Municipality Of Chatham-Kent

Corporate Services

Municipal Governance

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Meredith Cadotte, Council Coordinator

Date: June 9, 2021

Subject: Renaming of St. Clair College Chatham Campus Ball Diamonds to Bob Weedon Field

Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. The St. Clair College Chatham Campus Ball Diamonds be renamed to Bob Weedon Field

Background

Council received a report recommending the renaming of the St. Clair College Ball Diamonds to the Bob Weedon Field on September 14, 2020. The following motion was approved at that meeting:

"That the renaming application be postponed until the Naming Rights Strategy is completed."

Council received the Naming Rights Strategy report on June 14, 2021 and approved the following motion:

"That

- 1. The new Corporate Sponsorship Policy (Appendix A) be approved.
- 2. The existing Commemorative Naming Policy (Appendix B) be approved as edited.
- 3. The List of Prioritized Assets for Sponsorship be approved.
- 4. The Naming Rights Company (TNRC) be directly appointed to implement the next step of the process, referred to as the sales process for the List of Prioritized Assets.
- 5. The General Manager, Corporate Services/Chief Human Resource Officer be authorized to sign the Phase 2 commission-based contract with The Naming

Rights Company subject to the approval of the terms of the agreement by the Director, Legal Services.

- 6. A cost centre be set up to track the proceeds and commission expense with the net proceeds to be reserved for future purposes to be determined in a future report to Council.
- 7. The temporary hold placed on applications to the Commemorative Naming Policy now be lifted."

As the Naming Rights Policy has been approved and the temporary hold on applications to the Commemorative Naming Policy have been lifted, the application to rename the St. Clair College Ball Diamonds to the Bob Weedon Field has been brought back to Council for consideration.

Comments

In early 1980's a partnership was formed with St Clair College Thames Campus to build three slo-pitch diamonds and three soccer pitches for community and school use on College property located at 23463 Bear Line and 100 Fergie Jenkins Way in the community of Chatham. Since the inception, the facility has been called Thames Campus Ball and Soccer Complex. The facility was developed by the former city of Chatham in partnership with various grants and partners which included the Maple City Slo-Pitch League. In 2010, the facility was further enhanced with a Rinc Project grant to add concrete around the three ball fields and irrigation to allow for continued play. The facility is one of the busiest ball complexes in Chatham-Kent for various levels of play for all ages young and old.

Last year Chatham Parks & Horticulture was contacted by Maple City Slo-Pitch to see if it would be possible to honour the efforts and achievements of long term president Bob Weedon by re-naming the field in his honour as he has stepped down as president following over 40 years of dedication to Slo–Pitch in Chatham. Chatham Parks administration is in full support of this request. As part of the application, St. Clair College Senior Administration was contacted as the land the ball diamond in on is owned by the College. They are also in support of the renaming. A copy of the email from St. Clair College is included in the renaming application.

As per the requirements of the Commemorative Naming Policy, a renaming application form was submitted and is included with this report as Attachment A. Once the application form was received, the proposed name change was advertised on the municipal website for public comment using Let's Talk CK.

The public comments were overwhelmingly in favour of the renaming with 174 of the 191 respondents indicating they were in support of the renaming of the St. Clair College Chatham Campus Ball Diamonds to the Bob Weedon Field. A list of all the public comments are provided in Attachment B.

Areas of Strategic Focus and Critical Success Factors

The recommendation in this report supports the following areas of strategic focus:

Economic Prosperity:

Chatham-Kent is an innovative and thriving community with a diversified economy



A Healthy and Safe Community:

Chatham-Kent is a healthy and safe community with sustainable population growth



People and Culture:

Chatham-Kent is recognized as a culturally vibrant, dynamic, and creative community

Environmental Sustainability:

Chatham-Kent is a community that is environmentally sustainable and promotes stewardship of our natural resources

The recommendation in this report supports the following critical success factors:



Financial Sustainability:

The Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is financially sustainable

Open, Transparent and Effective Governance:

The Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is open, transparent and effectively governed with efficient and bold, visionary leadership

Has the potential to support all areas of strategic focus & critical success factors

Neutral issues (does not support negatively or positively)

Consultation

The Acting Director of Parks, Recreation and Cemeteries and the Supervisor of Chatham Parks and Horticulture were consulted during the preparation of this report.

Financial Implications

The current signage at the St. Clair College Chatham Campus Ball Diamonds is in need of replacement. The cost of the replacement sign is approximately \$1000 and will be covered under existing budget for park signage if the renaming is approved.

Prepared by:

Reviewed

Meredith Cadotte Council Coordinator Judy Smith, CMO Director, Municipal Governance/Clerk

Reviewed by:

Cathy Hoffman, MPA, CHRL General Manager, Corporate Services/ Chief Human Resources Officer

Consulted and confirmed the content of the consultation section of the report by:

Scott Mailing Acting Director Parks, Recreation and Cemeteries Deb Veccia Supervisor Chatham Parks and Horticulture

Attachment(s): Attachment A – Renaming Application Attachment B – Summary of Public Comments

Municipality of Chatham-Kent Commemorative Naming Policy Appendix A - Naming Application Form

Nominator's Information

Name: Kurtis Holmes, Maple City Slo Pitch League President

Mailing Address: , Chatham Ontario,

Telephone:

E-mail: maplecityslopitchleague@gmail.com

Information Concerning the Proposed Name

Which Municipal property or facility are you submitting this name for: St. Clair College - Chatham Campus Ball Diamonds

Proposed Name: Bob Weedon Field

If the name suggested relates to the commemoration of an individual who is alive, please provide the individual's contact information in the section below. Note: A Commemorative Name may be used only once in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent – subsequent requests will be denied.

