



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Arts Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee

From: Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services

Meeting Date: October 8, 2015

Subject: Report ACHAC15-029
Presentation on County Jail Park Proposal

Purpose

A report to receive and endorse a presentation on the Peterborough County Jail Proposal.

Recommendations

That the Arts Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee (ACHAC) approve the recommendations outlined in Report ACHAC15-029 dated October 8, 2015 of the Director of Community Services as follows:

- a) That a presentation by Sheridan Graham from the County of Peterborough on the County Jail Park Proposal be received; and
- b) That the concept and funding request to the City be endorsed.

Budget and Financial Implications

There is no budget or financial implications with the adoption of this report.

Background

The County of Peterborough owns and operates the buildings at 470 Water Street, known as the Peterborough County Courthouse and Jail. Through discussions and correspondence, the County acknowledges and supports the proposed designation of the County Courthouse building but does not support the designation of the former Jail facility.

The County has assessed the costs of restoration of the Jail and Courtyard and possible uses for the building but has decided the capital cost of full restoration and on-going operating and maintenance costs are prohibitive.

The County is well aware of community concerns about the preservation of former Jail and Courtyard. It recognizes that the site is not only a registered Archaeological Site under the Heritage Act, but also an “Irregular Burial Site” under the Cemeteries Act as a result of burials of human remains in the Courtyard.

In recognition of this, the County has worked with LETT Architects to develop a creative proposal that would result in the partial demolition of the former Jail and Courtyard walls and the creation of a unique public park. The proposed Jail Park would provide a scenic lookout, opportunities to interpret the history of the Jail, and serve as a unique performance/ programmable space.

Sheridan Graham, Director of Corporate Projects and Services for the County of Peterborough, will provide a presentation on the County’s proposal. It is anticipated that this project will cost approximately \$600,000. The County has asked for a total capital contribution of \$150,000 (\$50,000 a year over three years) from the City.

Summary

The County of Peterborough has developed a unique proposal that would preserve and interpret the footprint of the Peterborough County Jail. They have asked the City to endorse the proposed County Jail Park and provide funding support.

Submitted by,

Ken Doherty
Director of Community Services

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