

TO: Members of the Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

FROM: Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services

MEETING DATE: April 16, 2013

SUBJECT: Report APRAC13-018

Playground Funding Request from Kawartha Village Co-operative

Homes

PURPOSE

A report to seek endorsement for a one-time funding request for a playground at Kawartha Village Co-operative Homes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Arenas, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee approve the recommendations outlined in Report APRAC13-018 dated April 16, 2013 of the Director of Community Services, as follows:

- a) That a presentation by Janine McDonald and Candida Clarke from Kawartha Village Co-operative Homes be received for information; and
- b) That a one-time contribution of \$25,000 from the Recreation Division's Community Assistance fund to assist with the construction of a playground at the Kawartha Village Co-operative Homes be endorsed.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This request can be accommodated within the Division's Community Assistance Fund.

BACKGROUND

For the past two years, Kawartha Village Co-operative Homes Inc. has applied for a City Community Project Grant to help support them in their efforts to install an accessible playgroup in their neighbourhood. Last year, the City provided \$1,000 through the program. This year, however, staff recommends that the group withdraw their project grant application and seek a more creative solution to speed up this project.

Kawartha Village Co-operative Homes Inc. is an 80 unit townhouse development located at the northwest corner of Lansdowne Street East and Ashburnham. There are currently 96 children – 60 of them under the age of 12—living in this development. While there is plenty of green space within the development, there is no play equipment. The closest neighbourhood parks are Beavermead and Ecology Park but both are separated by distance and a rail crossing. While the proposed project will be developed on private property, the Co-operative is an incorporated not-for-profit organization.

Briefly described, Community Assistance funding provides opportunities for partnerships between the City and neighbourhood or community associations, school councils, sport groups, service clubs, and/or corporate sponsorships. The community agency/group must contribute a minimum of 15% of the estimated total project cost. By providing funding in a cooperatively financed method, the City is able to develop new recreational services and/or install or upgrade existing playgrounds with equipment in a more efficient, cost effective, and timely fashion.

The project proponents have recently learned that their application for Trillium funding in the amount of \$75,000 for this project and other accessibility upgrades has been approved. The proposed \$25,000 contribution from the City, if endorsed, shall ensure the success of this timely but much needed project in this underserviced part of the City.

Janine McDonald and Candida Clarke from Kawartha Village Co-operative Homes will provide a brief overview of the proposed playgroup development and their fund-raising efforts to date.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services

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Attachments:

Appendix A – Playground Profile View, colour Appendix B – Playground Design View