



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the General Committee

From: John Kennedy, City Clerk

Meeting Date: January 20, 2020

Subject: Report CLSCLK20-001
Changes to the City of Peterborough Civic Awards

Purpose

A report to recommend that Council approve the proposed changes to the Annual Peterborough Civic Awards program.

Recommendations

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report CLSCLK20-001, dated January 20, 2020, of the City Clerk as follows:

- a) That the Holnbeck Award and the Mayor's Youth Awards be presented as part of the annual Civic Awards evening; and,
- b) That the Citizen Appointment Selection Committee select the winners of the Civic Awards.

Budget and Financial Implications

The cost of the Civic Awards program is approximately \$9,500 and is funded through the Clerk's office budget. The presentation of the Holnbeck and Mayor's Youth awards will not significantly impact the budget for this event.

Background

Holnbeck and Mayor's Youth Awards

It is proposed that the Gordon and Arbie Holnbeck Award be presented at the Civic Awards event. The City County Disaster Trust Fund had contacted the City about this change and the Holnbeck family is also in support of the proposal. This award recognizes "person or persons who have enhanced the quality of life for people with disabilities through volunteer work." This award is very much in line with the awards that the Civic Awards present annually.

It would be beneficial to present the Holnbeck Award during the Civic Awards event as it will raise the profile of the Holnbeck Award by making the presentation at a large venue with many attendees as well as local media. The Civic Awards evening also includes refreshments after the event which provides an opportunity for winners and guests to visit and network.

The Mayor's Youth Award is presented to three individuals between the ages of 10-21 years old who reside in the City of Peterborough and who "have demonstrated an outstanding achievement that has brought positive recognition to the City of Peterborough". These awards also align very well with the Civic Awards. The Mayor's Youth Awards are also being proposed to be presented at the Civic Awards event for the reasons listed above for the Holnbeck Award.

Civic Awards Selection Committee

The Civic Awards Selection Committee is composed of five volunteers: two from the Arenas, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee; two from the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee and one from the Museum and Archives Advisory Committee. Each year members of these committees are approached for volunteers to serve on the selection committee. The applications for the Civic Awards are compiled and delivered to the Committee members prior to a meeting held at City Hall. Staff from the Clerks Office and Community Services attend the meeting to assist the Committee and to prepare a report with their recommendations for Council's consideration.

The current structure involves the need to obtain volunteers from various committees each year who are comfortable with and have the time to participate in the selection process. While the extra work of these volunteers is greatly appreciated, staff are proposing, as the awards are Council awards, it would be more appropriate for Council members to make the recommendations on the award winners. The Citizen Appointment Selection Committee of Council is the most appropriate existing structure to perform this function. If Council is supportive of this approach this Committee would make recommendations which would then come before a Closed Session General Committee meeting for consideration by Council.

Summary

The proposed changes if approved by Council will ensure that all awards are presented at the Civic Awards Ceremony which will ensure a wider audience for both the Holnbeck and the Mayor's Youth Awards.

The change to a selection committee formed of Council members is a better fit for the Civic Awards. The Citizen Appointment Selection Committee is experienced in evaluating and selecting members for advisory committees and the evaluation of Civic Award applicants will add only one meeting to the Committee schedule.

Submitted by,

John Kennedy
City Clerk

Contact Name:
John Kennedy, City Clerk
Phone: 705-742-7777 Ext. 1799
Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755
Fax: 705-742-4138
E-Mail: jkennedy@peterborough.ca