Name of Nominee: Bob Weedon

Mailing Address: , Chatham, ON Telephone: E-mail:

Applicable Criteria (select all that apply)

The nominated names give a sense of place, continuity, belonging and/or celebrates the uniqueness and distinguishing characteristics of Chatham-Kent

The nominated name maintains a long-standing local area identification with residents of Chatham-Kent

The nominated name promotes pride in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, acknowledges local heritage, history and/or recognizes the unique features and geography

The nominated name recognizes the contributions or organizations such as a partnership with or without financial contribution

The nominated individual/family had demonstrated excellence, courage or exceptional service to the citizens of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, the Province of Ontario and/or Canada

The nominated individual/family has an extraordinary community service record

The nominated individual/family has worked to foster equality and reduce discrimination A direct relationship or association existed between the place of residence of or community efforts undertaken by the individual/family and the property/building or element to be named.

The nominated individual has made a significant financial contribution to a park or facility, and the contribution significantly benefits the community that the park or facility serves

The nominated name has historical significance

Rationale

Please describe the rationale for Nomination.

Bob Weedon has been an outstanding member of the Chatham- Kent community for 50+ years. Bob has made significant contributions to the Chatham-Kent sports landscape through his decades of work with Maple City Slo Pitch, Slo Pitch Ontario and the numerous coaching, umpiring and executive roles he has held over the past 40 years. 2019 marked the final year for Bob as President of Maple City Slo Pitch, a role that he held since 1978. We feel that this nomination is a testament to the spirit of excellence and extraordinary community service that Bob has provided over the year. Please refer to the attached letter from the Maple City Slo Pitch executive that further details Bob's achievements and awards and the reasons for this nomination.

Additional Information Required Please attach the following information as required under Section 3 of the Commemorative Naming Policy:

- organization or an individual) demonstrating that the proposed name is of significance to the community and/or the municipality;
- Documentation including letters from organizations and individuals providing substantial support for the request;
- Documentation verifying that the person/organization being honoured is in agreement with the naming proposal (if they are living), or by their legal representative should they be deceased.

Consent

I have submitted all information accurately and completely to the best of my knowledge

I have read and understand the Municipality of Chatham-Kent Commemorative Naming Policy Understand the Municipality is under no obligation to accept my proposed name, and my proposal may be declined by the Municipality at any time and for any reason during the review

I understand that Municipal staff may contact me at any time during their review of this proposal for further information as needed

Nominator's Name Kurtis Holmes

Mr. Mayor and Members of Chatham-Kent Council,

This note is finding its way to you from the Executive and membership of Maple City Slo-Pitch League (MCSPL) who would like to recognize one of our founding members Robert (Bob) Weedon with naming the Diamonds at St. Clair College 'Bob Weedon Field'.

Why should you and the community recognize Bob Weedon in this manner,

In 1974 MCSPL was formed, and Bob Weedon was elected as President in 1978. Bob has carried the President position for over four decades purely for the love of the game and its membership. It didn't stop here he joined Slo-Pitch Ontario Association (SPOA) and served in many roles over the years including President, Secretary\Treasurer along with Zone Director. Plus, we can't forget he is also a carded Umpire for Slo-Pitch. Below is a list of some of Bob's roles, achievements, and awards over his tenure:

Assignments\Achievement

- 1978-2019 President of Maple City Slo-Pitch League
- 1984-2019 Executive Member of Slo-Pitch Ontario Association (SPOA)
- 1989-1993 Coached Senior Men's 50+ Slo-Pitch Team
- 1991-2019 Executive Member of Softball Ontario
- 1992-1997 President of Slo-Pitch Ontario, voting delegate of Softball Canada
- 1996-2000 Coached Women's Slo-Pitch Team
- 1997 Umpired in Ontario Special Olympics Summer Games
- 1998-2019 Secretary\Treasurer of Slo-Pitch Ontario Association (SPOA)
- 1999 invited to umpire at World Special Olympics Summer Games in Raleigh, NC

Awards

- 1998 Appreciation Award from Maple City Slo-Pitch for over 20 years of service
- 1999 Slo-Pitch Ontario Association Appreciation Award for 15 years of service
- 1999 Certificate from Meritor Automotive for Community Participation
- 1999 inducted into Slo-Pitch Ontario Association Hall of Fame (Builder Category)
- 2006 Government of Ontario Syl Apps Volunteer Achievement Award
- 2011 inducted into Chatham Hall of Fame (Builder Category)
- 2019 Softball Ontario Hall of Fame (Organizer\Builder Category)

Bob has been involved in this sport of Slo-Pitch for many years in various ways. This should not overshadow his Love and Dedication to his Wife Sylvia and his two children Jim Weedon & Kathy Szymanski plus his grandchildren.

Bob was very instrumental when St. Clair College was looking to build the Diamonds at the College. MCSPL has contacted the administration of St. Clair College and they are fully supportive of this initiative; would it not be rewarding to our community to name these fields after Bob?

Bob further served his community when he sat on the Committees for the Centennial Clock along with Municipal Alcohol Policy.

In closing Bob has been a builder of the sport of Slo-Pitch and he has been a shining example of volunteerism, sportsmanship, and community fellowship. Our community is a better place with someone as passionate as Bob and words cannot express one's life time of giving.

On behalf of the Executive Maple City Slo-Pitch League and its membership, thank you for taking the time necessary to review our proposal.

Sincerely,

Rodney Juniper, Vice President MCSPL John Lane, Treasurer MCSPL 2019 John Compton, President Men's Masters 2019 Colin Lewis, President Men's Masters 2020 Stephanie Massender, President Ladies Master Scott Williston, Umpire-in-Chief Kurtis Holmes, President MCSPL 2020 Colleen Chepeka, Treasurer MCSPL 2020 ----- Forwarded message -----From: "Daniel Chauvin" To: "Deb Veccia" Cc: "Rodney Juniper" Sent: Thu., 15 Aug. 2019 at 4:38 p.m. Subject: Re: Thames Campus Diamonds Good afternoon Deb.

The potential renaming of the Thames Campus Ball Diamonds was discussed at a meeting today with Senior College Administration.

The College has no issue with the renaming and support the renaming of the diamonds.

Best wishes as you move forward with your process and if I can be of any assistance please let me know.

Regards

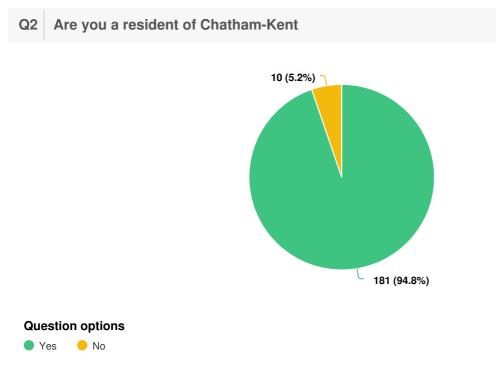
Dan

Renaming Request Survey

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

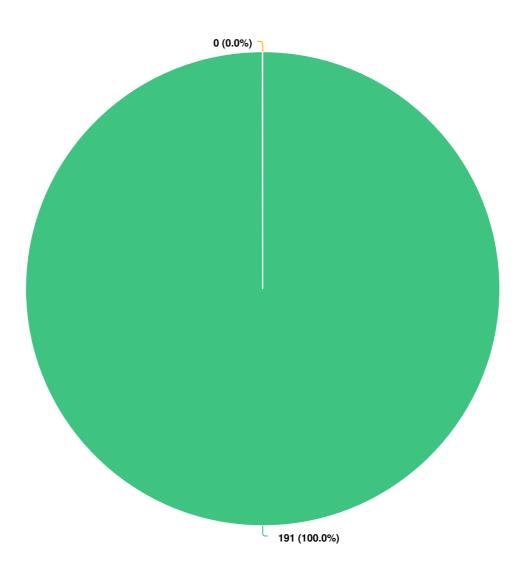
PROJECT NAME: Renaming Request for Baseball Fields

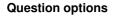




Mandatory Question (190 response(s)) Question type: Radio Button Question

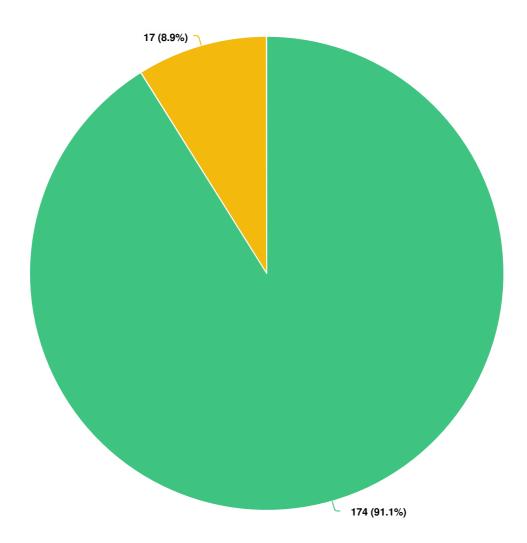






🔵 Yes 🛛 😑 No

Mandatory Question (190 response(s)) Question type: Radio Button Question Q4 Do you support the re-naming of the St. Clair College-Chatham Campus Ball Diamonds to Bob Weedon Field





Mandatory Question (190 response(s)) Question type: Radio Button Question

Q5 Please explain why or why not.

7/08/2020 11:52 AM

7/08/2020 12:24 PM

Anonymous 7/08/2020 02:32 PM

Anonymous 7/08/2020 05:44 PM

Anonymous 7/08/2020 06:02 PM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 08:02 AM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 08:22 AM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 08:23 AM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 08:57 AM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 09:00 AM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 09:00 AM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 09:01 AN Bob has made a huge impact on the slo-pitch community in Chatham. There is a lot of work that goes into running a league of this size and he has done a wonderful job for over 40 years

What an amazing tribute to a man who volunteered his time for over 40 years to help others in the community. It is an honour to dedicate the fields in his name as he was so passionate in keeping the community active. He's been a community leader in Slo Pitch for decades. It's a well-deserved honour.

I've known Bob for 5+ years and have been involved in Maple City Slo Pitch..Bob has shown a tremendous amount of dedication and passion for supporting local sports, and he is a major reason for the sustained success and growth of slo pitch in Chatham Kent area. This renaming would be an excellent way to show our gratitude to Bob for his decades of service. He has grown the game of Slo Pitch in Chatham.

I am not a current resident but was born and raised in Chatham, I currently reside 10 minutes north of Tilbury and I play in the Slo-Pitch league that Bob has dedicated so much of his life to. If this does not go through because some people did not fill out a survey...shame on you Chatham-Kent! I have played ball with slo pitch league for 30 years. Bob has always been there in some way. He's an amazing guy always helping teams and others to achieve there baseball dream. To this day he still reminds me to "watch the ball" This would be a great heart felt honour for someone that has given all of maple city Slo pitch people a boost in some way or another. Bob is a shinning example of what it takes to succeed in a non-profit organization to keeping a sport moving forward as the game evolves over time. For the Love of the Game

He is a living legend that has dedicated his life to baseball in Chatham

Bob who was the president of maple city slo pitch and the executive were the ones that built the diamonds at St Clair and have always improved and maintained the quality of many diamonds around the city. The league has always put money into the diamonds. He has always promoted the game and the sportsmanship of the game. The renaming of the diamond is well deserved and it would be nice for him to see it happen. Great guy. Firm but fair. I've played in for-profit leagues outside CK and the leadership are not nearly as dedicated as he was. Kept MCSPL going all these years. He is known well beyond CK for his involvement in the sport. Recognition is well deserved. Great tribute to a great man.

Anonymous 7/09/2020 09:01 AM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 09:05 AM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 09:07 AM

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Anonymous 7/09/2020 09:19 AM

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Anonymous 7/09/2020 09:23 AN

Anonymous 7/09/2020 09:26 AN

Anonymous 7/09/2020 09:39 AN

Anonymous 7/09/2020 10:20 AM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 10:35 AN

Anonymous 7/09/2020 10:43 AM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 10:49 AM

Anonymous

Bob has done so much for all pitch in Chatham kent

I feel the current name is appropriate. Numerous leagues play there and I don't believe it is needed. Add a bench or rename the pavilion perhaps.

