

May 5, 2021

- TO: Doug Downey Attorney General McMurtry-Scott Building 720 Day Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto, ON M7A 2S9
- AND TO: MPP Taras Natyshak Email: tnatyshak-cp@ndp.on.ca

Ministry of Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario Email: customer.service@agco.ca

Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Email: amo@amo.on.ca

Re: Lottery Licensing to Assist Small Organizations

At its Regular Council Meeting held on May 3, 2021, Town of Essex Council reviewed the enclosed correspondence from The Town of South Bruce Peninsula in regards to a request to provide lottery licensing for small organizations. Many small organizations are not considered charitable or not-for-profit and as a result, are not eligible to receive a lottery licence. This is despite the many volunteer hours spent dedicated to fund raising so as to help or assist those in need in their community. Without the benefit of lottery licensing this makes it very difficult for such organizations to raise the necessary funds to not only sustain their valuable organizations but also continue their charitable efforts. Now more than ever it is essential that we assist these small organizations to ensure their services continue to benefit our communities.

We request that you consider instituting an additional level of lottery licensing which would enable small organizations to obtain a lottery licence. Those that are not able to sustain a

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non-profit or charitable status could still receive a lottery licence if their proceeds benefit the community.

Accordingly I am pleased to report that as a result of their review Council passed the following resolution:

R21-05-183 Moved by: Deputy Mayor Meloche Seconded By: Councillor Bjorkman

That the correspondence from The Town of South Bruce Peninsula regarding lottery licensing to assist small organizations be received and supported, and

That a letter of support be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), MPP for Essex Taras Natyshak, the Attorney General, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario ("AGCO"), all County of Essex Municipalities and The Town of South Bruce Peninsula.

## Carried

I trust you will find this satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Robert W. Auger, L.L.B. Town Solicitor, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk rauger@essex.ca

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t 519 776 7336



Town of South Bruce Peninsula C.C. Email: angie.cathrae@southbrucepeninsula.com

> Mary Birch, Director of Council and Community Services/Clerk County of Essex Email: mbirch@countyofessex.ca

Paula Parker, Municipal Clerk/Risk Manager Town of Amherstburg Email: pparker@amherstburg.ca

Jennifer Astrologo, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk Town of Kingsville Email: jastrologo@kingsville.ca

Agatha Robertson, Director of Council Services/Clerk Town of LaSalle Email: arobertson@lasalle.ca

Kristen Newman, Director of Legislative and Legal Services/Clerk Town of Lakeshore Email: knewman@lakeshore.ca

Brenda Percy, Municipal Clerk/Manager of Legislative Services Municipality of Learnington Email: bpercy@leamington.ca

Laura Moy, Director of Corporate Services/Clerk Town of Tecumseh Email: Imoy@tecumseh.ca

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t 519 776 7336



Box 310, 315 George Street, Wiarton, Ontario N0H 2T0 Tel: (519) 534-1400 Fax: (519) 534-4862 1-877-534-1400

April 23, 2021

Doug Downey Attorney General McMurtry-Scott Building 720 Bay Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor Toronto ON M7A 2S9

Dear Honorable Mr. Downey:

## Re: Lottery Licensing to Assist Small Organizations

Small organizations are the foundation of rural Ontario. Thousands of hours of selfless volunteerism are logged each year by organizations who may not necessarily be considered not-for profit or charitable. That doesn't mean that they don't contribute to our communities; small organizations cook for the homeless, clean up parks and flower beds, read to young people, teach life skills to young adults, organize parades, put on concerts...the list goes on.

Many of these small organizations are not eligible to receive a lottery license. This makes it impossible for them to continue to be successful as their fundraising capabilities are extremely limited.

Through this correspondence, we request that you give serious consideration to instituting an additional level of lottery licensing which would enable small organizations to obtain a lottery license. Those who are not able to sustain a non-profit or charitable status could still receive a lottery license if their proceeds benefit the community. Thresholds could be placed on the prize values and perhaps even the number of events which could be held in a calendar year.

We hear over and over again about the hardships in our community and we know that there are organizations who have the ability to help and are not permitted to. Understanding this, Council adopted a resolution seeking your consideration.

## R-226-2021

It was Moved by J. Kirkland, Seconded by K. Durst and Carried

**That** staff are directed to contact the Ministry responsible for Alcohol and Gaming of Ontario to seek their assistance in implementing an additional level of licensing which would permit small organizations to hold fundraisers as a method of sustaining our community and organizations;

And further that all municipalities in Ontario are sent this resolution to seek their assistance in lobbying the Ministry.

We look forward to your consideration of our request.

Yours-very truly, tro at Ance

Angie Cathrae Director of Legislative Services/Clerk 519-534-1400 ext 122 Tol Free 1-877-534-1400 angie.cathrae@southbrucepeninsula.com

cc: MPP Bill Walker, All Ontario Municipalities