



OCTOBER 13, 2016 MEDIA ADVISORY – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Cowan Foundation Donates \$150,000 to the Stratford Soccer Association in support of Stratford's New Community Park

On Wednesday, October 12th, Terry Reidel, Executive Director of The Cowan Foundation and Heather McLachlin, President of Cowan Insurance Group, presented a cheque for \$150,000 to the Stratford Soccer Association in support of the premier artificial turf field at the new community park.

The presentation took place at the Festival Hydro Community Park located on 18 acres along Packham Road in Stratford. The new community park is an upgrade to the existing Rotary Soccer Park complex and will include a lit and fenced full-size, premier artificial turf soccer field; new clubhouse with a large open-air pavilion; all-season fitness trail with outdoor exercise equipment; and family playground and picnic area. The park will promote year-round opportunities for health, fitness, social connection and overall wellbeing for those living in the community.

The field is set to open in Spring 2017 and is endorsed by the City of Stratford's Active Transportation Advisory Committee in alignment with the City's interest in emphasizing linear recreation facilities to support Stratford's Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan.

Also in attendance for the cheque presentation were Stratford Mayor Dan Mathieson; Graham Bunting, City Councillor and Past-President of the Stratford Soccer Association; Michael Vancea, President of the Stratford Soccer Association; Brian Geffros, Regional Branch Manager of Cowan Insurance Group including the Stratford office location; Ian Lee, Sales Consultant at Cowan Insurance Group; and Riu Pedro, Operations Manager with Gateman Malloy.

Quotes

- "We are extremely pleased to partner with the City of Stratford and the Stratford Soccer Association in support of Stratford's new community park project," said Terry Reidel, Executive Director, The Cowan Foundation. "This initiative aligns with one of our Foundation's mandates to have a lasting positive impact by focusing on improving the health and wellness of Canadians, while adding value to community life."
- "We couldn't be happier with the support the community and the City of Stratford has given to support this project. We are moving from a soccer only park to a community park that supports and encourages an active lifestyle in our beautiful city," says Mike Vancea, President of the Stratford Soccer Association. "None of this would be possible without our many sponsors. We are excited to have the support from The Cowan Foundation in making this vision a reality."

About Stratford Soccer Association

The Stratford Soccer association (SSA) represents over 1600 soccer players of all ages, genders and abilities who play in the seven individual soccer leagues within the City of Stratford. The SSA is the voice of soccer in Stratford. www.stratfordsoccerassociation.ca

About The Cowan Foundation

The Cowan Foundation was started in 1995 in honour of Frank Cowan, the founder of Frank Cowan Company and Cowan Insurance Group. The Foundation is sustained by the ongoing success of the Princeton Holdings group of companies including Cowan Insurance Group (and its subsidiaries: The Williamson Group, Millennium CreditRisk Management, Wentworth Financial Services and Cowan Financial Solutions), Frank Cowan Company, The Guarantee Company of North America, Cowan Asset Management and Fountain Street Finance. Together they provide insurance and risk management products and services for individuals, businesses, organizations and public entities as well as assist employers with their group benefits, retirement and health and disability management plans. The goal of The Cowan Foundation is to make a positive difference in the lives of Canadians and the broader well-being of our communities. www.cowanfoundation.ca

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From the left: Riu Pedro, Operations Manager with Gateman Malloy; Ian Lee, Sales Consultant at Cowan Insurance Group; Brian Geffros, Regional Branch Manager at Cowan Insurance Group; Mike Vancea, President of the Stratford Soccer Association; Terry Reidel, Executive Director of The Cowan Foundation; Heather McLachlin, President of Cowan Insurance Group; Stratford Mayor Dan Mathieson; and Graham Bunting, City Councillor and Past-President of the Stratford Soccer Association.