
Seniors Active Living Centres Program Expansion 2018-19

Monday, May 07, 2018

Concept: How Might We update Council on the status of the Town's funding application for the Seniors Active Living Centres Program Expansion.

Background:

The Ministry of Senior Affairs made a call for proposals to expand the current network of Senior Active Living Centres (SALC) and the programs that they offer. The Ministry is committed to promoting the development of age-friendly communities and programs that acknowledge the contribution of seniors and keeps seniors active, healthy and engaged.

The call for proposals was for new initiatives to expand access to programs and service for seniors. Programs must serve primarily seniors, (those over 65) and operate from a community hub or centre that offers other types of intergenerational programs and services to the Community. With the new Community Centre coming on board and the expansion of programs for seniors we fit the criteria.

Staff submitted an application for the initial intake round on December 21, 2017. We are now pleased to inform Council that our Seniors Active Living Centre Application has been conditionally approved for funding. (see attached letter) Pending completion of an agreement with the Ministry of Senior Affairs, we have been awarded up to the maximum of \$42,700.00 annual funding for program operating costs.

This funding will promote active and healthy living, social engagement and learning for seniors in the Community. The program will provide partial funding for a dedicated full time permanent Seniors Activity Programmer who will engage community seniors in health & wellness classes and offer programs that will reduce social isolation and loneliness.

This announcement is very exciting for the Town of Pelham. It opens up many opportunities that will enhance the quality of life for Pelham Senior Citizens. As we know according to the recent Census, 40% of our population 55+ and 29% over the age of 65. There is a defining need for Senior Programming and the Senior Active Living Centre designation is a wonderful complement in creating a community hub for intergenerational programming.

Once the Ministry has signed the said agreement we will receive this operating funding in prorated monthly installments beginning April 2018 – March 2019. A final report package will be required the

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beginning of March 2019, although there will be no disruption of monthly SALC program payments. Funding continuation requests are reviewed April-June for the following year.

Also by receiving the SALC designation and funding we are now qualified to apply for a Special Grant for up to an additional \$15,000.00 for one time purchase of equipment and services. This application must be complete and submitted to the Ministry by May 18, 2018.

The Challenge:

How Might We enter into agreement with the Ministry of Senior Affairs.

How Might We begin to implement the Seniors Active Living Centres Program.

Our Recommended Solution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive the Seniors Active Living Centres Program Expansion 2018-19 concept sheet;

AND THAT Staff be authorized to implement the Seniors Active Living Centre Program;

AND FURTHER THAT Staff be authorized to apply to the Ministry of Senior Affairs for equipment under Special Grant Funding for programming.

Rationale:

To designate the Pelham Community Centre as a Senior Active Living Centre by the Ministry of Senior Affairs, will allow for program funding annually for Senior Activities.

Town of Pelham population is 17,110 and 40% of the population is over the age of 55 and 24% of the population is over the age of 65.

Measure of Success:

Number of programs offered

Number of senior participants

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Milestones:

Ministry of Senior Affairs signing the Senior Active Living Centre Program Expansion Agreement

Hiring of a Seniors Activities Programmer

Making application to the Ministry of Senior Affairs for the Special Grant Program