

The Optimist Club of Orangeville

Shed Facility Expansion Proposal Summer / Fall 2025

Funding Request: Up to \$50,000 (excludes HST)

Purpose:

The Optimist Club of Orangeville hosts the annual Christmas in the Park event each year where it allows people from the Town of Orangeville, the greater Dufferin County area and beyond, to attend. We currently utilize the storage facility located adjacent to the parking lot of the Senior's Centre.

Given the popularity of this annual event and the commitment to continue with its success, we have had to seek off-site storage at various locations in and around Orangeville in the past year. Transporting these large display pieces increases the risk for potential damage, not to mention the annual maintenance required. We have outgrown our present 1,200-sqft shed facility and are seeking to expand with an additional 450-sqft attachment to the east side of the existing structure. The existing shed structure is owned by the Town of Orangeville.

Background: The Optimist Club of Orangeville - Value Proposition to the Community

The Optimist Club of Orangeville maintains a long-standing motto as a "Friend of Youth", annually supporting numerous community programs and events. Our membership presently stands steadily at 37. Since the passing of COVID restrictions, membership interest and growth has strengthened. Our presence in the community is noticed by local citizens. We are a club of doers, providing community support where and when needed for our youth.

Ensuring the continued success of CITP is essential to our community. Outside of our involvement with CITP, we provide or support other events as outlined below.

- A. Each May, we host the "Bike Roadeo", a bike skills and training session that is hosted at various elementary schools around Orangeville. The event then ends with a skills competition at the Alder arena at the end of May.
- B. We host the "Junior Golf Tournament" to early aged teenagers in June as an opportunity to potentially help participants compete at other class-level leagues within the greater Optimist organization.
- C. COLS (Central Ontario Leadership Seminar) is an annual program the Club participates in supporting students seeking higher education through mentorship endeavours.
- D. Local up and coming student athletes who are looking to expand on their dreams in the sporting endeavour of their choice.
- E. Primary supporter of 3rd Orangeville scouts.
- F. Optimist oratorical and essay contests.
- G. Numerous other school funding and bursary programs

In 2020, the park closed due to COVID. Despite restrictions on human contact, the Club illuminated the park with Christmas lights and displays. It was a challenging time for everyone, and we needed some seasonal cheer. The impact of COVID will not be forgotten.

Optimist Club contributions to KayCee Gardens

The existing shed facility was built in December 2015. We were under pressure at the time to devise a plan to make alternate arrangements for storage accommodation due to other Town projects underway. We were in dire need to salvage CITP from failure due to a lack of operational space.

Since that time when the shed facility was built, it has become more than just a storage facility. A number of retired members gather each week to take part in fellowship and work on various chores such as planning, sorting, repairing or designing new displays. The Club knows well the investment needed to look after a prized park location like KayCee gardens. Over time, the Club has looked after numerous improvements to the park. Below is a short list of the Club's contributions to help protect its beauty, by taking on various tasks over the years to ensure KayCee Gardens' future, providing countless in-kind volunteer hours.

- 2004 – added a covered bridge, pergola and gazebo (town supplied the materials)
- 2010 - gate entrance monuments at both Bythia St and John St entrances
- 2021 - building of new pathway pergola (John St side)
- 2022 - pergola roof top replacement (Bythia St side)
- 2024 - drystone structure project topped with sedum (Eric Landman)
- 2025 Planned
 - repair & replace sections of the gazebo installed in 2004
 - Replace fence section due to vandalism
 - Planned benches and solar lighting by drystone

Christmas in the Park Metrics

The Club utilizes a people-counter reader. Each CITP December season, we measure the traffic of people visiting the park. In the past 5 measured years, CITP has seen approximately 21,500 visitors on average. While the number of people that visit the park may travel from various locations (locally or afar), we know a certain number of those visiting also leave a footprint of their dollars behind at local restaurants and store establishments, making CITP a valued asset to the community.

