

City of North Bay Report to Council

Report No: CSBU-2025-042

Date: April 7, 2025

Originator: Ian Kilgour and Melinda Fry

Business Unit:

Department:

Community Services

Community Development and Growth

Subject: Recognition Initiative – Agreement with North Bay Sports Hall of Fame

Closed Session: yes ☐ no ☒

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1) direct staff to negotiate an agreement with the North Bay Sports Hall of Fame to achieve a recognition area for Sports Hall of Fame inducted members; and
- 2) direct staff to include the Recognition Initiative in the 2026 Capital and Operating Budget as described in Report No. CSBU-2025-042, with appropriate cost estimates, for Council's consideration during the upcoming budget process.

Background

This is a supplemental report to Report No: CSBU-2025-006

For more than 40 years, the North Bay Sports Hall of Fame (NBSHF) has been recognizing and celebrating local sports achievements. NBSHF has a well-established process and criteria for identifying, documenting, recognizing and celebrating local sports achievements.

The organization hosts an annual induction banquet, aimed at recognizing athletes, coaches, officials, builders, and teams. NBSHF also manages public displays of North Bay's sporting history, most notably at Boart Longyear Memorial Gardens. NBSHF is supported by a network of volunteers, heritage specialists, and sports leaders, and has strong ties with local sports organizations.

The City has worked with NBSHF on initiatives since its inception. Recent discussions between City staff and NBSHF representatives have centred around developing and managing a significant recognition initiative at the new North Bay Community & Recreation Centre.

To formalize this partnership, the City proposes negotiating an agreement with the NBSHF that would:

- Establish a dedicated recognition area within the North Bay Community and Recreation Centre, designed to showcase Sports Hall of Fame for inducted members.
- Leverage the expertise of the NBSHF in identifying, documenting, and curating sports history in a meaningful and engaging manner.
- Ensure ongoing maintenance and updates to the recognition area, ensuring it remains current and reflective of new achievements.

The concept discussed to date between City staff and NBSHF representatives would involve a dedicated area in the new Community and Recreation Centre with a digital presentation of NBSHF inducted members. The interactive digital display would allow visitors to explore the content through touch, making it easy to search for specific individuals, sports, time-periods, picture, videos etc.

In recognition of the outstanding efforts by the NBSHF over the years, the City would contribute the necessary hardware for the digital display at a proper scale that would be representative of the long-standing contributions to the community and the location of the digital display in the new Community and Recreation Centre. The new Community and Recreation Centre is an opportunity to showcase the community to citizens and visitors (i.e. tournaments) alike, and this community rooted feature will provide a meaningful and authentic community experience at a scale that will impress visitors.

Financial/Legal Implications

An initial estimate for the design and construction of the recognition area is in the range of \$200-\$300k dependent on features included. Under an agreement with the NBSHF, this cost and ongoing hardware maintenance costs would be the responsibility of the City. The on-going programming and creative content costs would be the responsibility of the NBSHF.

Staff will present a detailed plan during the 2026 Capital and Operating Budget process.

Corporate Strategic Plan

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural North and Near | <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Prosperity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affordable Balanced Growth | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spirited Safe Community |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Responsible and Responsive Government | |

Specific Objectives

- Celebrate North Bay's proud history and heritage
- Encourage openness and diversity in the community for all residents.
- Support and promote community and special events.
- Ensure that Council and staff have a shared perception and goals.

Options Analysis

Option 1:

That Council:

- 1) direct staff to negotiate an agreement with the North Bay Sports Hall of Fame to achieve a recognition area for Sports Hall of Fame inducted members; and
- 3) direct staff to include the Recognition Initiative in the 2026 Capital and Operating Budget as described in Report No. CSBU-2025-042, with appropriate cost estimates, for Council's consideration during the upcoming budget process.

Option 2:

That Council:

- 1) not direct staff to negotiate an agreement with the North Bay Sports Hall of Fame to achieve a recognition area for Sports Hall of Fame inducted members; and
- 2) direct staff to include the Recognition Initiative in the 2026 Capital and Operating Budget as described in Report No. CSBU-2025-042, with appropriate cost estimates, for Council's consideration during the upcoming budget process.

Recommended Option

That Council:

- 1) direct staff to negotiate an agreement with the North Bay Sports Hall of Fame to achieve a recognition area for Sports Hall of Fame inducted members; and

- 2) direct staff to include the Recognition Initiative in the 2026 Capital and Operating Budget as described in Report No. CSBU-2025-042, with appropriate cost estimates, for Council's consideration during the upcoming budget process.

Respectfully submitted,

Name: Ian Kilgour, MCIP, RPP

Title: Director, Community Services

I concur with this report and recommendation

Name: Margaret Karpenko, CPA, CMA

Title: Chief Financial Officer /Treasurer

Name: John Severino, P.Eng., MBA

Title: Chief Administrative Officer

Personnel designated for continuance:

Name: Melinda Fry

Title: Manager, Sports & Events