

To: Members of General Committee

From: John Kennedy, City Clerk

Meeting Date: May 8, 2023

Subject: 2022 Civic Awards, Report CLSCLK23-015

Purpose

A report to recommend an in-person format for the presentation of the 2022 Civic Awards.

Recommendation

That Council approve the recommendation outlined in Report CLSCLK23-015 dated May 8, 2023, of the City Clerk, as follows:

That Council award the 2022 Civic Awards in-person prior to a regularly scheduled Council meeting.

Budget and Financial Implications

Funds in the 2023 budget for the annual Civic Awards ceremony would be used for this award event.

Background

As Council is aware COVID-19 has changed the manner in which the Civic Awards have been presented in the past several years. The 2019 awards were delivered virtually by Council members in a pre-recorded video which was subsequently posted to the website. To recognize 2020 civic contributions, the City partnered with the County

and the two local First Nations to provide a program called "My COVID Hero" which collected submissions from residents about individuals who have helped them during the pandemic. Winners from each of the four partners received gift baskets composed of items purchased from local businesses. In 2022 the awards were presented again in a virtual format and the video was posted to the City's website.

Council has returned to in-person meetings and staff are recommending that this year's awards also be presented in-person. It is recommended that a ceremony be held in Council Chambers in advance of a regularly scheduled Council meeting, with refreshments provided following the ceremony. Individuals or family members unable to attend would be able to view the festivities as the event will be live streamed. Given the responses received, it is also believed that the Council Chambers are an appropriately sized venue. Details are yet to be finalized however, June 25, 2023, is being considered as a possible date for the event.

Staff believe that having the Civic Award event in this format will provide an opportunity for members of the public to attend Council Chambers and be formally recognized by the City. Returning to an in-person format will be a welcome opportunity for Council and recipients to meet with each other and for City residents to learn about the accomplishments of their fellow citizens.

Summary

It is recommended that the 2022 Civic Awards be presented in a ceremony in Council Chambers, City Hall. It is important to recognize the achievements of members of our community in holding the ceremony in-person will be an excellent opportunity to achieving this.

Submitted by,

John Kennedy City Clerk

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