



City of
Peterborough

TO: Members of the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

FROM: Rob Anderson, Recreation Division Coordinator

MEETING DATE: May 15, 2012

**SUBJECT: Report APRAC12-015
Youth Friendly Community Award**

PURPOSE

A report to inform the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee that the Peterborough Community has received platinum status through the Youth Friendly Community Recognition Program.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report APRAC12-015 dated May 15, 2012, of the Recreation Division Coordinator, as follows:

That Report APRAC12-015 be received for information.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no budget or financial implication resulting from the approval of the recommendation of Report APRAC12-015.

BACKGROUND

The Youth Friendly Community Recognition Program was established in 2005 by Play Works, an independent group of organizations committed to encouraging and promoting a greater investment in youth play. The Play Works Partners are: 4-H Ontario, Arts Network for Children and Youth, Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada – Central Region, Educational Research, Laidlaw Foundation, Ophea, Sport Alliance Ontario, Parks and Recreation Ontario, YMCA Ontario. It acknowledges the great work that is being done in communities across Ontario to ensure that youth (ages 13-19) have continuous access to opportunities for play ranging from arts to recreation to civic leadership. To learn more about Play Works and the Youth Friendly Community Recognition Program, please visit: www.playworkspartnership.ca.

The rigorous selection process requires communities to meet at least ten of sixteen youth-friendly criteria. Youth Friendly Communities can work towards four different levels of recognition; Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum. The level achieved is dependent on the number of criteria the Community meets.

On April 30, 2012 the Peterborough Community was honoured at a Ceremony held at Queens Park, hosted by Play Works and the Honourable Eric Hoskins, Minister of Children and Youth Services. The Peterborough community met all 16 criteria and was awarded Platinum recognition for their outstanding commitment to providing youth with opportunities to play, participate in, and contribute to their communities. Platinum recognition is awarded for a 5 year period. Other communities honoured at the ceremony held at Queen's Park were Norfolk County, the Cities Burlington, Pickering, Sarnia and the Town of Whitby. Councillor Lesley Parnell, Councillor Andrew Beamer, along with City staff, Terri Lynn Johnston and Ellen Stewart, as well as Youth Council member Julie Parnell attended the award ceremony.

2012 marks the third Youth Friendly award the Peterborough Community has received. In 2005 the Peterborough Community received its first award for meeting 11 of the 16 criteria. In 2006, the Peterborough Community met all 16 criteria, receiving platinum status until 2010. There are three framed plaques proudly displayed in the Recreation Division Reception area, highlighting the Community's accomplishments. In addition to the plaques, Peterborough received two signs in 2006 to be posted in highly visible public locations. They were placed at the Riverview Park and Zoo and at the Visitor Centre on Crawford Drive. City Staff will seek input from the Youth Council on potential locations to display the 2012 signs.

Submitted by,

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