

Vickie vanRavenswaay

From: Gayle Baltjes-Bazinet <gayle.baltjes@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2020 12:50 PM
To: Vickie vanRavenswaay
Subject: reply

Dear Mayor, Councillors and Town staff,

Further to our conversations with our board members and Town staff, we wish to convey our continued hope to present the Fonthill Bandshell Summer Concert Series in 2020 commencing Thursday July 2nd, ending Thursday September 10th contingent on the guidelines as established by the provincial public health and health Canada in the coming weeks.

In our discussions with Ms. VanRavenswaay, we understand that it is unlikely that the suppermarket will be able to be a part of the Thursday night experience this season which would allow any patrons to the bandshell concerts to spread out through the entire park, maintaining social distance measure which we anticipate will still be in place, though hopefully loosened slightly from our current tight restrictions.

We feel that our volunteers, with the help and guidance from Town staff and public health, will be able to monitor the set up of patrons chairs, and patron interaction to ensure the safety of all. Our volunteers are prepared to be in attendance all day Thursdays to set the example, establish protocol, police the park and ensure everyone's health and safety.

The Fonthill Bandshell volunteers do not wish to cancel the events at this point. We are optimistic that the Niagara area continues to work toward planking that curve, and that soon we will be able to resume visiting with friends and a more regular routine. We strongly recommend against making any decisions yet that would negate the events.

Our community needs something to look forward. Pelham has been hit particularly hard by the virus and everyone is reeling over the loss of Mike, and are worried about the many other members of our community suffering from COVID19 at this time. The summer concert series and farmers market, albeit differently run and laid out this summer as it might potentially be, will re-gain that sense of community that people are longing for at this point.

Sincerely,

Gayle Baltjes, Chairperson

on behalf of all the Fonthill Bandshell Concert Committee members