# INFORMATION ITEMS

### Week Ending December 16, 2016

#### **REPORTS**

- 1. Indexing of Development Charges
- 2. Healthy Kids Community Challenge Update
- 3. Guelph Youth Council Update
- 4. Guelph Youth Strategy Update
- 5. Urban Forest Management Plan Implementation Report

#### INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS

- 1. Help Develop Ontario's Long-Term Energy Plan
- 2. Potential Changes to the Ontario Building Code
- 3. Ontario Review and Integration of Regional & Rural Business Support Programs
- 4. Basic Income Pilot for Ontario
- 5. Proposed Bottled Water Technical Guidance Document

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1. Township of Zorra Resolution re: Rural Hydro Rates
- 2. Township of Hornepayne Resolution re: Funding for Fire Department Infrastructure
- 3. GRCA Current, December 2016

#### **BOARDS & COMMITTEES**

1. None

#### ITEMS AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE

1. None

# Information Report



Service Area Corporate Services

Date Friday, December 16, 2016

Subject Indexing of Development Charges

Report Number CS-2016-50

# **Executive Summary**

### **Purpose of Report**

To advise the development community of the development charge rate increase.

# **Key Findings**

Development charge rates will increase by 3.2% effective March 2, 2017.

### **Financial Implications**

The development charges are adjusted annually to keep the current year rates in line with the rate of inflation, in accordance with the Statistics Canada Quarterly *Non-residential Building Construction Price Index*.

# **Background**

The City's Development Charge By-law Number (2014) – 19692, which came into effect on March 2, 2014, provides for the annual indexing of development charges.

The charges shall be adjusted annually, without amendment to the By-law, commencing on the first anniversary date of the By-law coming into effect and each anniversary date thereafter, in accordance with the prescribed index.

The *Development Charges Act* prescribes the Statistics Canada Quarterly, *Non-residential Building Construction Price Index* as the index to be used for this purpose.

# Report

The non-residential building construction price index for our area has increased by 3.2% from the 3rd quarter of 2015 to the 3rd quarter of 2016. The development charge rates will be adjusted upward by this percentage effective March 2, 2017. The new development charge rates effective March 2, 2017 to March 1, 2018 are outlined in Attachment 1.

Education development charges are not indexed. They are prescribed by the Education Act and have their own Education Development Charge by-laws.

The purpose of indexing is to ensure development charges reflect inflation in capital construction costs faced by municipalities.

## Corporate Strategic Plan

### 2.3 Ensure accountability, transparency and engagement.

## **Departmental Consultation**

Departments affected by the change in development charge rates are being advised of the increase.

#### Communications

The new development charge rates effective March 2, 2017, are being communicated to current developers and organizations such as the Guelph Development Association, Guelph & District Home Builders Association and the Guelph Chamber of Commerce. The new rates will also be posted on Guelph.ca.

#### **Attachments**

ATT-1: Development Charge Rates Effective March 2, 2017 to March 1, 2018

### **Report Author**

Raquel Gurr, Senior Corporate Analyst DCs and Long Term Planning Finance, Financial Planning & Budgets

**Recommended By** 

James Krauter
Acting GM Finance and City Treasurer
Corporate Services
519-822-1260 Ext. 2334
james.krauter@guelph.ca

Approved By
Mark Amorosi
Deputy CAO, Corporate Services
519-822-1260 Ext. 2281
mark.amorosi@quelph.ca

Mark Smorore



#### Development Charge Rates Effective March 2, 2017 to March 1, 2018

(Rates are adjusted annually for inflation)

#### **Non-residential Charges**

Non-residential DCs are imposed according to the amount of gross floor area being developed. The full amount of the non-residential DCs are payable at the applicable rate at the time of building permit issuance.

Service	(\$/n	n² of GFA)
Water Services	\$	41.69
Wastewater Services	\$	30.68
Stormwater Services	\$	0.58
Roads and Related Services	\$	16.52
Fire Protection Services	\$	1.37
Library Services	\$	0.23
Transit	\$	2.76
Administration (Studies)	\$	1.71
ndoor Recreation Services	\$	1.26
Outdoor Recreation Services	\$	1.61
Municipal Parking	\$	3.66
Police Services	\$	1.95
Ambulance	\$	0.11
Health Services	\$	0.11
TOTAL	\$	104.24

Building Services will start charging the new rates for Non-residential DCs on February 1st, 2017 for permits to be issued between March 2, 2017 to March 1, 2018.

Due to rounding, the rate for Courts service is less than \$0.00, so not included for the effective period.



#### Development Charge Rates Effective March 2, 2017, to March 1, 2018

(Rates are adjusted annually for inflation)

#### **Residential Charges**

Residential DCs are imposed according to the number and type of dwelling units proposed. The hard services portion of the residential DCs are payable upon entering into a subdivision agreement, while the balance is payable at the applicable rate at the time of building permit issuance.

	(\$/Dwelling Unit)							
Service	Single Detached or Semi-detached Dwelling Unit		Apartment Unit (2 or More Bedrooms)		Garden Suite or Apartment Unit (Bachelor or 1 Bedroom)		Multiple Unit	
Water Services	\$	9,197	\$	5,536	\$	3,860	\$	6,926
Wastewater Services	\$	6,765	۶ \$	4,071	ب \$	2,840	\$	5,095
Stormwater Services	\$	129	\$	4,071	\$	55	\$	97
Highway & Related Services	\$	3,637	\$	2,189	\$	1,526	\$	2,740
Hard Services Sub-total	\$	19,728	\$	11,873	\$	8,281	\$	14,858
Fire Protection Services	\$	302	\$	183	\$	127	\$	228
Library Services	\$	576	\$	347	\$	241	\$	433
Transit	\$	539	\$	325	\$	226	\$	406
Administration (Studies)	\$	340	\$	203	\$	141	\$	255
Indoor Recreation Services	\$	2,726	\$	1,640	\$	1,144	\$	2,054
Outdoor Recreation Services	\$	3,562	\$	2,144	\$	1,495	\$	2,683
Municipal Parking	\$	732	\$	441	\$	308	\$	552
Police Services	\$	425	\$	256	\$	179	\$	320
Ambulance Services	\$	31	\$	18	\$	12	\$	23
Provincial Offences Act	\$	9	\$	5	\$	4	\$	7
Health Services	\$	68	\$	42	\$	28	\$	52
Soft Services Sub-total	\$	9,310	\$	5,604	\$	3,905	\$	7,013
Total City of Guelph Charges	\$	29,038	\$	17,477	\$	12,186	\$	21,871
Upper Grand District School Board	\$	1,567	\$	1,567	\$	1,567	\$	1,567
Wellington Catholic District School Board	\$	317	\$	317	\$	317	\$	317
Education Development Charges	\$	1,884	\$	1,884	\$	1,884	\$	1,884
GRAND TOTAL	\$	30,922	\$	19,361	\$	14,070	\$	23,755

Building Services will start charging the new rates for Residential DCs on February 15th, 2017 for permits to be issued between March 2, 2017 to March 1, 2018.

# Information Report



Service Area Public Services

Date Friday, December 16, 2016

Subject Healthy Kids Community Challenge - update

Report Number PS-16-32

# **Executive Summary**

# **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the Healthy Kids Community Challenge – branded locally as Energize Guelph – and an overview of the 2016-2017 goals and objectives of the project.

# **Key Findings**

On September 12, 2014, the City of Guelph was selected by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care as one of 45 communities across Ontario to participate in the Healthy Kids Community Challenge – a community driven initiative aimed at making it easier for children to eat healthier and be more physically active.

As host of the Challenge, the City of Guelph was awarded \$825,000 over three years to develop new and support existing programs that foster health and well-being opportunities for children

The first healthy living theme "Run.Jump.Play.Everyday." was introduced by the Ministry at the outset of the project. To date, over 1,600 children have participated in Energize Guelph programming, and 39 partner organizations have supported development and implementation of project initiatives.

The second healthy living theme "Water Does Wonders" was introduced by the Ministry in July 2016 and aims to reduce the consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages while encouraging water as a first choice of beverage for children. Theme 2 initiatives are currently being implemented.

# **Financial Implications**

Municipal commitment of \$50,000 per year (50% of the Project Leadership Position) was required to initiate the Healthy Kids Community Challenge funding. This cost has been included in the 2016 and 2017 Youth Services Budget.

#### Report

As a community-driven initiative, the Healthy Kids Community Challenge (HKCC) application was spearheaded by the City of Guelph, in partnership with Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health and a Steering Committee comprised of public, private, and non-profit sector partners.

Through the application and selection process, Guelph was chosen as one of 45 communities across Ontario to participate in the challenge and was awarded \$825,000 over three years to develop new and support existing programs that foster health and well-being opportunities for children aged 0-12.

Every nine months, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term provides all participating communities with a new healthy living theme that will focus on one of two health priority areas: *healthy eating or active living*. These themes and priority areas are used to guide the project's planning and implementation of community-based programs and initiatives. The first theme, "Run.Jump.Play.Everyday.", was introduced at the outset of the project and focuses on encouraging children to incorporate physical activity into their everyday lives.

In collaboration with the project's steering committee, a Community Needs Assessment was conducted to further help identify the unique needs, gaps, opportunities, resources, community assets, and priority populations relevant to the planning and delivery of the project interventions. This assessment also helped define the Guelph-specific deliverables and outcomes required to evaluate the success of the overall project.

#### <u>Accomplishments</u>

For 2016, Energize Guelph and its local community partners achieved the following goals:

- Established a Project Steering Committee consisting of social service, recreation, school board and community members, to help guide and support the planning, implementation and evaluation of community-based initiatives
- Conducted a comprehensive Community Needs Assessment to identify the unique needs, gaps, opportunities, resources, and community assets in Guelph related to the planning and implementation of physical activity programs and initiatives for children aged 0-12
- Participated in a baseline data collection process to assist with the identification of health outcomes, behavioural changes, and process indicators for healthy, active living, as part of a provincial-level evaluation of the Challenge
- Developed and implemented a Theme 1 based action plan in response to identified needs, gaps and barriers in Guelph. Programs and initiatives included:

- Multi-sectoral partnership between the Guelph Neighbourhood Support Coalition, Guelph YMCA-YWCA, Ball4All and Wyndham House to provide 16 new community-based physical activity programs for children and parents/caregivers
  - Programs are offered in eight different neighbourhoods and 14 unique locations to help reduce geographical/transportation barriers to access
  - All programs are offered free of charge to help reduce financial barriers to access
  - To date, 520 children and 95 parents/caregivers have participated in programming
- Development and distribution of *Inspiring Kids. Inspired Futures.* in partnership with the Children's Foundation of Guelph-Wellington and the Guelph Chamber of Commerce
  - Focusing on the stories of local leaders, the publication recognizes and celebrates how recreational activities play an influential role in the growth and development of children
  - To date, 2,500 hardcopies have been distributed throughout the community; the publication has also been circulated electronically via community partner websites and social media accounts
  - <a href="http://www.childrensfoundation.org/home/latest-news/inspiring-kids-inspired-futures">http://www.childrensfoundation.org/home/latest-news/inspiring-kids-inspired-futures</a>
- Hosted a forum in partnership with Guelph InMotion Child and Youth Committee, in which 44 Early Childhood Educators and Childcare Providers were trained in Physical Literacy Development
- Introduced seven novel and unique program offerings through the City of Guelph Recreation Department
  - To date, 209 children registered in Energize Guelph programming through the City of Guelph
- Created a Park Activation Program, hosted by the City of Guelph, to bring new activities to public parks and teach parents and children new ways of using park spaces to be physically active
  - Offered in four parks across Guelph to reduce geographical/transportation barriers to access
  - Over the summer, 267 children and 159 parents/caregivers participated in Park Activation Programming
  - Program averaged 15 children and nine parents per session

- Offered recreational workshops in five local elementary schools to showcase new programs available through the City of Guelph and introduce children to new and unique ways to be physically active
  - More than 900 children participated in workshop opportunities
- o Hosted the Grand Opening Celebration for the Silvercreek Skatepark
  - 40 children (all meeting income eligibility criteria of the Children's Foundation of Guelph-Wellington) were provided with non-stigmatizing skateboards and helmets at the event to reduce financial barriers to participation and ongoing use of the public skatepark
  - The event was supported by six public, private and non-profit sector partners
  - The celebration was attended by approximately 500 people
- Participated in ten community events, promoting the project, the City of Guelph, HKCC health messaging and providing free physical activity opportunities for children and parents/caregivers
- Planned and currently implementing a Theme 2 Action Plan, focused on encouraging children to decrease consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages and make water their primary choice of beverage. Initiatives currently underway include:
  - Working with the Upper Grand District School Board to convert water fountains to bottle fill stations in four local elementary schools, as well as providing students at nine local elementary schools with refillable water bottles
    - This initiative is anticipated to reach approximately 2,400 children in Guelph
  - Planning and implementing a local evaluation strategy, including the development of evaluation tools and capacity building opportunities for partner organizations
  - Increasing access to healthy beverage options in 13 local elementary school breakfast programs
    - This initiative is anticipated to reach approximately 1,000 children in Guelph

#### 2017 Goals and Objectives

- Introduce additional training opportunities for Early Childhood Educators, Childcare Providers, and parents/caregivers around healthy food and beverage choices for children
- Support resource development and capacity building opportunities around healthy food and beverage choices for eight local Ontario Early Years sites
- Ongoing evaluation and analysis of Theme 1 and 2 initiatives, to assist in the identification of health outcomes and behavioural changes related to the local project, as well as contribute to the provincial-level evaluation of the challenge
- Develop and implement a Theme 3 Action Plan and Project Budget, in collaboration with community partners and stakeholders
  - Theme 3 initiatives are scheduled to commence in April 2017
  - Theme 3 is expected to be announced by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care in November 2016

### Financial Implications

A municipal commitment of \$50,000 per year (50% of the Project Leadership Position) was required to initiate the Healthy Kids Community Challenge funding. This cost has been included in the 2016 and 2017 Youth Services Budget.

#### **Corporate Strategic Plan**

- 2.3 Ensure accountability, transparency and engagement.
- 3.3 Strengthen citizen and stakeholder engagement and communications.

#### Communications

Through a collaborative communications plan, information, education and awareness campaigns are being conducted to meet the requirements of the grant.

