



City of
Peterborough

To: Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee

From: Becky Rogers, Manager, Arts, Culture & Heritage Division

Meeting Date: March 10, 2016

Subject: Report ACHAC16-016
Division Manager's Report for February 2016

Purpose

A report to advise the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee on the monthly activities of the Manager, Arts, Culture & Heritage Division for February, 2016.

Recommendation

That the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee approve the recommendation outlined in Report ACHAC16-016 dated March 10, 2016, of the Manager, Arts, Culture & Heritage Division, as follows:

That Report ACHAC16-016 with respect to the activities of the Manager, Arts, Culture & Heritage Division for February 2016 be received for Information.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budgetary or financial implications at this time.

Background

Public Art

Division staff met with:

- The Director of Artspace to review the final report on the 2015 Hunter Street Bridge mural project and to discuss the 2016 project.
- The Project Coordinator for the Wall Call and All DBIA mural project to plan the 2016 project.
- The Public Art Initiatives Committee for its regular monthly meeting on February 29, 2016.

Vision 2025

A joint meeting of all advisory committees and their Community Services Department staff was held February 23, 2016 at City Hall. The project consultants provided an overview of their findings from the public consultation phase and outline next steps.

Bethune Street Flood Diversion Project

Arts, Culture and Heritage Division staff attended a three day workshop focusing on the re-design of Bethune Street after the new flood diversion culvert is installed. The consultants will be presenting their draft designs at a public meeting in late spring of 2016.

Cultural Planning Glossary of Terms and Definitions

Division staff continues participating on the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Sport (MCTS) committee to update their Cultural Planning Glossary of Terms and Definitions. The discussion focused on the current and evolving MCP practice in Ontario and on identifying terms for the Glossary. The province is preparing to update the information provided the ministry's website.

AGP Strategic Plan

Staff is on the Steering Committee for the AGP's strategic plan, and participated in the second round of interviews to select the successful consultant. The AGP selected Laridae Communications as their consultant of choice. The process began on February 25th at the monthly Board meeting.

Cultural Statistics Strategy

Staff has begun working on the Culture Statistics Strategy (CSS) initiative developed by the Policy Research Group (PRG) at Canadian Heritage (PCH). The project is currently reviewing the draft report for the Provincial and Territorial Culture Satellite Account Annual Estimates for reference years 2010-2014 with Culture Statistics Strategy (CSS) partners.

Immigration PortfolioMunicipal Coordination Committee:

The Committee met in February and recommended that:

- The City make the houses at 296 Aberdeen Avenue, 751 Chemong Road, 755 Chemong Road, 775 Chemong Road, 779 Chemong Road, and 296 Mason Avenue available for refugees arriving in Peterborough at a rent of \$1,100 per month inclusive of taxes and utilities.
- Permission be sought from Council to allow any net revenue from the rental of the 6 houses be used to support the refugee initiatives.
- The Committee identify any municipal services and programs used by the general public that refugees can use at either no cost or at a subsidized rate.

All of the committee's recommendations have been approved by the City CAO, the Director, Corporate Services and the Director, Community Services. The NCC will use all the houses on Chemong Road as long-term housing for one year.

Staff provided Council with Report CSD16-005 Update on Municipal and Community Support of Refugees for the February 16, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting. The New Canadians Centre made a presentation to Council at that time.

Refugee Resettlement Task Force:

The Task Force met February 10 and 24, 2016 and staff have the following update: The NCC submitted their application February 10, 2016 to the Resettlement Assistance Program (RAP) for funding to support Government Assisted Refugees (GAR). They had planned on applying for 6 – 8 families every month, but after a review with IRCC that number was reduced to 3 families per month in addition to families that have been privately sponsored. There may be more families coming through a reunification program the NCC has initiated. The temporary housing they are using at Severn Court can accommodate up to 8 families per month.

On Wednesday, February 24th the government announced Leamington, Ont., Peterborough, Ont., and Brooks, Alta. will all now receive government funding in order to assist Syrians to settle in those three centers.

The Peterborough Police Service have agreed that the fee for volunteer police checks will be waived for those NCC volunteers who will be volunteering specifically to help Syrian refugees (e.g. support group members, volunteer drivers, some tutors, etc.)

With the Day Clinic closing the refugees can only receive medical treatment at the ER, the Loblaw's Walk-in Clinic and a clinic in Lakefield. A new Unattached Patient Clinic will open in March at the old Nephrology building downtown. Medical residents will set aside a scheduled time to do refugee health intakes. This is a 6 month project; the hope is to demonstrate that need for additional doctors and resources in Peterborough.

The Mental Health group met this week and they have found funding to provide psychologists for 10 sessions per person.

A group of ESL teachers have volunteered to offer ESL classes over and above what is available at the LINC classes at Fleming.

The Childrens Aid want to set up a symposium day around service providers to ensure that support is offered in a culturally sensitive way.

Through the Healthy Kids initiative a number of passes from the PSWC have been made available to the GARs. The NCC is busy lining up an interpreter to take the families on a tour.

Where they have the space, the Rotary Club is going to be offering spaces in their summer camp programs to the families at no cost.

The Housing Resource Centre has assigned dedicated staff to finding the families housing. They have already worked with a few of the families.

Peterborough Immigration Partnership Coordinating Committee:

Division staff met with Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada to review the activities and outcomes of the Peterborough Immigration Partnership (PIP), formerly known as the Peterborough Partnership Council on Immigrant Integration. Over 60 local organizations and more than 140 community individuals are members of PIP.

The Coordinating Committee met February 16, 2016 to receive an update and information on:

- the activities of the Refugee Resettlement Task Force;
- "My Peterborough is Welcoming" a PIP and City Video Project; and,
- a workshop being held on March 2 - Our Canada: Exploring Canadian Values through Culture, Faith and Identity.

PIP will be taking on the Caribbean street festival previously managed by Jamaica Self Help. The theme for the festival in 2016 will be Fiesta Peterborough.

PIP will hold their annual AGM late in March or early in April.

WelcomePeterborough.ca:

The City has received the contract for the Peterborough MIO Project 2016-2017. It will run from March 1, 2016 to April 31, 2017.

As part of the project, staff participated in discussions with the Work Force Development Board (WDB) and the New Canadians Center around running a short pilot project in the WDB's catchment area gathering data for Magnet a networking platform that connects employers looking for people with people looking for jobs.

Staff will be presenting at the 18th National Metropolis Conference being held in Toronto March 3 – 5, 2016 along with Hamilton and Northumberland County. The presentation will be on Partnering with Municipalities – Innovation and the Municipal Immigration Information Online (MIIO) Program – the Peterborough Experience.

Submitted by,

Becky Rogers
Manager, Arts, Culture and Heritage Division

Contact Name: Becky Rogers
Phone: 705-742-7777 Ext. 1442
Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755
Fax: 705-743-2614
E-Mail: brogers@peterborough.ca