strong faith in God serving to the church he faithfully attends. As well, his volunteer passion was the Calgary Food Bank In Northeast Calgary.

It has been an honor and a pleasure working with Perry and having him as a great friend.

***Ed Stamler,
Former Plant Manager, Mechanical Design Consultant
President, Chairman of NESS Board***

I have worked with Perry for over 25 years in various capacities from Community Association president to city Councillor. When it comes to volunteering, you could always count on Perry to step forward. He was not only a hard worker but his friendly , warm and compassionate personality made everyone want to be his friend. He was very effective at building a team and getting things done. He is a true gentleman and I am proud to call him a friend.

***Jim Stevenson
Former City of Calgary Counselor / Calgary Business Owner
Director NESS Board***



In summary, as per the above comments from the NESS Board, Perry Cavanagh is worthy and deserving any and all accolades given to him, just for the countless volunteer hours he has given and continues to give to the Calgary community, a true Calgarian. In addition, his high level commitment to the various volunteer boards, committees, and as an arena manager has left a legacy and standard that will be difficult to follow. Considering his current, life changing health issues, at such a young age, and years of unrepresented community service, Perry Cavanagh is more than deserving of any accolades that will honor him as special Calgarian, in full public view.

Thank You,

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Stamler', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ed Stamler,
President, Chairman of NESS Board



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201-151 Canada Olympic Road SW
201-151, Canada Olympic Road SO
Calgary AB T3B 6B7
403-777-3636

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2451 Riverside Drive
2451, promenade Riverside
Ottawa ON K1H 7X7
613-696-0211

Toronto
400 Kipling Ave.
400, avenue Kipling
Toronto ON M8V 3L1
416-548-7285

Montréal
1275 Saint-Antoine Street W
1275, rue Saint-Antoine O
Montréal QC H3C 5L2
514-925-2240

January 24, 2022

To Whom it May Concern:

I have been asked if I might be willing to assist in a campaign to have one of the local hockey arenas named after Wally Kozak. To that end, I am more than willing.

Along with developing coaches, players, educators, business leaders, civic leaders, girls and boys, Wally has in fact impacted an immeasurable number of people in Calgary and beyond; so many have been touched by Wally's experience and skills in leadership. It comes as no surprise that a movement to recognize his contribution to sport, and in particular hockey, has taken on serious momentum.

I am but one of the thousands of Canadians fortunate enough to have spent considerable time watching, listening, and emulating Wally. And I must say, passion is an accurate way in which to describe Wally's approach to life and learning topped only by his care for the very people with whom he interacts. If success is measured by the way in which people have been impacted by a certain individual, Wally is a champion. And that is legacy.

Most Sincerely,

Tom Renney
Chief Executive Officer
Chef de la direction
Hockey Canada

Cassie Campbell-Pascall [REDACTED]

Tue, 9 Mar 2021,
11:57

to me

Here goes...

Hi Michele,

I just wanted to send a note to offer my support for naming an arena in the City of Calgary after Wally Kozak. I recently did an International Women's Day feature for Sportsnet and Wally was one of a few men that I included, because of his place in the women's game. He has done so much for hockey, but Wally was one of the first male coaches who truly believed in us. He treated us like professionals and he was always challenging and encouraging us to be better. He is one of the great people in our game and he continues to always give back.

Thanks for allowing me to share my thoughts on him.

Cheers

Cassie

Wally Kozak

Where can I start, I have known Wally for a long time. I had a chance to play for him at the Olympic Oval in Calgary and at the Olympics in 2002 in Salt Lake City with the National Team.

Wally is one of the most passionate people I know in Hockey, he never stops learning. He's been a great mentor for me, and he's been a great supporter to women's hockey as well. He always challenges people to teach the game the right way but most importantly to treat every player as a person first.

Wally was a schoolteacher, he never stopped teaching through hockey, he's been a life teacher.

I never seen someone as passionate as Wally Kozak!

Danielle Goyette

Hayley Wickenheiser [REDACTED]

Mon, 15 Mar 2021,
09:36

to me

Hi Tim, (forward to Michele/committee)

Ok here goes..

