

## MEMO

To: Council  
From: Director of Community Services  
Subject: **For your Information—April 2017 Community Services Operational Report**  
Date: May 15, 2017

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### Issue

Regular Departmental Monthly report—Community Services

### Facts

- The firm of Birchbark Collaborative from Winnipeg, Manitoba has been chosen as the Consultants for the Supportive Housing for Seniors Analysis project. All expenses for this project will be covered through funds obtained through our Ontario Trillium Foundation SEED application. The Consultants will be meeting with area Stakeholders and potential Consumers to obtain data which will be utilized to develop a plan for the development of Supportive Housing in the Greenstone region. The information contained in the completed plan will enable us to be prepared for funding opportunities that may arise for both Capital and Operational resources. A formal Request for Proposals process was initiated to acquire a Consultant.
- Discussions are ongoing with the Ministry of Education and the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board regarding the provision of School-Aged Childcare. We have participated in teleconferences with both parties and are still awaiting a definitive decision on who will be responsible for the delivery of before and after school services and how they will be funded.
- Tender documents are being finalized for the acquisition of the new 14 passenger Para Transit vehicle. Initial discussions have taken place with Department staff regarding service delivery and further meetings are scheduled. Discussions will also be held with local Seniors groups to gain input as to their needs and issues. A full report will be prepared for the June 26, 2017 meeting outlining recommendations for service delivery.
- The Day Care Manager is in the process of determining what the Childcare needs will be in each of our Centres for the summer months. The May Operational Report will contain the recommendations for any changes to operational schedules.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Northwest Response Forum was attended in Dryden Ontario from April 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>. The forum focused on the facets of emergency management and provided much insight into community preparedness. The quarterly Amethyst Sector meeting was also held that week which is a meeting of all Community Emergency Management Coordinators. There are changes to our requirements as a Municipality for 2017 and our Emergency Plan is being revised to reflect these changes.
- Changes to our funding allocations for our Violence Against Women Programs have been requested in this year's Provincial Budget submission to enable us to designate a Lead Counsellor position at the Geraldton Family Resource Centre. It is anticipated that the requested changes will be approved. Once we have been formally notified of the approvals, the process of developing the responsibilities and making the changes to

staffing will be undertaken. This will not increase our staffing complement but will clearly define responsibilities within the program.

- We are in the process of finalizing the technical requirements for the installation of the video conferencing equipment that is being provided to the Family Resource Centre through a Provincial initiative. It is expected that the installation will take place in the very near future. The acquisition of this resource will prove to be invaluable in reaching out to our neighbours in the Far North and will provide us with the capacity to schedule counselling and support sessions to residents in their home communities. There will be an increased capacity for the provision of web-based professional development opportunities for our Staff.

### **Analysis**

N/A

### **How does this tie to the Strategic Plan?**

N/A

### **Recommendation**

N/A

### **Comments**

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