



February 1, 2017

**Uxbridge SC, Scugog SA and North Durham United FC are considering merging in to one effective, full-service Club, the Clubs announced today.**

The new Club, which would not be operational until 2018, would be able to provide soccer programs at both recreational and competitive level for all North Durham residents, from entry-level youth to senior players. Importantly, pooling resources into a single operation will allow for stronger soccer programs, more effective service to players and parents and better development of the Clubs' coaches, referees and soccer facilities.

"We're excited about what coming together could mean for the long term stability of soccer in North Durham," said Grant Oliver, President of Uxbridge Soccer Club. "Unifying would create a more seamless Club operation with more capacity that could simply do more for its community with a larger base of players."

"We all agree that coming together could be the best decision for the long term future of soccer in North Durham," said Brian Kavanagh, President of Scugog Soccer Association. "As one organization, we think we can offer a stronger range of programs so players won't have to leave their community to fulfill their soccer development. We all feel it is important keep our kids enjoying sport locally to build a vibrant North Durham community."

"Bringing our Clubs together will allow us to create better local opportunities for kids to develop and play at a higher level if they choose," said Doug Beard, President of North Durham United FC which currently manages the competitive programs for three community soccer Clubs - Uxbridge SC, Scugog SA and Brock SC. "Merging would mean we can share our coaching expertise to benefit all North Durham coaches and players, not just the competitive few. We think we can greatly improve our coach development programs if we are all under one roof."

"We are fully supportive of these Club discussions to try to build a stronger soccer offering to the players, coaches, officials, volunteers and parents of North Durham," said Ron Smale, President of the Ontario Soccer Association. "We congratulate them on showing the bold leadership it takes to pursue a merger path, solely for the betterment of the game in Durham region."

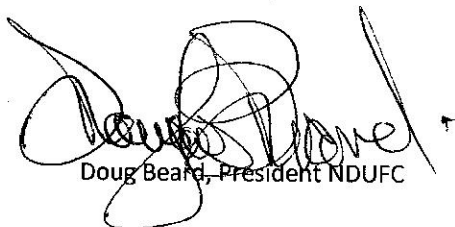
Sport consultancy Capitis Consulting has been assisting the clubs with this early work.

"From our perspective, this merger makes a lot of sense," said Paul Varian, Principal at Capitis Consulting who has been facilitating early discussions. "Each Club brings unique value to the merger, but also gains from what the other Clubs bring. There is a strong spirit of cooperation among the three Clubs and the process is made a lot easier in that they have already merged their competitive programming under NDUFC."

Following the initial merger discussions that have already taken place, the three Clubs are now progressing to capture the views of their players and parents through online surveying.

"These Clubs belong to the North Durham community; their future depends on what the community wants," continued Varian. "It is very important that everyone connected with these Clubs answer these surveys and help shape the future that they want for soccer in North Durham."

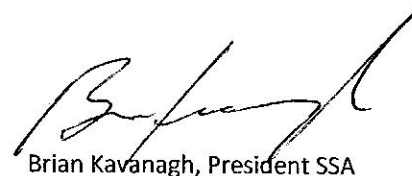
Surveys will be released over the coming weeks. Should the Clubs ultimately decide to pursue a full merger, details will be issued to their respective memberships who will be required to formally approve it by vote at a Special General Meeting.



Doug Beard, President NDUFC



Grant Oliver, President USC



Brian Kavanagh, President SSA