#### **Attachments**

- ATT-1 Energize Guelph Year One Accomplishments Infographic
- ATT-2 HKCC Project Activity Report Snapshot

#### **Report Author**

Adam Rutherford

Approved By

Heather Flaherty General Manager Parks and Recreation 519-822-1260 ext. 2664 heather.flaherty@guelph.ca Gelo Clack

**Recommended By** 

Colleen Clack Deputy CAO **Public Services** 519-822-1260 ext. 2588 colleen.clack@guelph.ca



# **Year One Accomplishments**



children participated in Energize Guelph programming





children participated in Energize Guelph workshops





children participated in Energize Guelph events





Early Childhood Educators and Childcare providers trained in Physical Literacy



part-time/seasonal jobs created as a result of the project



children and

parents/caregivers participated in the Park Activation Program





novel programs introduced through City of Guelph Recreation Department



Community partners involved in the project

Programming offered in



different locations across Guelph

Programming offered in

different neighbourhoods across Guelph



#### PROJECT ACTIVITY REPORT SNAPSHOT

<u>Instructions:</u> This is meant to be a <u>1-page snapshot only</u>. Specific details on individual interventions will be captured in the Project Activity Report. This snapshot will allow the ministry and HKCC partners to understand at a glance what the community undertook during each program theme.

Theme 1: Run. Jump. Play. Every Day.

directly attributable to the Healthy Kids Community Challenge that are contributing most to your community's success (e.g., increased access to tap water in public places, reached 30% of community children, increased number of new partners – good news!)  2. We have developed novel programming that has engaged new audiences in physical activity and taught children and parents to re-imagine open spaces as forums for physical activity.  3. Our Community Needs Assessment led to the development of the only recreational adaptive sport program in Guelph for children living with a disability, as well as a successful request for funding from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport to further develop adaptive sport opportunities for children and youth in Guelph.  Total # of children who participated in community activities/interventions (reach)  Target populations reached (e.g., low income families, priority neighborhoods):  • New Canadians  • (Early) Childhood Educators  • Non-traditional recreation participants  Total # of partners involved in planning and delivering interventions				
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(e.g., cost, accessibility) 2. Cost	(e.g., cost, accessibility)	2. Cost		
3. Lack of non-traditional and/or culturally		3. Lack of non-traditional and/or culturally		
relevant activities				
4. Sustainability		4. Sustainability		
5. Lack of recreational opportunities for children		5. Lack of recreational opportunities for children		
1		living with disabilities		

# Information Report



Service Area Public Services

Date Friday, December 16, 2016

Subject Guelph Youth Council Update

Report Number PS-16-33

# **Executive Summary**

## **Purpose of Report**

To provide Council with a review of 2015 – 2016 Guelph Youth Council's meetings and an overview of the 2016 – 2017 goals and objectives.

### **Key Findings**

Since the inception of the Guelph Youth Council, local youth are actively engaged in the community and are key stakeholders in connecting youth at large. The Guelph Youth Strategy is the catalyst to developing personal growth and leadership of our City's youth and played a key factor in Guelph's Play Works' gold designation. Play Works defines a Youth Friendly Community as a community that actively supports and provides opportunities for the growth and development of youth through play, non-school activities that have elements of choice, lead to satisfaction, and encourage progressive learning.

# **Financial Implications**

Guelph Youth Council is supported by funds designated within the operating budget of the Public Services Programming and Community Development budget.

# Report

The Guelph Youth Council (GYC) is a group of local youth volunteers (ages 13 – 18) that strive to preserve and enhance the youth culture within our community. To accomplish this, they liaise with City Council, plan and implement various special events and activities, engage in leadership training and development, and advocate on behalf of youth in our city.

The GYC strives to facilitate and forge strong connections between youth in the community and the City of Guelph. They advocate to City Council and other key decision-makers on behalf of young people in our city. The GYC aims to respect and

celebrate the diversity of the youth community in Guelph, while providing their peers with leadership opportunities that will encourage personal growth.

#### 2015 - 2016 Review

This year's Youth Council features a diverse group of young leaders, representing the Upper Grand District School Board, the Wellington District Catholic School Board and a variety of city wards. The GYC is currently made up of 40 regular meeting participants and one Youth Council Assistant Coordinator (volunteer or student placement). Additionally, there are 20 youth who participate in various events and activities throughout the year, with a total of 60 active youth members. In total, the GYC engaged over 1,500 young people through events, activities and youth initiatives, with participation rates exceeding 10,000 hours. Over 3,500 hours of volunteerism were contributed.

The GYC strives to actively participate in various goals set by the 2013 - 2018 Guelph Youth Strategy. The GYC has equal opportunity for all young people from both school boards and alternative education programs across the City. The Youth Blog is monitored to support and advertise existing community employment and volunteer opportunities available to young people. Our members create, support and promote community events that engage youth and promote youth culture such as TEDxYouth@Guelph, Fourth Friday Events, Youth Week, and the Multicultural Festival.

#### <u>Community Involvement</u>

Month	Event/Activity		
September 2015	Resumed the Prime Time Youth Radio     Show with six new youth hosts on     CFRU 93.3FM		
October 2015	<ul> <li>GYC hosted a pumpkin auction to fundraise for the United Way         Campaign. The group raised \$120     </li> <li>Hosted the Prime Time Youth Radio Show</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Workshop on Employment and Interview Skills</li> </ul>		
November 2015	<ul> <li>Hosted the Prime Time Youth Radio Show</li> <li>Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health Workshop on Tobacco Prevention in Teens</li> </ul>		
December 2015	Participated in the Children's     Foundation Adopt-a-Family Program.		

	<ul> <li>The GYC raised over \$800 to support a family over the holidays</li> <li>Hosted the Prime Time Youth Radio Show</li> <li>Career Education Council Workshop on Occupational Health and Safety for Young Workers</li> </ul>
January 2016	<ul> <li>Submitted TEDxYouth@Guelph license application</li> </ul>
February 2016	<ul> <li>Successful recipient of TEDxYouth@Guelph license</li> </ul>
March 2016	<ul> <li>Volunteer Centre of Guelph         Wellington Change the World         Campaign Workshop</li> <li>Launch of G.R.O.W (Girls Recreation         Opportunities and Wellness) program         for girls ages 12 – 16</li> </ul>
April 2016	<ul> <li>Music Works Stage Works Rehearsals and concept development.</li> <li>Performing arts showcase for youth in Guelph, a partnership with the River Run Centre and TD Canada Trust</li> </ul>
May 2016	<ul> <li>Youth Week 2016 engaged over 600 youth and over 2,500 hours of participation. Free activities included beach volleyball, badminton, Improv, Music Works Stage Works, youth swim, and a basketball tournament</li> <li>The Youth Olympics was a partnership with the YMCA-YWCA's Young Leaders Committee and was hosted at Mitchell Woods Public School</li> <li>The Youth Mayor Town Hall event was hosted at Centennial C.V.I. and St. James Catholic High School. This was a one hour civic engagement assembly surrounding youth voice, youth engagement, and civic issues present in Guelph</li> <li>First Mayor for the Day event where two students were selected to spend the day with Mayor Cam Guthrie and</li> </ul>

	learn about local government
	Partnered with Energize Guelph to
	host Bubble Soccer and Quidditch
June 2016	Guelph and District Multicultural
	Festival was hosted on June 10 – 12
	at Riverside Park. The Youth Tent
	engaged over 250 youth and over
	500 adults and children through
	various activities over the weekend
	Guelph Youth Council breaks for
	summer holidays
September 2016	Guelph Youth Council back in session
	Focus group with Growing Great
	Generations
October 2016	Hosted TEDxYouth@Guelph with 100
	participants and seven speakers
	Under our licensing agreement with
	TED, there is the audience limit of
	100 people. As TED is giving away its
	brand for free putting a limit on the
	number of attendees allows them to
	manage compliance and quality on a
	global scale

#### Leadership and Training

Leadership and training opportunities are vital in developing young ambassadors within our city. Over the course of the 2015 – 2016 year, our members have hosted youth focus groups with Growing Great Generations, Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health, the Career Education Council, the Volunteer Centre of Guelph Wellington and the Making Box.

