

SYNOPSIS

STADIUM NETTING

At the March 18, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting Council passed a motion to be forwarded to the March 25, 2024 regular meeting of Council, directing staff to remove the stadium netting from the sides before the next hockey season.

At the March 25 meeting, the CAO shared a memo from staff dated August 10, 2005 where the Maritime Junior Hockey League requested the side netting be installed in addition to the plexiglass.

Staff contacted the MHL league president, Connor Cameron, who advised the side netting is not a requirement of the league and their only concern with removing the side netting is fan safety but the removal of the netting is a decision of the Town.

While the netting can provide additional protection from deflected pucks entering the stands it greatly interferes with the quality of the fan viewing experience as well as that of the video for televised games. It also prevents the stadium from hosting promotional activities such as teddy bear or mitten toss.

Staff are recommending the side netting at the Amherst Stadium be removed prior to the start of the 2024/25 Amherst Junior "A" Ramblers season.

MOTION:

That Council direct staff to remove the stadium netting from the sides of the ice surface before the next hockey season.