RECOMMENDATION:
THAT the Council of the Township of North Huron hereby authorizes the Reeve and Clerk to sign a Sign Agreement with WVRH Holdings Inc. o/a Huron Tractor for the “Welcome to Blyth” sign located on Queen Street, Village of Blyth;

AND FURTHER THAT the Clerk be instructed to prepare a by-law to adopt the Sign Agreement by By-law at the March 6, 2017 Council Meeting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
In 1989 the Village of Blyth entered into a Sign Agreement with WVRH Holdings Inc. o/a Huron Tractor to establish a “Welcome to Blyth” sign in the Northwest Corner of Block J, Part Park Lot 8, Plan 171, Queen Street, East Side Village of Blyth on property owned by WVRH Holdings Inc.

DISCUSSION
Since the original sign agreement was entered into in 1989 the Council of the Village of Blyth and subsequently the Council of the Township of North Huron have renewed the Sign Agreement with WVRH Holdings Inc. for five year terms. The current sign agreement expired December 31, 2016 and the Clerk has had discussions with representatives from WVRH Holdings Inc. regarding the renewal of the Sign Agreement for another five-year term. A draft Sign Agreement was forwarded to WVRH Holdings Inc. in September of 2016 and they have recently agreed to renew the Agreement for another five-year term based on an increase of $25.00 per year which increases the sum payable annually by the Township from $350.00 to $375.00.

FINANCIAL IMPACT
Entering into the Sign Agreement will result in an expense to the Township of $375.00 per year for each year of the five-year Agreement.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS
The CAO has requested comment from the Township’s solicitor concerning obtaining easements for structures placed on private property versus short term agreements. The response will be provided prior to the adoption of the agreement on March 6th. The North Blyth sign is also on private property under a verbal agreement, and the arrangement should be formalized.
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.

Kathy Adams, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk
Sharon Chambers, CAO