

Report to Council

Report Title: Brockton and LiUNA Training Experience Agreement

Prepared By: Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services

Department: Recreation

Date: May 13, 2025

Report Number: REC2025-11 **File Number:** C11REC

Attachments: Draft Agreement

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2025-11- Municipality of Brockton and LiUNA Training Experience Agreement, prepared by Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services for information purposes.

Report:

Background:

In January of 2025 it was announced that The Laborers' International Union of North America (LiUNA), will be constructing a training facility in Brockton. The purpose of this investment is to provide a training centre for skilled workers supported by the Ontario government to meet the increasing demand for skilled workers. LiUNA's program is currently operating out of the Walkerton Ag Society Building. These classes will be in session in Walkerton for the next 14 weeks. LiUNA's instructor and representative reached out to municipal staff to inquire if there were projects or tasks that the municipality could use LiUNA skilled workers to provide valuable learning experiences for their students and provide the benefit of increasing work efficiencies and service levels for the municipality.

Analysis:

On May 1, 2025, staff met with the instructor from the LiUNA training program to get a better understanding of our mutual expectations, benefits and the type of work their students would be capable of completing for Brockton. LiUNA's community impact focuses on positive contributions through practical training on-the-job experience. They have skilled workers that need on the job experience and municipalities face the challenge year after year to meet desired high service levels due to staffing constraints and unpredictable weather-related impacts such as extreme winter damages or flooding.

The type of work they are interested in completing would be grounds clean up, equipment operation (e.g. scissor lifts), concrete pouring, stone dust laying, fence repairs, etc. Trainees, considered "pre-apprenticeship"

workers, undergo comprehensive skills, health and safety education, come with on-site highly trained supervision using LiUNA equipment.

Spring 2025 has presented staff with unpredictable, extreme winter weather related damage and clean up. Forming a working relationship with an exchange of service reduces impacts to municipal budgets, enhances our parks, trails, facilities and grounds, increased service delivery levels and presents learning opportunities for both parties.

Steps for risk mitigation included requiring Certificate of Insurance to name the Municipality of Brockton as additionally insured and agreement attached to report detailing both parties’ responsibilities, waiver of liability, insurance compliance, assumption of risk, indemnification, damage of property clause and acknowledgement of understanding agreement of terms.

The construction of the LiUNA’s training centre in Walkerton has been exciting news for our residents and neighboring communities. Forming a partnership with LiUNA early, provides significant opportunities to enhance Brockton’s community services through shared resources, training, and improved service levels. The collaboration promises to foster a sustainable, long-term partnership with potential growth for community engagement and development.

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		Yes
• Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development		Yes
• 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

LiUNA is offering this service at no cost.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Colleen Gillis".

Colleen Gillis, Director of Community Services

Reviewed By:A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sonya Watson".

Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer