

Ms. Patricia Vena  
Director, Ontario Sport and Recreation Communities Fund  
Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries  
438 University Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M5G 2K8

RE: OTTAWA TITANS AUSOME PROGRAM EXPANSION

Dear Ms. Vena,

The Ottawa Titans, in partnership with Ausome Ottawa, are pleased to present this proposal for your review. We look forward to adding you to our existing partnership and expanding our current Ausome Water Polo program to introduce our sport to even more youth diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Since 2016, the Ottawa Titans has offered the Ausome Water Polo Program, which hosts free water polo sessions for youth diagnosed with ASD at the Francois Dupuis Pool in East Ottawa. The objectives of the program are to facilitate improved social interaction, communication, motor coordination, attention, and physical health in children with ASD.

ASD is a condition that affects 1 in 68 Canadian children. Although water polo was not an obvious sport for Ausome Ottawa participants, given their possible challenges, the collaboration has been a huge success! Many of our participants have continued with the Titans for multiple sessions. Such participation demonstrates the importance of our community outreach but also the positive impact of the Titan's community summer and regular season programming.

Our goal now is to expand the program to two additional Ottawa-area pools, one in South Ottawa and one in West Ottawa, so that even more youth with ASD might participate. We hope that by having more pools available, we will make our offering more accessible. Our proposal requests \$12,885 in funding to obtain one-hour half-pool rentals in two additional City of Ottawa indoor pools, twice weekly during convenient (prime) hours, for a year. As our program serves youth with disabilities, and our current goal is to increase the capacity of our program to provide physical activity and physical literacy to these youth, we feel it supports the vision of the Ontario Sport and Recreation Communities Fund.

We appreciate the Ontario Sport and Recreation Communities Fund taking an interest in helping the Ottawa Titans and Ausome Ottawa bring team-based physical activity opportunities to youth diagnosed with ASD. Please give me a call at 613-123-4567 x890 if you require any further assistance or have any questions regarding this proposal.

Thank you.

Samantha Mason  
Ottawa Titans Ausome Program Director  
Ottawa Titans Water Polo Club  
1568 Merivale Road, Suite 223  
Ottawa, Ontario K2G 5Y7