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c 58 Community Centres Act

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CHAPTER 58

The Community Centres Act

1. In this Act,

Interpretation.

- (a) "community centre" means community hall, athletic field, skating arena or outdoor skating rink;
- (b) "Minister" means Minister of Agriculture;
- (c) "regulations" means regulations made under this Act. 1949, c. 13, s. 1.

2.—(1) The Minister may grant aid to any municipality to assist in the establishment of a community centre, but no grant shall exceed \$5,000 nor 25 per cent of the cost of a building or that part of a building designed for a community hall or skating arena or of the cost of an athletic field or outdoor skating rink.

Grants to municipalities for community centres.

(2) Grants may be made to assist in the establishment by any municipality of more than one community centre.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection 1, where a building is designed to include both a community hall and a skating arena, the Minister may make a grant not exceeding \$10,000 nor 25 per cent of the total cost of the building or that part of the building designed for the community hall and skating arena.

Combined community hall and skating arena.

(4) The grants shall be payable out of such moneys as may be appropriated therefor by the Legislature. 1949, c. 13, s. 2.

Provision for moneys required.

3. All the property acquired for the purposes of this Act shall, except as hereinafter provided, be vested in the municipality. 1949, c. 13, s. 3.

Property vested in corporation.

4.—(1) The council of any municipality may by by-law provide for the establishment of one or more community centres in accordance with this Act, and may acquire by purchase or otherwise real and personal property for that purpose, and may enter into an agreement with the council of any adjoining municipality for the joint use of a community

By-laws for establishment of community centres.

centre by the inhabitants of the municipalities upon such terms as to contribution to the cost of the community centre and as to the maintenance thereof as may be agreed upon, but notwithstanding any such agreement, the aid granted under this Act shall not exceed the amount mentioned in section 2.

By-law for acquiring land in another municipality.

(2) The by-law may provide for acquiring land and establishing a community centre in an adjacent or contiguous municipality, but real property so acquired or held in an adjacent or contiguous municipality shall not be exempt from taxation by the municipality in which it is situate unless the council of the last-mentioned municipality by by-law declares that it shall be so exempt.

Exempting such lands from taxation.

(3) The council of a municipality in which a community centre is established by the council of another municipality may grant such total or partial exemption from taxation as the council may deem proper and may enter into an agreement with the municipality establishing the community centre for granting such exemption.

Debentures.
Rev. Stat.,
c. 243.

(4) A municipality may issue debentures for the purposes of subsection 1 in the manner provided by *The Municipal Act*, 1949, c. 13, s. 4.

Community centre for school sections.

5.—(1) Upon a petition being presented to the council of a township, signed by more than one-half the number of ratepayers in any school section or by more than one-half the number of ratepayers in each of two or more school sections or parts thereof in the township and praying that the council pass a by-law for the establishment of a community centre for such school section or sections or parts, the council may pass a by-law for the establishment of such community centre in any school section or in any village adjacent or contiguous thereto.

Issue of debentures.

(2) The moneys required for the establishment of a community centre under this section, may be raised by the issue of debentures of the township in the manner provided by *The Municipal Act*, but it shall not be necessary to procure the assent of the ratepayers for the passing of any by-law for the issue of such debentures, and all moneys required to provide for principal and interest on the debentures issued under this section or for any other purpose in connection with the establishment of a community centre for a school section shall be raised by special rate upon all property subject to municipal taxation in the school section or school sections or parts, and in this section "ratepayers" means persons assessed and liable to taxation for general municipal purposes.

(3) Notwithstanding subsection 2, where there are profits from the operations of a community centre, the board of management may apply the profits or part of the profits to the principal and interest on any debentures issued under this section.

Use of profits to pay off debentures.

(4) Where debentures are issued under this section, such debentures shall constitute a debt of the corporation of the township to the holder of the debentures and the property liable to assessment and taxation in the school section or school sections or parts shall be liable to the township as a whole for any amounts paid by the township on account of the debentures or interest thereon.

Debentures to be a debt of township.

(5) Where a township council has passed a by-law for establishing a community centre for a school section, the township council by by-law, upon request of the board of school trustees, may vest the property in the board which shall thereupon have power to hold the property and shall perform the functions of the board of management as set forth in section 6.

