

## **ACCESSIBLE BASEBALL FIELDS IN SAULT STE. MARIE**

**Mover:** Councillor A. Caputo

**Seconded:** Councillor S. Spina

**WHEREAS** Sault Ste. Marie teams took 3 major provincial baseball titles on the weekend of September 1-3, including the 9U BlackSox, the 11U Black Sox and the 13U BlackSox; and

**WHEREAS** Sault Ste. Marie played host to the 9U and 11U provincial championships, and saw teams from across Ontario converge at Sinclair Yards for the tournament; and

**WHEREAS** on the heels of the tournament's success, and the success of the Sault Ste. Marie teams, organizers believe the future of baseball is bright in Sault Ste. Marie; and

**WHEREAS** feedback from the tournament has been largely positive, with constructive feedback centred on the need for accessible fields, washrooms, parking spaces and associated amenities on site; and

**WHEREAS** Challenger Baseball is a barrier-free form of baseball that has 33,000 participants, and growing, across Ontario; and

**WHEREAS** for the City of Sault Ste. Marie to host Challenger Baseball tournaments, or simply to enhance the experience of existing tournaments that are already being hosted in Sault Ste. Marie, more accessible amenities should be incorporated into Sinclair Yards:

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the City of Sault Ste. Marie, in partnership or coordination with Sault Minor Baseball Association and the Ontario Baseball Association, be directed to report back to the Council of the City of Sault Ste. Marie with potential accessibility improvements to the Sinclair Yards and funding options or grants available to make the necessary improvements.