

Memorandum

Office of the City Clerk
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TO: Members of Council
FROM: Dana Earle, Deputy City Clerk
DATE: Monday, November 2, 2020
SUBJECT: Additional Information
Committee of the Whole – November 2, 2020

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Additional Information

1. Resolutions Regarding Funding Applications for a Building to House the fully restored, 105-year-old C.W. Parker Heritage Carousel provided by by Mr. I. Angus relative to the Chippewa Park deputation.
2. Memorandum from Ms. K. Robertson, General Manager – Community Services, dated November 2, 2020 providing additional information relative to Report No. R 134/2020 (Community Services – Recreation & Culture Division) COVID-19: Phase 2 Fall 2020 Service Level Adjustments.

New Business

1. Resolution to Establish Closed Session - November 9, 2020

The following resolution will be presented to Committee of the Whole for consideration:

“THAT a Committee of the Whole – Closed Session meeting be scheduled for Monday, November 9, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in order to receive information relative to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; litigation or potential litigation, including matters before administrative tribunals, affecting the municipality or local board; a trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial or financial information that belongs to the municipality or local board and has monetary value or potential monetary value; and a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board.”

Resolution Regarding Funding Applications for a Building to House the fully restored, 105-year-old C.W. Parker Heritage Carousel

RESOLUTION 1

Whereas The Friends of Chippewa Park (TFOCP) have submitted a Stage II application to the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) for 50% of the cost of constructing a building to house and protect the fully restored City owned 105 year old C.W. Parker Heritage Carousel, and

Whereas NOHFC has requested that the City of Thunder Bay confirm by resolution that it is prepared to be a formal partner in the application, which will include leading the procurement and financial control and reporting for all aspects of the project, in partnership with The Friends of Chippewa Park, and

Whereas the approach requested by NOHFC is the current operating relationship between the City and TFOCP and adopting this resolution would only confirm the process in place

Therefore be it resolved that Thunder Bay City Council agree to be a formal partner with The Friends of Chippewa Park in its Stage II application for funding to construct a building to house the City owned heritage Carousel and that Administration will lead the procurement and financial control and reporting for all aspects of the project, in partnership with The Friends of Chippewa Park.

RESOLUTION 2

Whereas The Friends of Chippewa Park will be submitting an application to Heritage Canada under the Building Communities Through Arts and Heritage program for which they are eligible as part of Chippewa Park celebrating its 100th anniversary of the official opening next year, and

Whereas \$500,000 is available to assist in the capital cost of the building,

Therefore City Council supports the submission by TFOCP to Heritage Canada for \$500,000 to be used towards the construction of a building to house the heritage Carousel owned by the City of Thunder Bay.

RESOLUTION 3

Whereas the preliminary estimate for the construction of a building to house and protect the City owned C.W. Parker Heritage Carousel is \$1.6 million, and

Whereas The Friends of Chippewa Park have identified \$1.3 million in grants towards the cost of the building and have identified a \$300,000 funding gap for the building to proceed, and

Whereas with potential external funding of 81% of the cost of the building meeting the requirements for funding from the Renew Thunder Bay Reserve Account

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the City of Thunder Bay contribute \$300,000 towards the construction of a new building to house the City owned Carousel with the funds being sourced from the Renew Thunder Bay Reserve Account, and

Further Be It Resolved that the City's contribution is not to be released until all remaining funding has been confirmed.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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Date: November 2, 2020

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Kelly Robertson, General Manager, Community Services

Subject: Re: Report 134/2020 – COVID-19: Phase 2 Fall 2020 Service Level Adjustments (Community Services – Recreation and Culture) – November 2, 2020 Committee of the Whole - Fall 2020 Ice Allocation and Arena Reopening Protocols

Report 134/2020 – COVID-19: Phase 2 Fall 2020 Service Level Adjustments recommends that Council defer the reopening of the Fort William Gardens as fall ice demand has been able to be accommodated at the 5 satellite arenas. Overall, demand for City-allocated ice time for October – December 2020 is over 1,900hrs less than the same period in 2019.

Ice Allocation

The City’s annual ice allocation is conducted in accordance with the Policy for Ice Time Indoor Arenas. This policy dictates that formulas are used to allocate available prime time hours at Satellite Arenas, Fort William Gardens and the City's portion ice time at Thunder Bay Tournament Centre, based on previous year's registration numbers. The allocation policy also prioritizes ice uses, i.e. Minor Hockey/Ringette/Figure Skating/Speed Skating are given priority over adult hockey/public skating. Actual allocations may be adjusted based on current year’s registration and other requests once the initial allocation is complete.