These focus groups were based on youth development, youth voice, employment and programming. Additionally, Improv for Business was conducted by the Making Box, which is an organization that focuses on live comedy and education through improvisation. Through this workshop, GYC learned about networking, community engagement and leadership skills.

The Prime Time Youth Radio Show on CFRU 93.3FM resumed in September 2015 with six new GYC hosts. Since the initial show in November 2013, our youth have aired over 75 shows with a variety of topics, interviews and music choices.

During Youth Week, the GYC partnered with the River Run Centre for the fourth year in a row to present Music Works Stage Works 2016, a youth performing arts

and mentorship program sponsored by TD Canada Trust. Youth Council members learned how to put on a show from concept development to the performance, including promotion, hospitality, technical and stage etiquette.

#### Celebration of Youth

Month	Event/Activity
October 2015 – June 2016	Prime Time Youth Radio Show - Weekly
May 2015	<ul> <li>Planned and participated in seven days of youth activities for Youth Week May 1 – 7, 2016</li> <li>During Youth Week, Guelph Youth Council and the River Run Centre presented Music Works Stage Works 2015, a youth performing arts and mentorship program sponsored by TD Canada Trust. Over 100 youth were engaged over a two-day showcase in music, dance and theatre.</li> </ul>
June 2015	Hosted a Youth Tent at the     Multicultural Festival June 10 – 12 at     Riverside Park. The Youth Tent     includes recreational activities,     workshops, art and music
October 2016	Hosted the first TEDxYouth@Guelph event with 100 attendees and 7 diverse speakers in a full day event. The theme of the event was Power of You(th).

#### 2016 - 2017 Objectives

Preliminary objectives set by the Youth Council include but are not limited to:

- Host a Provincial Youth Council/Youth Group Forum
- Continue to host TEDxYouth@Guelph
- Continue hosting Guelph District Multicultural Festival's Youth Tent
- Continue supporting Children's Foundation Adopt-A-Family campaign
- Plan seven days of youth activities for National Youth Week May 1 7, 2016
- Partner with the Volunteer Centre of Guelph/Wellington to plan the 2017
   Youth Challenge volunteering initiative

- Continue to partner with the River Run Centre to host Music Works Stage Works, the TD Youth Mentorship performing arts program for youth during Youth Week in May 2016
- Continue to host two Youth Mayor Town Hall events during Youth Week
- Continue to host Mayor for the Day
- Lead a Youth Garden Project
- Participate in Youth Leadership Training Centre of Ontario's Learning Retreat
- Expand Youth Council's capacity to support, inform and discuss municipal strategies and direction as they pertain to youth
- Support and monitor the ongoing implementation of Guelph's 2013 2018 Youth Strategy

### Financial Implications

Guelph Youth Council is supported by funds designated within the operating budget of the Public Services Programming and Community Development budget.

## **Corporate Strategic Plan**

- 2.3 Ensure accountability, transparency and engagement.
- 3.1 Ensure a well designed, safe, inclusive, appealing and sustainable City.
- 3.2 Be economically viable, resilient, diverse and attractive for business.

#### Communications

Energize Guelph Culture, Tourism and Community Investment Mayor's Office

#### **Attachments**

N/A

Report Author

Jennifer Bucci

Mather Haberty

**Approved By** 

Heather Flaherty
General Manager
Parks and Recreation
519-822-1260 ext. 2664
heather.flaherty@guelph.ca

Glo Clack

**Recommended By** 

Colleen Clack
Deputy CAO
Public Services
519-822-1260 ext. 2588
colleen.clack@guelph.ca

# Information Report



Service Area Public Services

Date Friday, December 16, 2016

Subject Guelph Youth Strategy Update

Report Number PS-16-34

# **Executive Summary**

## **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a review of Year 2 accomplishments of the Guelph Youth Strategy and provide an overview of Guelph Youth Strategy Year 3 objectives.

### **Key Findings**

Year 2 of the Guelph Youth Strategy has resulted in the development of numerous youth led projects and opportunities. Notable gains have been made in the areas of Youth Voice, Employment and Volunteer Opportunities, The Arts, Youth Space and Health & Wellness.

# **Financial Implications**

The goals of the 2013 – 18 Guelph Youth Strategy will be accomplished with existing Programming and Community Development budgets.

# Report

By 2031, there will be approximately 30,174 youth in Guelph between the ages of 10 – 24 years old. Guelph has also been designated as a "Place to Grow" as it is one of the province's fastest growing cities. As these numbers increase, the City of Guelph needs to be prepared to meet the needs and demands of our youth population moving forward.

The Youth Strategy was developed to ensure that the City is positioned to take a positive and proactive approach to supporting our youth. It provides direction to the Youth Services Division within Public Services and unites the community through shared and actionable recommendations. Within our municipality, youth issues can be some of the most pressing social concerns, while young people also remain one

of our most valuable assets. A shared community response to supporting youth is fundamental to achieving positive long-term outcomes for the City of Guelph.

The strategic direction of "Deliver public service better" is the foundation to the Youth Strategy. The Guelph Youth Strategy outlines the wants, needs and concerns of young people in Guelph and further identifies the City of Guelph's roles and responsibilities in supporting our youth population. Specifically, City staff is identified as key service and resource providers, advocates for youth and catalysts for community wide action.

The Youth Strategy has ten Year 2 to 4 recommendations, which help to develop a more youth-friendly community.

#### Year 2 Overview

All Year 2 to 4 youth-led recommendations were developed with a series of overarching tasks required for the completion. These tasks act as a work-planning tool and connect directly to the successful completion of each recommendation.

Each recommendation presented has been generated through youth consultation, feedback, and information gathered in the 2013 Guelph Youth Survey. Additionally, recommendations have been reviewed with internal departments and community stakeholders that have a direct association with the recommendations. These conversations have included City of Guelph staff as well as community partners including: Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy, social service providers, a variety of neighbourhood groups, and Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health. All recommendations were vetted through the Guelph Youth Strategy Working Group, with members representing City staff, community stakeholders, youth representatives and Youth Services staff.

Timelines of all Year 2 to 4 recommendations were recognized as larger projects with substantial planning that would be completed between Year 2 and 4, recognizing that each recommendation requires significant community support and buy in. In some cases, goals have been revised or sequencing has been adjusted to take advantage of opportunities or emerging community conversations. This is evident in addressing transportation/bussing and various training recommendations such as Anti-Oppression and Youth Engagement. Finally, outcomes have been updated to reflect current organizational structures and active municipal initiatives. Moving forward it is expected that the work of the Healthy Kids Community Challenge, Open Government Action Plan, Cycling Master Plan, and others will contribute to the outcomes and completion of the Guelph Youth Strategy.

The following table outlines each Year 2 to 4 recommendations, associated tasks and outcomes.

