



# APPLICATION FOR COUNCIL COMMUNITY FUND

CC 942 (R2022-02)

***Be sure to save your completed document to your desktop before you print and/or email the form for submission so you do not lose any content. Please attach the application to the Cover report you would bring forward to the Executive Committee***

**Date of Submission – December 19, 2023**

**Name of Project – Sandstone MacEwan Outdoor Rink Redevelopment**

**Sponsoring Councillor(s) – Councillor Jasmine Mian, Ward 3 Office**

**Applicant Name – Sandstone MacEwan Community Association (SMCA)**

**Applicant Contact Number - *Include area code* – Colin May, SMCA Director At Large - 403 615 4163**

**Applicant Business Unit or Name of Organization –  
Sandstone MacEwan Community Association (SMCA)**

**Affected or Supporting Business Units and/or Departments –  
City of Calgary: Partnerships, Parks & Open Spaces**

**Amount of Funds Requested - *please include your budget breakdown details, in an attachment* -  
\$300,000**

**Draft EC cover report attached –  Yes  No**

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*Your personal information is being collected, used and disclosed for the administration and processing of your application for funding under the Council Innovation Fund Project. Your information is collected pursuant to section 33(c) of The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (“FOIP Act”) of Alberta. If you have any questions about the collection, use or disclosure of your personal information, please contact The City of Calgary’s Chief Financial Office (#8003), The City of Calgary P.O. Box 2100, Stn. M, Calgary, AB T2P 2M5 and by calling at 403-268-5664.*



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Please list supporting documents provided:

Project Drawings

2022 Lifecycle Report

Outdoor Rink Redevelopment Project Budget

Letters of Support

Provide a summary description of the project to a maximum of 2 pages –

The Sandstone MacEwan Community Association (SMCA) maintains (through its network of volunteers) two outdoor rinks - a pleasure rink and full size boarded rink. The SMCA Outdoor Rink is one of two boarded rinks in Ward 3 and was built in 1997.

Through the City of Calgary's lifecycle review of all physical assets belonging to the community association, it was concluded in 2022 that the boarded rink has reached the end of its useful life. The replacement value for the main rink components in the report was \$262,000, with the condition of most components rated as poor / high risk. This is backed by a physical and visual inspection of the rink that has noted a number of deteriorating components over the last several years, many of which are safety hazards and some have caused actual injuries.

While the SMCA has invested approximately \$10,000 of its own operating funds over the last 4 years to resolve some of these issues, the Board of Directors and users of the rink, and the community at large, all concur that the rink needs replacing and modernizing.

In July 2021, the SMCA Board commenced an engagement with the City of Calgary through its Engineering Consulting Program to start the design and development of a new outdoor rink. At that time, a preliminary design was developed and costs to replace the rink were estimated at approximately \$500,000.

Project efforts then stalled for a number of reasons, including the COVID-19 pandemic. In the summer of 2023, the SMCA & City of Calgary were able to move forward to the project bid stage.

The resulting bids were significantly higher than estimated in 2021 and were well out of the reach of the Community Association to fundraise on its own, even with the generous support of external grants and private sector donations. The SMCA has engaged with the City and other agencies in order to determine avenues to make up for this significant shortfall.

Without some significant grant awards and commercial sponsorships, the rink will not be able to continue operating for any further time - it is now at the point of rebuild or demolish. The SMCA Board, our committed 'rink rat' volunteers and the community at large, all believe that demolishing the rink and not replacing it would be a detriment to Ward 3 communities and all residents who rely on this facility.

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On any given day, we see families from Sandstone, MacEwan, Beddington, Hidden Valley, Panorama, Sage Hill, Evanston, and Kincora use the rink in one form or another. The rink has historically been and continues to be, a center piece of outdoor activities during both the summer (basketball, hockey, lacrosse, soccer) & winter (hockey, family skating). This public facility is a place where families and individuals can come and support a healthy, active lifestyle.

It brings together community in the form of volunteering through flooding & maintaining the rink through the winter months. It is also the scene of a relatively new and thriving grassroots youth basketball league, started by a recent newcomer to Canada. The rink is the scene of our annual Community Clean Up, has hosted past mobile skateboard parks, and has served at least one of the local elementary schools as a place for students to learn how to skate free of charge. Without the replacement of this rink, Ward 3 will lose one of the few remaining outdoor facilities in the area.

During the past few years, SMCA has received letters of support from municipal, provincial and federal levels of government. A community engagement survey saw an overwhelming number of respondents supportive of the redevelopment project. This summer, Livewire Calgary magazine interviewed one of the rink volunteers and ran an article on the challenges to raise sufficient funds to proceed. Our grassroots basketball program made the CBC news. And most recently, a social media campaign saw a large number of messages in support of this initiative. Through this traction, even a large personal donation from a former NHL hockey scout who lives in the community was given. Numerous other expressions of support have come from hockey coaches, parents and other members of the community.

Identify how this project meets the criteria as outlined in the Terms of Reference for the Council Innovation Fund. *Please attach additional information as required.* -

The SMCA board believes this project meets the criteria in the following ways:

The SMCA Outdoor Rink is a 100% volunteer driven, community based, and locally managed space that enables individuals and families to maintain an active lifestyle year round. The rink serves not only the communities of Sandstone and MacEwan, but many other residents and local organizations within Ward 3.

The original outdoor rink was constructed in 1997. The SMCA has proven for the past 25 years that this is a sustainable long term amenity in the community. A newly built rink is projected to have a lifespan of another 25 years.

The SMCA has a proven track record of maintaining its assets, including the pleasure rink as well as the outdoor rink. The facility has been well managed over the years, including upgrades

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and repairs as needed. The SMCA will continue to provide this support and space for community programming and services of all kinds.

The Sandstone MacEwan Community Association has not previously received a Council Community Fund grant.

**Outline the proposed timeline for this project, including the final report back date -**

**June 2024 - Anticipated start of construction**

**Sept 2024 - New rink available for use**

**Sept 2025 - Final Report**

**Identify what success looks like, and how it will be measured -**

**Success in its simplest form will be a new outdoor rink facility built in 2024. A place that excites the community with a new playing surface for year round activities, and a place that volunteers can be proud to continue to support. A new outdoor rink will show the residents of our two communities that there are people here who care about our residents, community health and wellbeing, and stimulate community involvement.**

**Success means that the proposed rink surface and curbing design will help the rink volunteers to maintain better quality ice throughout Calgary's challenging winter climate. This will enable a more consistent and extended use of the rink for hockey and skating. Year long success means more kids and their families skating in the winter, and playing basketball and other sports in the summer.**

**Success means that the new outdoor rink will create stronger engagement with local sports teams who will be able to access the rink for practices or scrimmage games, and potentially hosting tournament events.**

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