



Patricia Wilson <communications@squamishminorhockey.com>

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## Request for BC Hockey Support Letter – Ongoing Ice Closure and Infrastructure Needs in Squamish

1 message

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Leah Hodges <president@squamishminorhockey.com>

Wed, Sep 3, 2025 at 9:03 PM

To: "info@bchockey.net" <info@bchockey.net>

Cc: Patricia Wilson <communications@squamishminorhockey.com>, Anna LeGood <vphouse@squamishminorhockey.com>, Conny Bonthron <registrar@squamishminorhockey.com>, Info PCAHA <info@pcaha.ca>

Dear BC Hockey,

I am reaching out on behalf of the Squamish Minor Hockey Association (SMHA) to request a letter of support from BC Hockey in light of current and ongoing challenges around ice access within our community.

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### Current Ice Closure – Safety Concerns & Disruptions

As of **September 2, 2025**, the Brennan Park Recreation Centre (BPRC) ice arena—our community's only rink—has been **temporarily closed due to high humidity**, stemming from renovation work that removed a separating wall, resulting in unsafe ice conditions. All programming and public use have been cancelled until further notice. Staff are working to source industrial dehumidifiers and restructure renovation schedules to reinstate the wall and restore safe conditions. An update was promised by 4 p.m. on September 3. [Facebook+7District of Squamish+7District of Squamish+7](#)

Despite continued efforts, the closure **remains in effect through at least September 4**, as humidity reduction measures are ongoing and the opening is contingent on improved conditions. [District of Squamish](#)

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### Broader Impact & Infrastructure Imperative

This temporary closure is a symptom of a deeper, systemic issue: **Squamish's reliance on a single ice sheet is no longer tenable**. As Dr. Tom Kranz—a local parent and family doctor—articulated in a compelling letter to Council (included in our attachments), the consequences are far-reaching:

- **Kids are turned away from playing hockey due to limited ice access.**
- Families are forced to travel long distances to neighboring municipalities, raising safety concerns.
- Adults lose opportunities for lifelong sport engagement due to inconvenient or unsafe travel.
- Female athletes in particular lack equitable opportunity to participate locally.
- These limitations are occurring in spite of our growing population (>30,000), which has long exceeded the capacity of a single rink.

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### How BC Hockey's Support Can Help

We believe BC Hockey's voice would add tremendous weight to our advocacy efforts. We would greatly appreciate a letter that:

- Validates the importance of consistent, reliable ice access for youth development, community health, and gender equity.

- Affirms that a **single ice surface is insufficient** for Squamish's growing population.
- Encourages **investment in additional ice facilities** as an urgent, strategic infrastructure priority.

This support would be invaluable as we collaborate with the District of Squamish and other stakeholders to seek both immediate mitigations and long-term expansion solutions.

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Thank you for your ongoing efforts in supporting municipalities and associations across B.C. and Yukon. With BC Hockey's endorsement, we can make meaningful progress toward ensuring every community member has access to the sport they love.

Sincerely,  
Leah Hodges  
President, Squamish Minor Hockey Association  
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*The correspondence in this email is confidential, if you are not the intended recipient, please notify me and kindly delete it, thank you.*

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**From:** BC HOCKEY <[info@bchockey.net](mailto:info@bchockey.net)>  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 3, 2025 at 2:53 PM  
**To:** [president@squamishminorhockey.com](mailto:president@squamishminorhockey.com) <[president@squamishminorhockey.com](mailto:president@squamishminorhockey.com)>  
**Subject:** BC Hockey Crease Crasher - Newsletter



**BC HOCKEY**  
**CREASE CRASHER**  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

*Message from BC Hockey*