



## 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:** 06/02/2017  
**SUBJECT:** Aquatic Centre Renovation Project Funding  
**ATTACHMENTS:**

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby approve the Aquatic Centre Renovation project to proceed in 2017 and by doing so authorize pre-budget approval in the amount of \$95,697 toward the capital project to renovate the Aquatic Centre at the North Huron Westcast Community Complex;

AND FURTHER THAT Council agree to sign the funding agreement for an Ontario 150 Grant in the amount of \$150,000 for the Aquatic Centre Renovation project;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approve an exception to Section 19.1 of the Procedural By-law to allow By-law No. 12-2017 to be passed at the February 6, 2017 meeting.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Township of North Huron is fortunate to be awarded \$150,000 from the Ontario 150 Grant Program, for the renovation of the Aquatic Centre. Staff require a pre-budget approval to secure the matching dollars for the project in 2017, and for North Huron to sign and authorize the agreement between the Township and the Ontario 150 Community Capital Program, administered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation, to receive the funding.

### **DISCUSSION**

#### **Grant Program:**

The Ontario 150 Community Capital Program provides one-time funding in 2016/17 to support the repair, renovation or retrofit of existing community facilities. The program is administered by the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF).

#### **"Purpose of the Grant"**

*The Ontario 150 Community Capital Program is a grant program that will strengthen communities by supporting the repair, renovation or retrofitting of existing infrastructure to better address the diverse needs of Ontario communities while fostering economic growth. Supported projects will occur within one year of grant approval and be completed by March 31, 2018." (Ontario 150 Community Capital Program Application Guidelines)*

*"Whether it's a multicultural centre, soccer pitch or community theatre, these cherished and well-used neighbourhood facilities have played a pivotal role in Ontario's growth and development. Ontario150 will help ensure they continue to serve community needs well into the future." (Ontario 150 Community Capital Program web site)*

North Huron submitted an application in September 2016 for the renovation project at the Aquatic Centre. The project was a good fit for the grant criteria and the Township was fortunate to have been awarded the funding. The request of \$150,000 toward the project was approved by OTF. This is a separate grant program from OTF, but OTF has been engaged by Ontario 150 Community Capital Program to administer the program. For this reason, the contract/agreement is with OTF and all reporting and funding flows through OTF.

There was high competition for the funding and the Township is extremely fortunate and proud to have received such a significant size of award. The Aquatic Centre at the North Huron Westcast Community Complex meets the many goals and objectives of this fund, and the needs of the North Huron community. The project was required to align with one of the OTF Strategies. This project addresses “More people become active” strategy. Swimming promotes a healthy active lifestyle as it prevents diseases, provides rehabilitation from injuries/surgeries, social/family time, youth development and employment. Furthermore, swimming is a necessary life skill as it prevents drowning. The North Huron community is fortunate that in 2000, the Wingham community worked together to build the NHWCC which included an indoor Aquatic Centre, a feather in our cap for a community of this size. The facility enjoys 35,000 visits to the Aquatic Centre each year. This grant and project will extend the life of this remarkable facility.

There are a number of conditions to receiving the funding that staff are working to complete. The two conditions that require Council support are the confirmation that matching project dollars are secured, and that the contract be signed by the municipality. These two conditions must be met now and cannot wait until the Township budget is approved. For this reason, the request for pre-budget approval is necessary.

**Aquatic Centre Renovation Project**

The plan has been in the works for over two years to prepare for the renovation of the aquatic centre at the North Huron Westcast Community Complex. At the 2016 budget presentations, staff provided Council with details on the renovation. The project includes replacing the pool liner. It also includes mechanical upgrades: install a system to reduce the minerals in the water, install a UV water filtration system, replace boilers. The aquatic centre requires the ceiling beams and other areas to be hydro blasted and repainted to remove rust. The HVAC supports also require replacement.

**Renovation Estimated Expenses**

Remove and replace pool liner	\$295,000
Painting and replace HVAC rings	\$ 44,000
UV filtration system	\$30,554
Mineral removal system	\$30,000
Consulting	\$27,143

The Ontario 150 Community Capital Program funds are to be applied to the expenses of removal and replacement of the liner, and the repairs of painting and replacement of the HVAC rings.

**Project and Grant Timing**

The project start date is when expenses can begin to be charged to the project. This start date for this project is March 1, 2017, and the project end date is November 30, 2017. All project work and expenses are to be completed by this end date. During this project window the aquatic centre will require extensive renovations and there will be a shutdown of the Aquatic Centre. This shutdown is tentatively going to take place August 2017-October 2017, and last 10-12 weeks. Once the project schedule is finalized, details about the shutdown will be communicated to Council, the members, and the public. Staff can assure Council that facility members will be informed in advance of the shutdown, and membership fees will be redirected or put on hold.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Staff and Council have been planning for this Capital Project to renovate the Aquatic Centre for the past two years, and funds have been directed into a reserve account. The Ontario 150 grant is a significant investment in the project and provides necessary funding to see the project move forward in 2017.

#### **Expense:**

Total estimated project cost:      \$426,697.00

#### **Revenue Sources:**

Ontario 150 Grant:                      \$150,000.00

Funds in Reserves:                      \$182,000.00

2017 Budget:                              \$ 94,697.00

Total Revenue:                          \$426,697.00

Pre-budget approval is required to secure matching dollars for the grant.

### **FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS**

Receiving this grant is tremendous news for the Township of North Huron. A future event celebrating this funding from the Province will be hosted by North Huron in cooperation with OTF. Council and the public will be invited to attend.

Reports from staff will follow in the near future outlining details for the renovation project.

### **RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN**

Our community is healthy and safe.

Our administration is fiscally responsible and strives for operational excellence.



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Pat Newson, Director of Recreation and Facilities



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Sharon Chambers, CAO