

Memorandum

Office of the City Clerk
Fax: 623-5468
Telephone: 625-2230

TO: Members of Council
FROM: Krista Power, City Clerk
DATE: Wednesday, January 19, 2022
**SUBJECT: Additional Information
Committee of the Whole – Special Session (2022 Capital and Operating
Budget) – January 20, 2022**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – SPECIAL SESSION (2022 CAPITAL AND
OPERATING BUDGET MEETINGS)**

Additional Information

1. Memorandum from Accountant- Financial Services Kristie Sinclair, dated January 18, 2022, relative to Proposed 2022 Budget Amendment – Community Youth & Cultural Funding.
2. Memorandum from Manager – Community Strategies Cynthia Olsen, dated January 14, 2022, containing a recommendation relative to Increase in Budget – Community Safety & Well Being.
3. Memorandum from Councillor Shelby Ch'ng, dated January 13, 2022, containing a motion relative to Increase in Budget – Community Strategies.
4. Memorandum from City Clerk Krista Power, dated January 19, 2022, relative to re-presentation of Protective Safety Netting – Indoor Arenas motion.

/kp

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor & Council

FROM: Kristie Sinclair, Accountant,
Corporate Services & Long Term Care, Financial Services

DATE: January 18, 2022

RE: Proposed 2022 Budget Amendment – Community Youth & Cultural Funding

At the time the proposed budget was prepared the Community Youth & Cultural Funding (CYCF) Program had not completed its appeal process. The following amendments are recommended to the proposed 2022 budget to match the allocations that were approved by Committee of the Whole on January 10, 2022.

	Funded by the Municipal Tax Levy (excluding one time items)	One time Impacts funded by Stabilization Reserve Fund	Total
2022 Proposed Budget	\$2,857,000	\$6,900	\$2,863,900
2022 COW approved CYCF allocations	\$2,877,800	\$34,800	\$2,912,600
Recommended amendment	\$20,800	\$27,900	\$48,700

The impact of these amendments increases the municipal tax levy by 0.01% and an increase to the one time contribution from the stabilization reserve fund by \$27,900.

WITH RESPECT to Report R 1/2022 (Corporate Services and Long Term Care - Financial Services) Proposed 2022 Operating and Capital Budget we recommend that the tax supported budget be amended to increase the Community, Youth and Cultural Funding ongoing budget by \$20,800;

AND THAT the Community, Youth and Cultural funding one time budget be increased by \$27,900 with a corresponding contribution from the Stabilization Reserve Fund.”

cc:

Norm Gale City Manager
Executive Management Team
Emma Westover, Director, Financial Services
Krista Power, City Clerk



**Development & Emergency Services
Community Strategies Division**
2nd Floor, Victoriaville Civic Centre
111 Syndicate Avenue South
Thunder Bay, ON P7C 5K4
(807) 625-2942

MEMORANDUM

TO: Krista Power, City Clerk
FROM: Cynthia Olsen, Manager – Community Strategies
DATE: January 14, 2022
RE: Increase in Budget – Community Safety & Well-Being
Committee of the Whole – Special Session (Budget) – January 20, 2022

On June 28, 2021, Thunder Bay City Council approved the provincially mandated Thunder Bay Community Safety & Well-Being (CSWB) Plan 2021-2025. The CSWB Plan was subsequently sent to the Office of the Solicitor General to meet the July 1, 2021 provincial deadline. Council also approved the creation of the CSWB Steering Committee and the CSWB Advisory Committee as the Committee of Council for CSWB implementation and monitoring. The Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee were approved on December 17, 2021 (R85-2021).

While this Plan is provincially mandated, existing community groups have been leveraged to support this work; and as such, seven Action Tables have been identified to advance the six priority areas within the Plan:

Action Table	Priority Area
1. Diversity Thunder Bay	1. Racism & Discrimination
2. Housing & Homelessness Coalition (possibly with Indigenous. CAB and CHAT)	2. Housing
3. Thunder Bay District Mental Health & Addiction Network, in partnership with the Child & Youth Mental Health Planning Table	3. Mental Health & Substance Misuse
4. Thunder Bay Police Service (Project Prevent) 5. Thunder Bay & Area Coordinating Committee to End Woman Abuse	4. Community Violence & Gender Based Violence
6. Poverty Reduction Strategy	5. Poverty Reduction & Financial Empowerment
7. Health Kids Initiative Steering Committee	6. Supports for Children, Youth & Families

Administration proposes an additional \$40,000 be added to the Community Strategies Budget to support the work of the Action Tables and the CSWB Advisory Committee in implementation of the CSWB Plan.

Local groups have stepped up to accept the responsibility of being an Action Table and championing their respective priority area within the CSWB Plan and in doing so, will have added work. By providing this initial seed funding, it would support the many groups who receive no external funding with the additional work this will involve, and demonstrate the City's commitment to community safety and well-being.

If no additional funding is provided, Action Tables may only be able to prioritize their own efforts; CSWB-specific work may become additional work they may or may not be able to get to – rather than prioritizing and integrating this work into existing priorities/plans.

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from C. Olsen – Manager, Community Strategies, dated January 14, 2022 and Report R 1/2022 (Corporate Services and Long Term Care - Financial Services) Proposed 2022 Operating and Capital Budget we recommend that the Proposed 2022 Operating and Capital Budget be amended by including an expansion of \$40,000 in the 2022 Operating Budget to provide initiative funding for the provincially mandated Community Safety & Well-Being Plan;

AND THAT the proposed expansion be added to the 2022 Community Strategies budget;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented for ratification.

