



City of
Peterborough

TO: Members of the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee (ACHAC)

FROM: Becky Rogers, Manager of Arts, Culture & Heritage

MEETING DATE: November 10, 2011

SUBJECT: Report ACHAC11-020
Municipal Cultural Plan Update

PURPOSE

A report to update the Committee on the City's Municipal Cultural Planning Project.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Arts, Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee approve the recommendations outlined in Report ACHAC11-020 dated November 10, 2011 of the Manager of Arts, Culture & Heritage as follows:

- a) That the Advisory Committee continues the discussion regarding
 - i) The role and composition of the Arts Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee in light of the Municipal Cultural Plan
 - ii) The creation of the Culture Council

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no budgetary or financial implications at this time as a result of approving the recommendations in report ACHAC11-020.

BACKGROUND

The Arts, Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee (ACHAC) was established in 2004 to provide advice to the City on municipal matters related to arts, culture, and heritage matters. The Committee includes a number of subcommittees that focus specifically on various issues such as Public Art.

To help define the governance structure for implementing the Municipal Cultural Plan (MCP), the consultants engaged by the City to develop the Plan have conducted a thorough review of the role of the Committee (ACHAC). A revision of the role of ACHAC to include the responsibility of monitoring the implementation of the MCP is being recommended.

- Composition of the Committee should be amended to consist of seven to nine members and should include: two members of Council, a member of the proposed Culture Council (see below), representatives of the cultural industries, and members of the public.
- City facilities that make up the Division and organizations with existing service grants would no longer have formal representation on ACHAC. These groups would use alternate reporting structures already in place.
- The Committee will meet regularly with staff to review Plan priorities and actions and to develop an annual progress report to Council. The report will focus on the key priorities, actions and initiatives of the MCP.

The Committee did not complete its discussion of the consultant's proposed changes to the roles and composition of the Advisory Committee at the last meeting on October 13, 2011. An ad hoc committee was established to assist in defining the role of the Arts Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee in light of the Municipal Cultural Plan. They held a meeting on Thursday October 27, 2011.

A further recommendation in the Draft Municipal Cultural Plan is for the City to support the establishment of a Culture Council. In 1989, an arts council was created to bring together the broader cultural community in Peterborough. This evolved into the Peterborough Arts Umbrella (PAU) - a community-based arts advocacy body. Initially it maintained a strong focus on the traditional arts, but over time, with the aid of community grants from the Ontario Arts Council, began to focus on the professionalization of cultural workers. The PAU folded in 2009 and since its closure no other organization has emerged to fulfill the role of an arts and culture council.

Peterborough's MCP has provided the community with an opportunity to work with the cultural sector to explore the creation of a new Culture Council. It would be an arm's-length agency, coordinating, communicating, and advocating for Peterborough's arts and culture organizations, and focusing on the professionalization of cultural occupations.

This new Culture Council could receive initial start-up funding and an ongoing service grant from the City. To support the initial formation of the Council, ACHD staff and ACHAC would be present at early meetings.

Discussion by ACHAC on the Culture Council was deferred from the October 13, 2011 meeting to the November 10, 2011 meeting.

SUMMARY

The Municipal Cultural Plan is nearing completion. Dialog, the City's planning consultant has developed a working draft of the Municipal Cultural Plan. Highlights of it were presented to the public at a Draft Review Forum held at Mark Street United Church on October 19, 2011. The community reviewed the material and provided comment and feedback on proposed recommendations and initiatives. The panels were posted on the City's web site for two weeks to make them available to the public for further comment.

Submitted by,

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