



## TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON

## REPORT

Item No.

**REPORT TO:** Reeve Vincent and Members of Council  
**PREPARED BY:** Pat Newson, Director of Recreation and Facilities  
**DATE:** 03/04/2017  
**SUBJECT:** Recreation and Facilities 04-03-2017 Department Update  
**ATTACHMENTS:** None

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby receive the Activity Report of the Director of Recreation and Facilities, dated April 3, 2017, for information purposes.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Director of Recreation and Facilities provides a monthly report of department activities and ongoing projects to keep Council informed.

### **DISCUSSION**

#### **Blyth Memorial Community Hall Renovation Project**

The allocation of funding for the project to the Province and Federal funding programs was completed on March 31 as per the agreements. The project was fortunate to receive additional allocation of the Provincial funds. Blyth Cultural Initiative 14/19 Inc. received \$3,300,000 for projects in Blyth which included renovations for Blyth Memorial Community Hall, the Blyth Festival's Rehearsal/Studio Building, and the Canadian Centre for Rural Creativity building. The original funding allocation for Blyth Memorial Community Hall funding was \$2,321,000. 14/19 Inc. was able to allocate \$2,479,519.16 for this part of the project from Provincial funding. An increase of \$158,519.16.

The project will achieve substantial completion on April 13, 2017 which is two weeks later than anticipated, and there is a window of time to allow for this small delay. Landscaping for the project will be completed when weather permits. North Huron staff are working with 14/19 Inc. and the Blyth Festival to coordinate the load in of the building, and transfer of care and control for the scheduled date of May 20, 2017.

Staff are busy with the completion of this project, and the reporting out for the funding. The consultant Allan Avis Architects and the General Contractor SKC Construction have been excellent partners on this project, and have been exceptional at working to meet our tight deadlines for the renovation. The delays are a cumulative result of changes made to the project as construction proceeded, due to conditions made apparent as demolition and the rebuilding process unfolded, and requests for changes by the committee.

#### **Marketing Promotion**

The department offered some new marketing initiatives in the Spring to boost utilization, awareness and membership.

### 3 for Free

A mail out promotion to residents to visit the NHWCC and try 3 free visits, one for aquatic, fitness and courts. The following are the number of visits attended by new participants as part of the promotion.

Courts – 16

Fitness – 37

Aquatics – 19

At the same time a promotion on Personal Training was offered for single session discount.

10 Fitness Personal Training sessions were sold under this promotion for a value of \$339.

### Saturday 12 for 12

January to March a 12 for 12 Pass was sold. Participants could purchase a \$12 pass and utilize public swims or the courts on Saturdays from January – March. 34 passes were sold for a revenue of \$408. The goal was to boost utilization of Saturday public swims. Looking at the utilization year over year:

2016 Saturday Jan-Mar swims achieved 499 visits

2017 Saturday Jan-Mar swims achieved 550 visits

### Home for the Holidays Promotion

This is a discounted \$20 pass to use the Fitness Centre and Courts in December. Most uptake is from students returning home over the holidays.

83 passes were sold for total revenue of \$1,660.

### The North Huron Spring Summer Recreation Guide

Distributed to home March 22-24. Registration for Spring swimming lessons are well underway with many classes already full.

### Blyth Recreation User Group Meeting

Blyth and District Community Centre hosts two user group meetings per year. The upcoming meeting will be held on Wednesday April 12 at 7:00pm at the Community Centre. Requests for the Living Tree expenditures will be reviewed for consideration at this meeting.

### Wingham Town Hall Project

The Township of North Huron has finalized the contract agreement with the HVAC contractor. North Huron staff and a volunteer from the Wingham Town Hall Theatre Committee are going to perform the work required for the structural component in the attic. This is a cost saving for the committee's expenses, and the contractor Montgomery Industrial Services has agreed to work around this arrangement. The committee is also looking into funding the installation of LED house lights for the theatre, and is investigating costs and any rebate programs.

### Wingham Ice

The final day for rentals at the arena at the NHWCC was Sunday March 26. Work on removing the ice has been ongoing the week of March 27.

### Parks

The goal is for summer students to begin work at the start of May for parks positions. Positions for Summer Day Camp and Parks students was advertised in both papers and the web site. Resumes were collected and the interview and selection process is underway.

Recreation and Facilities, and Public Works Managers have been meeting to coordinate efficient delivery of services for parks maintenance, field maintenance, flower maintenance and grass cutting. As weather

cooperates, work will begin in the parks, sports fields, campground, and the local volunteer groups will be ramping up their activities.

#### **Threshers' Log Cabin Veranda Project**

Staff from the Recreation and Facilities department and the Building department have met with representatives of the Threshers'. The Threshers' have identified the location and extent of the veranda, and the location poses no interference with campground operation. The Threshers' are developing the building drawings further to apply for a building permit and communicate exact structural details for the Log Cabin addition. Recreation and Facilities staff will be developing the agreement for permission to build for Council's review.

#### **Legend Software**

Staff have been working with Legend to build the database inventory. There have been some challenges confirming our go-live launch date because it is dependent on the timing of integration of the payment system with North Huron's provider for this service. The hope is to finalize that date by first week of April to begin communications with members and users. If all goes as planned, the go-live date will be July 28, 2017.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

None

#### **FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS**

Next department update report is scheduled for Monday May 1, 2017.

#### **RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Our community is Healthy and Safe.

Our community is attractive and welcoming to new businesses and residents.

Our administration is fiscally responsible and strives for operational excellence.



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Pat Newson, Director of Recreation and Facilities



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Sharon Chambers, CAO