



## TOWNSHIP OF NORTH HURON

## REPORT

Item No.

**REPORT TO:** Reeve Vincent and Members of Council  
**PREPARED BY:** Kathy Adams, Clerk  
**DATE:** 23/01/2017  
**SUBJECT:** Civil Marriage Ceremonies  
**ATTACHMENTS:** None

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby receive the Clerk's report on Civil Marriage Ceremonies for information purposes;

AND FURTHER THAT a By-law be prepared by the Clerk for the February 6, 2017 Council Meeting to Amend By-law No. 08-2007, Being A By-law to Authorize the Civil Marriage Solemnization Service in the Township of North Huron.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In September of 2004, the Minister of Consumer and Business Services announced that changes to the regulations under the Marriage Act through O. Reg 285/04, authorized the Clerks of local municipalities to perform civil marriages. Previously, only Judges and Justices of the Peace were allowed to solemnize civil marriages. In addition, should a municipality choose to provide this service, the Clerk has the ability to delegate the responsibility to perform these marriages to any person, other than a member of council, under the authority of Subsection 228(4) of the Municipal Act.

### **DISCUSSION**

In 2005 Council passed a by-law (amended) which authorized the Clerk to solemnize civil marriages and to delegate the responsibility to perform ceremonies to two other individuals.

We currently charge a fee of \$250.00 to conduct a civil marriage ceremony with \$100.00 of this fee paid to the delegate performing the ceremony.

One of the two individuals delegated to perform ceremonies no longer wishes to provide this service to the Township. In 2016 our delegates solemnized 19 ceremonies with 3 of these ceremonies being performed by this individual. At this time, it is felt that one delegate could efficiently provide this service and has confirmed their intention to continue to perform ceremonies on behalf of the Township.

A By-law to amend the current By-law removing delegating authority for this individual will be prepared for Council's consideration and approval at the February 6, 2017 Council Meeting.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

On an annual basis the provision of services for civil marriages ceremonies reflects a revenue of approximately \$2,000.00.

**FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS**

None for consideration at this time.

**RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

The Clerk's Department is fiscally responsible and strives for operational excellence.

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Kathy Adams, Clerk

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sharon Chambers".

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Sharon Chambers, CAO