



Ottawa-Carleton Ultimate Association (OCUA)

MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release

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OCUA Partners with Canada Aviation Museum to Build Four New Ultimate Fields Thanks to \$55,000 OTF Grant

Ottawa – The Ottawa-Carleton Ultimate Association is pleased to announce today that it has been awarded a \$55,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to develop four new ultimate fields at the Canada Aviation Museum. The fields are expected to be ready for play in fall 2008. OCUA has secured a license of occupation from the Canada Aviation Museum to use these fields over the next ten years.

“I am happy to see that the Ontario Trillium Foundation is committed to new forms of recreation and fitness, especially a world-leader like this Ottawa group”, said Richard Patten, MPP for Ottawa Centre. “Having fun is the best motivator for staying in shape and this sure sounds like fun to me.”

The sport of ultimate has grown rapidly in Ottawa, climbing from less than 100 players at its inception in 1986 to about 5,000 players today, making OCUA one of the largest ultimate associations in the world. But growth has come with its challenges – primarily, the shortage of public playing fields in the Ottawa area.

“This is a win-win situation for our Association and the residents of Ottawa,” said Nick Roberts, General Manager for OCUA. “These fields will provide a venue for our developmental and youth leagues and allow residents of the city’s east end a convenient location to play ultimate.”

This project is an innovative solution to that field shortage, bringing together provincial funding with the land of a federal institution and the expertise of a municipal not-for-profit organization. This is the third time OCUA has provided a creative response to the shortage of public playing fields. In 1998, the Association built the world's first and only multi-field sports facility designed specifically for ultimate, the result of a \$750,000 project that was funded entirely by its membership. And in 2004, OCUA implemented an agreement with Parks Canada to build and operate two fields on federal scrubland. To find out more about ultimate in your neighborhood go to www.ocua.ca

The Ontario Trillium Foundation, an agency of the Ministry of Culture, receives funds from the government’s charity casino initiative. The Foundation allocates grants to eligible charitable and not-for-profit organizations in the arts and culture, environment, human and social services and sports and recreation sectors. For more information, please visit www.trilliumfoundation.org.

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Media Backgrounder

The Ottawa-Carleton Ultimate Association (OCUA) is on the cutting edge of one of the world's fastest growing sports. Ultimate is played in 42 countries around the world and the nation's capital boasts one of the largest leagues in the world with about 5,000 members.

Ultimate is a fast-paced, non-contact team sport played with a flying disc, which incorporates the best features of soccer, football, and basketball into a straightforward and physically demanding game. It appeals to new players because it requires little in the way of equipment and is easy to learn. It also appeals to competitive athletes who can play the sport at an elite level, competing at national and international tournaments in the hopes of gaining a birth at the world championships.

OCUA offers ultimate leagues in the summer, fall and winter to residents throughout the national capital region. In summer, OCUA teams play on city fields throughout the city, including at OCUA's own dedicated 19-field facility, Ultimate Parks Inc, in Manotick. OCUA provides summer play for all levels and catering to all communities, including divisions for co-ed, women, youth, young professionals, west end, family fun and Sunday social.

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