



City of
Peterborough

TO: Members of Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

FROM: Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services

MEETING DATE: March 15, 2011

**SUBJECT: Report APRAC11-012
Communities in Bloom Update**

PURPOSE

A report to seek approval from the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee of the motions made by the Communities in Bloom Committee, to dissolve the Committee and to disperse the Communities in Bloom reserve fund.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (APRAC) approve the recommendations outlined in Report APRAC11-012 dated March 15, 2011, of the Director of Community Services, as follows:

- a) That the Minutes of the Communities In Bloom Committee Meeting of February 24, 2011, attached as Appendix A, be received for information;
- b) That the Motions contained therein be approved, specifically as follows:
 - i) That the Peterborough Communities in Bloom, a Committee of the City's Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, be dissolved.
 - ii) That the Peterborough Communities in Bloom Reserve Fund, in the amount of \$14,667.66, be fully disbursed as follows:
 - \$8,167.66 to the Riverview Park and Zoo's new Animal Healthcare Centre
 - \$4,500 to the Peterborough Historical Society

\$1,000 to the Peterborough Horticultural Society
\$1,000 to the Master Gardeners

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The \$14,667.66 represents the full and current value of the Communities in Bloom Reserve Fund. The fund is comprised of moneys raised through Committee fund-raising activities and modest surpluses carried forward from previous competition budgets.

BACKGROUND

The Communities in Bloom Committee (CIBC) became a standing committee of the City's Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (APRAC) as a result of Report APRAC10-015, dated April 20th, 2010. This relationship reinforced the existing accountability and transparency of the CIBC; but more importantly, it also reflected an on-going administrative and political support for this activity.

Buoyed by Council support in response to Report CSD10-024, dated May 17, 2010, the CIBC functioned successfully in this relationship for the balance of 2010, culminating in a successful Garden competition, and a delegation to the National Conference in Halifax last fall. While approval of the proposed plan was provided for the Corporation over the following 3 years, financial commitments for 2011 and 2012 were to be considered as part of the respective budget deliberations, not as a pre-commitment.

To compete successfully at the Communities in Bloom (CIB) National level, adequate financial, political and administrative support from the City is required. The City was unable to commit adequate financial and staff resources to CIBC as part of the 2011 municipal budget. With no ability to commit the required resources to support the CIBC, staff recommended to withdraw funding support during the 2011 budget deliberations.

The minutes of the CIBC meeting, February 24, 2011, attached as Appendix A, reflect the CIBC's recommendation to dissolve the Peterborough CIBC, in response to the Council decision to support the staff recommendation to withdraw funding to the CIBC.

Staff requests that APRAC approve, as per it's authority under By-law 07-014, section 8.5, the recommendations as presented in report APRAC11-012, to dissolve the CIBC and disperse the reserve CIBC funds.

Submitted by,

Ken Doherty
Director of Community Services

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Attachments: Appendix A - Draft Minutes of February 24, 2011