



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: 06/11/2017
SUBJECT: Recreation and Facilities 11-06-2017 Department Update
ATTACHMENTS: Photo of Wingham Community Trail, Stats summary report,

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby accept the Activity Report of the Director of Recreation and Facilities, dated November 6, 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

Wingham Community Trail

The Wingham trail committee applied for a \$2500 green space grant from the TD bank. The Wingham Community Trail Committee, with support from the Recreation and Facilities Department, proposed a plan and were successful in obtaining this funding. To be approved for the grant the labour needed to be completed by TD staff and volunteers. Under the guidance of the trail committee they received support from the Wingham Ironmen to help move woodchips and planting of the shrub bed. The Wingham Ironmen had 17 players show up to help out. The project reduces grass cutting in the area, and provides more natural environment and beautification along the trail. Photo attached to this report.

Recreation Program Statistics

Attached to this report are the initial fall program statistics for Recreation Programs, Ice booking utilization, and the Aquatic usage. The Aquatic Centre statistics are for only one week of usage, the intent was to provide the numbers to demonstrate usage has not dropped post-shutdown, in fact we have seen an increase in utilization.

Aquatic Centre

Since opening the Aquatic Centre, there have been some challenges with balancing the heat in the pool and in the air. The entire Dectron system upgrades were not completed by the time the centre opened, but were operational. The centre opened on time in order to meet customer expectations. There have been fluctuations in the water and deck temperature and the department has received complaints that the water is too warm or too cool. Since opening water temperature has fluctuated from 88 degrees to 83 degrees, however mostly it has measured at 84 degrees. Staff are working with the contractor to balance the HVAC settings so that the desired water temperature of 85 degrees, 87 air temperature and humidity of 55% can be achieved. Staff have been communicating with patrons about the challenges with announcements before classes and handouts on deck.

The official grand opening celebration is scheduled for Saturday December 2, 2017. More details will follow.

Festival of Wizardry – Transfigured Town

The wrap up meeting with Transfigured Town is scheduled for Friday November 3, outcomes of that meeting were not available at the time this report was submitted but will be reported with the December 4 monthly department update report.

The event was scheduled for October 13-15, 2017. The Friday night event was a VIP dinner held in the Blyth Hall in the Community Centre. The Saturday event was held at the Blyth Campground, inside the Blyth Community Centre, and off site locations included the Blyth Memorial Community Hall Theatre, and the downtown businesses. On the Saturday the visits to the Campground were 6,000. Due to threatening weather conditions, including strong winds and thunderstorms, the event organizers cancelled the Sunday event for participant safety. The event tents and portable toilets were knocked over and damaged by strong winds experienced on Sunday. This was unfortunate for the first time event held in Blyth.

Blyth Memorial Community Hall Renovation Committee

The renovation committee held their final wrap up meeting on Wednesday October 25, 2017. Through a motion adopted by the committee, this committee is dissolved. According to the Terms of Reference established by the committee in 2014, the goal was to complete the renovations at Blyth Memorial Community Hall. This task is essentially completed and the committee's work is complete. There was a discussion and initiative for a new committee to be formed as a community advisory committee to provide leadership for this shared community resource. Blyth 14/19 Inc. would be the chair of the committee and is working on establishing committee content and terms of reference.

Staff continue to work with the consultant and the contractor to address the deficiency items. A number of recommendations were also approved by the committee prior to dissolving for additional improvements and allocation of resources and anticipated revenues. The building warrantee is in place for one year after construction completion, and if any other items come up the Township staff will continue to address them with the contractor. Staff will be bringing a final report on the project to Council in December.

Feasibility Study for Goderich and Wingham Airports

This is an initiative driven by Huron County Economic Development. Staff attended a review of the draft report on Friday October 27, 2017. Feedback is going back to the consultant and we anticipate release of the final draft for Council's review in late November.

Upcoming Events

Wingham BIA	Festival of Lanterns	Oct 27	Wingham Town Hall
Blyth Lions	Halloween Dance	Oct 28	Blyth & District Community Centre
Silver sticks	Midget	Nov 12-19	North Huron Westcast Community Complex
Silver Stick	Atom	Nov 26-Dec 3	North Huron Westcast Community Complex
Blyth Lions	Christmas Dance	Dec 9	Blyth & District Community Centre
Blyth 140 th	Year End Party	Dec 31	Blyth & District Community Centre

Marketing

- FamilyFunApaloozaWinterLugeAthon event planning is underway for this Township wide Family Day event held on February 19, 2018.
- North Huron Winter Rec and Leisure Guide is getting a face lift. With the new on-line software, the rec guide will be reduced in pages and offer generic information about recreation services in North Huron. Specific programs, schedules, activities will be available on-line. Staff are looking at different distribution and printing options for the guide.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

Next department update report is Monday December 4, 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.



Pat Newson, Director of Recreation and
Facilities



Dwayne Evans, CAO