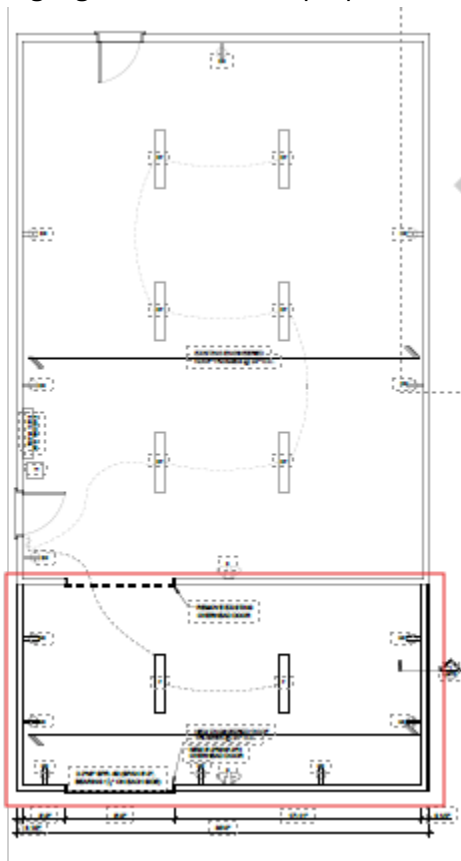
Shed Expansion - Scope of Work

The following scope of work will be provided to prospective contractors to bid on the construction project. As we did with the original 2015 shed construction, the Club will appoint an internal project manager (Michael Chezy) to volunteer overseeing the process from end-to-end. This should minimize the need for the Town to be involved full-time, unless when needed. Progress report/updates can be provided, if required. The Club will adhere to the Town building guidelines, utilizing a local engineering firm for planning and site development.

Scope of Work:

- Dimensions 15ft long x 30ft wide
- Expansion is to the east side of the shed
- Excavation to meet floating pad requirements
- Repurpose metal siding for the extended east side
- Garage door to be maximum allowable height
- Garage door to be positioned as in the current location
- Materials for roof to be matched accordingly (home hardware, Orangeville)
- Streetlight to be fixed onto the building, same height
- Streetlight pole to be removed and electrical terminated.
- Electrical receptacles to be positioned according to code
- Electrical lighting must be LED.
- Interior changes to be discussed, as needed.

Highlighted in red is the proposed location for the shed expansion





Friend of Youth

Box 231 | Orangeville | Ontario | Canada | L9W 2Z6

email: info@orangevilleoptimists.ca

April 16, 2025

Hello Mr. David Scott,

As President of the Optimist Club of Orangeville, I am writing to you to attest to the fact that **Michael Chezy** is a long- standing member of our Club for 19 years. He has served as our past Treasurer and is also a former President of the Club.

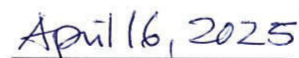
Michael previously spearheaded the original shed construction project adjacent to the Senior's Centre in 2014 to ensure our continued success with Christmas in the Park (CITP), a community event very near and dear to the Club and the greater community. He will now be taking on the leadership role to seek support from the Town of Orangeville to expand the current shed configuration to ensure CITP's continued success.

Your understanding and support in this important endeavour will be greatly appreciated. Please reach out should you have any additional questions or concerns. Michael will be following the direction of the Town's capital expenditure policy to ensure compliance and transparency.

Kind Regards,

Tina Clare,
President,
Optimist Club of Orangeville
Email: tina.clare@orangevilleoptimists.ca


Tina Clare


Date



Friend of Youth

Box 231 | Orangeville | Ontario | Canada | L9W 2Z6

email: info@orangevilleoptimists.ca

May 1, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,


The Board of Directors for the Optimist Club of Orangeville would like to advise all those of concern that we are in the process of pursuing an expansion to the existing storage shed located adjacent to the parking lot that is associated with the Seniors Centre at 37 Bythia Street, Orangeville, Ontario.

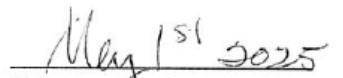
Overseeing the project endeavour on the Club's behalf and in conjunction with the Town of Orangeville, will be our optimist member, **Michael Chezy**, a long-standing member of our Club for 19 years.

Your understanding and support in this important endeavour will be greatly appreciated. Michael will be following the direction of the Town's capital expenditure policy to ensure compliance and transparency.

Kind Regards,

Tina Clare,
President,
Board member for the Optimist Club of Orangeville
Email: tina.clare@orangevilleoptimists.ca


Tina Clare


Date