



**For Immediate Release May 3, 2017**

## **Bisons Alumni North Park Sports Complex to Officially Open Wednesday, May 3, 2017**

Brantford, ON - On Wednesday, May 3, 2017 members of Brantford City Council and City staff together with the Grand Erie District School Board, and the North Park Collegiate-Vocational School community will gather to celebrate the official grand opening of the new state of the art Bisons Alumni North Park Sports Complex.

Featuring FIFA 2 star artificial turf and a 4 lane single chute synthetic running track, as well as new sports-field lighting, a long jump triple jump track, an extensively renovated field house, new bleacher seating, and a central press box, the new fully accessible athletic facility has been built to accommodate expanded programming including football, rugby, soccer and track and field.

In addition to a new canopy shelter and concession, field house renovations include an accessible washroom, improved change room facilities and storage areas, a utility storage compound and electrical upgrades. The new bleachers feature integrated accessible and companion seating as well as space for over 750 spectators. The new press box also features a state of the art sound system.

Wednesday's opening celebrates a culmination of the extraordinary work done by City of Brantford Programs and Recreation staff, Grand Erie District School Board and North Park Collegiate-Vocational School.

Mayor Chris Friel expressed his appreciation to all involved stating, "I'm very proud of the partnerships that led to this significant accomplishment. With the opening of the new Bisons Alumni North Park Sports Complex, more children and youth in our community will have the opportunity to develop important life skills through participating in sports. Today's grand opening honours the historical contribution that the Bisons Alumni have made to recreation in Brantford and marks the beginning of the positive effects this new facility will provide for the City's youth and the community at large for generations to come."

"The Bisons Alumni North Park Sports Complex will be enjoyed by students at North Park Collegiate-Vocational and children in local minor sports organizations," said David Dean, Chair of the Board. "The Board is pleased to have the school share the name of this sports complex with the Bisons Alumni. They have done so much over the years for sport and recreation in our community."

The opening ceremony is set to take place in advance of a soccer double header where

both the North Park male and female teams will take on Pauline Johnson Collegiate-Vocational School beginning at 2:30 pm. Students from North Park will be released from school at 1:45 to take part in the opening ceremony. Members of the community are also welcome to attend.

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