



City of
Peterborough

To: **Members of the General Committee**

From: **Richard Freymond**
Commissioner of Corporate and Legislative Services

Meeting Date: **October 7, 2019**

Subject: **Report CLSFS19-042**
Issue of Income Tax Receipts – PTBOStrong Corp.

Purpose

A report to recommend Council approve the issuing of income tax receipts for donations made to the City of Peterborough for the purposes of PTBOStrong Corp.

Recommendations

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report CLSFS19-042 dated October 7, 2019, of the Commissioner of Corporate and Legislative Services, as follows:

- a) That the fundraising efforts of PTBOStrong Corp. be deemed to be in the interest of the City of Peterborough;
- b) That the City accept donations toward the purposes of PTBOStrong Corp., issue income tax receipts to donors and deposit all monies received, until such time that PTBOStrong has received its charitable status by the Canada Revenue Agency; and
- c) That, in consultation with the Board of Directors of PTBOStrong Corp., the Administrative Staff Committee be delegated the authority to transfer the funds being held, to existing Agencies in the community for programs related to the opioid and homelessness crisis in our community, including a supervised consumption site.

Budget and Financial Implications

Support of the recommendations will not lead to a direct cash contribution from the City but will result in indirect expenses being incurred and absorbed by the Financial Services Division in support of this not-for-profit organization.

Background

PTBOStrong Corp. (PTBOStrong) is registered as a Not for Profit. The organization was formed in 2019 due to the opioid and homelessness crisis facing the City of Peterborough. PTBOStrong aims to raise awareness, education and funds all to support this crisis at a local level.

The organization had several fundraising concerts, including:

- August 31st: Salute AC/DC
- September 8th: Afternoon of Blues / R&B sponsored by RE/MAX
- September 14th: “For the Love of Community” in support of Warming Room Community Ministries
- September 22nd: Night of Folk & Pop Rock sponsored by Waste Connections of Canada

There is also an upcoming Restaurant Coupon Book that will offer discounts at local restaurants. Over 40 restaurants have committed to support PTBOStrong. The booklets go on sale September 2019 for \$30.

PTBOStrong has indicated that the funds raised will go toward a supervised consumption site, support existing agencies and programs, and eventually a healing centre.

Periodically, organizations independent from the City which are not registered charities themselves, approach the City and request that cash or gifts in kind donations be channeled through the City so that donors can be issued a receipt for income tax purposes. Such a process is possible through a provision of the Income Tax Act, which states “gifts to a Canadian municipality are tax supported to the same extent as gifts to registered charities”. Deputy Police Chief Tim Farquharson is the organization’s Treasurer. He has been working with some community members who have indicated that there are individuals interested in donating money to support the work they are doing. PTBOStrong is working towards charitable status with Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), however, this is not currently in place and a request has been made to the City to issue tax receipts for individuals who donate funds.

As evidence to the direction and control over the use of the donated funds, staff are recommending that upon receipt of a written request from the Board of Directors of PTBOStrong, the Administrative Staff Committee be delegated the authority to transfer

the funds to the benefitting Agency specified. This process, along with the City retaining the books and records, will ensure the City retains its qualified donee status and allow CRA to verify records for which donors received an official income tax receipt.

Submitted by,

Richard Freymond
Commissioner of Corporate and Legislative Services

Contact Name:
Richard Freymond
Commissioner of Corporate and Legislative Services
Phone: 705-742-7777, Extension 1863
Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755
Fax: 705-876-4607
E-mail: rfreymond@peterborough.ca