



**For Immediate Release**

**RE: Whitewater Region supports local Outdoor Rink in Westmeath**

Recently, a nostalgic looking sheet of ice appeared in Westmeath ball diamond this past winter. The project was spearheaded through the Westmeath & District Recreation Association (WDRA).

Over the past few months the impacts of Covid-19 has flattened the ability for larger social gathering and get-togethers. Despite the many challenges of Covid-19, the WDRA fostered a network of volunteers to help build a community outdoor rink.

The idea was originally presented to the Township's Parks and Recreation department and accepting of the project through the Community Recreation Grant. The WDRA applied for and received \$2500.00 to build and operate an outdoor rink for residents to enjoy.

Michael La Grotta, WDRA Program Coordinator said " Much thanks to the Township and the time and attention giving to this endeavor. It is with the continued support from our municipality that we are able to fund and execute such projects and activities in our small town. Westmeath is a special place with a strong culture of solidarity, and we pray for this passion to carry on for many years to come."

The Township also assisted with accessing water for flooding and donated the use of a portable toilet, located on the grounds for the winter months.

Mayor Moore also said "The project has been overwhelmingly successful and brought forward many willing and new volunteers in the community. We also feel it is important to keep people active during these times. We are proud of the people and the support of the Township."

The Community Recreation Grant helps support fee waivers, capital projects, operating costs and programming. The grant will continue with a fall intake to happen later this year. For more information on the grant, please visit our website at [www.whitewaterregion.ca](http://www.whitewaterregion.ca)

-30-

Additional Information:

Michael Moore  
Mayor  
613 585 1609  
[mayormoore@whitewaterregion.ca](mailto:mayormoore@whitewaterregion.ca)

Jordan Durocher  
Manager of Parks & Recreation  
613 646 2282 ext. 122  
[jdurocher@whitewaterregion.ca](mailto:jdurocher@whitewaterregion.ca)