



**City of Kingston**  
**Report to Arts Recreation & Community Policies Committee**  
**Report Number ARCP 18-001**

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| <b>To:</b>              | <b>Chair and Members of the Arts Recreation &amp; Community Policies Committee</b>                                       |
| <b>From:</b>            | <b>Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services</b>  |
| <b>Resource Staff:</b>  | <b>Luke Follwell, Director, Recreation &amp; Leisure Services</b>  |
| <b>Date of Meeting:</b> | <b>March 29, 2018</b>  |
| <b>Subject:</b>         | <b>Partnership with the Limestone Boat &amp; Board Club for a Community Small Craft Club and Facility in Rotary Park</b> |

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**Executive Summary:**

Rotary Park has been an active and popular outdoor community park destination in the City of Kingston since its dedication by the Rotarians in the 1970's. The park contains active recreational amenities and is located adjacent to Lemoine Point Conservation Area. Over the years, the water quality and use of the beach at Rotary Park has declined. The park is now primarily used for its playground, picnicking, informal softball play, camp programming and off leash dog park. The Waterfront Master Plan (WFMP) recommends increasing access to the waterfront by developing a new small craft launch and/or docks in this park. The improvements to the park were forecast to be developed beyond 10 years. The works have been proposed to be advanced, by the Limestone Boat & Board Club (LBBC), as part of a funding partnership between the club and the City.

The LBBC approached staff in 2017 with a proposal to partner on the development of a community run small craft club in Rotary Park with a small launch, docks and a boat shed. Their mandate is focused on youth education, training and recreational activity, for life, and watersport programming. The club proposes to be responsible for community programming and the cost for, and management of, a public dock, small craft launch and boat shed. With Council's endorsement, in principal, the LBBC would begin to fundraise for the project and staff would develop a concept plan for the associated changes to the park and host a future public engagement.

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**Recommendation:**

**That** Council endorse, in principle, a partnership agreement with the Limestone Boat & Board Club, where the club would be responsible for community programming and the cost for, and the management of a public dock, small craft launch and boat shed within the park, and;

**That** staff report back to Council when the Limestone Boat & Board Club has secured adequate funding to support their associated responsibilities for the development of the partnership outlined in Report Number ARCP-18-001.

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**Authorizing Signatures:**

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER

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**Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services**

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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**Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer**

**Consultation with the following Members of the Corporate Management Team:**

Jim Keech, President & CEO, Utilities Kingston

Desirée Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer

Not required

Denis Leger, Commissioner, Corporate & Emergency Services

Not required

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**Options/Discussion:**

The WFMP sets out a vision for enhancing the City's waterfront areas. One of the identified projects was to develop a new small craft launch and dock area in Rotary Park. That project was prioritized in year 11 of the plan's implementation. The plan also recommended that projects could be advanced forward of the priority sequence if willing partners were interested in contributing funds or services to support the proposed works. In this instance, the LBBC are proposing to bring a contribution of approximately \$150,000 to the project and to provide ongoing programming and facility upkeep.

Council approval of the partnership would allow the LBBC to start fundraising and to apply for grants and donations (i.e. Community Foundation, Trillium, etc.).

The LBBC is a not for profit organization. The club currently operates at a location on Bath Road on the north shore of Collins Bay. The site is inadequate for their needs and is not accessible.

The LBBC notes the following accomplishments:

**2014-2017**

- Developed a free community safety program and successfully received community grants to create and run the "PaddleSafe" Kingston Program with Kingston; Partners for a Safe Community;
- Registered and trained over 400 community participants from 2016 to 2017;
- Received \$23,000 Capital Grant from Ontario Trillium Foundation;
- Hosted 2 Collins Bay Community Paddleboard and Kayak Races;
- Provided safety supervision and support for "SUP 4 CHEO" cancer fundraiser on the Rideau Canal;
- Trained 8 volunteer instructors (4 advanced and 4 basic Paddleboard);
- Certified 8 volunteer instructors with Paddle Canada's Paddle Safe Instructor Course;
- Established the Limestone Fleet of 4 Historical Y-Flyer Sailboats (all donated to the Club);
- Chosen as the Pilot Club for "Wild About Sport" with Canadian Wildlife Foundation (ages 6-12);
- Became a Club Member of Paddle Canada and Sail Ontario/Sail Canada;
- Delivered Community youth camps combining water safety, paddle skills and "Wild about Sport";
- Shoreline cleanup every year & cleaned the Rotary Park shoreline from the water;
- Started kayak training and fitness programs for recreational and open water racing training;
- Placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the K2O 100 kilometre marathon race and raised money for the Limestone Food Sharing Project;
- Free lessons and paddle days once a month minimum; and
- Daycamp programming.

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The LBBC has submitted a letter of intent with support from local Rotary Clubs (Exhibit A).

The public benefits of the partnership are anticipated to be:

- Reduced overall cost to develop and manage new water access infrastructure, floating docks, small craft launch and a boat shed;
- Works would occur sooner than identified in the WFMP;
- Public water access including club membership, demonstration days, camps and public access to the docks and ramps;
- Community programming would occur in the park, that wasn't anticipated by the WFMP, including canoeing, kayaking, stand up paddle boarding, rowing and dinghy sailing; and
- Improved park spaces, pathways, views and access to the waterfront in the park.

The location that is recommended to accommodate the proposed club activities is a natural area located south of the existing open cleared lawn area (Exhibit B). It is currently underutilized and the use and access to a small water craft club in this location would have low conflict with the uses of the current active play lawn, play structure, shoreline path or picnic area in the north end of the park. The proposed location would not reduce existing water access and views of Collins Bay from the more formally developed area of the park. The improvements are expected to require brush and woodland to be cleared in the park. The woodland in the proposed area of development is generally low quality and includes some invasive plant material and ash trees affected by the Emerald Ash Borer. There are a few large notable willow trees located along the waterfront in this area that may require pruning but are expected to be able to be retained without impact.

The limits and configuration for the club's access, dock/launch and future storage building would be developed with the City and the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority (CRCA) and would involve community engagement. Consideration would be given to reducing negative impact to the natural lands and shoreline. Planning for tree and naturalized planting as well as associated park improvements such as pathway upgrades, parking and site grading would be undertaken.

Staff have consulted with the CRCA and they have no objections to the proposal, in principal. Should the project go forward, it would be subject to their standard permit process.

The project is expected to then be developed in two phases.

### **Phase One**

- Establish formal agreement with the club;
- Develop detailed plans and acquire permits for shore work;
- Site improvements, clearing, grading, pathways, parking;
- Install docks and small craft access ramp;

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- Install club storage compound with boat racks and secure storage (shipping container, fencing, etc.); and
- Tree planting.

**Phase Two** (in future years)

- Replace shipping container with boat shed.

**Existing Policy/By-Law:**

Not applicable

**Notice Provisions:**

An open house or pop up site meeting with online information and feedback opportunities would be required as part of the engagement with park users to gather feedback from the public regarding the club partnership, terms of public access to the facilities and site configuration of the proposed works. If approved, that consultation would likely occur in 2019.

**Accessibility Considerations:**

The proposed improvements by the club include an accessible launching dock for small craft users with disabilities. Any future works would be completed in adherence to the Facility Accessibility Design Standards (FADS) and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

**Financial Considerations:**

The WFMP identified a cost of \$340,000, in 2016 dollars, for improvements to the park to improve waterfront access. \$150,000 is proposed to be contributed to the partnership by the LCCB. Some of the proposed LCCB funding is expected to be applied to works that are outside the original proposed WFMP park improvement budget and it is not expected that the community funds would significantly subsidize the project. A detailed study of the club's improvements and the required associated park improvements would be needed to determine the City costs associated with the partnership.

Some operational responsibilities would be required by the City to accommodate the club in the park including seasonal/occasional inspections, coordination, etc. It is the club's proposal that the majority of the operation of the clubs' efforts would not require City support and would not increase the operating burden or budget to the park.

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**Contacts:**

Luke Follwell, Director, Recreation & Leisure Services 613-546-4291 extension 1815

Neal Unsworth, Manager, Parks Development 613-546-4291 extension 1811

**Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:**

Damon Wells, Director, Public Works Services

Troy Stubinski, Operations Manager, Public Works Services

**Exhibits Attached:**

Exhibit A Proposal Letter from Limestone Boat & Board Club

Exhibit B Proposed Location for Limestone Boat & Board Club Docks, Storage Shed and Access

Exhibit C Map of Rotary Park

Exhibit D Rotary Park Project Page from Waterfront Master Plan

**Limestone Boat & Board Club**[www.limestonebbc.com](http://www.limestonebbc.com)[info@limestonebbc.com](mailto:info@limestonebbc.com)

% 1019 Chancery St. Kingston ON

January 18, 2018

Re: Proposal for Rotary Park Improvements

City of Kingston

City of Kingston Public Works

City Council

*scull · paddle · sail*

Rotary Park has been a corner stone of West end recreation for many years and the Limestone Boat & Board Club formally offers our support in the development of Rotary Park. We are requesting to be a partner in this project with the development of a land use agreement and committing to raise approximately \$150,000 to support enhancements to pathways, grounds and waterfront access over the next two years. These enhancements will support the growth of our Vibrant Waterfront and help to make Kingston a more Livable City.