Bob has given an incredible amount of his time to this league and all of us over more time than I've even been alive. This is a no brainer and everyone involved with slo pitch will agree.

It isn't needed at this time. So many other leagues play there.

No thanks! What did he do to improve them?

Many leagues play there.

The current naming works.

He kept the women's leagues out of there for years. Doesn't deserve it!

God no! Terrible track record in regards to the treatment of female players.

He is a good guy and very devoted to Baseball why not rename the diamonds

Prefer to keep the name neutral

I started at the Chatham News sports department in 1975, the second year of slo-pitch's existence in Chatham, witnessed and chronicled the explosive growth for the next 30 years. Thousands of people had the opportunity to be physical active over the years through slo pitch, and it was under Bob Weedon's vision and leadership that allowed this sport to thrive in our community, devoting much of his adult life for men and women to play slo-pitch from their 20s into the 60s and 70s. Renaming the Thames Campus slo-pitch diamonds in Bob's name would be a tremendous tribute to honour a man who has given so much to this community.

Bob is such a great representation of being a part of the Chatham-Kent Slo Pitch league. He is always at the ball park, his passion for the game resonates throughout the years he has been involved, and often, being a commissioner for the length of time he was, it is a thankless job. I 100% support the approval of this name change, so that Bob's legacy will live on, years beyond our lives.

Bob Weedon has been an integral part of Maple City Slow Pitch for many many years. He is great man and I think this would be awesome to name the field after him.

Anonymous 7/09/2020 11:40 AM

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Anonymous 7/09/2020 03:30 PM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 03:52 PM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 04:33 PM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 05:50 PM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 06:49 PM

Anonymous 7/09/2020 07:03 PM Bob has been a part of C-K baseball for such a long time! His dedication to the sport and selflessness have made such a positive impact on all of us, and this is a great way to honour his years of service. Very deserving. I have been playing Slo-Pitch for many years in Chatham and I know how much Bob Weedon contributed to the league. His dedication to the sport deserves to be remembered. I support re- naming the Ball Diamonds at St. Clair College-Chatham Campus in his name.

He has been a huge part of slopitch and making it the success that it is. He has also fixed up the St Clair fields amazingly for the entire community to use.

Bob has always been huge in our baseball world, helpful when behind the plate or not, giving tips and helping making you better. I believe he deserves this for the recognition in the baseball world

Bob has worked tireless for 40+ years in helping to organize, maintain and improve the slo-pitch landscape within Chatham-Kent. His service and dedication to the sport is second-to-none. I fully support this recommendation and it's acceptance should be unanimous. A plaque, stone or entryway should also be considered within the tri-ballfield grounds.

100% yes. 50+ years of service and dedication to baseball in the city. He deserves this honor.

Local citizen supportive of CK sports and their success - no reason not to rename it!

He is the number one reason the diamonds are there and in that condition

I have been involved with Maple City Slo Pitch for 27 years either as a player and or player/ladies exec member. I have also worked along side of Bob Weedon while sitting on the ladies executive. I enjoyed him as an umpire, he was helpful and enjoyable to work with while on the executive and he is a friend. I think Bob is very deserving of this.

I have known Bob for 30 plus years. Maple city slo pitch would not be what it is without Bob's tireless work and dedication to the sport and to Chatham as a whole.

Recognize his commitment and service

He has dedicated many years to maple city slo-pitch In Chatham-Kent. I think he deserves the recognition for all of his hard work by renaming St Clair diamonds in his name.

Had dealings with Bob in the past . He is well deserving of this honor.

I have been playing slo pitch in Chatham for 40 plus years. Bob has been a leader in promoting and ensuring smooth and successful league play for my entire career (and prior to that). Bob's selfless involvement and leadership have been very significant in having adult recreation through slo pitch available to thousands of Chatham-Kent residents over the years. I hope that

Anonymous 7/09/2020 07:21 PM

Anonymous 7/10/2020 06:55 AN

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Anonymous 7/10/2020 10:14 AM

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Anonymous 7/10/2020 10:32 AM

Anonymous 7/10/2020 10:38 AM

Anonymous 7/10/2020 10:44 AM

Anonymous 7/10/2020 12:30 PM

Anonymous 7/10/2020 12:31 PM Bob's great contribution will be recognized through the renaming of the St Clair College ball diamonds. Thank you for allowing my input. Exceptional devotion of his time to the league over many decades; a demonstration of his love for the sport!

There is no one more deserving to have this honor. I played against Bob and worked with him being a representative of one of the teams for over 30 years. He is the ultimate professional and extremely dedicated to the sport. Great job Bob!

His dedication to our community needs to be formally recognized through this motion

Don't want to find out later that he did or said something he shouldn't have.

Bob Weeden has dedicated his life to the game of baseball and has given so much back to the game so that others like myself could enjoy the game of slo-pitch baseball in Chatham. He has been honored at the highest level (hall of fame) and I think it only fitting that the fields be named after him. Bob has dedicated himself to the slo-pitch in Chatham for a lot of years and has impacted the whole of Chatham Kent. A selfless volunteer for many years.

I have played fast ball and slow pitch in Chatham-Kent for over 20 yrs and Bob was always involved, never got angry, very patient had to put up with a lot of crap, especially while upmping. Great idea for sure.

I was involved in slo-pitch in Chatham for many years (25 or so) as both an umpire and a player. I also umpired at the World Special Olympic games. Bob always did a very tough job that everyone complained about but no one would do. After all the years of dedication, this is the least that he deserves Anyone who has played slo-pitch or been involved , knows Bob Weedon and the time and dedication he has volunteered over the years , I cant think of a better way to honor him than to name his second home after him. Bob is a long time proponent of physical health through the promotion of the great game of baseball. I couldn't think of anyone more deserving of this.

Bob is a kind soul who has done a lot for the community.

Bob has been extremely dedicated to the growth and continuation of baseball in the community of Chatham-kent. Through the 16 years that I have played slo pitch, there is not a night that goes by where I didn't see Bob at the diamonds. He is a true legend.