# **Guelph Youth Strategy Year 2 Status Updates**

Recommendation	Actions/Activities	Status and Key
		Outcomes
1.2 Youth Services will coordinate twice annual Youth Town Hall meetings between Mayor, Council and local youth  2.2 Facilitate Youth	<ul> <li>Completed Mayor         Town Hall in May 2016         at Centennial C.V.I.         and St. James Catholic         High School     </li> <li>Parks and Recreation</li> </ul>	Completed/Ongoing 250 Students participate in the second year of Mayor Town Hall. A total of 530 students have participated since the inaugural event in 2015 Under Development
Engagement training for all City employees	Ontario Youth Engagement Training booked for Spring 2017	
3.2 CAN-Bike courses for students	<ul> <li>CAN-Bike courses to be implemented in the 2017-2018 Guelph Community Guide to equip youth with the confidence, skills and safe practices to bike to and from school.</li> <li>Partnership created with Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Coordinator in Engineering and Capital Infrastructure – Transportation Services</li> </ul>	Under Development
4.2 Develop a City of Guelph volunteer program for high school students	Guelph Youth Council supports high school students in receiving their 40 volunteer hours for graduation	Completed/Ongoing 40 active Guelph Youth Council members who attend meetings/events weekly

	through meetings, events and activities	20 additional youth who participate in events and activities only  GYC engaged over 1,500 young people through events, activities and youth initiatives, with participation rates exceeding 10,000 hours.  Over 3,500 hours of volunteerism were contributed.
5.2 Safe spaces for youth policy and program	<ul> <li>Submission of Federal funding for Canada 150 to support this recommendation</li> <li>Citizen 150 will enhance leadership opportunities and skills development among young people</li> </ul>	Under Development  The Department of Canadian Heritage will make final decisions by February 2017
6.2 Collaborate with Guelph Arts Council to bring the annual youth artists awards/ recognition program	Currently in the process of developing a partnership with Guelph Arts Council and the City of Guelph's Culture, Tourism and Community Investment department to create and recognize youth opportunities and talents	Under Development
6.5 Youth space for Practicing the Arts	<ul> <li>Youth Music Spaces         Partnership Project         with Royal City     </li> </ul>	Completed/Ongoing Launch of program Thursday November 17,

	Church, Programming and Community Development and community champions	2016 at Royal City Church
7.2 Provide Anti- Racism/Anti Oppression training for all City of Guelph staff that engage with youth	Deferred until further discussion with City of Guelph Human Resources Department	Under Development
8.2 Development of a community wide free public Skate park	Silvercreek     Community Skatepark	Completed (December 2015) Skatepark Grand Opening took place on International Go Skateboarding Day, June 21, 2016 in partnership with Energize Guelph
9.2 Promote a City-wide car free day at Guelph schools	<ul> <li>Partnership with         Transportation         Services and the         Programs and         Community         Development division         to connect to the         existing Car Free Day         2017     </li> </ul>	Under Development
10.2 Develop and promote the City of Guelph online Youth Services Hub	Guelph Youth Council direction through focus groups and information/planning sessions with the IT Department	Completed/Ongoing  Partnership with IT Operations and Communications teams to redevelop the Youth Blog. Official launch Q1, 2017

The following Year 2 to 4 objectives are planned for Year 3 of the strategy.

- 1. Facilitate Youth Engagement training for all City employees
- 2. Develop CAN-Bike courses for students with Transportation Services

- partnership
- 3. Safe Spaces for Youth Policy and Program
- 4. Collaborate with Guelph Arts Council to bring the annual Youth Artists Awards/Recognition Program
- 5. Provide Anti-Racism/Anti Oppression training for all City of Guelph staff that engage with youth
- 6. Promote a city-wide car free day a Guelph schools

### **Financial Implications**

The goals of the 2013 – 18 Guelph Youth Strategy will be accomplished with existing Programming and Community Development budgets.

## **Corporate Strategic Plan**

- 1.2 Develop collaborative work teams and apply whole systems thinking to deliver creative solutions.
- 1.3 Build robust systems, structures and frameworks aligned to strategy.
- 2.1 Build an adaptive environment for government innovation to ensure fiscal and service sustainability.
- 2.2 Deliver public services better.
- 3.1 Ensure a well-designed, safe, inclusive, appealing and sustainable City
- 3.3 Strengthen citizen and stakeholder engagement and communications

#### Communications

Mayor's Office

Engineering and Capital Infrastructure – Transportation Services Energize Guelph

**IT Operations and Communications** 

#### **Attachments**

N/A

#### **Report Author**

Jennifer Bucci

Meather Haberty

**Approved By** 

Heather Flaherty General Manager Parks and Recreation 519-822-1260 ext. 2664 heather.flaherty@guelph.ca Eller Clack

**Recommended By** 

Colleen Clack Deputy CAO Public Services

519-822-1260 ext. 2588 colleen.clack@guelph.ca

# Information Report



Service Area Public Services

Date Friday, December 16, 2016

Subject Urban Forest Management Plan - Implementation Report

Report Number PS-16-35

# **Executive Summary**

### **Purpose of Report**

This report is to provide an update on the implementation and accomplishments of the City of Guelph Urban Forest Management Plan, adopted by Council in 2012.

# **Key Findings**

Since Council adopted the Urban Forest Management Plan in 2012, progress has been made on 16 of 22 recommendations for the period 2012 – 2018.

Five of the six recommendations not yet addressed are slated for 2017 or beyond. Much of this progress was enabled by the addition of Parks Operations and Forestry staff, new and continued partnerships and collaborations, and continued financial support.

# **Financial Implications**

Full implementation of the twenty year plan is dependent on future expansion funding for staffing and specific projects. Through the annual budget process, they will be brought forward for consideration, consistent with the sequencing suggested in the plan's recommendations.

# Report

## Background

Council adopted the City of Guelph Urban Forest Management Plan in the fall of 2012. The twenty year plan provides a comprehensive strategy for managing Guelph's urban forest in five year stages. The plan prescribes a program that is proactive, professional, innovative, engaging, and robust.

These qualities are essential if Guelph is to protect, maintain and increase its tree canopy cover to optimize the "green infrastructure services" and health benefits to the community, such as stormwater management and improving air quality.

The capacity to appropriately and proactively manage this essential community asset continues to improve, as foundational pieces such as the tree inventory and corporate asset management strategies progress. Guelph is on the cusp of emerald ash borer-induced mortality drastically changing the streetscapes in many of our neighbourhoods over the next several years. One of the most vexing challenges continues to be to accommodate thriving, large street trees in a provincially mandated era of ever-intensifying development.

The City of Guelph has adopted a 40% canopy target, alternately expressed as "the best canopy cover of comparable municipalities". In either case, the goal is ambitious, considering canopy cover is currently estimated at 28.6% and constantly under pressure from urban stress, climate change, insects, and development. This underscores the importance of the plan and its capacity-building thrust.

#### **Achievements**

Good progress has been made in implementing the guiding framework of the 22 recommendations of the plan. Please see the attached summary chart for specifics.

Thirteen of the recommendations were slated for 2016 or earlier; of these, four are complete, four are on-going, eight have been partially achieved, and one is pending. Of the remaining recommendations slated for future years, one is ongoing and four are pending.