The LBBC has a clear goal of providing a grassroots location for recreational and Pre-competitive programs. Our club goals and objectives are to provide a place where learning the basics in Kayak, Stand-up Paddleboard rowing paddleboards or open water boats or sailing small basic craft. Our activities introduce individuals to boat handling, SUP paddling, safety, training and active for life conditioning in a fun group or individual setting. Our club provides an introduction to the sports for athletes of all ages to progress in recreational and competitive programs with our pathway clubs like the Kingston Rowing Club or Sydenham Lake canoe Club where competitive activities are more prominent.

Since the summer of 2015, we have developed programs for community members of all ages. We have provided safety clinics to facilitate recreation and encourage safe participation for Kingston residents. We have created youth training and environmental awareness camps. In conjunction with the Kingston Rowing Club we offer a location for west-end High School Rowers to launch boats and train so they can participate and make it to class on time. We work closely with other community clubs and organizations to promote water sports at a grass roots level and provide pathways for community members to progress to higher levels of competition and participation. We promote a healthy, active participation, youth development skills and provide a strong base from which participants can progress in their sport to higher levels. We have created and continue to build programs that allow people to experience Kingston's gift of a great waterway. We encourage Kingstonians to exercise, increase fitness levels, and participate in healthy skill based activities.

We will support Rotary Park improvements to accommodate water sports activities, recreation and family activities. Our financial commitment will help to build wider pathways, a safe secure area for our club operations, storage and activities as well as a dock that will be available for public use and can be maintained by the LBBC. Provisions in our plans include community boat storage racks and safety equipment available along the waterfront. Increasing the presence of experienced participants in water sports activities along the waterfront will serve to enhance the activities of the community in Collins Bay and Lake Ontario by helping to develop environmentally conscious, safe and healthy activities on the water and in the park and we hope to add to this vibrant park setting.

Thank you for your consideration. A list of our accomplishments to date and proposed activities is attached with letters of support from two of our local Rotary Clubs. We hope that you find our financial commitment as well as the commitment of the countless hours that our volunteers and active paddlers will bring will make Rotary Park a fantastic, environmentally conscious location for the Kingston community.

Brad Brennan – President LBBC

AJ Vantor – Club Captain

Helen Parfitt – Director of Programs

David Casson - Vice President

Ryan Slate - Director of Facilities



## LBBC OBJECTIVE

Our activities align with Sport Canada's Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) strategy to increase the physical fitness, competitive results and the well being of Canadians in water sports. We are associated with **Paddle Canada** as a leader in recreational paddling of all types in Canada. We create a multi-sport grassroots hub for the Kingston community to work together to develop healthy active Canadians for life.

### LBBC Mission Statement:

1. To enhance and increase the availability and safety of water activities in the Kingston Community by providing learning programs with a focus for children under 14 and adult recreation on and around the water.
2. Provide a venue for small boat training and safety support for Stand Up Paddle board, canoe, kayak paddling, recreational rowing and youth or recreational sailing in Collins Bay with a safe secure storage facility and safe launching dock.
3. To facilitate and support youth athlete development in the sports of rowing at the Kingston Rowing Club and sprint canoe/kayak boats at the Sydenham Lake Canoe Club in competitive programs.

### Guiding Principles:

- Facilitate and support safe participation in water activities for youth and adults in the Kingston area by providing safe launching facilities, instruction and activities to build skills knowledge and activity.
- Provide location for SUPR/SUP recreational instruction in the sports of SUP, paddling and rowing.
- Cooperate with local elementary & secondary schools and youth organizations to provide a location for water activities and education like rowing teams.
- Provide a pathway for Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) with the Kingston Rowing Club and Sydenham Canoe Club.

### LTAD FOCUS AREAS (Sport Canada - Long Term Athlete Development)

- FUNdamentals (6-8yrs old) – Introduces fundamental movement skills and builds overall motor skills.
- Learn to Train (9-12yrs old) – Establishes overall sport skills as well as water-sense and basic boat handling skills.
- Train to Train (12-16 yrs old) – Builds general endurance, speed and strength while learning to scull.
- Active for Life (all ages) – Encourages players to remain active through rowing, either competitively or recreationally, for life.

