



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the General Committee

From: Sheldon Laidman, Commissioner of Community Services

Meeting Date: July 19, 2021

Subject: Report CSRS21-003
2022 Ontario 55+ Summer Games – Hosting Opportunity

Purpose

A report to inform Council that the Ministry of Heritage Sport Tourism and Culture Industries has canceled the 2020-2021 Ontario 55+ Summer Games (Games) as a result of COVID-19 and has invited the City to consider hosting the Games in 2022.

Recommendations

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report CSRS21-003, dated July 19, 2021 of the Commissioner of Community Services, as follows:

- a) That the Province's request of the City to host the 2022 Games be approved;
- b) That a 2022 Ontario Summer Games capital budget be established, and that the municipal contribution in the amount of \$175,000 be funded from the \$135,000 of residual unspent funds previously approved by Council as a result of the cancellation of the 2020 Games, and that the remaining \$40,000 requirement be funded from a transfer from the Capital Levy Reserve.
- c) That a Games Organizing Committee be established to support the planning and implementation of the 2022 Games;
- d) That a temporary full-time Games General Manager position be established to lead operations related to the 2022 Games from the period of September 30, 2021 until September 30, 2022; and

- e) That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign any requested Transfer Payment Agreements with the Province, on terms acceptable to the Commissioner of Community Services and in a form acceptable to the City Solicitor.

Budget and Financial Implications

As per the recommendations of this Report, if approved that the City commits a one-time municipal contribution of \$175,000 funded from the \$135,000 residual unspent funds previously approved by Council as a result of the cancelation of the 2020 Games, and the remaining \$40,000 be funded from the 2021 Capital Levy Reserve in support of the 2022 Games, and to the over-all budget of \$659,000.

The 2022 Games capital budget would be active until 2022, but there would be no further municipal contributions requested in the 2022 annual budget. The \$175,000 allocation would cover the required minimum contribution from the municipality of \$60,000, plus guarantee the estimated \$115,000 of increased expenses resulting from COVID-19 and the unpredictability of available sponsorship opportunities in a post COVID-19 environment.

There is no requirement for the host municipality to be a financial guarantor for the games, as the Ministry of Heritage Sport Tourism and Culture Industries will hold additional funding to a maximum of \$25,000 to be used to cover any deficits as a result of hosting the Games. If there is no deficit, the host municipality will receive the full \$25,000 to be used for agreed upon Games legacy initiatives. The Ministry also provides a \$235,000 hosting grant which along with the municipal contribution will cover most fixed costs. The remainder of the budget is mainly made up of registration fees of the participants.

The Games has historically generated approximately \$2 million in positive economic impact to the host community, based on information provided by the Ministry of Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries.

Background

In 2018, Council approved Report CSRS18-001 dated January 29, 2018 that Staff submit a bid to host the 2020 Games, including the establishment of a capital budget of \$135,000 and if successful hire a full-time Games General Manager. On April 26, 2018, the Province notified the City that it was successful in its application to host the Games. The Transfer Payment Agreement (TPA) was signed on February 15, 2019 and a Games Organizing Committee was established, including representation from the County of Peterborough, Hiawatha First Nation, The Provincial Games Unit, Fleming College, Trent University, Peterborough and Kawartha Economic Development, Ontario Seniors Games Association, Loomex and Community Volunteers. Twelve sub-committees were established with each focusing on a specific aspect of the Games operation.

On June 4, 2020 the Province formally notified Mayor Therrien through a letter from the Minister of Heritage Sport Tourism and Culture Industries that the Games would not take place in 2020, due to the implications of COVID-19. The Province postponed the Games to the Summer of 2021, with a request that the City support extending the hosting commitment by an additional year.

On September 28, 2020 City Council approved the recommendation from report CSRS20-005 dated September 8, 2020 that the City approve the request to postpone the 2020 Games until Summer 2021.

On May 25, 2021 the Ministry of Heritage Sport Tourism and Culture Industries issued a letter to the City of Peterborough that the 2020-2021 Games were formally cancelled, and that City of Peterborough has been invited to host the 2022 Games in Summer 2022.

On June 14, 2021 Report APRAC21-015 was taken to the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee for the Committee's endorsement to consider the hosting opportunity in 2022. The Committee has recommended that council consider hosting the 2022 Games.

Staff are proposing the same hosting model as previously approved by Council with a Games Organizing Committee supported by a temporary full time Games General Manager.

Risks to Hosting

Accepting the opportunity to host the Games in 2022 is not without risks as there are significant differences in the community when compared to 2018 when the original decision to host was made. It is not clear what the post COVID-19 demand will be for seniors to want to travel to a province wide event. The economic impact of the event may not be as substantial and may impact the overall budget if registrations are lower. Many of the venues have been closed for multiple years and will need to verify that they are interested and able to host the event at their facility. Lastly, the Organizing Committee and the many volunteers have been on hold for multiple years, and it is not assured that they will all want to return.

The above are risks for Council to be aware of, but Staff do believe that the Games can still be operated successively in 2022.

Summary

The Province has formally cancelled the 2020-2021 Games and has requested the City consider hosting the 2022 Games. Following the endorsement from the City's Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, Staff are recommending that City Council consider the hosting opportunity for 2022, which includes the one-time municipal

contribution of \$175,000, and the temporary hiring of a full-time Games General Manager and re-establishment the Games Organizing Committee.

Submitted by,

Sheldon Laidman
Commissioner of Community Services

Contact Name:

Rob McAulay
Recreation Division and Peterborough Sport & Wellness Centre Manager
Phone: 705-742-7777 Ext. 2204
Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755
E-Mail: rmcaulay@peterborough.ca