Notable achievements to-date includes the following:

- added two technical/professional positions and one management position
- implemented the Urban Forest Advisory Committee of external stakeholders, meeting quarterly
- implemented the Tree Team of internal stakeholders, meeting quarterly, fostering tree-related dialogue across departments and beginning to act as a coordinating and problem-solving influence
- dealt with the most damaging ice storm in a generation
- increased GIS analysis and mapping capacity significantly
- added one Arborist

#### Completed in 2016:

- one existing Arborist position converted to Inspector Arborist
- increased capacity for invasives management, and coordination of volunteers for natural area stewardship activities with the addition of Supervisor, Trails and Natural areas and two trails positions
- completed Guelph's Emerald Ash Borer Plan, completed third year of implementation
- advanced forest inventory significantly

- completed investigation, rebuild and replanting of soil cells on Carden Street; ongoing monitoring
- completed potential plantable spaces analysis
- updated urban tree canopy cover percentage
- completed vegetation assessment of natural areas

#### 2017 Action plan items:

- 1. Recommendation #6 Substantial completion of plantable spaces data base
- 2. Recommendation #7 Continue invasive species and invasives management
- 3. Recommendation #8 Formalize tree maintenance and inspection program, reducing need for emergency responses
- 4. Recommendation #14 Substantial completion of the Tree Technical Manual

Adjustments to the plan are made accordingly as priorities change, corporate strategies shift or unforeseen events occur such as major storm events. These adjustments will be brought forward as part of normal staff processes leading up to Recommendation #9 – Review the State of the Urban Forest (5 year report) in 2018.

## **Financial Implications**

Current Urban Forest Management Plan initiatives are being completed within existing Council approved budgets.

### **Corporate Strategic Plan**

- 1.2 Develop collaborative work teams and apply whole systems thinking to deliver creative solutions.
- 2.2 Deliver public services better.
- 3.3 Strengthen citizen and stakeholder engagement and communications.

#### Communications

Communication continues to be essential in engaging, educating and informing the stakeholders of the achievements and activities carried out under the Urban Forest Management Plan. The Communications group has been, and will continue to be engaged to develop and produce various materials distributed to the media and the community.

#### **Attachments**

ATT-1 Attachment 1 Urban Forest Management Plan Recommendations Update 2016

# **Report Author**

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Heather Flaherty General Manager Parks and Recreation 519-822-1260 ext. 2664 heather.flaherty@guelph.ca Glo Clack

**Recommended By** 

Colleen Clack
Deputy CAO
Public Services
519-822-1260 ext. 2588

colleen.clack@guelph.ca

# Urban Forest Management Plan Recommendations Update 2016

## MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

#	Recommendation	Year	Status
1	Create a Senior Urban Forester position	2013	Complete: November 2013, position since March 2015 overseeing Parks Operations in addition to Forestry
2	Create an interdepartmental "Tree Team" of City staff	2013	Complete: Quarterly meetings since June 2014
3	Increase capacity to complete an inventory of municipal street and park trees	2013	Capacity added: Technical staff added 2014; tree inventory now 90% complete
4	Undertake targeted vegetation assessment and management of City parks and natural areas	2015	Partial: Data collection complete; final report due December 31, 2016. Future projects pending
5	Expand the City's capacity for planting and maintenance of municipal trees	2013	<ul> <li>One of two recommended additional arborists approved in 2015 budget; staff added in June, 2015</li> <li>One existing Arborist position converted to Inspector Arborist in November, 2016</li> </ul>
6	Undertake an Urban Tree Cover and Potential Plantable Spaces Analysis	2013	<ul> <li>Master's thesis in cooperation with University of Guelph School of Landscape Architecture complete 2016</li> <li>Plantable spaces identification and prioritization, target: 2017</li> </ul>
7	Develop and implement an Invasive Species and Pest Management Strategy, starting with an Emerald Ash Borer Strategy	2013	<ul> <li>Emerald Ash Borer Plan,         completed year three of         implementation; broader         invasives strategy not started</li> <li>Increased capacity to remove         invasive vegetation with         addition of Supervisor, Trails         and Natural Areas (Buckthorn,         Japanese Knot weed, Poison</li> </ul>

# Urban Forest Management Plan Recommendations Update 2016

			Ivy). Several projects completed in 2016.
8	Develop tree risk management policy and train City Arborists in risk assessment	2015	Partial: Hiring of Inspector Arborist, November, 2016
9	Complete a State of the Urban Forest report every five years	2017	Pending – Target of 2019; plan implemented in 2014, not 2012 as originally intended
10	Establish a green infrastructure asset valuation	2018	Pending

#### **PLANNING**

#	Recommendation	Year	Status
11	Assess the effectiveness of current tree- related policies and legislation	2013	Pending
12	Update City documents to be consistent with new tree-related policies, guidelines and legislation	2014	Partial: Updated Part 'B' Standard Contract Specifications; All tree related Special Provisions, Specifications and Standard Drawings
13	Develop and implement a Public Tree By- law	2018	Pending

#### PROTECTION, ENHANCEMENT, PLANTING

#	Recommendation	Year	Status
14	Implement and assess use of the new Tree Technical Manual	2013	Partial: Tree Technical Manual in draft form, still requires substantial work. Target completion: 2017
15	Implement and monitor success of new rooting technologies	2013	On-going:
			<ul> <li>Carden Street tree decline investigation and replacement complete</li> <li>Wilson Street Reconstruction will use tree cell technology (Silva Cell or Strata)</li> </ul>
16	Develop a Greening Strategy building on the Potential Plantable Spaces Analysis	2018	Pending
			<ul> <li>Potential Street Master</li> <li>Planting Plan (summer</li> </ul>

# Urban Forest Management Plan Recommendations Update 2016

			<ul> <li>2017/2018)</li> <li>Plantable Spaces Identification and Prioritization (Based on Potential Plantable Spaces Analysis)</li> </ul>
17	Track municipal tree removals and plantings	2018	Started as soon as technical staff hired; continue to improve data collection
18	Expand the City's capacity to undertake tree- related plan review and site inspections	2015	Capacity improved with the 2014 hiring of two technologists

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

#	Recommendation	Year	Status
19	Create an Urban Forest Advisory Committee	2013	Meeting quarterly since early 2014
20	Pursue targeted urban forest education and outreach	2012	Much increased in past two years, with added technical staff
21	Increase municipal capacity for coordination of volunteers for stewardship activities	2014	Increased with technical staff (2014) and Trails and Natural Areas Supervisor (May, 2016)
22	Pursue targeted stewardship initiatives, partnerships and funding sources	2015	<ul> <li>University of Toronto         (Vegetative Sampling         Protocol)</li> <li>University of Guelph         (Potential Plantable Spaces         Analysis)</li> </ul>

				Provinci	Alert		
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
Help Develop Ontario's Long-Term Energy Plan	Ministry of Energy	December 17, 2016	Ontario is seeking public input to help develop the province's next Long-Term Energy Plan (LTEP) to maintain a reliable supply of clean, affordable electricity.	The province has scheduled a series of town halls and invitation only meetings, including one in Guelph on November 21, 2016.  Communications will promote the consultation session through social media channels, under the auspices of the CEI Update process.  Staff will attend the Guelph area consultation events.  Staff will consult with, and contribute to submissions from other Ontario communities engaged in Community Energy Planning, through representative organizations such as AMO, QUEST Ontario Caucus, and Ontario Sustainable Energy Association	Given the interest in this matter, Council input/participation is anticipated.  Upon the review/analysis of the Consultation Document, attendance at the Guelph area consultation session and input to the submissions of identified partners, staff will prepare a recommended response for Council consideration via a staff report.	Business Development and Enterprise	https://news.ontario.ca/mei/en/2016/10/help-develop-ontarios-long-term-energy-plan.html?utm source=ondemand&utm medium=email&utm campaign=p

(OSEA). Furthermore,	
staff will develop key messages for the City of Guelph	
submission and communicate the identified	
messages for Council consideration in	
advance of the December 17 deadline.	

	Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert								
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website		
Potential Changes to the Ontario Building Code	Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MMA)	December 20, 2016	The Ministry of Municipal Affairs is seeking input from the public and industry stakeholders on changes being considered to the Building Code. This consultation will occur in two phases.  The first phase, October 21 to December 20, will include proposed interim amendments that support the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy update as well as changes that would form the next edition of the Building Code. In addition, the province is seeking advice on preliminary changes the government should consider to improve energy efficiency and water conservation that could be implemented quickly and over time.	Phase 1 - Staff level	Over 500 technical changes proposed to be enacted over the next 2 years. Staff are reviewing items in their areas of expertise and a submission will be made on behalf of Building Services. We are also reviewing the major changes with peers in neighbouring municipalities.	Building Services	http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page14996.aspx		
			The second phase of the consultation will seek input on proposed requirements to support the implementation of the government's Climate Change Action Plan.	Phase 2 - To be decided once the Province has decided on the consultation process	Province has not initiated this phase yet	Building Services			

				Provincial/Fe	deral Consultation	Alert	
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website
Ontario Review and Integration of Regional & Rural Business Support Programs	The Ministry of Economic Development and Growth (MEDG) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)	January 15, 2017	MEDG and OMAFRA are engaging our economic and business development stakeholders to:  • improve coordination of business support programs in the regions • undertake a required five-year review of the Eastern Ontario Development Fund (EODF) and Southwestern Ontario Development Fund (SWODF).  The purpose of the survey is to obtain feedback and perspectives from stakeholders regarding three of Ontario's regional and rural economic development funds, namely the EODF the SWODF and the business stream of the Rural Economic Development Fund (RED).	BDE staff have completed the survey	Given IDE staff familiarity with the identified programs, a staff response is considered appropriate and reasonable in this circumstance.	BDE	https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ontario regional rural business support programs

	Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert									
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website			
Basic Income Pilot for Ontario	Community and Social Services	Jan 31, 2017	Public consultation, via online survey, to provide input for proposed pilot program. The pilot program hopes to reduce poverty in a new and sustainable way by replacing social assistance.	Staff to complete the online survey, monitor results (due back April 2017) and report back as required.	Staff response sufficient at this time based on the preliminary nature of the consultation request.	Culture, Tourism and Community Investment	Discussion Paper at <a href="https://www.ontario.ca/page/finding-better-way-basic-income-pilot-project-ontario">https://www.ontario.ca/page/finding-better-way-basic-income-pilot-project-ontario</a> Survey at <a href="https://www.ontario.ca/form/basic-income-pilot-public-survey?ga=1.172050851.1443231836.1458336547">https://www.ontario.ca/form/basic-income-pilot-public-survey?ga=1.172050851.1443231836.1458336547</a>			

	Provincial/Federal Consultation Alert								
Title	Ministry	Consultation Deadline	Summary	Proposed Form of Input	Rationale	Lead	Link to Ministry Website		
Proposed Bottled Water Technical Guidance Document	Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC)		An ER notice has been posted proposing new requirements for water bottlers to renew their water taking permits.  The proposed guidance document outlines two types of new requirements - procedural requirements and technical requirements. In general, the new procedural requirements are designed to increase public reporting and transparency, and the new technical requirements are designed to increase the science requirements for proposed applications for Permit renewals.  These requirements are being proposed to enhance water security in Ontario, by ensuring the wise use and management of groundwater in the face of climate		Staff technical comments on the proposed technical document will be consistent with	Environmental Services	https://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/displaynoticecontent.do?noticeId=MTMxMDM2&statusId=MTk4Njl4&language=en		
			groundwater in the						



# TOWNSHIP OF ZORRA

274620 27th Line, PO Box 306, Ingersoll, ON, N5C 3K5 Ph. (519) 485-2490 · 1-888-699-3868 · Fax: (519) 485-2520

December 6, 2016

Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario Legislative Building - Room 281 Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Wynne:

Please be advised the Council of the Township of Zorra passed the following resolution at its December 6, 2016, regular meeting:

"WHEREAS, there is inequity between the cost of hydro for rural residents as compared to urban residents due to higher distribution charges;

AND WHEREAS, this practice targets and negatively affects rural residents, especially those who are already unable to pay for the high cost of hydro;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Council of the Township of Zorra request the Province of Ontario to re-evaluate the structure of hydro in terms of access to delivery and implement structural changes to address the unfair practice of charging more for delivery to rural residents;

AND THAT this resolution be circulated to Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA), Ontario Municipalities, Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM), and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)."

Disposition: Carried

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

Donald W. MacLeod

Chief Administrative Officer

cc: Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA)

All Ontario Municipalities

Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)

Tay Valley Township

16-072

internet: www.zorra.on.ca Email: zorra@zorra.on.ca

P.O. BOX 370 68 FRONT STREET HORNEPAYNE, ONTARIO POM 1Z0



December 14, 2016

Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier Legislative Building Queen's Park Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Honourable Premier:

Please find enclosed a true certified copy of resolution No. 12928 requesting that the Provincial Government recognizes Municipal Fire Service as critical infrastructure by including funding for Fire Department infrastructure as part of the Provincial Governments Infrastructure Strategy to Move Ontario Forward.

Your favourable consideration and support of this resolution would be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

Gail Jaremy

CAO/Clerk

Township of Hornepayne

GEJ/sd

c.c.: Minister of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure

MPP Algoma-Manitoulin, Michael Mantha

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Rural Ontario Municipality Association

Township of McKellar

All Ontario Municipalities via email

Encl.

The Corporation of the Township of Hornepayne 68 Front Street, PO Box 370 Hornepayne, Ontario P0M 1Z0

ONNSHIP

# **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

MOVED BY:	Coffort		NO.	13098				
SECONDED BY:	signature		DATE:	DEC 0 7 2016				
WHEREAS the Fire Preducation and fire protection	otection and Prevention ection services are a r	on Act, 1997, legis mandatory municip	lates that fire pre-	vention, public and,				
WHEREAS there are a Time Departments, 19 Time Firefighters, 19,3 departments; and,	1 Composite Departm	ents and 226 Volu	inteer Departmen	ts with 11.376 Full-				
WHEREAS the fire ser municipalities' manage	vice represents a signed capital assets; and,	nificant percentage	of small, rural an	d northern				
WHEREAS the Munici infrastructure; and	pal Fire Department a	nd associated ass	ets represent criti	cal municipal				
WHEREAS there are of Government for the eq departments;	currently no funding op uipment, training, mai	portunities availab ntenance, operatir	ble from the Proving or capital requi	ncial or the Federal rements of local fire				
Hornepayne hereby pe critical infrastructure by	NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Hornepayne hereby petition the Provincial Government to recognize the municipal fire service as critical infrastructure by including funding for Fire Department infrastructure as part of the Provincial Government's Infrastructure Strategy to Move Ontario Forward;							
BE IT FURTHER RESOME Minister of Economic Designation Algoma-Manitoulin, the Ontario Municipalities (municipalities).	Development, Employre Association of Munic	ment and Infrastruction ipalities of Ontario	cture, Michael Ma (AMO), the Fede	ntha, MPP for ration of Northern				
CarriedDefea	atedDeferred		signature of presid	ing officer				
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Councillor Cheryl F Councillor Willy Lie Councillor Drago S Councillor Paul Ste Mayor Morley Fors	ebigt Stefanic ewart	Other:day	y of Gail Jaremy CAO/Clerk Township of Horney	w: 1_,20_2016 1) Juany				
Disclosure of peo	uniary interest a	nd the genera	I nature there	of.				
(Name)	(Name)	)						
Disclosed the pecunia discussion, vote and i		eneral nature ther	eof and abstaine	ed from the				
	(Clerk)							