## Notable Accomplishments and Milestones

### 2014-2017

- Incorporated as a Not-For-Profit in summer 2015.
- Became one of the first Club Members of Paddle Canada. Canada's National recreational paddle sports and safety organization
- Trained over 400 participants in PaddleSafe Kingston Free water safety and paddling clinics in summers of 2016 and 2017. All participants received Paddle Smart certification and participated in introductory activities to SUP and Kayak to increase awareness, knowledge and skills in our community. Received community grants to create and run the "PaddleSafe Kingston" Program with **Kingston; Partners for a Safe Community** - Developed a FREE community safety program and successfully
- Registered and trained over 400 community participants from 2016 to 2017
- Received \$23,000 Capital Grant from Ontario Trillium Foundation
- Hosted Collins Bay Community Paddleboard and Kayak Races
- Provided safety supervision and support for "SUP 4 CHEO" cancer fundraiser on the Rideau Canal
- Trained 8 volunteer instructors (4 advanced and 4 basic Paddleboard)
- Certified 8 volunteer instructors with Paddle Canada's Paddle Safe Instructor Course
- Chosen as a Pilot Club for "Wild About Sport" with Canadian Wildlife Foundation (ages 6-12)
- Delivered Community youth camps combining water safety, paddle skills and "Wild about Sport" environmental conservation activities and teaching
- Completed Shoreline Cleanup every year & cleaned the Rotary Park shoreline from the water
- Offered free clinics to camp programs in the summer including Loyalist County
- Started "Sit on top" and "Surfski" kayak training and fitness programs for recreational and open water race training and recreational paddle stroke improvement and healthy active programs. BYOB (**bring your own boat**) activities were also open to all community members.

### 2018 and beyond

- Host more open water community paddleboard, kayak activities with information clinics for developing paddlers of all levels and disciplines, our events are open to all skill levels and ages.
- Cooperate with local competitive water sports organizations to facilitate youth "FUNdamentals" through "learn to train" and "active for life" stages of the Long Term Athlete Development Model

19 January, 2017

Director, Department of Recreation and Leisure

City of Kingston

216 Ontario Street,

Kingston, Ontario,

K7L 2Z3

Re: Limestone Boat and Board Club (LBBC) use of Rotary Park at Lemoine Point

The Limestone Boat and Board Club has met with our club and presented their proposal to use Rotary Park for their aquatic programmes commencing in 2017. The Rotary Club of Kingston believes that this proposed use is consistent with the original vision for the park as a place where the Kingston Community could gather and enjoy the natural environment.

Established in 2014 the LBBC has demonstrated that there is a keen interest among Kingstonians to learn safe aquatic practices. In its most recent year the Club trained over 200 community members in safety and paddling skills. As well they have conducted a number of events for the community that emphasize safe and responsible enjoyment of our local lakes and rivers.

The Rotary Club of Kingston urges you to favourably consider the Limestone Boat and Board Club's request to use Rotary Park for the conduct of its training and events.

Yours truly,

Jim Vowles

President



Mr. Brad Brennan  
 President, Limestone Boat & Board Club  
 632 Rankin Crescent,  
 Kingston ON K7M7L4

January 25, 2017

Dear Mr. Brennan,

The Rotary Club of Kingston-Frontenac remains pleased to have seen Rotary Park through its "spark", planning, funding, and development over several years through to its completion in 1980. The motivation was to provide a family oriented waterfront park to serve the growing population of, what was then, Kingston Township and, now, the west end of the City of Kingston.

The whole process was fully supported by the Township of Kingston and presented as a turnkey project to the township upon completion.

It has been a pleasure to see families engaged with the playground equipment, having picnics, walking about the paths, participating in many sporting activities and enjoying the great outdoors. It served as a one time base for the Collin's Bay Water Ski club, twice the home of a bathtub race, and innumerable family get togethers and reunions.

Your request on behalf of the Limestone Boat & Board Club appears to emulate all those activities already described and also match the original intent of providing a family/community site for those activities. We are pleased to see the continuing efforts by citizens of the community, including the Limestone Boat & Board Club, to ensure that every opportunity is taken to reap the potential presented by Rotary Park, our privileged location along Lake Ontario and the people of the City of Kingston. Good work!

We would prefer to see the 45 foot trailer located near the dog park on the water side of the bushes near the totem pole.

Trusting you will be presenting your plan to the City of Kingston very soon, we hope that any questions and/or challenges can be attended to in a satisfactory fashion to the benefit of all concerned.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Moore".

Michael Moore,

President, Rotary Club of Kingston-Frontenac





L-R Brad Brennan, Helen Parfitt (LBBC Board Members), Sophie Kiwala (MPP) and Graham Ketchinson (President of Paddle Canada) Official opening and dock dedication by the Trillium Foundation of Ontario

Free Safety Clinics Supported by Community partners and grants.  
412 participants ages 4-68 during summers of 2016 and 2017



**Kids Camp:**  
Wild About Sport from the Canadian Wildlife Foundation









