

Report to Council

Report Title: Walkerton 150 Committee Update

Prepared By: Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Department: Finance

Date: September 22, 2020

Report Number: FIN2020-33 **File Number:** C11FIN

Attachments: Walkerton 150 Committee – Motion
By-Law 2019-053 Walkerton Homecoming 2021 Financing Agreement
Letter to Bill Carrol – Walkerton Homecoming 2021 Committee

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number FIN2020-33 – Walkerton 150 Committee Update, prepared by Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer and in so doing supports the decision of the Walkerton 150 Committee to delay plans for the Walkerton Homecoming 2021 event at this time.

Report:

Background:

On April 23, 2019 the Walkerton Homecoming Committee requested authorization to become a Committee of Council. They also requested financial assistance for the Walkerton 150 event that was planned for July 1-4, 2021. Council passed Resolution 19-10-05 authorizing the start-up loan of \$30,000 as well as declaring the Walkerton 150 Committee a Committee of Council.

Analysis:

The Walkerton 150 Steering Committee has met several times since 2019 to plan and organize the events and entertainment for the Walkerton 150 Homecoming celebration. With so many uncertainties around COVID-19 the committee has faced several challenges with organizing and planning for a large-scaled event. Currently the restrictions that are in place, limit indoor gatherings to a maximum of 50 people and outdoor gatherings are limited to a maximum of 100 people. This also includes maintaining the physical distancing of at least two metres from people outside your household or social circle.

On September 9, 2020 the committee met and discussed the limitations of planning the upcoming event. With many restrictions still in place, the committee is not able to organize or plan for some key fundraising events, or book the various entertainment that would assist with the fundraising events associated with the event. Therefore, with much regret the committee put forward a motion to cancel the in-person weekend long event

and further would like to maintain the committee in hopes of being able to organize a one-day commemorative event to celebrate the Walkerton 150 milestone. The volunteers will reconnect in 2021 to review the COVID restrictions and discuss various events that could still take place to be in-line with local and Provincial Health Restrictions at that time.

The committee has not utilized any of the \$30,000 loan requested for the event. The committee would like Council to maintain this commitment should they be able to move forward with a one-day event and require some start-up funding.

At this time, we recommend leaving the Financing Agreement and By-Law in place and will review the status of plans in 2021.

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? | Yes |
| • Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? | N/A |
| • 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? Yes

Currently the Municipality has not contributed any monetary value towards the Walkerton 150 event, therefore, there is no concern with holding the previously agreed loan of \$30,000 should the committee require these funds for the one-day event.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Reviewed By:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer