



REPORT

Council

Meeting Date: April 25, 2022

FROM: Recreation and Culture

DATE: April 19, 2022

SUBJECT: Reciprocal Agreement with Community Living Oakville

LOCATION: 2302 Bridge Road, Town Wide

WARD: Town-wide

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RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the Town enter into a reciprocal agreement with Community Living Oakville, permitting room rentals charges to be paid in equivalent Community Living Oakville staffing services.
2. That the Director of Recreation and Culture be authorized to execute renewals and amendments to the agreement, subject to such renewals and amendments having been negotiated and prepared to the satisfaction of the Town Solicitor.

KEY FACTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- The Town of Oakville is currently seeking qualified support staff for our Inclusion Programs, particularly our Teen Adventure Program serving young adults aged 13-21 with developmental disabilities.
- Community Living Oakville ("CLO") has qualified support staff with expertise serving young adults in the community
- CLO is currently looking to expand their offerings in community settings and interested in space within the town's Recreation and Culture facilities to deliver the Community Connect Program.
- Weekday, daytime facility space is available and some rooms are going unused.
- Entering a reciprocal agreement where CLO utilizes an available community room September through June and reimburse the Town by providing staff to support the Teen Adventure Program in July and August would be highly beneficial for both parties involved.

- Approval of this reciprocal agreement would increase community offerings to individuals with an exceptionality in Oakville with no financial increase to the Town.
- Both parties are able to meet insurance requirements for service delivery outlined in this report.

BACKGROUND:

Community Living Oakville is a local organization providing a range of support services to children, youth, and adults who have developmental disabilities and their families. Currently, the organization offers a wide range of services including residential options, community day programs, employment services and after-school programs. CLO is seeking to rent an available community room at one or more of the Town of Oakville's community centres to better meet the needs of local residents. CLO requires a medium sized room during weekday daytime hours, for several days per week from September through to June for their Community Connect Program. The Community Connect Program re-imagines the way in which the developmental sector offers day program offerings to people with developmental disabilities. Adults with developmental disabilities participating in Community Connect will be supported to be integrated into community-based programs, promoting full inclusion of all people with varying support needs in community activities. Through Community Connect adults with developmental disabilities have the opportunity to enhance their skills to become more independent and develop community connections; strengthening their social network. The community room rental for this program would follow Council approved fees and charges, along with current allocation policies.

The Town of Oakville is seeking qualified support staff for our Inclusion portfolio. In particular, our Teen Adventure Program Summer Camp serving young adults aged 13-21 requires support staff with experience serving individuals in a low ratio setting. The Town has significant challenges recruiting staff for this program due to the seasonal nature of its delivery, along with the preferred, highly specialized qualifications and experience required. CLO staff are highly qualified (have a diploma and/or experience in Developmental Services, Social Services, Child and Youth, ECE, Behavioural Sciences, Psychology, Police Foundations, Education Assistance or similar fields) and receive specialized training in Safe Management Behaviour Intervention Training, Personal Outcome Measures, Understanding and Promoting Rights Training, Smart Meds training (medication administration training), Abuse Prevention Training and Person Centered Training. The Town's seasonal camp positions are filled by students, making it challenging to appropriately fill these roles. CLO currently employs staff with this expertise and is able to provide the number of qualified staff required to support the program participants. This program could significantly benefit from collaboration with a community partner.

COMMENT/OPTIONS:

It is recommended that the included reciprocal agreement (Appendix A) serve the needs of both parties. CLO would permit an available community room at the value identified in current rates and fees and allocation policies. In place of payment for permit fees, CLO will provide qualified staff to support town inclusion programming. The value would be essentially dollar for dollar and in the event one party cannot meet the value with agreed upon services, the cash amount would be paid. The current staffing rate for CLO is \$35.00 per hour, including fringe and will be adjusted yearly to include future inflation.

This agreement would be evaluated annually. The Town would enter a contracted services agreement with CLO for the delivery of the Teen Adventure Program to ensure quality standard and insurance needs are satisfied. The agreement has significant benefit to the Town as it ensures qualified staff in our program, which is currently staffed with students. The agreement will also require fewer training resources and funds, as CLO staff are experienced and trained in working with people with exceptionalities. Lastly, the agreement will help mitigate and manage the Town's risk and liability in this highly specialized program. These benefits will allow us to maintain quality service delivery and ensure program longevity for youth in our community. The reciprocal agreement will ensure meaningful use of under-utilized daytime space in our facilities and increases service offerings to the community without any additional financial commitments. These programs are of high community need and we only expect the community needs to continue growing in coming years. This agreement positions the Town and CLO to better serve individuals with exceptionalities in Oakville.

CONSIDERATIONS:

(A) PUBLIC

Public rental requests are reviewed on an on-going basis and granted based on facility availability and allocation policies.

(B) FINANCIAL

The value of the rental will be compensated to the Town through staffing services provided in the Teen Adventure Program (Inclusion BU). The rental contract will follow Council approved rates and fees. Staffing expense will be accepted at CLO's current (2022) wage. In the event one party cannot meet the value of the agreement through service exchange, cash payment will be provided.

(C) IMPACT ON OTHER DEPARTMENTS & USERS

The agreement and this report have been developed in consultation with the Legal Department.

(D) CORPORATE STRATEGIC GOALS

This report addresses the corporate strategic goal(s) to:

- continuously improve our programs and services
- be fiscally sustainable

(E) CLIMATE CHANGE/ACTION

N/A

APPENDICES:

Appendix A – CLO – Teen Adventure Program Agreement

Schedule A – Permit Schedule – Oakville Community Living

Prepared by:

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Recommended by:

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Submitted by:

Julie Mitchell, Director, Recreation and Culture