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(14)

From: Olympic Cricket ()
Sent: November 16, 2008 7:09 AM
To: MayorandCouncil
Cc: ()
Subject: Hugo Ray Park

Dear Mayor and Council Members.

Back in 1844 an event of huge International significance took place -a cricket match between the US and Canada. This was the first time in the history of the world that 2 countries battled on a playing field instead of a battlefield - this showed the world that countries could express their National pride and competitiveness in sports instead of war.

The world owes an enormous debt to these early Canadian and Americans (I know Canada officially became a country in 1867).

Cricket remained the major sport until the 1880's and this Canada/USA game became an Annual feature until 1912. For various reasons cricket lost ground in North America but according to the latest issue of Sports Illustrated "Cricket is growing at a faster pace than baseball...or any other sport in the US" and the same is true of Canada.

The Annual Cricket game between Canada and the USA is being revived as a Cricket Super Series in 2009 and the Hugo Ray Park could be a venue for a game.

Additionally with Chicago likely to win the 2016 Olympic bid, cricket is probably going to be an Olympic sport, with the US and Canada fielding Olympic Teams.

Please continue being a part of the Cricket Renaissance in Canada and the USA and keep cricket at Hugo Ray Park

Thanks

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