



Hamilton

City of Hamilton  
City Hall, 71 Main Street West  
Hamilton, Ontario  
Canada L8P 4Y5  
www.hamilton.ca

Recreation Division, Healthy and Safe Communities  
Lister Block, 28 James Street North, Hamilton, ON L8R 2K1  
Phone: 905.546.2424 ext. 4689 Fax: 905.546.2338  
Email: chris.herstek@hamilton.ca

Thursday, March 29, 2018

Ian Taylor, OMHA Executive Director and the Board of Directors  
Tony Martindale, Alliance Executive Director and the Board of Directors

**Re: City of Hamilton "Pilot" Proposal Hamilton Hockey Structure-Shared Boundary Initiative**

Dear Mr. Taylor and Mr. Martindale:

As you are aware Hamilton City Council directed staff from the Recreation Division to facilitate a meeting between the affiliated minor hockey associations within Hamilton and the governing bodies which you represent. Your attendance at that meeting the evening of March 28, 2018 was greatly appreciated and from my perspective progress has been made to improve the opportunities for families and hockey players with the City of Hamilton. On the following pages is a formal proposal that the City of Hamilton, staff in the Recreation Division and the four affiliated organizations has developed and support and it is the hope that the same level of sincerity and credibility is given to the similar proposals made to the individual associations early this season.

The submitted pilot proposal to the Ontario Hockey Federation, Ontario Minor Hockey Association and the Minor Hockey Alliance aims to improve access, freedom of choice for the citizens of Hamilton and strengthen the game of hockey within the city. The four affiliated organization of Dundas, Flamborough, Stoney Creek and the Hamilton Huskies have agreed to test the viability of an open and geographic subdivision for their minor hockey systems effectively starting prior to the 2018-2019 season.

The City of Hamilton would appreciate acknowledgement of receipt of this proposal and please do not hesitate to contact me should you require additional information. I acknowledge the great deal of support that you both have provided during this process and our hope is to receive a notice of decision regarding the submitted proposal on or before April 9, 2018 to allow the associations to schedule team try-outs for the upcoming season. The four organizations have assured the City of Hamilton that they are prepared to implement the pilot program as soon as it has been approved by your respective Board of Directors.

Yours truly,

Chris Herstek  
Director, Recreation Division  
Healthy and Safe Communities Department  
City of Hamilton

**Shared Boundary Initiative – DMHA, FHA, SCMHA, and Hamilton Huskies - Effective April 1, 2018 and to be in effect for the 2018-2019 Tryouts.**

The following proposal has been drafted in line with recommendations of Hamilton City Council with the purpose of addressing concerns voiced by the Dundas Minor Hockey Association (“DMHA”), Flamborough Hockey Association (“FHA”) Stoney Creek Minor Hockey Association (“SCMHA”), and the Hamilton Huskies Hockey Club (“Huskies”) that include restrictions and limitations on freedom of movement, amalgamated New City, lack of competitiveness, inclusiveness, diversity, freedom of association and economic means to name a few.

The initiative is to be offered as a Pilot Project for the 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 seasons and be re-evaluated at the end of the 2019-2020 season and again in January 2021.

The foundation of this proposal is a new shared boundary initiative between the DMHA, FHA, SCMHA and Huskies. This initiative does not require a formal amalgamation process between the four associations but does permit the retention of community identity, sponsorship and pride in the respective communities. This would also allow the OMHA and Alliance to administer a shared boundary initiative that would create a better hockey experience for its participants.

The following points outline the details of the proposed shared boundary initiative:

1. The DMHA, FHA, SCMHA and Huskies share a boundary for purposes of Representative player selection.
2. All players DMHA, FHA, SCMHA and Huskies would eligible to try out for the Huskies AAA.
3. Current DMHA, FHA, SCMHA and Huskies players would be permitted to try-out and participate in any of the associations for Representative Hockey.
4. SCMHA, FHA and the Huskies would administer hockey at the AA/Seeded and AE/MD categories only.
5. DMHA would administer hockey at the A and AE2/MD categories only.
6. Players would be permitted and not bound by any internal regulations imposed by either Association from attending or participating in respective Representative Programs in any of the four associations.
7. Tryouts would be held in the following order: Huskies AAA, SCMHA, FHA and Huskies AA/Seeded, DMHA A, DMHA-SCMHA-Huskies AE/MD.
8. The four associations would work together to determine the number of AA/Seeded and AE/MD entries at each category. The four Associations would enter teams in the Alliance Seeded and MD leagues or Tri-County Leagues as decided by the Shared Boundaries Committee. The number of Representative teams that currently exist in the four associations will not change.

9. Movement between the four Associations will not count as NRP Movement.
10. Current House/Local League programs in all the Associations will remain as currently set out unless an agreement can be reached between DMHA, FHA, SCMHA and Hamilton Hockey Council to share or combine House/Local League teams
11. There would be a Shared Boundary Committee that would have two representatives from each association. A chairperson would be elected and appointed by the associations. The committee would meet monthly or quarterly and each year would establish the number of AA, A and AE/MD teams with goal of each community being represented and each player having the ability to find the best program for their development. The idea would not be to increase number of teams that exist today. Could in fact reduce the number of teams. The committee could also work together to determine the best leagues for the teams to participate in from a competitive standpoint. There would be entries in the Alliance and Tri-County. The committee would also work with the Hamilton Hockey council to improve and enhance Recreational Hockey.
12. There will be a Pilot Project evaluation committee established that will include representatives of the associations and City of Hamilton, Recreation Division.