

Tourism Advisory Panel – Request for Funding Application (Tourism Event)



Applicant Information	
Organization	Kingston Skating Academy
Contact Name	Sharon Nixon
Title	Owner
Address	2634 Perth Road Glenburnie On
Phone #	6138887587
Email	sharon@sharonnixon.ca
Event Website	www.kingstonskatingacademy.ca
Event Information	
Event Name	The 9th Annual Kurt Browning & Friends Skating Seminar
Event Dates	Jaunary 28 & 29, 2027
Event Organizer Name	The Kingston Skating Academy
Event Organizer Phone #	6138887587
Event Organizer Email	sharon@sharonnixon.ca
Funding Amount Requested	\$14,000 ⁰⁰ 13,825.00 SN

Jennifer Baril

Tourism Advisory Panel – Request for Funding Application (Tourism Event) Continued



Please provide a description of event (300 words).

If there is not enough space, please answer the question on a separate page.

TAP Grant 2027

Kingston Skating Academy 9th Annual Seminar

January 28–29, 2027 | Gananoque, Ontario

The Kingston Skating Academy's 9th Annual Seminar is a two-day figure skating event that brings together skaters, coaches, families, and skating enthusiasts of all ages. What began as a local skating initiative 8 years ago has grown into a highly anticipated event that attracts more 80-100 families from across Ontario and Quebec, as well as participants from the United States and as far away as Nunavut.

The seminar provides a unique opportunity to showcase Gananoque as a welcoming destination for winter tourism. Held at the Lou Jeffries Gananoque & TLTI Recreation Centre during the traditionally quieter tourism season, the event brings families into the community when visitor activity is lower. Visiting participants stay in local accommodations, dine at area restaurants, shop at local businesses, and explore the many attractions Gananoque and the surrounding region have to offer.

The event also creates opportunities for meaningful community engagement. The public is welcome to attend and watch the seminar throughout the day, allowing local residents and skating fans to experience high-level coaching and instruction at no cost. The seminar provides an opportunity for young skaters to learn from experienced coaches and elite athletes while being inspired to pursue their own goals in sport. With the support of this grant, the previous two seminars were able to welcome two World famous Champions and Olympians. These athletes participated in meet-and-greet opportunities, photographs and autograph sessions, and a Q&A with participants and fans. They also joined local skaters for a special skate on the Gord Brown Memorial Canada 150 Outdoor Rink on the evening before the seminar. These experiences have created lasting memories for participants and provided young athletes with the opportunity to meet and learn from some of the sport's most accomplished competitors.

The Kingston Skating Academy Seminar represents an event investment of more than \$25,000. Grant funding plays an important role in allowing us to continue bringing high-calibre athletes, coaches, and programming to the community while keeping the event accessible to local participants and welcoming to visitors from outside the region.

Our goal is to build on the success of the past eight seminars and establish this event as a long-standing annual winter attraction in Gananoque. Continued support will help ensure that the Kingston Skating Academy can remain in Gananoque for years to come, generating positive economic and tourism benefits while providing a meaningful sporting and community experience for families, athletes, coaches, and residents.

By supporting the Kingston Skating Academy Seminar, the grant helps bring visitors to Gananoque, supports local businesses during the low tourism season, promotes youth sport and healthy recreation, and strengthens the community's reputation as a destination for exceptional sporting events.

Additional items to be attached to the application:

- List of Board of Directors or Event Organizing Committee including emails and phone numbers
- Full Schedule of Events
- Detailed Event Budget/Financial Plan
- Please provide 2 letters of support from organizations and partners that support the project.
- The Town of Gananoque reserves the right to ask for copies of receipts validating expense claims.

Tourism Advisory Panel – Request for Funding Application (Tourism Event) Continued



If there is not enough space, please answer the questions below on a separate page.

1. Has this event been hosted before? If yes, when and where?

Yes. This annual event has been hosted for the past 8 years (4+ in Gananoque).

2. Who is your target market/audience?

Our target audience is figure skaters enthusiasts of all ages and stages (from beginners to adult, recreational and competitive skaters).

3. Estimated # of tourists/visitors your event will attract to Gananoque (from 40+km away)

This event attracts more skaters from great distances than local for some reason! We estimate and plan for 80+ participants every year.

4. How and where will the event be advertised/marketed?

The event is advertised on social media by KSA, Skate Ontario (our Provincial sport body) and by participants that return year after year. Local news (including radio stations, tv and print medial), plus on-line figure skating groups, the arena and word of mouth.

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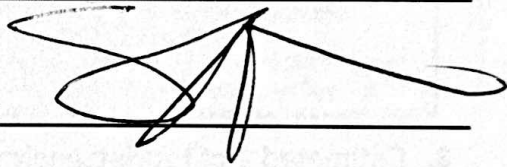
Canadian Gateway to the 1000 Islands

You agree that the information provide in this application is accurate. This is an application for funding and does not guarantee funding approval. Should the TAP and Council approve funding to your event, a funding agreement outlining the details of the funding and any associated recognition will be signed by both the Town of Gananoque and the organization receiving the funding.

