



## Crystal Beach Academy: Community Financial Impact Statement

### Prepared for:

Community Stakeholders, Municipal Leadership, Local Business Owners

**Date Updated:** May 2026

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### Executive Summary

Crystal Beach Academy (CBA), a premier hockey boarding academy located in the heart of Crystal Beach, plays a vital economic and social role in the Crystal Beach and subsequent Greater Fort Erie area. As an institution that attracts student-athletes and their families from across the world, CBA contributes significantly to the local economy through housing, tourism, facility rentals, and direct spending at local businesses. In addition to its financial contributions, the Academy fosters strong community engagement through volunteerism and partnerships with local organizations. We are proud of a 100% success of moving our female and male student-athletes to the next level of their hockey careers in Junior, University and Professional.

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## 1. Direct Economic Contributions

### A. Housing & Accommodation

- CBA students reside in rented homes, and billet families across Crystal Beach, generating steady, year-round income for property owners.
- Visiting families and teams frequently book local **hotels, bed & breakfasts, and Airbnb rentals**, especially during game weekends, tournaments, and school events. A large portion of our student's families are from outside of Ontario, including:
  - Eastern/Western Canada, USA, Europe, Australia, Mongolia, Japan to name a few, so many families will come and stay for week(s) at a time.
- Estimated annual housing and lodging expenditures: **\$200,000–\$250,000**

### B. Local School, Gym, Arena & Facility Rentals

- CBA is a major tenant of GFESS, Boys and Girls Club, Fort Erie arenas, using them daily for education, training and games.
- This regular rental helps sustain the arena's operations and contributes to municipal revenue.
- Estimated annual school, arena, gym and other facility rentals: **\$150,000–\$200,000**.

*Character, Coachability, Work Ethic – CBA Pillars of Success*



### **C. Retail & Dining**

- Students, coaches, staff, and visiting families frequent local **restaurants, coffee shops, grocery stores, and retail outlets.**
- This consistent traffic supports small businesses and helps create and sustain jobs.
- Estimated annual local business spending: **\$200,000–\$300,000**

### **D. Ancillary Services**

- Local service providers (e.g. transportation, fitness trainers, physiotherapists, doctors, chiropractors, mental health counselors, barbers, tutors, etc.) benefit from direct contracts or student/family patronage.
  - Estimated annual service spending: **\$200,000–\$250,000**
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## **2. Indirect Economic Impact**

### **A. Tourism & Visibility**

- CBA boosts Crystal Beach’s visibility as a destination, encouraging tourism year-round, beyond the typical summer season.
- Families who visit often return for vacations, boosting on and off-season tourism.

### **B. Real Estate Demand**

- Demand for short-term and long-term rentals due to CBA activity has increased property values and real estate interest in the area.
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## **3. Social & Community Contributions**

### **A. Volunteerism**

- CBA players are actively involved in local initiatives, volunteering at:
  - Community cleanups
  - Youth hockey mentorship programs
  - Local charity drives and events

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## **B. Youth Engagement**

- CBA players inspire local youth and contribute to a growing local hockey culture.
- Free skills clinics and mentorship programs foster leadership and community pride.

## **C. Community Partnerships**

- CBA partners with local schools, service clubs, and non-profits to promote shared growth and youth development.

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## **Conclusion**

Crystal Beach Academy is more than just a hockey academy—it is a cornerstone of economic vitality and community spirit in Crystal Beach and the Greater Fort Erie area. Its presence supports local businesses, strengthens public infrastructure, and cultivates a sense of pride and purpose within the community.

With continued support from municipal partners and local stakeholders, Crystal Beach Academy will remain a positive force for economic growth, community engagement, and youth development for years to come.

Sincerely,

Kevin Rawlick

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