

FIRE & BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT DEPARTMENT

Monday, October 18, 2021

Subject: Covid 19 vaccination clinic extension 2022

Recommendation:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Report #2021-0178 for information purposes;

AND THAT Council approve Option #2 - the usage of the Accursi Room(s) as a future injection site.

Background:

The Town is in receipt of this formal request from Niagara Public Health:

We are currently in the process of planning for student immunizations and possible 3rd dose immunizations for certain populations. We know our contracts with you come to an end at the end of December. At this time we need to ask if you are willing to continue to host immunization clinics in 2022. If your facility has decreased the size of the clinic, are you willing to increase it again? For example, if the PH clinic has moved to a smaller room, are you able and willing to offer the larger gym? Dr. Hirji has asked that we secure clinic locations for January to the end of March with the possibility of needing to extend that time frame to the end of June.

Analysis:

Pelham has provided the MCC as a vaccination site thru most of 2021, the first phase of the clinics were held in the south gym and operated as a 13 injection site. In the summer the site took over both the south and north gyms and operated as a 24 injection site. Starting in September the clinic was moved upstairs to operate in the Accursi room as a 8 injection site. During these 3 periods the Town lost revenue and resource costs (aprox 50k) from gym rentals, extra cleaning staff, extra assisting staff and fire fighters for first aid. At this point the Town has received no confirmation of any reimbursement for this lost revenue either from the Region or the Province.

At this time the Town has a number of options:

- 1. Deny the extension and terminate the agreement on December 31st 2021;
- 2. Continue the current site in the Accursi rooms;

- 3. Move the future clinic back to the south gym; or
- 4. Mover the future clinic to both gyms.

Terminating the agreement has the least financial impact however it does not help Public Health work towards the goal of vaccinating all eligible persons. Further, it is reasonable to expect that there are thousands of young persons in Pelham who would benefit from having easy access to a vaccination clinic. Options 2-4 of the will cause the Town to incur costs depending on the size of the clinic, which may or may not be repaid or subsidized by a higher order of government. Going back to the gyms would have the largest financial impact and will also have a negative impact on basketball and other user groups, both financially and operationally.

Financial Considerations:

The primary financial consideration regarding the operation of vaccination clinics at the MCC is the lost revenue that would otherwise be earned if the facility is available for booking, as well as the cost of extra cleaning and staff assistance. Denying the extension would result in zero financial impact. Continuing the current site in the Accursi rooms costs the Town approximately \$900 per day. The use of the south gym costs approximately \$1,200 per day, and the use of both gyms costs approximately \$2,000 per day. This includes the anticipated lost revenues as well as staff time, utilities, etc. In addition, it is worth considering that while it does not directly impact the Town, using either or both gyms would have a negative financial and operational impact on the Pelham Minor Basketball Association and other user groups in need of the gymnasiums.

Alternatives Reviewed:

The four options are identified earlier in the report.

Strategic Plan Relationship: Build Strong Communities and Cultural Assets

The higher the rate of vaccination, the healthier, safer and stronger the community.

Consultation:

CAO, Director of RCW, RCW staff.

Other Pertinent Reports/Attachments:

none

Prepared and Recommended by:

Bob Lymburner, Fire Chief

Director of Fire and By-law Services

Prepared and Submitted by:

David Cribbs, BA, MA, JD, MPA Chief Administrative Officer