

City of Mississauga
Corporate Report



<p>Date: March 3, 2026</p> <p>To: Chair and Members of General Committee</p>	<p>Originator's files:</p>
<p>From: Raj Sheth, P.Eng, Commissioner of Community Services</p>	<p>Meeting date: March 25, 2026</p>

Subject

Over-60s Cricket World Cup 2026 Tournament – Event Coordination and Requirements

Recommendation

That the Corporate Report entitled “Over-60s Cricket World Cup 2026 Tournament – Event Coordination and Requirements” dated March 3, 2026, from the Commissioner of Community Services be received for information.

Executive Summary

- The City has been approached by organizers of the International Masters Cricket (IMC) Over-60s Cricket World Cup 2026 to host the international tournament, beginning August 9, 2026 and lasting 15 days.
- Event organizers made a deputation to General Committee on May 21, 2025, and requested City support on infrastructure amenities and funding opportunities to host their event.
- Recreation and Culture staff have secured four permitted cricket pitches over eight dates, including two weekend dates, which represents the maximum number of pitches the City can allocate to this event without disrupting regular community use.
- Event organizers have requested that the City contribute approximately \$90,000 to cover the temporary infrastructure (washrooms, tents, shade structures, etc.) required to meet their tournament requirements. The Community Grant Program - typically a potential funding source for eligible groups - would not apply in this case, as the program is designed for local community-based initiatives. Nevertheless, the organization did not apply for funding consideration and were not formally evaluated through the Community Grant Program.
- Additionally, the event organizers approached Visit Mississauga for funding but were not successful in obtaining monies through that funding stream.

Background

The IMC Over-60s Cricket World Cup 2026 is an international tournament featuring senior cricket teams from multiple countries. As part of the International Masters Cricket Over 60s program, which regularly organizes international fixtures for veteran athletes, the event highlights the ongoing participation, skill, and sportsmanship of experienced cricket players.

Bringing together teams from several nations, the tournament provides a structured platform for high-level competition and helps strengthen connections within the international master's cricket community.

The City has been approached by organizers of the IMC Over-60s Cricket World Cup 2026, to host the fifteen-day international tournament beginning August 9, 2026. Event organizer, Akshay Pandya, Vice President Operations and Director of Cricket presented a deputation at General Committee on May 21, 2025, where staff were asked to review funding opportunities including the Community Grant Program and other funding streams. Their request includes multi-field access, a space for the opening and closing ceremonies and financial and logistical support across city park spaces. The organizers have expressed strong interest in hosting the full tournament in Mississauga and are in ongoing discussions with City staff regarding facility availability and event requirements.

Event coordination through Sauga Celebrates

The City's Sauga Celebrates Program is the established mechanism for supporting and coordinating outdoor events in City-owned and operated spaces. The program serves as the primary intake, permitting and coordination channel for large-scale community events while ensuring alignment with City policies, resources, and operational impacts. Sauga Celebrates has previously supported cricket-related and cultural events and is well-positioned to manage this international tournament.

Comments

Recreation and Culture staff are working closely with the organizers to assess operational needs and potential impacts on existing users. Following a review of the seasonal cricket schedule, the City can commit four permitted cricket pitches, including Courtney Park, Iceland Arena, Max Ward Memorial Park, and Paul Coffey Park, over eight dates between August 9 to August 23, 2026, which represents the maximum number of fields that can be allocated to this event without disrupting regular community use. The organizers have agreed to these dates and will seek additional fields elsewhere for the remaining games.

Staff have facilitated site visits with organizers to evaluate potential locations for the opening and closing ceremonies. While Celebration Square is unavailable for the requested opening date, alternative venues have been identified for further consideration. Additional review is underway to determine a viable location for the closing ceremony.

Funding

The organizers have requested a contribution of approximately \$90,000 from the City of Mississauga to cover the temporary infrastructure required to meet international tournament standards. This includes mobile changerooms, high-quality portable washrooms, tents for officials and livestream crews, tables and chairs, shade structures, boundary ropes, and other temporary support needed to prepare each ground for tournament play.

The Community Grant Program - typically a potential funding source for eligible groups - would not apply in this case, as the program is designed for local community-based initiatives. Additionally, the organization does not meet the minimum requirements to be part of the Community Group Registry Program. Given the international scale of the Over 60s Cricket World Cup, the event would not meet the program eligibility requirements and is therefore not eligible for City of Mississauga Funding. Nevertheless, the organization did not apply for funding consideration and were not formally evaluated through the Community Grant Program.

Additionally, the event organizers approached Visit Mississauga for funding but were not successful in obtaining monies through that funding stream

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts as a result of this report.

Conclusion

The City's Sauga Celebrates Program will provide support to the Over 60s Cricket World Cup, including event logistics and permitting for up to four cricket pitches over eight dates in August 2026. While the City cannot offer financial support through its Community Grant Program or Visit Mississauga, staff are collaborating with organizers on operational planning and ceremony locations.



Raj Sheth, P.Eng, Commissioner of Community Services

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