Bob's amazing contributions to Chatham Slo-Pitch.

Bob Weedon has put tireless hours into Maple City slo-pitch & Umpires scheduling over the years. He deserves this recognition.

I support this. As a player of softball over that past 7 years Bob has been the leader of this enjoyable sport. He has put countless hours into running these leagues and often doesn't get the thanks he deserves. I think naming this field after him would be the greatest thanks he could receive.

Anonymous Years of service and volunteering 7/10/2020 12:43 PM Anonymous A well earned honour. 7/10/2020 12:59 PM Anonymous I can think of no one who deserves this honour more then Bob...he has given 110%...they should name a base after Sylvia(wife) who never complained...we have known the Weedons for over 50 years great family... Bob has done a lot for the game of Slo-pitch he has given up his time to keep things running for countless amounts of players. Would be fitting to have the diamonds named after him Bob Weedon has put his heart and soul in to mcspl and was at the ball Anonymous 7/10/2020 02:13 PM diamonds every night for years running things that's less we can do His record and commitment to Chatham baseball makes this a no-brainer Anonymous 7/10/2020 02:16 PM As his sister I have watched Bob's dedication as President of Maple City's Anonymous 7/10/2020 02:50 PM Slow Pitch and his involvement with umpires. Bob has devoted a lifetime for the betterment of this community. With his contributions the city offered adults a way to keep themselves fit. Unfortunately every run in that I've had with this man has been self righteous and not for the good for the community rather the good of himself. He picks and chooses who to pick on. Prime example of a bully. I run plenty of tournaments here and I would be embarrassed to have to put his name on a piece of paper Anonymous I think it is a fantastic idea because he has spent his life at the diamonds and 7/10/2020 03:41 PM it has always been a huge passion of his. He's a very good role model as to what you would want for a community. He has put in a lot of years for sloe pitch Anonymous 7/10/2020 04:18 PM Anonymous This is a great idea to recognize a fixture of the community. 7/10/2020 04:25 PM Bob Weedon has generously donated so much of his time and efforts over Anonymous 7/10/2020 04:26 PM four decades and thousands of of C-K residents have benefited from this. Anonymous Mr. Weedon has done so much for the community in the way of baseball that 7/10/2020 04:54 PM we should honour him for generations. Thank you so much for the opportunity. Ν Anonymous 7/10/2020 04:54 PM Anonymous In favour of support to rename the fields as Bob Weedon Field at St Clair 7/10/2020 05:03 PM College. I have personally and professionally known Bob for over 20 years.

> Great person whom is dedicated, loyal, ethical, upstanding and has been a builder and leader for Maple City Slopitch. Please let us honour a person like Bob whom has given / volunteered all those efforts and time over 40 years to

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Anonymous 7/10/2020 07:02 PM

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7/11/2020 08:54 AM

Anonymous 7/11/2020 03:29 PM help ensure that softball was there for the people of Chatham-Kent to enjoy. Cheers to Bob! He has relentlessly taken the job of President for years and did phenomenally at it. His shoes will be hard to fill. I think this is a perfect way to thank him for all that he did for CK slopitch. Bob has given so much of his time to our community. He is a baseball legend and it is only appropriate that a ball diamond is named after him. Much like the Dresden Arena being named after Ken Houston. Change it ! He deserves it !

Bob has been such a big part of Slopitch here in chatham for a very long time..

It was built with the St Clair college

Tremendous work over the past 50 years. Tireless

Bob has dedicated countless hours developing this league into one of the best in Ontario. He is the one who initiated the St. Clair baseball project so it would be fitting to rename it after him

He's a great man. Our community is very lucky to have someone like him who dedicated so much time and love for the sport and community. Our family fully supports this decision.

I have known Bob for many many years. He has worked hard for the Slopitch league. He has spent many hours keeping it going. There isn't anybody else who deserves this honour. And it would be an honour well deserved A great man a great leader and a great sports player. The most deserving person for this as he's done so much for this sports community already.

Recognizes the great volunteerism he exhibited over 40 years.

I KNOW that after all the years and dedication Bob has shown to Chatham-Kent, it is the least the community can do to show our appreciation for his lifelong commitment. Don't you?

Very hard working and deserving. Has given back to the community for many decades.

His long standing commitment to softball in Chatham Kent.

Bob has done so much for Maple City Slo pitch. He's worked his butt off to get it where it's at now.

Bob Weedon has done so much for the sports community here in Chatham. Without his hard work and organizing the slo pitch league would have never flourished for so many years. His dedication to the sports team was incredible

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Anonymous

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and this is something that would say thank you for your hard work and dedication.

Nice to see the name change while he is still here to see it! Most honourable for him!

After dedicating 50 years at no cost to Chatham-Kent, we owe him recognition for his tireless service to our community. Well deserved and he should be rewarded for this devotion to Chatham-kent. Chatham owns it leave it the way it is! Why spend money on changing ? So stupid

Well deserved.

You'll never find another person who would give their time to this sport of SLO Pitch than Bob. President of the League and an umpire as well.. If you played slo pitch in Chatham, you knew Bob. Naming the field after him would be a great way to remember him and a tribute to all his hard work He has been a long time supporter and participant in slo-pitch in Chatham. It would be nice to have a facility named after someone like Bob Weedon

See comment at point 1

His contributions to the sport says it all.

Bob has been a strong advocate for men's and women's slo pitch in our community leading to physical health and fun and fellowship for decades. He dedication and commitment to the game has been extraordinary. When tough decisions had to be made, Bob "stepped up to the plate" and made those decisions, albeit not always popular decisions according to some. But he made them and faced criticism head on fearlessly. Bob Weedon and slopitch go together in Chatham-Kent Organizer, umpire, coach

I played in the mcspl for many years. Bob was instrumental in making the league what it is today. He greatly deserves this recognition.

I have known Bob Weedon for 30 years and worked with him for 20 of those years. I personally witnessed the dedication and commitment that Bob put into Maple City Slow Pitch. Bob lived and breathed Maple City Slow Pitch. Therefore I believe it is a very fitting gesture to re-name the St. Clair College Chatham Campus Ball Diamonds to Bob Weedon Field. Someone this dedicated deserves the honour

50 years of involvement qualifies him.

