

Report to Council

Report Title: Walkerton Court House

Prepared By: Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer

Department: Administration

Date: April 9, 2019

Report Number: CAO2019-07 **File Number:** C11AD

Attachments: None

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CAO2019-07 - Walkerton Court House, prepared by Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer, for information purposes.

Report:

Background:

On March 25, 2019 the Chief Administrative Officer and Clerk met with Detachment Commander, Krista Miller and three Ontario Provincial Police ("OPP") Constables as well as Bettyanne Cobean, Director of Corporate Services and Mike Berberich, Facility Manager from the County of Bruce to toured the Court House facility in Walkerton.

Analysis:

The tour provided an opportunity for all parties to understand how the daily operations occur at the Court House. The tour allowed staff to view prisoner transportation, access by prisoners and the judiciary, and the numerous security protocols and processes that are key for operations on days when matters are being heard by the Court.

Through the tour, the OPP indicated how hectic the Walkerton Court House is most days, particularly on the days where there is a large, active court docket and also indicated that this situation is the case with the Owen Sound Court House as well. The OPP confirmed that there is a great need for both facilities which are operating at capacity.

The OPP further confirmed that they are in regular contact with the Ministry of the Attorney General, the Ministry that oversees the operations of the court system in Ontario, regarding the Court House facility in Walkerton and in relation to Court Security measures.

The County, as the Landlord, has a good working relationship with the Tenant, being the Ministry of the Attorney General, and discusses any ongoing improvements to the facility as required based on budget approval. The County noted they have just entered another long-term lease agreement for the Court House.

Staff communicated the desire of the Municipality of Brockton to ensure the Court House remains a viable, secure and accessible facility in the community and our assurance of support to the County to ensure this valuable asset and employment hub remains operational in Walkerton for the long-term.

At this time I feel all parties are working together and continue to support this asset in the Municipality of Brockton.

Sustainability Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

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| • Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy? | N/A |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity? | N/A |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity? | N/A |

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective?
N/A

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer