

Business Case

Multi-Purpose Indoor Facility

Presented by West Kelowna Minor Baseball (WKMBA)

Objective

To build a multi-purpose indoor facility between fields B2 & B3 on park land, available for use by various sports organizations, including, but not limited to, all baseball programs (ie. Minor Baseball, Minor Softball, MBSS Baseball Academy, Adult Softball), Lacrosse, Soccer, etc.

Current Situation

While the multi-sport dome has been a fantastic addition and a tremendous benefit to our community, each organization outside soccer is restricted to just one timeslot. With over 300 members in WKMBA alone, this single slot can only accommodate a fraction of our athletes. Unfortunately, with the school district not allowing baseball activities in school gyms, our indoor training options are extremely limited unless we're willing to travel across the bridge. Additionally, our sole outdoor batting cage is in constant demand.

Solution

Construct a versatile indoor facility that can be configured for open space usage across multiple sports or sectioned off with drop-down nets to create multiple batting/pitching cages. The facility will also include a meeting space, washrooms (to replace the current port-o-potty at B3), and storage areas for associations. This can also help support the need for additional diamonds. Our 3 diamonds are also heavily overbooked and having additional space would allow teams to get in training while the diamonds are in use. Included are blueprints for a similar facility that is being built in Kelowna at Edith Gay Park.

Cost

We are not looking for city funding. The project will be funded through donations and contributions from local associations. The only ask we have from the city is for the park space to build.

Seasonal Usage Flexibility

The facility's indoor, climate-controlled design will support year-round use, making it possible for athletes to train and for sports programming to continue uninterrupted, regardless of weather. This flexibility would maximize utility and accessibility for various sports organizations.

Stakeholder Support

Initial feedback from local sports organizations and school programs has shown strong support for such a facility. By offering a shared, multi-purpose space, we can foster collaboration among different groups and expand community engagement in recreational and sports activities.

Long-Term Vision

This facility serves as a long-term investment in local sports and community engagement, with potential future partnerships with schools and community groups to expand programming. It opens opportunities to develop new initiatives, such as youth sports clinics, community fitness programs, and inter-association events.

Operation

We are open to varied operational models, from full operation by WKMBA to city managed, like the multi-sport dome. We see the need for a facility and are open to any collaboration that can help get the project off the ground.