My husband has been involved in maple city slo pitch since before we met.

7/12/2020 09:11 AM	The name Bob Weedon (or just "weedon" has been tossed around at our
	dinner table for years! New processes and procedures he has implemented,
	(to improve play and equalize the "playing fields") are the main reasons. His name is synonymous with "slo pitch" in Chatham!
7/12/2020 09:28 AM	
Anonymous	Bob is a great guy with many achievements in ball/umpiring, etcBUT
7/12/2020 09:39 AM	'Fergie Jenkins' name should always stay there (for so numerous reasons &
	achievements) Should be Fergie's Park tho! There are 3 'diamonds' there so
	name 'one' of them for Bobthen you have 2 more available for whomever
	in the future! You can't rate these 2 men in same classFergie is way above.
Anonymous	Thx u Bob has contributed greatly to the evolution of slo- pitch and the diamonds in
7/12/2020 09:42 AM	Chatham and is deserving of the renaming of these fields.
TTELECEU US.+E AIM	chaman and is descriving of the renaming of these needs.
Anonymous	Bob Weedon has been involved with Maple City Slow Pitch/St. Clair College-
7/12/2020 09:45 AM	Chatham Campus for what seems like forever. The re-naming of the Campus
7/12/2020 10:08 AM	to "Bob Weedon Field" only seems fitting.
	Influential history in CK
Anonymous	
7/12/2020 10:21 AM	Great guy, he has done a lot for MCSPL. Running the league is a full time
7/12/2020 10:23 AM	commitment without recognition. He absolutely deserves this.
Anonymous	Because he's a big part of the baseball community in Chatham Kent so why
7/12/2020 10:48 AM	not
	Bob was at almost every game I can remember. His presence at the ballpark
Anonymous	night after night brought leadership and confidence to the umpires and to the
7/12/2020 10:56 AM	players. Is knowledge and Love of the game was apparent always.
	Bob Weedon has been a major sports contributor in our community for over
	50 yeara and was instrumental in getting diamonds built to promote
A	participation in sports for all ages. He has done as much more for softball
Anonymous	then anyone in our community. This would be a well deserved honour to
7/12/2020 11:02 AM	rename these fielda after Bob
Anonymous	'Cause he deserves this - baseball is synonomous with Bob Weedon
7/12/2020 11:05 AM	
Anonymous	Having someone that has been involved in community sports and
7/12/2020 11:13 AM	participated in the organization.
A	Not necessary.
Anonymous	Not necessary.
7/12/2020 11:15 AM	
Anonymous	Bob is amazing. Always giving everyone his time. Smiling, laughing, joking
	around lowill never have a had thing to easy shout Dab. Oreat man from this

around. I will never have a bad thing to say about Bob. Great man from this city and should be rewarded. Many, many great things done by this man. Bob Weedon has supported our community involvement in maple city slo pitch on many different levels. Name it after someone that has been involved

7/12/2020 11:16 AM

in many organizations and have represented our community, is great way to show him, us citizens truly appreciate his 50 years of being involved in our community. Bob Weedon would be wonderful choice for this decision. He deserves it

Bob was very dedicated in the SLO PITCH world on and off the diamond and this would be a great tribute

There is no other man or woman that was mere devoted to slo-pitch baseball then Bob weeden

Bob's dedication to slo-pitch over so many years is incredible, This honour would be well earned way of saying "thank you".

We both knew Bob Weedon and think it is a fantastic way to commemorate this man's life in community sports

Because he deserves to be honored

I have known Bob for over 10 years now as an SPO representative. I worked and played at a ball field in London and it was Always a pleasure seeing him. Bob has dedicated his time to the sport and loved it. This would be a Very Well Deserved Honour Bob has done so much for Slo Pitch here in Chatham

He earned this through his many years of hard work and caring that often went unnoticed and even criticized by those that enjoyed the facilities and the league

For as long as I have been involved with MCSPL, 25 years, Bob has been a constant presence, a strong presence and a confident presence. He has meant more to this sport in Chatham Kent than anyone, ever. He is synonymous with slo-pitch in CK and therefore, renaming the fields in his name not only makes absolute sense, it is a no brainer.

To honour his years of dedicated community service especially the MCSPL

He has organized mcsp for years and is a staple at the diamonds most nights.

Bob is Baseball in Chatham-Kent. Respected by all & respectful of all.

Let's not overthink this. This is 110% deserved. Thank you Bob!

Well deserved to someone who has made a lifetime commitment to Chatham Kent and the Maple City Slow pitch league.

Anonymous 7/12/2020 11:19 AM

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Anonymous 7/12/2020 06:25 PM

Anonymous As a person that spent years growing up on the playgrounds at those fields 7/12/2020 07:39 PM While parents played ball or umpired there every night ! I say ; The ball diamond already has a name, WHY change it. Just to complicate things. Put up a plaque in his honour in the park or at the college and honour him that way ! NO NEED TO CHANGE IT It is a part of our COMMUNITY COLLEGE LEAVE IT ALONE PLEASE Enough is enough Anonymous I have worked with Bob Weedon with Slo Pitch Ontario for many years. Bob is very deserving of a recognition like this for all his efforts in his home town and on the road. He gave a lot to the communities and this would be a wonderful way to honour him. Anonymous Bob always had a smile on his face when at the ball park. His dedication to 7/12/2020 08:38 PM the game was second to none, he volunteered countless hours over so many years to make the league what it is. Chatham has produced many high leveled soft ball players from older guys such as Tim Bently who played for team Canada to the up and coming young guns such as Jeremy (Red) Vandewynkle who is playing for the #1 ranked team in canada. All of which I highly believe wouldnt have happened without Bob's dedication and commitment to the game. There is nobody more deserving of this then Bob Weedon Anonymous His dedication and life commitment to the citizens of CK should be 7/12/2020 08:46 PM recognized Anonymous As a child in the 80's, I grew up watching my parents play slo-pitch in a 7/12/2020 09:01 PM Chatham league organized by a man I only knew as "Mr. Weedon". Flash forward 35 years from that memory and (despite a pandemic this year) I myself have played the last 20 years in that same league still heavily influenced and organized by "Mr. Weedon". He is the face and reputation of slo-pitch in Ontario and Chatham-Kent should be proud and honoured to have a long standing volunteer like Bob in our community!! He's a pretty great umpire too! There a no words to describe the work that Bob has done for Maple City Slo Pitch. He has committed numerous years to allow people such as myself to play a game he is passionate about. To honour him with something such as this is amazing and truly deserved for all he has done for the Maple City Slo Pitch Leagues. Without Bob- Chatham slow pitch would not be what it is today. A lifetime of Anonymous 7/12/2020 09:27 PM dedication and volunteerism... his love for the game - please honour him while he and his family can enjoy the recognition although he would NEVER seek it for himself! There are so many people who disappoint- Bob is not 1 of them. Anonymous Bob has done a lot of work for Maple City Slo Pitch.

