

Meeting Date: March 18, 2019
Department: Community Services
Prepared By: Robert Lilbourne, Director
Reviewed By: Greg McClinchey, Chief Administrative Officer
Subject: **Brook Gibson Banner Raising**

RECOMMENDATION: **THAT: Report CS 05-2019 entitled Brook Gibson Banner Raising be received for information and further;**

THAT: Council approve the waiving of the Public Skating admission fee for March 24, 2019.

BACKGROUND

In 2018 a letter (see attached) was received by the Department of Community Services requesting that we consider raising a banner in Brook Gibson's name to recognize "Strathroy's first female hockey player to ever be drafted by a professional hockey team."

This request was first considered by staff and subsequently recommended to the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) for their review. CDAC recommended this action to Council for approval. At the November 5, 2018 Council meeting final approval was received.

COMMENTS

This banner will be raised among those banners already displayed within the Blue Pad of the Gemini Sportsplex recognizing local residents who have been drafted into the National Hockey League.

As part of the banner raising we will be delaying the start of our public skate program on Sunday March 24, 2019 for approximately 15 to 20 minutes to execute the program. With this in mind and to further recognize the accomplishment of this young lady, staff are recommending the waiving of the public skating admission for this date.

FINANCIAL

Approximately \$150.00 to \$200.00. This amount can be accommodated within the existing operation budget of Community Services.

ATTACHMENTS

Request Letter
Banner Design

Dear Mr. Lilbourne,

I'm writing to you today in recognition of another amazing achievement a young Strathroy resident has accomplished. This young lady is not only a well-respected Strathroy resident, but she is also my loving niece.

Brooke Gibson started playing hockey in the town of Strathroy at the age of 9. While playing her early development years within the Strathroy Girls hockey system, she made the difficult decision to strap on the goalie pads and she never looked back. Brooke was proud to be able to continue to play in her hometown of Strathroy by joining the Bluewater Hawks system where she continued to play through her high school years. At the age of 18, Brooke eventually graduated from Strathroy District Collegiate Institute and honorably accepted a Scholarship to Adrian College in Adrian, Michigan.

Brooke attended Adrian College and played 4 memorable years with the NCHA Adrian Bulldog's woman's hockey team. In Brooke's senior year (2016/2017) she backstopped the Bulldogs to their 2nd straight NCHA Slaats Cup Championship and eventually took them to the NCAA Division III Championship Finals for the first time ever. Brooke finished her illustrious NCHA career with an outstanding 1.60 GAA, .921 save% with 33 wins and 4 losses.

After Graduating from Adrian College, Brooke was proudly selected in the 12th round of the 2017' CWHL draft (Canadian Woman's Hockey League) by the Toronto Furies organization. At that special moment, Brooke Gibson became the first Strathroy female hockey player to have ever been drafted by a Professional Hockey Team.

For all those memorable hockey years, Brooke has had unprecedented support from the town of Strathroy including her past coaches, trainers, managers, teammates, teachers, family and friends.

Just a few short days ago we were celebrating International Woman's Day and recognizing all our remarkable woman across this Country. It made me reflect and think about how we could recognize some of these great local accomplishments in a more powerful and meaningful way, which lead me to this letter.

In appreciation of the current banners that are proudly hanging at the Strathroy Gemini for the players drafted into the NHL; I ask that the town of Strathroy take into consideration an opportunity to add a new banner that will recognize Strathroy's first female hockey player to ever be drafted by a professional hockey team.

"Brooke Gibson - Drafted by Toronto Furies – CWHL- 2017".

This is truly an opportunity that would make all Strathroy Minor Hockey very proud and it will especially prove to be a great inspirational & empowering tool for all our remarkable woman in the great town of Strathroy and surrounding towns & regions.

Please let me know if you require any further information or if I can be of any assistance in any way. Thank you for your time & consideration,

Sincerely

Derek Gibson (Uncle DEKE)

H 519.666.3605 | M 519.317.3871 | email: gibson.derek@outlook.com

36.00"

60.00"

A vertical banner with a dark blue top section and a white middle section. The top section features the '2017' year in large white letters with a dark outline, flanked by the 'STRAATHROY-CARADOC HAWKS' logo on the left and the 'CWHL' logo on the right. The middle section features a large white maple leaf with the letters 'TF' in dark blue in the center. The bottom section is dark blue and contains the name 'BROOKE GIBSON' in large white letters with a dark outline, the number '30' in large white letters with a dark outline, and the text '1ST STRATHROY-CARADOC PLAYER DRAFTED TO THE CANADIAN WOMEN'S NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE' in white. The banner is held by yellow grommets at the corners.

SINGLE SIDED BANNER x1
PRINTED ON 13OZ BANNER, HEM & GROMMETS ALL AROUND