



TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON

REPORT

Item No.

REPORT TO: Reeve Vincent and Members of Council
PREPARED BY: Kim Scholl (A) Director of Recreation and Facilities
DATE: 22/05/2018
SUBJECT: Blyth Artisan Market
ATTACHMENTS: [Click here to enter text.](#)

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby accept the report prepared by the Acting Director of Recreation and Facilities and the Director of Public Works, dated May 22, 2018, regarding the Blyth Artisan Market for information purposes;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the Blyth BIA's initiative to operate a Blyth Artisan Market in Blyth as presented at the Council meeting on May 7th;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the proposed interim location of the Blyth Artisan Market to be the alley west of Blyth Memorial Community Hall, located at the south end of the alley at Dinsley Street until the permanent proposed location at 437 Queen Street, Blyth, is available.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Blyth Artisan Market is an initiative started by the Blyth BIA and will have co-investment from the Blyth Destination Development Partnership. This initiative is designed to attract visitors to the downtown, and to encourage visitors to the Blyth Festival Theatre, Cowbell etc. This report outlines the details for Council's consideration to permit the Market on Township property, and to support this BIA initiative.

DISCUSSION

Background

At the May 7, 2018 Council meeting, representatives of the Blyth BIA presented a proposal to Council to operate an Artisan Market in Blyth. Council directed staff to bring back a report discussing location, insurance, and details for their consideration.

The Market will run on Thursdays from 3:30-8:00pm and feature a curated selection of local vendors selling produce and artisanal products and different local entertainment. The goal is to attract 10-20 vendors for the Market. There are also 4 Sundays during the summer when the Artisan Market will be open. The first date for the proposed Market is May 31, 2018.

Location

Initially the Blyth BIA had selected Dinsley Street as their preferred temporary location for the Market. After a review of this option, staff communicated with the Blyth BIA delegation that the road closure would need to be addressed in a manner consistent with the Ontario Highway Traffic Act. The cost of staff and resources from the Township made this option no longer viable for the organizers of the Market.

A second proposed location, using the alley west of the Legion and Blyth Memorial Community Hall, initiating at Dinsley Street (see diagram attached), was suggested. This new proposed location is not influenced by the Highway Traffic Act and was acceptable to staff as a safe and acceptable option. Staff will work with the BIA representatives to ensure public safety, delivery of barricades, and ensure notifications of the alley closure are made to impacted properties.

The permanent proposed location of the Blyth Artisan Market will be the parking lot behind 437 Queen Street, Blyth. This lot is currently under construction, but the plan is to move the Market to this space by end of July, assuming construction continues on schedule.

Insurance

This is a BIA initiative and therefore covered under the Township of North Huron liability insurance policy. Staff are working with the organizers of the Market to ensure the following risk management items are completed:

- Appropriate vendor insurance is in place
- Volunteer sign waiver forms
- The Market acquires a North Huron License to operate. As a BIA event, the fee is waived for this license, but all conditions of the license must comply.

Wingham Farmer's Market

Council requested staff to provide information on what in-kind support from the Township is provided to the Wingham Farmer's Market, in order to assess equity.

The Wingham Farmer's Market operates under an Agreement between the Market and the Township of North Huron, with a term from 2017-2019. They are also a member of the Ontario Farmer's Market Association. As a member of the Farmer's Market Association, they qualify to be covered under the associations insurance.

- Vendors are still required to submit proof of their own insurance.
- They are not automatically exempt from the North Huron Licensing By-Law to Operate. At the May 22, 2018 Council meeting, the Wingham Farmer's Market submitted a request to Council to amend the agreement to include waiving this fee. They would still be required to comply with the Licensing By-Law.
- The Market pays rent weekly for use of Cruikshank Park for the Market (\$31.51 plus HST weekly). This is the Community rate for parks open space rent in North Huron.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no municipal financial impact. There is in-kind support from staff for the following:

- Delivery and pick up of barricades (estimated 11 times).

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

This is a proposed temporary location for the Blyth Artisan Market. The Market will move to its permanent location at 437 Queen Street as soon as the property is available.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

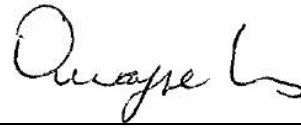
Our administration is fiscally responsible and strives for operational excellence.

Our residents are engaged and well informed.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kim Scholl".

Kim Scholl, Acting Director of
Recreation and Facilities

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dwayne Evans".

Dwayne Evans, CAO