



Windsor & District Chamber of Commerce
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August 31, 2006

Mayor Eddie Francis and Members of City Council
Corporation of the City of Windsor
350 City Hall Square West
Windsor, Ontario N9A 6S1

Dear Mayor Francis and Members of Council:

The Windsor & District Chamber of Commerce is pleased to provide its support for the Project Ice Track arena proposal. Support for the proposal follows a recent presentation by Tandem Entertainment, Toldo Group and the Rosati Group to the Chamber on the merits of a detailed plan for an arena complex at the existing Windsor Raceway location. The proposal would create significant sports and entertainment synergies in the City of Windsor for the benefit of the Windsor and Essex County region.

The Chamber also urges the City of Windsor to take part in the public/private partnership it sought for the arena development at this location in 2005. Subject to your own due diligence, it is the Chamber's view that a public/private venture satisfies the interests of those involved by addressing municipal needs and obligations while encouraging new and potentially greater economic development for our region.

The credibility and community profile of the companies involved in the project, and the firm commitment by the Toldo and Rosati families should give the City of Windsor confidence in the success of the new arena proposal. Furthermore, the same would be achieved without negative exposure for the City of Windsor taxpayers, as the new arena proponents will be responsible for operating costs or deficits.

Based on the proposal as presented the Chamber believes in the strong economic development potential of the new arena at this location. The proposal seeks to integrate existing horse racing operations of Windsor Raceway Inc. with the development of the largest sports and entertainment destination in Essex County.

It is time for the City of Windsor to make a final decision on the arena issue, ending the uncertainty over this much-needed investment in our community. Due to the significant private sector component and the partnership with the City of Windsor, the Chamber believes this proposal to be the best solution for a new arena, and the most promising development of its kind for our region at this time.

Sincerely,

Peter Hrastovec
Chair of the Board of Directors