Below is a comparison of current ice allocation, based on actual demand received for Fall 2020 compared to Fall 2019, for the period October 1 – December 31:

Ice Allocation - Hockey, Figure Skating, Speed Skating & Ringette			
City of Thunder Bay Ice Time			
2020 v 2019: October 1 - December 31			
Facility	2020	2019	Difference
Current River	388	363	25
Delaney	362	261	101
Grandview	374	412	-38
Neebing	423	396.5	26.5
Port Arthur	400.25	386	14.25

Fort William Gardens	0	322	-322
Subtotal City-operated Arenas	1947.25	2140.5	-193.25
Tournament Centre Rink #1	832.5	321	511.5
Tournament Centre Rink #2	0	346.25	-346.25
Subtotal Tournament Centre Ice	832.5	667.25	165.25
TOTAL CITY ICE ALLOCATION	2779.75	2807.75	-28

Demand for prime time ice through the allocation process is similar to 2019. However, activities that are booked outside the primary ice allocation process, such as adult hockey, tournaments and events, have demonstrated significant decrease in demand for ice time. This includes organizations that would have historically accessed ice time at Fort William Gardens, such as the Lakehead Thunderwolves Mens' Hockey Team and the SIJHL North Stars, who have not resumed regular play due to ongoing restrictions on gatherings and travel.

Below is a comparison of other booking types, based on actual demand received for Fall 2020 compared to Fall 2019, for the period October 1 – December 31:

Other bookings – adult hockey, reciprocal agreements, tournaments, events			
City of Thunder Bay Ice Time			
2020 v 2019: October 1 - December 31			
Facility	2020	2019	Difference
Current River	148.5	380	-231.5
Delaney	220	629	-409
Grandview	98	347.5	-249.5
Neebing	54	268.5	-214.5
Port Arthur	240.5	440	-199.5
Fort William Gardens	0	582.5	-582.5
TOTAL CITY ICE ALLOCATION	761	2647.5	-1886.5

Arena Reopening Protocols

The protocols for a safe reopening of indoor arenas in the COVID-19 context are guided by provincial legislation and public health guidelines for recreation/sport facilities, Ontario Recreation Facility Association (ORFA) recommendations, and consideration of the Return to Play plans for sport governing bodies. This guidance prescribes access to these facilities for their intended purpose, capacity, screening, cleaning requirements, limitations on the activities themselves (i.e. types of activities, groupings), etc.

The City of Thunder Bay Reopening Plan for Indoor Arenas also takes into account the specific design and limitations of our indoor arena facilities (capacity of various spaces, layouts, safe traffic flow), our staffing capacity to comply with the reopening requirements (supervision, screening, enhanced cleaning/disinfection), and financial implications (increased costs, reduced revenues).

Below is a summary of protocols, mandatory and discretionary, being applied consistently to the City's indoor arenas:

Restrictions on Gathering sizes:

- Maximum capacity - 25 spectators, 25 participants (not including workers) per rental at all facilities
- 15 minute buffers have been implemented between rentals to comply with gathering sizes, screening and cleaning requirements. This length of time was chosen to minimize loss of prime-time ice hours and make the best use of staffing capacity.

Active Screening:

- Every visitor to an indoor arena must complete and present to new screener/cleaner positions evidence of completion of screening tool that permits entry
- Meeting this requirement, in addition to enhanced cleaning, disinfection requirements, presents staffing challenges.

Enhanced Cleaning/Disinfection:

- High touch points such as player areas and benches, washroom facilities, doors, spectator seating cleaning between each rental/group

Dressing Rooms – Access Currently Restricted:

- Low dressing room capacity due to physical distancing requirements (eg maximum of 5 people per dressing room at many satellite arenas)
- Challenges in circulating teams of 20 – 25 and resourcing enhanced cleaning/disinfection requirements within 15 minute time block between ice rentals
- Limited capacity to supervise compliance with capacity and physical distancing requirements in dressing rooms
- The Ontario Recreation Facilities Association (ORFA) notes that air quality/flow in arena dressing rooms is generally lower than ideal and may be of concern in the COVID environment where increased airflow/HVAC operation is strongly recommended. ORFA recommends that this be a consideration in determining whether to open dressing rooms. Air flow/HVAC review assessments have not been completed to date in our dressing rooms; when complete, the results will inform decision to reconsider dressing room access.

Limits on Equipment being brought into Facility:

- Hockey bags allowed into the facility for goalies only
- Limiting personal items brought into a facility, where these may be placed, and the potential for contact between items and amongst various parties is a common protocol in sport/recreation contexts in the COVID environment
- With dressing room access restricted, allowing participants to bring in bags would create tripping hazards, negatively affect traffic flow, and present additional cleaning challenges

We will continue to reassess demand for ice as new requests are received and report to Council on recommendations regarding the additional reopening and/or closures of indoor arenas. At this time, we continue to struggle to adequately staff the booked hours at the 5 satellite arenas

that have reopened. We do not currently have capacity to open an additional facility or take on additional duties at those facilities that are open. As our staffing capacity improves, and based on our continued monitoring of applicable legislation/guidelines and the path of the pandemic, Administration may revisit our current reopening protocols.

Sincerely,



Kelly Robertson
General Manager, Community Services

cc: Norm Gale, City Manager
Leah Prentice, Director, Recreation and Culture