Property may be vested in board of school trustees.

(6) In the case of a union school section composed of parts of two adjacent counties, the council of the municipality that passes the by-law for the establishment of a community centre shall have all the powers and perform all the duties that may be exercised or are to be performed under this Act in the same manner as if the whole of the school section were within the said municipality and the lands in the union school section shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to lie wholly within and to be under the exclusive jurisdiction of the council passing the by-law.

In union school sections.

(7) The clerk of the said council shall forthwith after the passing of the by-law imposing the special rates to pay the cost of the establishment of a community centre deliver or transmit by registered post to the clerk of the municipality in which is situate any land upon which a special rate has been imposed, a certified copy of the by-law.

Transmission of copy of by-law to other municipalities.

(8) The rates required by the by-law to be levied and collected in any year upon land in any municipality other than that by the council of which the by-law is passed shall be collected by the council of such municipality in like manner as if such rates had been imposed by that council.

Collection of rates in union sections.

(9) The municipality other than that by the council of which the by-law is passed shall pay to the last-mentioned municipality the sums that are to be levied and collected in

Payment of share by other municipalities.

that year under subsection 8, and such payments shall be made on demand therefor at any time after the 14th day of December in that year, and shall be made whether or not such rates have been collected from the persons liable to pay them.

Lands to remain liable.

(10) Such payments shall not relieve any lands specially assessed from the special rate thereon, and such lands shall remain liable for the special rate until it is paid.

Township school areas.
Rev. Stat., c. 316.

(11) Where a township school area has been established under *The Public Schools Act* this section shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the area or any part thereof. 1949, c. 13, s. 5.

Appointment of board.

6.—(1) Every community centre established by a municipality under this Act shall be under the management and control of a board appointed by the council of the municipality, composed of,

(a) two members of the council; and

(b) five members selected by the council from among the officers of the local organizations for the use of which the community centre is established, and in selecting such representatives the council shall have regard to the contribution by each organization to the erection and maintenance of the community centre.

Joint board.

(2) The council may appoint one board in the manner provided in subsection 1 to manage and control any or all community centres established by the municipality.

Vacancies on board.

(3) The council may fill any vacancy arising on the board from among the class of representatives in which the vacancy occurs.

Term of office.

(4) The representatives of the council shall be appointed annually, and shall hold office until their successors are appointed, and every other member of the board shall hold office for two years from the date of his appointment and until his successor is appointed.

Board may make rules and fix charges.

(5) The board of a community centre may make such rules as it deems necessary relating to the management and control thereof and may fix such charges for the use of the community centre as it deems advisable. 1949, c. 13, s. 6.

Grants in aid from other bodies.

7. Any municipality entering into an agreement for the joint use of a community centre, and any of the societies or

other bodies by which a community centre may be used under the regulations, may make grants out of any moneys in their hands in aid of the erection and maintenance of a community centre established under this Act. 1949, c. 13, s. 7.

8. The Minister may make grants to a public, separate, continuation or high school board, or board of education, to provide for an athletic field of satisfactory area or an outdoor skating rink, on the same terms as herein set forth, except that such fields and rinks shall be managed and conducted by the school board or board of education under the regulations of the Department of Education, and such property shall be vested in the school board or board of education, provided always that the rinks and athletic fields shall be available for the purposes permitted by the regulations. 1949, c. 13, s. 8.

9. Where aid has been granted under this Act to assist in building a community centre out of moneys appropriated therefor by the Legislature, the community centre shall not be sold or disposed of within 20 years from the time the aid was last granted without the approval of the Minister. 1949, c. 13, s. 9.

10. The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may make regulations,

- (a) prescribing the terms and conditions upon which aid may be granted under this Act;
- (b) prescribing the uses to which a community centre may be put, and the accommodation which may be provided therein;
- (c) prescribing the powers and duties of boards of management, and providing for the appointment of officers of such boards;
- (d) respecting any other matter necessary or advisable to carry out effectively the intent and purpose of this Act. 1949, c. 13, s. 10.

