

# Information Report

**Title:** Davidson Centre 50th Anniversary Celebration

**Report Number:** Parks & Facilities-2024-29

**Director:** Community Services

**Manager:** Parks & Facilities

**Meeting Date:**

Wednesday, December 11, 2024

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## Executive Summary:

In preparation for the 50<sup>th</sup> year of operations at the Davidson Centre, staff are planning a series of events which will culminate in hosting a Toronto Maple Leafs Alumni game. The Alumni game, and other events will be excellent opportunities for the community to come together and celebrate the Davidson Centre as one of the focal points for recreation in the Municipality.

## Context and Background Information:

The Davidson Centre has had a long history as the focal point for recreation in the Municipality of Kincardine. Construction began at the Davidson Centre, previously known as the Kincardine & District Community Centre, in 1975. The official opening of the Davidson Centre was to be held in September of 1975, but after several delays the first event was held in November of 1975, with the Grand Opening held in July of 1976. Since the first public use of the facility in November of 1975, countless events and people have been through the building making it a true community centre.

In celebration of this 50-year history, Community Services staff are coordinating several community events over the course of 2025, culminating in a hockey game featuring the Toronto Maple Leafs Alumni. While planning is still in the early stages, staff expect to host the game in September of 2025, with other events that celebrate areas of the facility outside the arena in the weeks leading up to the game. The content of the supporting events has not yet been determined but they will focus on areas such as the pool and gymnasium.

As part of the 2025 operating budget, Council is being asked to allocate \$30,000 to support the hockey event. This funding will cover costs associated with the hockey game. However, staff expect the hockey game to be cost neutral through a combination of sponsorship opportunities, ticket sales, local partnerships and revenue generating opportunities offered by the Leafs Alumni Association (ex. VIP meet and greets with the Leafs).

At this early stage, staff are working on solidifying timelines for the event and a supporting plan that will include sponsorship opportunities, volunteer opportunities, ticket prices, ticket distribution, and game day logistics. Staff will be sure to provide Council periodic updates on the progress of the event planning.

Staff have been working on a logo (below) that will be used to celebrate the occasion, and will be featured on staff uniforms, the DC ice pad, and letterhead.



### **Consultation Overview:**

Staff will be engaging in conversations with our user groups, community groups, and local businesses to determine if there is interest in supporting the event in various capacities. Initial consultation will be with Kincardine's Ice user groups (ex. Bulldogs, KMHA, Skating Club) to determine levels of support in helping the event be a success. Staff will also be seeking sponsorships and volunteers who are interested in supporting various aspects of the celebration.

### **Origin:**

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Davidson Centre

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**Attachments:** None

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