# **GRCA** Current



December, 2016 • Volume 21 Number 12

#### **GRCA** General Membership

**Chair** Helen Jowett

Vice-Chair Chris White

Townships of Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Melancthon and Southgate and Town of Grand Valley

**Guy Gardhouse** 

**Townships of Mapleton and Wellington North** Pat Salter

i at Jaite

Township of Centre Wellington Kelly Linton

Town of Erin, Townships of

Guelph/Eramosa and Puslinch Chris White

**City of Guelph** 

Bob Bell, Mike Salisbury

#### **Region of Waterloo**

Les Armstrong, Elizabeth Clarke, Sue Foxton, Helen Jowett, Geoff Lorentz, Jane Mitchell, Joe Nowak, Wayne Roth, Sandy Shantz, Warren Stauch

# Municipality of North Perth and Township of Perth East

George Wicke

Halton Region Cindy Lunau

City of Hamilton George Stojanovic

Oxford County Bruce Banbury

**County of Brant** 

Brian Coleman, Shirley Simons

#### **City of Brantford**

Dave Neumann, Vic Prendergast

#### **Haldimand and Norfolk Counties**

Bernie Corbett, Fred Morison







# **Dry conditions continue**

The fall has been beautiful, warm and dry, but the fine weather has had a negative impact on the river system and groundwater supply.

Dry conditions have been ongoing since mid-April. In June, all water users were urged to reduce their water use by 10 per cent. In August, this was changed to a voluntary 20 per cent reduction, when Level 2 low water response was announced across the watershed.

Groundwater levels in a monitoring well near Burford have been declining since May. The groundwater level at this well is similar to 2007, which was the lowest November level recorded there.

Environment Canada is reporting the warmest water temperatures on record for the Great Lakes. This could bring some much needed lake effect snow over the winter and would help alleviate the low water conditions.

# Change in operations at GRCA reservoirs

The GRCA is operating the reservoirs outside of the normal operating range due to the dry weather.

Since November, the water being released from the GRCA's Shand Dam has slowed to less than one cubic metre per second. The Guelph Lake and Conestogo dams are also releasing only a small amount of water.

This will keep more water within the large reservoirs. The water is needed for winter flow augmentation and will help protect the fish that live in the reservoirs. River flow targets will be returned to normal once water storage in the large reservoirs is back within the normal operating range.

The GRCA does not anticipate issues with municipal water takings or with wastewater assimilation. That said, low flow targets may not always be met during periods with low precipitation.

The GRCA will consult with municipal water managers if there is a need for further reductions in reservoir discharges.

# New forest nearly complete

Brantford's New Forest in the City took five years and is nearly complete.

Over 57,000 native trees have been planted on the site, which is on 32 hectares (78 acres). A legion of dedicated volunteer tree planters has also grown in Brantford thanks to this project. They will move to a new site next year, leaving this as a legacy for future generations.

It will grow into a Carolinian forest with trails, bridges and lots of beauty. Next spring, the finishing touches will be carried out — a few final plantings will be done and the trails will be regraded.

The New Forest is on land that couldn't be developed beside Braneida Industrial Park and is bordered by Henry Street, Garden Avenue and Highway 403.

The project demonstrates how community groups and individuals can work together. It was led by the Brant Tree Coalition, the GRCA, the City of Brantford, County of Brant and industrial partners.

The volunteers and groups will move their planting effort to a new project location in Brantford next year.

# New standby generator

The GRCA is purchasing a standby trailer generator that will be located at the Conestogo Dam.

Each dam and the main office also have a stationary back up generator onsite. These will be used if the main power grid goes offline and the backup stationary generator is not available or fails.

The new \$76,000 trailer generator was recommended as a risk reduction measure instead

of constructing an emergency spillway at the Conestogo Dam. It was included in the 2016 budget and half the funding is being covered by the province.

The GRCA has one other trailer generator at the Shand Dam.

# **Wastewater program** has a few years of data

Wastewater optimization has resulted in a few years of wastewater data which helps with decisions about the future.

The program has been funded since 2009 through the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, as well as significant contributions of staff time and resources from municipal partners.

Optimization is an innovative way that the GRCA and municipal wastewater staff work together to ensure that the multi-million dollar plants along the Grand River and its tributaries work efficiently and improve effluent quality.

Solutions to problems come from the plant operators themselves, because each plant is very complex and has a unique set of challenges.

Optimization can have a big financial payoff, because municipalities can save money on capital upgrades and also gain the best possible information to help make decisions in the future.

GRCA staff are discussing future funding options with municipal staff and others.

# Photo contest captures beauty of the Grand

More photos than ever before were submitted to the GRCA's 2016 photo contest and the seven winning photos were announced in November.

The photos show the diversity of beautiful landscapes and recreational activities in the watershed. They will be used on the GRCA's website and in its publications.

The grand prize photograph is of a bald eagle fishing in the Grand River near Brant Park and it was taken by Anca Gaston of Brantford. This photo reflects the return of eagles, which are increasingly common throughout the watershed.

There were three categories for the photo submissions to this contest. They were



Anca Gaston is an avid amateur photographer from Brantford and her image of a bald eagle flying over the Grand River while fishing took the grand prize in the 2016 GRCA photo contest. Seven winning photos were selected for prizes.

recreation, nature and panoramic images. First and second place winning photos were selected for each of these three categories.

These winning photos and a selection of other contest entries may be viewed online at www.flickr.com/grandriverconservation.

online at www.grandriver.eventbrite.ca.

While normally there is a winter camp at Apps' Mill Nature Centre, this is not taking place this year because it is closed for renovations.

# **Register for Winter Adventure Camps**

Kids can spend part of their school break at Winter Adventure Camps at Laurel Creek Nature Centre (Waterloo), Guelph Lake Nature Centre and — for the first time — Shade's Mills Nature Centre (Cambridge).

Winter Adventure Camps are fun and educational. They teach 6 to 10 year olds about the natural environment by providing hands-on, environmental programs.

Parents can sign kids up for individual days on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday Dec. 28 to 30, or for all four days Tuesday to Friday, January 3 to 6.

The camp activities take place 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, and there is free supervision starting at 8 am and late pick-up until 5 p.m.

This is the first time that this program has been offered at Shade's Mills in Cambridge.

Registration and information is available

This issue of GRCA Current was published in December, 2016.

It is a summary of the November 2016 business conducted by the Grand River Conservation Authority board and committees, as well as other noteworthy happenings and topics of interest.

The Grand River Conservation Authority welcomes distribution, photocopying and forwarding of GRCA Current.

#### **Next board meeting:**

December 16 at 9:30 a.m., **GRCA Administration Centre** 

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View coming events: www.grandriver.ca/events







