



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee

From: Karen Rennie, Manager of Arts, Culture and Heritage Division

Meeting Date: May 13, 2021

Subject: Report ACHAC21-018
Arts, Culture and Heritage Sector Covid Recovery

Purpose

A report to advise the Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee (ACHAC) on the City of Peterborough activities relating to Arts, Culture and Heritage Covid Recovery efforts.

Recommendation

That the ACHAC approve the recommendation outlined in Report ACHAC21-018, dated May 13, 2021 of the Manager of the Arts, Culture and Heritage Division, as follows:

That Report ACHAC21-018 be received for information and discussion of other possible initiatives.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with the recommendation.

Background

The COVID pandemic is a global health crisis that has had tremendous impact on the Art, Culture and Heritage sector in our community and around the world. The City of Peterborough and many of its partners have taken steps to support Covid Recovery in the ACH sector in Peterborough.

Covid Recovery Task Forces:

On April 27, 2020, City Council approved Report PKED20-005 and approved an Economic Recovery Plan and a Mayor and Warden's Economic Recovery Task Force (Task Force) in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Mayor Diane Therrien established a City of Peterborough Recovery Task Force in the Summer of 2020 which includes 2 representatives from the Arts, Culture and Heritage Sector these included EC3 and Showplace. A report from this Committee is coming forward to Council in the spring of 2021.

Budget Support:

Through the budget process in 2020 and 2021, Council committed to continued support of the 2020/2021 City grant funding programs, despite many of the funding programs and activities being cancelled in 2020 and potentially cancelled for 2021.

Through the 2021 budget process, the City contributed to the Arts Alive fund. A contribution of \$40,000 was approved and will be administered by the Community Foundation. From the foundation website:

This Fund, administered jointly by the Community Foundation and Electric City Culture Council (EC3), provides financial assistance to charitable arts organizations to undertake both urgent, immediate, and strategic, long term action to ensure that their organizations survive the impact of COVID-19 and plan and deliver successful recovery activities.

Rent relief was provided to City facilities requesting support, such as Market Hall in 2020/21.

Events/Projects:

In July 2020, the City's Emergency Control Group gave support for alternate forms of entertainment that included a pilot for Drive-In Entertainment in the Peterborough Memorial Centre (PMC) parking lot. A two night live Drive-In concert series was held and featured Canadian rockers The Sheepdogs with the legendary Jim Cuddy Band on Friday, September 18 and Country sensation Tim Hicks with special guest Jason McCoy on Saturday, September 19, 2020. This exciting and unique concert experience was the first of its kind to be offered in Peterborough and offered a safe and responsible way for the community to enjoy live music from the safety and comfort of their own

vehicle. This Drive-In event pilot became the framework and basis of planning for more entertainment events for 2021. Discussions with Arts, Culture and Heritage partner organizations have been ongoing as the community finds new and inventive ways to work through the effects of the pandemic and focus on the importance of keeping entertainment alive in the community. PMC Management is working on an event concept that would welcome community partners. The 2020 pilot project provides an exceptional operational footprint that can be used for 2021 planning to keep Arts and Entertainment alive in the community.

In February PMC manager, Jeremy Giles presented the concept to various City Advisory Committees. City Council supported this initiative through report CSAD21-004. In March the PMC released the first phase of the programming and are still in the development stages for adding to the event. Staff intend to bring a report to ACHAC in the fall to report back on the events and their outcomes.

Public Art Project 2021 Renaissance on Hunter

Electively called the Renaissance on Hunter, the two initiatives align with the Temporary Downtown Public Space Changes, in particular the traffic calming and mobility strategy for Hunter Street. The two public art projects are distinct but related. Temporary downtown public space changes will include one-way westbound traffic on Hunter Street between George and Aylmer streets, creating expanded pedestrian space within the closed traffic lane to provide opportunities to maintain physical distancing along this corridor.

This year, a combination of portable planters and barricades will be installed along the streetscape, providing physical separation between pedestrian space and the traffic lane, and further enhancing accessibility for those with low vision. A series of temporary murals on the asphalt and themed gardens/interventions in the planters will be featured in four new pedestrian spaces created between Aylmer and Chambers Streets.

The Renaissance on Hunter projects call to our artists will help transform the downtown corridor into a welcoming, engaging pedestrian space for the warm weather season. The project is funded through the City's Public Art Budget.

City Run ACH Programming

The Peterborough Museum and Archives, Peterborough Art Gallery, Peterborough Public Library and Heritage Preservation Office have all remained open and able to pivot programming to accommodate Provincial restrictions and new opportunities for online programming. These included:

- The library was able to provide curbside pick up.
- The Heritage Office pivoted programs such as Doors Opens to provide online videos of Historic sites with over 4600 views.

- The Museum worked with restrictions to provide summer camps for children in 2020 and plan to do so again in 2021. Families were able to pick up educational kits to enhance online learning for students.
- The Art Gallery was able to provide online programming which included alternative ways of hosting the Studio tour and annual art auction.

The Museum, Art Gallery and Heritage Office all received Covid support funding to assist in revenue losses and programming enhancements. Student wage funding was enhanced through additional funds and extension of program length to support facilities.

Submitted by,

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