

Report to Council

Report Title:	Truth and Reconciliation Event Community Group Room Fee Request		
Prepared By:	Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)		
Department:	Clerk's		
Date:	January 31, 2023		
Report Number:	CLK2023-03	File Number:	C11CL
Attachments:	Fee Reduction Request from Truth and Reconciliation Group		

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CLK2023-03 - Truth and Reconciliation Event Community Group Room Fee Request, prepared by Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk) for information purposes and further approves allowing the Truth and Reconciliation Group to meet monthly at the gallery space of the Walkerton Library without paying the fee in the Fees and Charges By-law.

Report:

Background:

Over the past few years, Brockton Council and staff have taken a more mindful and proactive approach towards reconciliation with the Indigenous and Metis communities in this area. Some of the steps that have been taken include the adoption of a land acknowledgement, investment in staff training and cultural awareness training for Council, and partnering with group of dedicated community members to organize a public-facing education event on National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Last year the Truth and Reconciliation Group organized speakers from the Saugeen Ojibwe Nation coming to Brockton to share their families' experience in residential schools and the long-standing impact of these experiences. The Truth and Reconciliation Group continue to meet on regular basis to identify opportunities for reconciliation and begin planning an event for 2023.

Last year, Brockton's contribution included financial support, use of the library space as a rain location and promotion of the event through our website and social media channels.

Analysis:

The Truth and Reconciliation Group has now provided a letter requesting to use the gallery space of the Walkerton library on a monthly basis for their meetings. The recent Brockton Fees and Charges By-law

outlines that the rental fee for the library space would be \$20.00 per hour. Assuming most meetings would be approximately 1-2 hours, the value of the rental would be \$240.00-\$480.00. While there are groups that regularly use the larger space of the Walkerton library for cards, etc., the gallery space at the library is not heavily used such that this request is not likely to result in increased operational costs.

The work being undertaken by the Truth and Reconciliation Group is important in helping to facilitate thoughtful dialogue within the community and aligns with Brockton’s efforts to be conscientious in our reconciliation efforts. Unlike other community organizations, the Truth and Reconciliation Group does not have a formal fundraising stream for expenses such as meeting space. Any funds that were raised by the Group were used to host and thank the speakers for their attendance.

Brockton staff recommend allowing the Truth and Reconciliation Group to use the lower level of the library without paying the associated cost as outlined in Brockton’s Fees and Charges By-law as applicable at the time of booking the room.

Strategic Action Plan Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Strategic Action Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?		
• Recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision		Yes
• Recommendations contribute to achieving Heritage, Culture, and Community		Yes
• Recommendations contribute to achieving Quality of Life		Yes
• Recommendations contribute to achieving Land Use Planning and the Natural Environment		N/A
• Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development		N/A
• Recommendations contribute to achieving Municipal Governance		Yes

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

The Truth and Reconciliation Group is important in helping to preserve Brockton’s heritage and in making our Indigenous and Metis residents and adjacent communities feel heard and respected. The loss of the room rental fee is very small in comparison to the sense of community and mutual understanding arising out of these reconciliation efforts.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Fiona Hamilton', with a stylized, cursive script.

Fiona Hamilton, Director of Legislative and Legal Services (Clerk)

Reviewed By:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Sonya Watson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer