



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:** June 15, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Report APRAC10-020  
Downtown Youth Space Update

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## **PURPOSE**

A report to inform the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee of the status of the Downtown Youth Space.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report APRAC10-020 dated June 15, 2010, of the Recreation Division Coordinator, as follows:

That report APRAC10-020 be received for information.

## **BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no budget or financial implications resulting from the approval of Report APRAC10-020.

## **BACKGROUND**

In 2007, the City's Recreation Division and Peterborough Youth Council identified the lack of barrier free places and opportunities for youth in the downtown core as a concern. As such, a Downtown Youth Space Advisory Committee was formed. Under the guidance of the Advisory Committee, a research report was initiated to determine the community's need and interest for a permanent Downtown Youth Space (DYS). The research contained in the report clearly supports a recommendation for the provision of a dedicated space for youth in the downtown core.

In 2009, Report APRAC09-008 was presented to the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (APRAC), requesting that they demonstrate their support for the DYS by endorsing the re-establishment of the Downtown Youth Space Advisory Committee. APRAC gave their endorsement and the Downtown Youth Space Committee was re-established, which provided evidence to Council that there was still significant community support for the creation of a DYS.

As part of the 2010 budget deliberations, Council approved a 17-hour per week, year-round operation of a DYS, beginning July 2010. As such, City Staff conducted a search for a suitable location within the downtown area. Staff met with several Facility Owners. There was only one facility not ruled out by either the Owner or City Staff. However, this facility will not be available until September 2010, at the earliest. The Facility Owner is supportive of the DYS and is willing to meet again in September to discuss the opportunity further.

City Staff have been able to secure a suitable temporary location through the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board, at Peterborough Collegiate and Vocational School (PCVS). The Peterborough Youth Council was consulted regarding the use of a high school for the temporary location of the DYS. They supported the idea and believe PCVS is a good location.

During July and August, the DYS will be open for a maximum of 17 hours per week during daytime hours, on weekdays only. Due to School Board staff issues, the school is not available in the evenings, during the summer. City Staff recognizes there are many evening and weekend activities taking place throughout the City during the Summer and believes it is important to provide this daytime opportunity to youth, during the school break. The DYS hours will be adjusted to evenings, beginning in September.

Submitted by,

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Recreation Division Coordinator

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