



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**To:** **Members of the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee**

**From:** **Rob Anderson, Recreation Division Coordinator**

**Meeting Date:** **October 17, 2017**

**Subject:** **Report APRAC17-032  
Canoe Club Update**

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## **Purpose**

A report to provide an update on the request made by the Peterborough Canoe Club to utilize water front City owned land to operate instructional canoe and kayak programming.

## **Recommendations**

That the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee approve the recommendations outlined in Report APRAC17-032 dated October 17, 2017, of the Recreation Division Coordinator, as follows:

- a) That report APRAC17-032 be received for information; and
- b) That Johnson Park be supported in principle as the site to accommodate the Peterborough Canoe and Kayak Club's instructional canoe and kayak programming.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

There is no budget or financial implication resulting from the approval of the recommendation of report APRAC17-032. Expenses related to establishing the canoe

and kayak programming, storage facility, and dock will be the responsibility of the Peterborough Canoe and Kayak Club. This includes costs associated with obtaining and complying with required permits. If approved by Council, a land use agreement will be entered into with the Club including financial compensation to the City for use of the land.

## **Background**

On May 16, 2017, the Peterborough Canoe and Kayak Club (PCKC) made a presentation to the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (APRAC), to introduce the newly established club, and to make a request to operate programming from a City owned water front site, preferably somewhere along the shores of Little Lake. Proposed programming would include not only basic canoe skills training, but would teach the skills involved with racing. The PCKC will incorporate dragon boat paddling, stand up paddleboards, and Para-kayak.

### **Identifying a Suitable Site**

City Staff met with the PCKC to review potential City owned sites, including Rogers Cove Park, Beavermead Park, Johnson Park, and City owned waterfront property on Johnston Drive. Johnson Park has been identified as the preferred location by City Staff as well as the PCKC, for the following reasons:

- There are no other formal uses of the park for which this activity would impede;
- The site is easily accessible by a number of methods, such as the Trans Canada Trail, Ashburnham Drive, and through Beavermead Park;
- Parking is available at Johnson Park, Beavermead Park, and Rogers Cove;
- The shoreline on the west side of the park is suitable for dock placement. Measures taken to establish a secure connection of the dock to the shoreline would also offer protection from further shoreline erosion;
- There is ample space for seasonal on-site boat storage; and
- The Canadian Canoe Museum has expressed interest in the potential to establish a boathouse at this site in the future, which provides a potential partnership opportunity to eventually establish a permanent boat storage facility in Johnson Park.

### **Review of Johnson Park**

City Staff reviewed the Johnson Park site with both ORCA (Otonabee Region Conservation Authority) and Parks Canada. The proposed layout of the site is attached as Appendix "A".

ORCA identified a concern, related to the site being in a flood plain. In particular, the method of placing any storage structures for boats at the site. Any storage structure would have to be flood proofed, through either a wet flood proofing method or dry flood proofing. A permit from ORCA would be required. Dry flood proofing includes raising either the site or the structure, so that it is above the flooding hazard. Wet flood proofing entails allowing the free flow of water through the structure during the flooding and the use of materials that can withstand frequent wetting and drying. The PCKC proposes placing temporary storage units on site on a seasonal basis. The storage units would need to be dry flood proofed by elevating the units. The storage units would be removed from the site by the PCKC in the off-season.

There were three areas along the shoreline reviewed as possible locations for the placement of the dock. ORCA suggested the location to the west edge of the park, facing Little Lake. The other two areas, to the south edge of the park have undergone shoreline restoration in recent years, and would be negatively impacted if disturbed by the placement of a dock and constant foot traffic by program participants.

The Parks Canada representative identified that a permit application would be necessary to place a dock in Little Lake, but saw no obvious concern with the concept of placing a 30 foot dock at the west shoreline of Johnson Park. Depending on the work required to secure the dock at the site, further permits may be required by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO).

Staff is seeking APRAC's endorsement to support in principle that Johnson Park be the preferred site for the PCKC's programming. A report will be presented to Council in the near future, seeking approval.

## **Summary**

The Peterborough Canoe and Kayak Club have proposed to establish instructional canoe and kayak programming on City owned waterfront land, preferably on Little Lake. City Staff have reviewed potential sites and is seeking APRAC's support in principle for the Peterborough Canoe and Kayak Club to establish its programming in Johnson Park. Approval from Council will be sought in the near future.

Submitted by,

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Recreation Division Coordinator

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**Attachments**

Appendix A – Johnson Park Site Layout

**Appendix A**

Johnson Park Layout for Canoe and Kayak Club Programming

