



## TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON

## REPORT

Item No.

**REPORT TO:** Reeve Vincent and Members of Council  
**PREPARED BY:** Connie Goodall  
**DATE:** 06/11/2017  
**SUBJECT:** Village of Blyth Accommodation Feasibility Study  
**ATTACHMENTS:** [Click here to enter text.](#)

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby authorize the Reeve and Clerk to sign the agreement with the Province of Ontario to receive and monitor funds for the Village of Blyth Accommodation Feasibility Study as previously approved in the Clerks report dated August 8, 2017.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The application to OMAFRA by North Huron and the Blyth BIA for Rural Economic Development (RED) funds to conduct an Accommodation Feasibility study for the village of Blyth was successful.

### **DISCUSSION**

The agreement is between the Province, North Huron and the Blyth BIA. As a condition to proceed with the agreement North Huron has requested a copy of the RFP, a list of who was invited to respond to the RFP and a copy of the submissions from the Blyth BIA. A copy of the RFP and those invited to respond to the RFP has been received. Responses to the RFP are due November 10, 2017. Because the Province and the Township will be funding 75% of the cost of this study, Township staff have requested one staff member be part of the team that evaluates the submissions.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The projected cost for this study is \$15,000 with \$7500 being funded by the Province and \$3,750 being funded by the Township. The Township's contribution was approved by Council as part of the 2017 budget process. The remaining 25% will be contributed by the Blyth Business Improvement Area. North Huron will receive and expend the funds received from the Province via the Rural Economic Develop Program. Invoices for the project will be received and paid out by the Township. This will ensure the Province's reporting requirements are satisfied and holds the Township accountable for the spending of the funds.

### **FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS**

The completed study will be used to attract and leverage private sector investment to the Blyth area for the development of accommodation facilities. Information from the Accommodation Feasibility Study will be used for future planning for accommodation and tourism related growth in the municipality.

### **RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Goal: Our community is attractive to new businesses and residents.

Outcome: We foster a positive business environment that retains, promotes and attracts businesses and investment.

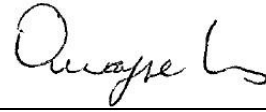
Outcome: We are well prepared for development and growth.

Outcome: Tourism is a driver in economic development.

Connie Goodall

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Connie Goodall  
Economic Development Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dwayne Evans', written above a horizontal line.

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Dwayne Evans, CAO