This will be a great compliment to Mr Weedon's contribution to C-K sports.

Bob Weedon deserves this honour. His selfless dedication to the Maple City SLO-Pitch organization in Chatham is without equal. I have been a team

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sponsor and player for 25 years . His commitment to Maple City Slo-Pitch was a labour of love and required constant attention year after year. This honour to Bob is long overdue.

opportunity to play slo-pitch for may years and worked with Bob on different projects he was always dedicated to his community and fellow team mates.

Bob has been a great ambassador for the sport

As long as there has been MCSP, there has been Bob Weedon leading the way. For all he has done to grow the game at all levels, he is more than worthy of this dedication.

Bob has been an integral part of my decades in the Maple City Slo Pitch league. He was always there offering assistance, anytime, anyplace and my team will miss his presence at meetings and on the diamond.

I have been in the MCSPL since 1996 and I met bob at my very first game . He's been a guy who you can talk to about anything and has been a good friend and it only seem fitting to give Mr Weedon this because the ball diamond has been his second home

Bob's contribution to slo pitch in Chatham Kent needs to be recognized and this is a fitting way to do that.

I grew up in Chatham and know Bob and how much he has put into the community, especially through. Maple city slots pitch. He deserves this honour for his decades of service!

Bob is an amazing, dedicated man and this would be a huge honour to him and all he has down for ball in CK

Bob has done more for baseball in this community than most people could imagine. His tireless efforts has benefited this sport and this community for years and years. And he's done it all with class. Having St Clair College fields renamed in his honour would reciprocate that class.

I met Bob 38 years ago, my first year of Slo-pitch. I was a teenager. In all the years I have played, Bob was and is a mainstay to the game around here. I cannot think of a better honour for him for all the work he has put in to the game. He definitely did everything he did for no other reason but the love of the game. What better way to show all of our appreciation.

Bob has been a shining example of what a Convener / President of a sports league should be. He has put in countless hours and a tremendous amount of dedication to make sure that Men's slo-pitch runs as smoothly as possible. It would be a great honour for his accomplishments and years of complete dedication.

I fully support the name change. If not for Bob's work and commitment those diamonds may never have been completed.

It would be nice to noon apart after a homemade hero.

Bob really deserves this honour - he has devoted almost his whole life to

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Anonymous 7/14/2020 12:28 AN

Anonymous 7/14/2020 06:26 AM bettering sports in Chatham-Kent- he is a great guy and a great asset to our city.

I'm a former slow pitch player and met Bob several times. He was dedicated to this sport and making it the league function properly to best of his abilities at all times. He deserves to have his name attached to these ball diamonds. I think we need to recognize the efforts that Bob put towards the MCSPL and naming these fields after him would be an excellent tribute. I was playing in the league when the lights went in and remember Bob's continued efforts to get that project completed. Whatever was needed to improve or expand the league became Bob's next project.

He's done a lot for the baseball community and deserves this recognition!

Bob Weedon has given a lifetime to Chatham-Kent and SLO-Pitch Ontario not only as a administrator but as an Umpire it is so well deserved

He has done so much for baseball in Chatham. Honour a citizen rather than a politician for once!

Bob Weedeon has done so much for the softball league and deserves this recognition.

Sure! From the sounds of it, Bob has put a lot of work into the community. And since St. Clair is good with it, then we should be; now we'll have a good name for it.

Bob has volunteered so much of his life to baseball. The naming gives him important recognition and an encouragement to others to step up and volunteer.

Bob has made a great contributions to the sport. I played 25 yrs or more and Bob was always there to support the women's league. He is anf always has beenough a great spokesman for Chatham Kent.

Bob Weedon has done a lot in baseball in Chatham Kent. Without all his hard work baseball in Chatham Kent would not be what it is today.

He is very deserving of this honour.

Bob was more than a founding member - he contributed time and passion to this sport - always ready to pitch and make it better for the participants of Chatham Kent

I support this as one of the founding members who worked along side Bob in the early days if SloPitch building diamonds, putting in fences around the fields, lining the diamond, Fundraising for lights and much more. This would be a well deserved honour!!

As someone who is around the softball diamonds every year, I have been a witness to just how passionate about the sport Bob Weedon is.

Great man.

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much warrented

Yes

Has done many good deeds in the community.

