



Sept. 18th, 2024

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of Douro Minor Hockey, I am writing to express our support for a grant application to finance the much-needed repairs to the Douro Community Centre specifically the arena ice surface.

As a grassroots hockey organization serving Douro-Dummer, we rely on our local arena to provide opportunities for youth in our community to participate in sports, stay active, and support the healthy development of our youngest residents.

Douro Minor Hockey provides programming for over 235 of our community's youth, ages 3yrs to 21yrs of age. For many families, our hockey program is an essential part of community life, offering a safe and inclusive environment for youth of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. Hockey not only helps keep our youth physically healthy, but it also fosters social connections and mental well-being, especially in rural or under-resourced communities like ours.

Unfortunately, our arena, which has been the heart of our hockey program, is in urgent need of repair. Due to aging infrastructure, the current ice surface is past its predicted life expectancy and is regularly in need of temporary fixes resulting in increased costs. Without immediate repairs, the floor could fail at any time, deeming the ice surface unusable, reducing the number of children who can participate in our programs or even face temporary closures that would significantly impact our community.

Funding would enable Douro-Dummer Township to:

- Replace the ice surface and supporting infrastructure in planned, predictable way, eliminating an unexpected interruption in programming, mid-season.
- Upgrade facilities to ensure that it is energy efficient, reducing operating costs which in turn would support Douro Minor Hockey in keeping registration fees as low as possible.
- Improving safety features and accessibility within the facility for all participants and spectators.

These repairs are crucial to ensuring that our facility remains a safe, sustainable, and inclusive space for future generations of players and families. With your support, we will not only preserve a vital community asset but also continue to provide affordable, quality hockey programming for youth of all socio-economic backgrounds.

Thank you for considering our request. We are deeply committed to providing a positive impact on the lives of young athletes and fostering a strong, connected community through hockey.

Should you require any further information or documentation, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

pp. Kerri Riel, Secretary

Douro Minor Hockey