

Fort Frances Lakers

Mayor and Council

Monday, September 26, 2016



Frances Lakers Hockey Association/Board Position Paper on Practice Ice Time Costs

The Fort Frances Lakers Hockey Team under the auspices of the Fort Frances Lakers Hockey Association/Board contributes to the community fabric life of Fort Frances both through their volunteerism efforts and their hockey prowess on the ice in the form of good competitive junior 'A' hockey action. The Fort Frances Lakers Hockey Team also provides GREAT recreational entertainment for many citizens, young and old, and is proud to play a part in the vibrancy of Fort Frances.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES WHICH THE LAKER PLAYERS VOLUNTEER FOR

1. Loading Healthy Living Food Boxes
2. Lakers Adopt-a-School Program
3. Salvation Army Christmas Drive
4. Fort Frances Minor Hockey evaluations
5. Available to assist FFMH coaches
6. Visits to Seven Generation Schools
7. On occasion the Lakers have read to RainyCrest residents

\$260K Budget.

The Memorial Sports Centre is one of the finest venues in the Superior International Junior Hockey League and the Fort Frances Lakers Hockey Team is proud and privileged to call the Ice for Kids Arena their 'hockey home'. The Fort Frances Lakers are pleased to be a contributing economic participant to the Town's coffers by way of ice rental, canteen sales and other business spinoffs resulting from Junior 'A' hockey being played in Fort Frances.

The Fort Frances Lakers Hockey Association/Board operates and administers a bare bones budget which identifies only essential expenditures. A significant budgetary item that needs to be reduced is the cost of practice ice time, 'dead' ice time, that provides no revenue to the Town's coffer if in fact the Fort Frances Lakers did not use it.

Practice Ice Time Costs for Other SIJHL Teams

1. Dryden pays \$43.41/hr. for practice ice time which is during the mornings when there is no competition for the ice.
2. English River pays \$62/hr. for practice ice time which is during the mornings when there is no competition for the ice.

Practice Ice Time Costs for the Fort Frances Lakers

The Fort Frances Lakers pay \$85.26/hour, practice an average of 4 times a week, which is approximately 135 practices in a season. The cost for the Fort Frances Lakers practice time in a typical hockey season is approximately (135 x \$85.26 = \$11,510). A reduced rate comparable for practice ice time similar to the aforementioned SIJHL teams would help diminish the Lakers budgetary expenditure on rental ice time and as a result the FFLHA/Board would be in a better position to extend and consolidate their ongoing efforts to balance their budget.

The Fort Frances Lakers Hockey Association/Board asks Mayor and Council to take under advisement their decision to reduce the Lakers practice ice time costs to a more equitable rate in keeping with other SIJHL teams! The FFLHA/Board is happy to be a contributing partner to the Town's economic viability and will continue to do business with the Town of Fort Frances.

Milt Strachan

President of the Fort Frances Lakers Hockey Association/Board



**Believe, Achieve & Succeed
Witness The Power**

**Community Owned &
Community Operated!**