

REPORT

TO: Mayor Avis and Council

FROM: Jason Kabel, Community Services Division Manager

DATE: May 18, 2018

RE: **Memorial Sports Centre Concussion Policy**

At the February 5, 2018 regular meeting of the Community Services Executive Committee, the committee considered a draft concussion policy brought forward as a response to the provincial requirement to employ a concussion policy, a requirement for making applications to various grant opportunities.

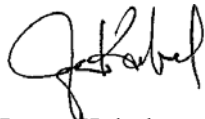
Heather Gushulak, Regional Advisor - Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport advised that the Town will need to show proof of a draft concussion policy in development to be approved for the Ontario Sport and Recreation Communities Fund application - Spinning into the Future – Waterfit Program initiative in the amount of up to \$27,152.

Mayor Avis received notification that the application has been approved, however Heather Gushulak, Regional Advisor has confirmed that she still needs to see proof of the draft concussion policy to proceed with fund dispersal to the Town for the grant.

Recommendation

The Community Services Executive Committee recommends to Mayor and Council to endorse the attached concussion policy for the Memorial Sports Centre.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jason Kabel

<p>Council approval of this report will endorse the concussion policy for the Memorial Sports Centre effective immediately.</p>
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THE TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

Section: Community Services – Memorial Sports Centre

Policy: Concussion Policy

Creation Date: May 2018

Resolution Number: DRAFT

Policy Number:

1.0 Purpose

To ensure that participants in Town of Fort Frances recreation programs, along with town recreation staff, are aware of the signs and symptoms of concussions.

2.0 Definition

A concussion:

- is a brain injury that causes changes in how the brain functions, leading to symptoms that can be physical (e.g., headache, dizziness), cognitive (e.g., difficulty concentrating or remembering), emotional/behavioral (e.g., depression, irritability) and/or related to sleep (e.g., drowsiness, difficulty falling asleep);
- may be caused either by a direct blow to the head, face or neck, or a blow to the body that transmits a force to the head that causes the brain to move rapidly within the skull;
- can occur even if there has been no loss of consciousness; and,
- cannot normally be seen on X-rays, standard CT scans or MRIs.

3.0 Responsibilities and Authorities

The Town of Fort Frances will promote a concussion awareness strategy by:

- Providing training to Memorial Sports Centre staff on signs and symptoms of potential concussions through regular first aid training, advising potential concussion sufferers to seek medical attention;
- Support user groups with concussion awareness strategies (e.g. posting concussion posters and offering brochures) in Town facilities.

4.0 Related Documents

This policy will complement preventative measure practices that are already operational in Town of Fort Frances facilities and programs, including but not limited to:

- Practices around helmet use during hockey, shinny, skate boarding (skate park), and public skating.