



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: Blyth Memorial Community Hall Renovation Project Funding Update
ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby approve the increase in the Blyth Memorial Community Hall Renovation Project budget to \$4,127,901.32, which is an increase from the original budget of \$3,800,000, with the condition that the additional funds are sourced from donations and contributions from 14/19 Inc., and this increase has no impact on the North Huron budget.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Blyth Memorial Community Hall renovation project is underway and the Township of North Huron is managing the project. Funding is flowing through the municipality from various funding sources. Council permission is required to increase the project budget to permit staff spending limits, however this increase has no impact on the Township budget.

DISCUSSION

The Blyth Memorial Community Hall renovation project is underway and will exceed the \$3,800,000 budget. 14/19 Inc. has provided additional funding for the project. Staff seek Council's approval to increase the project budget to allow for the additional spending. The Financial Impact section of this report provides a breakdown of the funding sources for the project.

Blyth 14/19 Inc. Board of Directors has approved the additional allocation of the funds for the project. The source of the increased funds has come mostly from donations restricted to this project.

The project initially had a contingency of \$150,000. Project expenses will exceed this contingency. All spending and purchases for the project have been approved by the Blyth Memorial Hall Renovation Committee, which represent the stakeholders of the building: Township of North Huron, The Blyth Centre for the Arts (Blyth Festival), Blyth 14/19 Inc., the Blyth Legion, and the Blyth Legion Ladies Auxiliary.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The project has been fortunate to receive funding from three levels of government, and from private donations.

Summary of Funding Sources:

Province of Ontario	\$2,321,000.00
Federal Government Canadian Cultural Spaces Fund	\$979,907.00
Township of North Huron	\$500,000.00
Donations	\$325,572.25
Other	\$1,422.07
Project Total Funding	\$4,127,901.32

Funding Background:

- The Province of Ontario provided \$3.3M toward the Cultural Spaces Initiatives in Blyth. Funds were allocated to the Memorial Hall renovation, upgrades to the Blyth Festival Phillips Studio, and to the Grant and Mildred Sparling Centre for Rural Creativity. These funds must be spent by March 31, 2017.
- The Canadian Federal Government provided \$979,907.00 for the Blyth Memorial Hall Renovation Project through a Canadian Cultural Spaces Fund. These funds are allocated to be spent by March 31, 2017.
- The Township of North Huron has agreed to contribute \$500,000 toward the renovation of Blyth Memorial Community Hall.
- Private donations have been received to date of \$325,572.25. Some of these have come from the seat sale fundraiser, donations from the Legion and Legion Ladies Auxiliary, and from private citizens/groups.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

The Blyth Festival and 14/19 Inc. continue to encourage donors to make donations or purchase seats to allow for ongoing capital and equipment improvements for Blyth Memorial Hall. Any funds left after the renovation is complete will be placed in a reserve account for future building needs, for example, future technical upgrades for the theatre.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

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

Our administration is fiscally responsible and strives for operational excellence.



Pat Newson, Director of Recreation and Facilities



Sharon Chambers, CAO