



**The Corporation of the City of Temiskaming Shores
Special Meeting of Council
Tuesday, September 28, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.
City Hall – Council Chambers – 325 Farr Drive**

Agenda

Land Acknowledgement

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Approval of Agenda

Draft Resolution

Moved by: Councillor

Seconded by: Councillor

Be it resolved that City Council approves the agenda as printed.

4. Declaration of Special Council Meeting

Draft Resolution

Moved by: Councillor

Seconded by: Councillor

Be it resolved that the Council of the City of Temiskaming Shores declares this meeting a “Special Meeting of Council” in accordance to Section 7 of Procedural By-law No. 2008-160.

5. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature**

6. **Delegations/ Presentations**

- a) Billie Richer, President - Temiskaming Shores Minor Hockey Association

Re: City of Temiskaming Shores Recreation Facility COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

7. **Communications**

- a) Billie Richer, President - Temiskaming Shores Minor Hockey Association

Re: Letter to request amendment to the City of Temiskaming Shores Recreation Facility COVID-19 Vaccination Policy, 2021-09-22

Reference: Received for Information

- b) Billie Richer, President - Temiskaming Shores Minor Hockey Association

Re: Email on impact regarding the City of Temiskaming Shores Recreation Facility COVID-19 Vaccination Policy, 2021-09-26

Reference: Received for Information

Draft Resolution

Moved by: Councillor

Seconded by: Councillor

Be it resolved that City Council agrees to deal with Communication Items 10. a) to 10. b) according to the Agenda references.

8. New Business

a) Recreation Facility COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

Draft Resolution

Moved by: Councillor

Seconded by: Councillor

Whereas Council adopted By-law No. 2021-139 at the September 21, 2021 Regular Council meeting, to approve the Recreation Facility COVID-19 Vaccination Policy for the City of Temiskaming Shores; and

Whereas Council for the City of Temiskaming Shores received a request from the Temiskaming Shores Minor Hockey Association (TSMHA) requesting Council reconsider their policy; and

Whereas Council's Procedural By-law No. 2008-160, as amended states that no matter decided within the calendar year shall be reconsidered without consent by resolution of the Council, and such consent shall require an affirmative vote of 2/3 of members present and voting.

Now therefore be it resolved that City Council agrees to reconsider the Recreation Facility COVID-19 Vaccination Policy, in accordance with the Procedural By-law.

9. Closed Session

Draft Resolution

Moved by: Councillor

Seconded by: Councillor

Be it resolved that Council agrees to convene in Closed Session at _____ p.m. to discuss the following matters:

- a) Under Section 239 (2) (a) of the Municipal Act, 2001 – Security of the Property of the Municipality – Council Meeting COVID-19 Protocols.

Draft Resolution

Moved by: Councillor

Seconded by: Councillor

Be it resolved that Council agrees to rise with report from Closed Session at _____ p.m.

10. Adjournment

Draft Resolution

Moved by: Councillor

Seconded by: Councillor

Be it resolved that City Council adjourns at _____ p.m.



Sept. 22, 2021

Re: Vaccination Policy for Temiskaming Shores Arenas

Temiskaming Shores Minor Hockey Association is dedicated to providing a nurturing environment that promotes physical activity and mental well being of our players ages 4 to 18. We believe in following health and safety practices that ensure we have a safe playing environment for our players.

At Sept. 21, 2021 Temiskaming Shores Council meeting a motion was passed to require players aged 12 (2009) plus to be vaccinated to access the city's arenas for youth organized support. The province of Ontario released the following exemption for youth organized sports:

- Patrons under 18 years of age who are entering the indoor premises of a facility used for sports and recreational fitness activities solely for the purpose of actively participating in an organized sport, in accordance with the Guidance (third link).
- The exemption relating to youth under 18 years of age actively participating in indoor organized sport applies to training, practices, games and competitions.
- Proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and proof of identification (or proof of being entitled to another exemption) is required for patrons 18 years and older, including parents or guardians of youth actively participating in an organized sport.
- Proof of identification and proof of being fully vaccinated is not required for workers or volunteers, including coaches and officials.

