

Kathy Adams (Attention North Huron Council) Township of North Huron 274 Josephine St. Wingham, ON NOG 2W0

April 9, 2016

## Subject: Wingham Farmers' Market usage of Cruickshank Park in 2016

Dear North Huron Councillors;

The Wingham Farmers' Market has been working with North Huron staff, the Wingham BIA and community members to improve the market experience for 2016.

After a very strong start in 2015, our vendor numbers began to decline. Their feedback was clear: find a more visible location, preferably in the downtown.

Cruickshank Park would appear to be the ideal location. It is a well-known, warm and inviting green space that is meant to be enjoyed by the community. We have discussed the logistics of using Cruickshank Park with adjacent businesses, the fire department, North Huron staff and the Horticultural Society and everyone has been supportive.

The Cruickshank Park user fee is \$30.14 + HST per half day (Community Group Rate), whereas the 2015 municipal parking lot location was available to the Farmers' Market rent free. Over the course of the 18-week market season the total cost would be \$543.52 + HST.

## Our request to North Huron Councillors is for an in-kind contribution equivalent to \$543.52 + HST for the Wingham Farmers' Market to use Cruickshank Park, effectively waiving the user fee for 2016.

As a volunteer-run, not-for-profit we would struggle to pay the user fee in this our second season of operation. If the market is as successful in the new location as anticipated, North Huron's support today will enable the Market to be in a position to pay the Park's user fees in 2017.

Sincerely,

Matt Armstrong, Wingham Farmers' Market Chair