Date: September 14, 2026

Title: Owner KSA

Name: Sharon Nixon

Signature: 

Completed application (with all requested attachments) to be submitted to:

Attention: Tourism Advisory Panel

30 King St. East, Gananoque, ON K7G 1E9

Phone: 613-382-2149 ext. 1125

Email: businesscoordinator@gananoque.ca

TOTAL INCOME	EXPENSES - PROJECTED 2027 EVENT	
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Kurt	on-ice presenter	7000
David	on-ice presenter	7000
Reese	on-ice presenter	2500
ice/room	arena	5000
MJ/Loisy	dance off-ice	350
Edward	dance off-ice	350
spin workshop	off-ice	500
Jamie	judge/off-ice	500
Joanne	parent talk	150
Doug	public MC gift card	100
Monica	off-ice liaison/medical	1500
skate towel giveaway	all participants	200
KSA hats giveaway	presenters	300
life on ice hoodies	local presenter gifts	200
meet & greet	Pistachio social	1000
hotel	presenters	1000
		27650

Kurt Browning & Friends
Letters of Support

To whom it may concern,

Attending this seminar over the past two years has been so fabulous for my skater! It is worth every penny it costs to travel from Iqaluit, Nunavut to see the joy that skating with Kurt Browning, Elvis Stojko, David Wilson and others brings to my skater and every skater on the ice. Meeting other male skaters and getting the chance to engage with other club board members and coaches is value added. The organizers are so engaged and make the event rewarding for all skaters.

Laura Lynn Smith
Mom of Owen, male skater
Iqaluit, Nunavut

Good afternoon,

What an incredible experience at the 8th Annual Kurt Browning & Friends! It was an honour to not only attend such an inspiring event, but to be invited to share my expertise as a Spin Specialist and presenter. Being surrounded by so many talented skaters, coaches, and skating professionals provided an incredible opportunity to learn, share ideas, and continue growing as a coach. I'm grateful for the conversations, connections, and new perspectives I'm taking away from this experience. A huge thank you to Kurt Browning and everyone involved for creating

such a wonderful celebration of skating and learning!



Allie Biederman,
National Coach
Skate Canada
Toronto, Ontario



Tentative 2027 Seminar Schedule

Thursday

TIME	GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3	GROUP 4
7:30-7:50 am Registration in Main Lobby				
8:00-8:50	On-Ice (1)	JUMP CLASS Upstairs Hall	Mental Training/Warm-Up Talk Main Lobby	JUMP CLASS Upstairs Hall
9:00-9:50	Mental Training/Warm- Up Talk Main Lobby	On-Ice (1)	Dance Upstairs Hall	Dance Upstairs Hall
10:00-10:50	Dance Upstairs Hall	Dance Upstairs Hall	On-Ice (1)	Mental Training/Warm- Up Talk Main Lobby
11:00-11:50* PARENT/COACH CHAT				On-Ice (1)
12:00 – 12:50	On-Ice (2)	Mental Training/Warm-Up Talk Main Lobby		
1:00-1:50	JUMP CLASS Upstairs Hall	On-Ice (2)	JUMP CLASS Upstairs Hall	
2:00-2:50		Flexibility Upstairs Hall	On-Ice (2)	Flexibility Upstairs Hall
3:00-3:50	Flexibility Upstairs Hall		Flexibility Upstairs Hall	On-Ice (2)
4:00-5:00	UPSTAIRS HALL Q&A Kurt, Elvis & Signe			

***Parent/Coach Chat: Upstairs Hall (11-11:50 am)**



Tentative 2027 Seminar Schedule

Friday

TIME	GROUP 1	GROUP 2	GROUP 3	GROUP 4
7:30-7:50 am Registration in Main Lobby				
8:00-8:50	On-Ice (1)	SPIN CLASS Upstairs Hall	Class Main Lobby	SPIN CLASS Upstairs Hall
9:00-9:50	Class Main Lobby	On-Ice (1)	Dance Upstairs Hall	Dance Upstairs Hall
10:00-10:50	Dance Upstairs Hall	Dance Upstairs Hall	On-Ice (1)	Class Main Lobby
11:00-11:50* PARENT/COACH CHAT				On-Ice (1)
12:00 – 12:50	On-Ice (2)	Class Main Lobby		
1:00-1:50	SPIN CLASS Upstairs Hall	On-Ice (2)	SPIN CLASS Upstairs Hall	
2:00-2:50		YOGA/STRETCH Upstairs Hall	On-Ice (2)	YOGA/STRETCH Upstairs Hall
3:00-3:50	YOGA/STRETCH Upstairs Hall		YOGA/STRETCH Upstairs Hall	On-Ice (2)
4:00-5:00	UPSTAIRS HALL Q&A Kurt & Elvis			

***Parent/Coach Chat: Upstairs Hall (11-11:50 am)**