"I am very much in support of naming an arena after Wally Kozak. Wally is a fixture and legend in hockey circles in Calgary. Not only has he coached and played at the most elite level , Olympics and NHL, he continues to give back to the youngest of players in the game to this very day. There isn't a person in hockey in Calgary who doesn't know Wally's name or impact. His passion and selfless ability to give back emulate everything good about hockey in Canada. Wally is a great Calgarian and it would be a wonderful way to honor a man that has bettered the lives of thousands of players, coaches, and people he has come across through his lifetime in the game'

Take care

H



Wally Kozak

To whom it may concern

On behalf of the staff, and Board of Hockey Alberta we are pleased to write this letter in support of re-naming an arena after Wally Kozak.

We believe that the arena is the heart of every community, and that is where Wally has spent his life coaching, teaching, and mentoring yesterday and today's hockey leaders. We can't think of a better man to share his name and legacy on a facility in your community.

Since leaving Hockey Canada in the early 2000's, Wally has dedicated himself to serve 'The good of the game' bringing his knowledge and experience to compliment the branches programs designed to take coaches and players to another level. The philosophy of developing people through sport has been enhanced with Wally's dedication to all levels of hockey.

Wally is a difference maker; someone who has taught, advised, affirmed, and inspired others. He has served as a role model to many people over the years. He has encouraged them to reach their highest potential through building authentic relationships and creating a caring community that mutually support one another.

Being a Calgarian, Wally has been involved in minor hockey for decades. He has coached, mentored, and started a business (P3) that serves to support and educate countless players and coaches.

Wally is a lifelong learner through doing, reading, researching, and teaching at all levels of grassroots hockey. In part, that is why he started the 'Sharks' club. It began small in a coffee shop in Calgary and now has well over 150 weekly members who share their experience, leadership, and wisdom to all the participants. It isn't just hockey people from Canada that are part of the group; it has a very worldly flavor which makes participation an even better event with the shared knowledge from across the world in attendance. Each week features a guest that shares their knowledge and expertise and then allows the Sharks to dig for deeper understanding.

Wally has been instrumental in developing coaches, players, and volunteers for years within our branch. He has served as a writer/developer, skills coach, course conductor and mentor in our grassroots Team Alberta programs for over a decade. Within this scope of 'work'; his influence, philosophy, values, and leadership have been instrumental in creating positive experiences for all athletes and coaches in Alberta and Canada. He has spent countless hours writing curriculum, serving in clinics, rinks, and boardrooms. Wally was inducted into the Hockey Alberta Hall of Fame in 2017.

Wally coached women's teams at the 1998 and 2002 winter Olympics, later moving into the head scout role at Hockey Canada. He also served as Manager of player development writing curriculum for the Program of Excellence. He has coached in 3 Spengler Cup events He is also the recipient of the Gordon Jukes Award from Hockey Canada. It is awarded annually to 1 recipient in recognition of their dedicated service to Hockey Canada and ongoing contribution to the development of hockey in Canada.

Wally is a very principles and values driven individual. Decisions that he makes are based on these beliefs not on the 'flavor of the month'. His mentorship in our grassroots programs always focused on building a culture that had a mission statement, vision, and a set of values with which to operate from.



Wally Kozak

The staffs and players he worked with all came away with a lot more appreciation of the game itself and the importance of WIN/WIN coaching. Every player was given equal opportunity to play in all situations. Shortening the bench, playing only the best players were definite 'cardinals' in Wally's words (not allowed).

He believes in a Socratic style of coaching which, in its root form, points to a transformational style of leadership. Interact and engage with everyone; all have a voice to gain perspective and insight into each person. Wally has always been a process driven person where the score takes care of itself.

From the above you can see the impact that Wally has had on our community and our game to bestow his deserving name on an arena. It would be a tribute to a great man, someone who thought of others first and had a passion for the good of the game and everyone in it.

Yours in sport,

Rob Litwinski
CEO
Hockey Alberta