



April 23, 2019

## **Council Pledges Support for 2021 Esso Cup Women's Midget Hockey Bid**

**Lloydminster, AB/SK** – Lloydminster City Council has confirmed its support to have Lloydminster named host of the 2021 Esso Cup Canadian National Midget AAA Hockey Championship.

During the regular meeting of Council on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, Council voted to back a bid proposal initiated by a Lloydminster committee, headed by Ryan Sklapsky, Shawn Kaschl and Kent Smith of the PWM Steelers hockey club.

Each year, the Esso Cup sees five regional champions from across Canada compete with the host team for the Esso Cup, and the title of national champion. If the local bid is successful, Lloydminster would host the tournament at the Centennial Civic Centre from April 18-24, 2021.

“We applaud Mr. Sklapsky and his fellow committee member who have brought this exciting opportunity forward for Council discussion,” said Mayor Gerald Aalbers. “We are a city that constantly seeks opportunity to advance youth sport and recreation and we welcome the opportunity to host the athletes, volunteers, families and fans participating in the 2021 Esso Cup.”

The City of Lloydminster has provided a letter of support for the bid and will aid in the collection of additional support letters from local hospitality stakeholders. The City will also compile a short video to showcase the community's aptitude for hosting large-scale competitive events.

“Lloydminster's support for elite female hockey is widely recognized and we are hopeful for a chance to showcase that passion, as well as the caliber of our PWM Steelers organization in 2021,” said Sklapsky. “We believe the enthusiastic endorsement of our City Council will make for a more compelling bid.”

The Lloydminster committee's bid must be submitted by April 30, 2019. Hockey Canada will announce the successful host community in June 2019. The 2019 Esso Cup will be held in Sudbury, Ontario on April 21 to April 27, 2019 and the 2020 Esso Cup will be held in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan on April 19 to 25, 2020.

Learn more at <https://www.hockeycanada.ca/en-ca/national-championships/women/national-midget>.



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**MEDIA RELEASE**

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