



# 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:** 02/08/2016  
**SUBJECT:** August Activity Report 2016  
**ATTACHMENTS:** Ontario 150 Grant Information Slides

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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 August 2, 2016, 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**

### **Airport**

The Wingham Jet Rally was held July 22-24<sup>th</sup> at the Richard W. LeVan Airport. Record numbers of pilots and spectators attended the event. There were 72 pilots registered for the event and 240 cars parked on Saturday for spectators. Most of the pilots are not from the area, and spend 2-4 nights in local accommodations and eat in local establishments. The organizer estimates that \$80,000 is generated business for the region as a result of the participants of the event. The club appreciates the use of the Richard W. LeVan airport and the event has taken on a "life of its own" and is becoming more popular each year, according to organizer Blair Howkins.

### **Ontario 150**

The Ontario 150 Grant is the 2017 grant to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canada and Ontario. The Director participated in a teleconference presentation about the program, and will be attending a presentation by Trillium in Goderich on August 3. The Director of Finance is also attending these information sessions. There are three components of the program:

- Community Celebration Program (submission deadline Sept 2)
- Partnership Program (submission deadline Sept 30)
- Capital Program (submission deadline (Sept 14)

The first two components are being administered through Grants Ontario, and the Capital Program is being administered through the Ontario Trillium Foundation and more details can be found on their respective web sites. The Township has received interest and suggestions from groups on applying or receiving support for applications for North Huron initiatives. Council will receive a staff report on the recommendations for this grant at the August 22<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting. At that meeting Council can consider what requests to submit or support. Attached to this report are the tele-conference slides which provide background and information on the grant program.

### Wingham Horticultural Society

The Wingham Horticultural Society celebrated their 50 year anniversary at Cruikshank Park on Saturday July 23. Over the past 50 years these volunteers have made significant contributions to the community, and continue their efforts today. Their dedication is commendable and helps to increase the parks resources to beautify the Town of Wingham.

### Blyth Memorial Community Hall Renovation Project

The Renovation Committee met on Friday July 15 to review the contract award and review the project plan/schedule. The contractor intends to work alongside the Blyth Festival staff while the building is being loaded out from September 4-18, and then takes over the site September 19, 2016. The contract is included in this Council agenda to adopt as by-law. Meetings will be ongoing with stakeholders, the contractor, and the consultant as this project proceeds.

### Town Hall Sprinkler System

The RFP was answered by two companies; Georgian Bay Fire and Safety, and FCFP. Staff are reviewing and evaluating the responses and will provide a report and recommendation to Council at the August 22 Council meeting to award the contract.

### Alice Munroe Public Library Windows

The windows are currently being reconditioned and painted and the project will be completed by the end of August.

### NHWCC Aquatic Centre Renovation

Staff have visited two sites in the GTA that are undergoing a similar pool liner renovation to learn more about the options for this project. These are the two first aquatic centres that we are aware of to undergo a tile application on the floor of a Myrtha Pool. Staff are considering this as a viable option instead of laying down another floor liner in the aquatic centre. Staff met on site at the NHWCC with Lee Battams of Aqua Plans Aquatic Consultants Inc. who have been working with the Town of Aurora on their liner/tile project. This company has submitted a proposal for consulting on the liner replacement project and this appears to be an excellent fit for this project. Staff are currently reviewing and negotiating the consulting work required. Staff were made aware of Aqua Plans through the consulting work of Allan Avis Architects in their first report of the Aquatic Centre. Staff believe we have found the right consultants for the project and will be working toward developing the specifications for the project.

The Aquatic Centre renovation appears to be a good option for the Ontario 150 Capital Grant program, and more details will be available after the information session on August 3.

### Recreation Software

The Informal Quotation Process has been used to review the products of seven different software companies. The staff have narrowed the decision down and are preparing a detailed summary report for Council on recommendations to purchase the software. Each company was provided an opportunity to present their product either in person or via a webinar, and a price quote. Additional webinars and presentations of the preferred options were hosted to further narrow down the selection. The timing for this project is such that if the Township selects the vendor and awards a contract by September, the software would be implemented for a Spring 2017 launch.

Once the software is selected, it needs to be customized to the Township of North Huron, develop the web site, staff training, and data migration steps need to be completed before the product can go "live". The goal of this project is to offer complete on-line customer interface for recreation programming, facility booking, and point of sale. The time line is to present to Council the recommendation at the August 22 meeting in order to move forward with purchasing the product.

#### North Huron Recreation and Leisure Guide

Staff have worked on the final details of the Fall/Winter Recreation and Leisure Guide. The Guide goes to print August 4 and will be distributed in the region August 18 & 19 to homes through the home delivery flyers. Promotions are also planned for radio August 17-23 and parents can start registering for everything from gymnastics and swimming lessons, to PA Day activities starting August 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### Wingham and Blyth Ice

It's that time of year again...ice is booked and confirmed for September Ice in Wingham. The first day of ice is Tuesday September 6, 2016 (day after Labour Day). The department is working with the Wingham Skating Club to build their participants through a September Figure Skating Drop In Ice Program. The goal is to assist with a new approach to this fall program in hopes to build participation for local Figures Skating Clubs, and support this sport.

The first day for Blyth Ice will be Saturday October 1.

The ice request forms have been sent out to all user groups, and the ice allocation process will be completed August 2. A Sunday time slot continues to be reserved at both arenas for family public skating sponsored by the Township of North Huron.

#### Blyth Campground

Three upcoming events at the Blyth Campground are:

- Square Dance Event – August 8-11
- Huron County Pioneer Threshers – September 8-11
- Rural Talks 2 Rural Conference – September 28-30

The Threshers have started building their new shed at the Blyth Campground.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Nothing to report.

#### **FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS**

Next department activity report is scheduled for September 6, 2016

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

Our community is Healthy and Safe

Our administration is fiscally responsible and strives for operational excellence



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