Memorandum

TO: Krista Power, City Clerk

FROM: Councillor Shelby Ch'ng

DATE: January 13, 2022

SUBJECT: Increase in Budget – Community Strategies
Committee of the Whole – Special Session (Budget) – January 20, 2022

Housing and mental health services fall under the Provincial and Federal Governments, however, there is severe underfunding of these services in our community from both levels of government. The municipality bears the costs of the outcome of these shortcomings. The City is paying for the effects of untreated mental health and addiction, and impacts of homelessness through increased policing costs, EMS calls, hospital visits etc. The citizens are paying for this through increased fear and stigma around homelessness, mental health and additions. These issues are played out over and over again in national and local media and this has a social cost beyond the actual cost of our mental health crisis. We can no longer afford to do nothing.

We do not have an adequate amount of doctors and mental health facilities to properly take care of the most vulnerable of the vulnerable, but we do have an amazing system of small grassroots groups that have been brought together under the extreme circumstances of COVID-19.

During the pandemic we saw the coming together of many organizations, including the City of Thunder Bay to respond to significant gaps in the community. We saw the development of the City's Severe Weather Plan, with one-time funding to PACE to operate the first Warming Centre in Thunder Bay. There were additional emergency COVID-19 funds available to support social navigators, the Care Bus and the overnight Out of the Cold program at Grace Place. We heard repeatedly from community and emergency services that the level of support as a result of this funding is what is needed to meet the needs of the most vulnerable in our city.

The Care Bus is currently being operated by NorWest Community Health Centres as a result of funding provided through the Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre and Lakehead Social Planning Council. The Out of the Cold overnight shelter is currently being operated by Grace Place through emergency funding from Reaching Home administered by Lakehead Social Planning Council. There are two Warming Centres; PACE Safe Place is operating through emergency funding from Reaching Home administered by Lakehead Social Planning Council, and Maamowiitaawigamig – Northside Warming Centre is being operated by Elevate NWO and OAHAS through funding from Indigenous Services Canada. Both Warming Centres have also been supported through emergency funding from Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre for food, winter clothing, and transportation. These are just some examples of precariously funded

programs in Thunder Bay because there is no commitment from the provincial or federal governments for additional emergency or increased base funding beyond March 31, 2022.

Our community runs the risk of losing momentum in being able to provide this level of support, and we will likely see some of these programs unable to operate in winter 2022/23. There is an identified need to address this gap.

What is really needed is a specific fund for “out of the cold” type services and supports, from which programs like the Care Bus could be supported. Funding needs to target street outreach where people can be met on the street. From my conversations with community groups, there are barriers vulnerable people face, for a variety of reasons, in accessing the right supports in the community. I would like to target this funding to meet people on the street where they are the most vulnerable.

I am proposing to increase the 2022 tax-supported budget by \$250,000 for a dedicated “out of the cold” funding stream. The goal would be to use this funding to leverage the strengthened relationships established during the pandemic, and to potentially leverage additional federal and provincial operational funding. I know this funding does not go far enough by a long shot; it simply isn’t enough. However, I can see a way forward to leverage and operationalize these dollars to maximum benefit in our community.

This proposal aligns with our own Corporate Strategic Plan for 2019-2022 vision for Thunder Bay is One City, Growing Together. Thunder Bay will “foster an inclusive city” and “provide a high quality of life to our citizens.” Under the Strategic Plan, community safety and well-being is also priority.

I believe that even though we may disagree about who is responsible at the end of the day for homelessness, mental health and addiction, we can all agree that we are paying a cost greater than any dollar value. We pay a social capital cost for every death and life on the street. As such, I offer the following motion for City Council’s consideration.

WITH RESPECT to the Memorandum from Councillor Shelby Ch’ng, dated January 13, 2022 and Report R 1/2022 (Corporate Services and Long Term Care - Financial Services) Proposed 2022 Operating and Capital Budget we recommend that the Proposed 2022 Operating and Capital Budget be amended by including an expansion of \$250,000 in the 2022 Operating Budget to fund cold weather programming for community partners in support of the City’s Severe Weather Plan;

AND THAT the proposed expansion be added to the 2022 Community Strategies budget;

AND THAT this work be added to City Council’s Outstanding List for Administration to report back on or before June 13, 2022 on the following:

- the plan for the use of this funding to support cold weather programming by community partners
- consideration of future incorporation of this funding within the Community, Youth and Cultural Funding Program.

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented for ratification.



Memorandum

Office of the City Clerk
Fax: 623-5468
Telephone: 625-2230

TO: Members of Council
FROM: Krista Power, City Clerk
DATE: January 19, 2022
SUBJECT: Referral – Protective (Safety) Netting – Indoor Arenas
Special Committee of the Whole – Budget – January 20, 2022

At the November 8, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting Council directed Administration to report back by the end of January 2022 on the netting options, financial implications, and potential funding sources for protective safety netting systems to be installed at City operated indoor arenas.

At the January 10, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting, a memorandum from General Manager - Community Services Kelly Robertson dated December 21, 2021 relative to the above noted was presented, for information.

A motion was also presented to Council on January 10, 2022 requesting that protective safety netting be supplied and installed at indoor arenas. Council voted to refer the decision to the 2022 Community Services budget.

The motion is being re-presented for Council's consideration:

MOVED BY: Mayor Bill Mauro
SECONDED BY: Councillor Aldo Ruberto

WITH RESPECT to Report R 1/2022 (Corporate Services and Long Term Care - Financial Services) Proposed 2022 Operating and Capital Budget we recommend that the Proposed 2022 Operating and Capital Budget be amended to provide an addition of \$284,250 to supply and install protective safety netting in indoor arenas;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.