Over the weekend both of our governing bodies NOHA and OWHA amended their Vaccination policies to match the province. The NOHA still requires adults (e.g. coaches, officials, etc.) to be vaccinated.

We have been in contact with other hockey associations in Northern Ontario (e.g. Kirkland Lake, Englehart, Kapuskasing, North Bay, etc.), and they are currently following the Province's recommendation on youth organized sports and vaccinations. As you may be aware a number of these hockey associations come to Temiskaming Shores to play our TSMHA teams, and having different rules for each community will make it very difficult for our association to monitor the vaccinations of other players.

TSMHA is requesting that the City of Temiskaming Shores amend their vaccination policy for organized youth sports to ensure they are following the guidelines of the province. This will ensure we are following the same practices between our associations in the North, and looking after the well being of our players.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,

Billie Richer
President of TSMHA

Subject: FW: TSMHA Vaccination Impact to Date

From: Billie Richer <TSMHApresident@outlook.com>
Date: September 26, 2021 at 10:01:52 PM EDT
To: Mathew Bahm <mbahm@temiskamingshores.ca>, Chris Oslund <coslund@temiskamingshores.ca>, Shelly Zubycyk <szubycyk@temiskamingshores.ca>
Cc: Trevor Desrosiers <tsmha@outlook.com>
Subject: TSMHA Vaccination Impact to Date

Hello,

I am requesting my email be sent to our city councillors and mayor.

On Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2021 the City of Temiskaming Shores passed a vaccination policy that impacted youth organized sports. It requires youth 12 to 18 to have one vaccination dose by Sept. 22, 2021, and to be fully vaccinated by Oct. 31, 2021. The City's vaccination policy went above and beyond the requirements of the Province of Ontario. On Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2021 Temiskaming Shores Minor Hockey Association sent an email to the City requesting that they follow the guidelines of the province, so we are able to ensure our hockey associations in Northern Ontario were all following the same guidelines.

The vaccination policy currently in place has created a barrier for many of our players, and have impacted our association's ability to ensure we have an equitable environment for our players to improve their physical and mental well being.

In a typical hockey season we have approximately 415 players that register for minor hockey in our community. Currently we are at 378 children registered, and since the vaccination policy was put in place we have lost 17. Of these 17 players 11 of them communicated it was directly related to the vaccination policy of youth players. We believe more parents will unregister their children in the next few days before our house league teams begin Oct. 2. We are starting to struggle with forming teams with enough players, and this may cause us to fold a few teams this season.

We have been in communication with Northern Ontario Hockey Association, and they have communicated we are the only community that has imposed stricter vaccination regulations among their teams. The Nipissing District Hockey League will be discussing at their AGM on Monday, Sept. 27, 2021 the ability of our association to take part in their league play this season. The majority of our hockey teams play in this league. It consists of teams from Englehart, Kirkland Lake, Matheson, Iroquois Falls, North Bay, East Nipissing and West Nipissing. A few of these associations have reached out to us to communicate they are not sure if some of their

teams will be able to come to Temiskaming Shores for regular season games.

It is also our hopes this season to be able to run 4 tournaments. Many teams enjoy coming to our community, which helps the economy in the restaurant and hotel sector. After a long couple year of Covid we need these type events to boost our community. A few teams, from other communities, have been asking what our vaccination policies are. It impacts their ability to bring their teams to the community of Temiskaming Shores.

TSMHA appreciates the dedication of the City of Temiskaming Shores and staff to ensure our players have a safe environment to develop physically and mentally. We look forward to working with the city to remove the barrier that has been put in place for children to be able to play, and improve their mental well being.

Sincerely,

Billie Richer
President of TSMHA

