

Subject: Meridian Community Centre Spectator Video Streaming, Arena and Gymnasiums.

Recommendation:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Report #2021-0091 Meridian Community Centre Spectator Video Streaming, Arena and Gymnasiums Report, for information.

Background:

Recreation, Culture and Wellness staff have been working with other Municipal Recreation Departments throughout the Region during the pandemic to find common solutions to shared issues. Live streaming of activities is something that has been discussed over the last six months as a priority for families and user groups during Covid as facilities are not allowed spectators. Live streaming will allow loved ones to watch events in the arenas and gyms through an app they purchase for their cell phones or tablets. Two cameras have been installed in each rink and gym for this purpose. A Regional group of Recreation and Purchasing staff was created to review streaming company proposals to determine the best fit as a Region. Two municipalities in the Region, Port Colborne and Niagara Falls, now have agreements in place and another, St Catharines, has begun the process to negotiate an agreement with GameOn Streaming Inc. (GOS)

Analysis:

There are a number of service providers in this industry. There were a number of factors in deciding that GOS was the right solution for the Meridian Community Centre. GOS had the best camera system which allows for the best picture quality for the viewer. Also, having a system used by other Niagara municipalities allows users to have only one account and efficiently access files. The intent is to utilize GOS in as many facilities in the Niagara Region as possible to allow our users to view various sports and activities throughout the region.

Financial Considerations:

There is no cost to the Town of Pelham to offer this streaming service. Users have the option to subscribe for a monthly, (\$9.99) or yearly (TBD) basis. The cost for this streaming service is reasonable based on the other services reviewed. There is a financial return to the Town of Pelham which is 10% of Gross Subscription Revenue. The Town has no reliable way to estimate the potential value of this future revenue stream.

Alternatives Reviewed:

During this process the Regional streaming group reviewed proposals from; GameOn Streaming, SportsHeadz streaming, Hockey Tech, Applied Electronics, Live cast Inc, Kevin Jack-Brandon Schram. GOS had the best camera system and they were already being used in the Region so it was the best choice for us.

Strategic Plan Relationship: Communication and Engagement

The streaming service at the Meridian Community Centre will provide family members the opportunity to view activities and events when they cannot attend in person due to Covid-19 attendance restrictions. They will also be able to view practices, home and away games once we return to normal play.

Consultation:

Streaming was discussed with our user groups. Representatives from St Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland and West Lincoln attended the presentations.

Other Pertinent Reports/Attachments:

N/A

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