Mr husband, Paul, played in the Maple City Slow Pitch League for many, many years. Bob devoted his life to baseball. My husband joined the Maple City Slow Pitch in 1973 when there were 4 teams (all male). Bob made the league what it is today. He has male and female teams, co-ed, senior and rec. He has spent many days and hours to slow pitch in Chatham and I feel it would be a great honour to him to have the St. Clair College-Chatham Campus Ball Diamonds' name changed to Bob Weedon Field. Mr husband, Paul, played in the Maple City Slow Pitch League for many, many years. Bob devoted his life to baseball. My husband joined the Maple City Slow Pitch in 1973 when there were 4 teams (all male). Bob made the league what it is today. He has male and female teams, co-ed, senior and rec. He has spent many days and hours to slow pitch in Chatham and I feel it would be a great honour to him to have the St. Clair College-Chatham Campus Ball Diamonds' name changed to Bob Weedon Field. First of all this application request was submitted on behalf of the Maple City Slo Pitch League. How is it possible that the League which consists of members of Maple City Slo Pitch did not even know about this application. This should have went to the membership first. But instead a few people from the Maple City Executive decided for the League. (Most likely because they knew it would not have passed) This should say something as to what the members think of Bob Weedon. I have known Bob for a long time and I do not support this kind of Honor. He held a position and abused it. Over the years he has destroyed people lives. Deciding who can play and who can't play in his League. Its wasn't his league. But that is how he seen it and that's how many of the players seen it. The name, Bob Weedon, in the league, is not a respected name. You will hear more negative then positive from the players. And since its the players that will be using the field, it to me would be a slap in the face to see his name posted all over. It is not only Maple City Slo Pitch League that plays on this field. Girls and Boys minor Ball, and other Ladies and Co ed Leagues and each of those organizations has had conflict with Bob. I understand Bob has accomplished a lot over the years, I don't want to take that away from him. However people that do give there time to the community deserves to be honored if they aren't make enemies along the route. I would hope that the members of Council do not pass this. I would hope that the decision is not going to be based on majority. Because if there are mores yes's and if there are some no's... then you would know that this person is not Respected by all and should not be given this honor. Everyone and anyone who has ever played slo-pitch in Chatham-Kent would know Bob and how much he has contributed to this community. It is only

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Anonymous 7/21/2020 10:19 AM fitting that it be renamed on his behalf. He is failing in health and this would bring a ray of sunshine to his day. Even though he was not 100% last year, he was at the park every night visiting with everyone Bob has been a big influence to all ball players over the years.

50 years of positive service to the community is good enough for me

My family has spent a lot of time at those diamonds watching many family members play ball and one constant face throughout the years was Weedon. He deserves this honor

BOB IS likely the biggest reason slow pitch in this area is so big and popular and he is also a very nice man

The extraordinary hard work, dedication, and life long commitment to the community of Chatham-Kent of Bob Weedon is magnificent. His leadership has shown that the power of sport cannot he challenged when bringing people together. For this sole reason I think these ball diamonds should be named after him.

His life long honesty and dedication to the community of Chatham-Kent has been amazing. We are very lucky to have him!

Years and years of volunteer work should be recognized.

Bob is my brother, but I know how many hours he put in to the game.

He deserves to have the field named after him.

Bob has been great for this city and slopitch

he has dedicated many years to baseball and deserves to be honored

Hes in the chatham kent hall of fame for baseball. Its no different then naming something after Fergie Jankins or Larry Lahey

I would be very pleased if Chatham-Kent City Council approved the renaming of St. Clair Sports field to Bob Weedon Field. Bob has worked tirelessly for decades with baseball and other sports. He has participated at many levels of sports administration. This is quite an honour for Bob and his family. Thank you Bob for all your hard work over the decades for the betterment of your community. Bob is my brother-in-law and what an honour if this takes place. Slo-Pitch Ontario strongly and wholeheartedly supports Maple City Slo-Pitch League's request for the re-naming of the St. Clair College's Chatham Campus diamonds to Bob Weedon Field. In our opinion, you would not be able to find a more worthy individual for such an honour. Bob has been with our Association, whose Mission, in part, is to regulate, foster and improve the game of slo-pitch softball, as well as protect and promote the mutual interests of all of its Members, since 1984. Bob's accomplishments on the field as a Player, Coach, and Umpire, and off the field administratively, are too numerous to list in their entirety, but were recognized with his induction into the Builder Category of our Hall of Fame in 1999, and, this past November, into the Softball Ontario Hall of Fame in the same category. As a Zone Director with our Association from 1984-2019, Bob also served as an Executive Member since 1991 (which included, at various times, being a voting delegate to Softball Canada), served as Secretary-Treasurer of SPO from 1998-2019, and was President of the Chatham Maple City Slo-Pitch League for the past 42 years overseeing the league, its umpires, players and coaches, including the registration of teams and players, securing diamonds, insurance matters, scheduling of all games and umpires, budgeting, bat testing, equipment purchases, as well as organizing annual Awards banquets and prize distribution. The time and effort put forth by any volunteer is extensive even without family, friends, work and everyday responsibilities and obligations, but with a league the size of Maple City, it would require daily care and attention for most of the calendar year, not just during slo-pitch season. The Board of Directors, Staff and Volunteer Team of SPO are incredibly thankful for Bob's dedication to the sport we love, and applaud his generosity with his time in order that so many in your community may have benefitted and had their lives enhanced with the opportunity to play slo-pitch in their free time. His continuous efforts, and his unwavering commitment to contribute to the development and promotion of the sport of slo-pitch will not be matched, and certainly not surpassed by anyone else, and we encourage your Councillors to vote in favour of renaming the diamonds to Bob Weedon Field to honour this well-deserving gentleman. Respectfully submitted on behalf of Slo-Pitch Ontario Association, Kerri Toole Office Administrator & Member Services Coordinator Slo-Pitch Ontario Association | The Home of Slo-Pitch 7-8 Hiscott Street, St. Catharines, ON L2R 1C6 Phone: (905) 646-7773 | E-Mail: kerri@slopitch.org

Through his 40 plus years dedication, perseverance and foresight Bob has not only allowed "generations" of Chatham-Kent families to enjoy the sport of Slo-Pitch in our community but just as importantly this has directly led to the development of lasting friendships among our players and their families across all our divisions which i myself can directly speak to. Having been a past executive member with last year being my 42 playing year i can speak directly to Bob"s attributes and the positive impact he has had in so many ways on the citizens of Chatham-Kent. I urge you to seriously consider this application which Bob so richly deserves.

He is well deserving of this honour to have his name on these ball diamonds.

Anonymous

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Anonymous

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Mandatory Question (190 response(s)) Question type: Essay Question