



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Community & Recreation Services

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Beth Gignac, Director Community & Recreation Services

Date to Council: February 27, 2024

Report Number: CRS-2024-06

Subject: Tecumseh Seniors' Active Living Centre

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That Report CRS-2024-06 entitled "Tecumseh Seniors' Active Living Centre" **be received;**

And further that Council direct Administration **to return** with a signed Agreement at the Regular Council Meeting of March 26, 2024, whereby Council will consider a By-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the Community Support Centre of Essex Operating Agreement for the Tecumseh Senior Active Living Centre (made subject to a successful Seniors Active Living Centre grant);

And further that Council direct Administration **to negotiate and return** to the Regular Council Meeting of March 26, 2024 (or as soon as possible thereafter) with a new proposed User Agreement with the Golden Age Club whereby Council will consider a By-law to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the new Golden Age Club User Agreement (made subject to a successful Senior Active Living Centre grant).

Background

Previous Council reports regarding the Golden Age Club (GAC) and the use of St. Clair Beach Community Centre (SCBCC) are: [CRS-2023-07](#) Golden Age Club Relocation and [CRS-2023-09](#) Golden Age Club User Agreement.

In both reports, Council gave direction to Administration for the GAC relocation and subsequent one (1) year User Agreement for the use of SCBCC to support its activities. The end of the one-year period of the user agreement is approaching in April.

In Report [CRS-2023-17](#) Council gave direction to Administration to develop a Healthy Aging Strategy in response to an interest in increasing programs and services to support Tecumseh's growing older adult population.

Comments

In the ongoing development of a Healthy Aging Strategy, Administration has been meeting with a variety of stakeholders and experts in service delivery to the older adult population in Essex County and elsewhere.

Research has identified that the demand for recreation activities for seniors surpasses the availability of activities in Tecumseh. Furthermore, there is not a formally identified space within the Town that is specifically associated with seniors' activities. While several volunteer and/or non-profit organizations offer some activities and programs, there is a need for a specific location with professional supports to meet the increasing needs and services of this demographic to facilitate healthy aging.

Administration has consulted with the Community Support Centre, Hotel-Dieu Grace Healthcare, the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit, the Alzheimer's Society of Windsor-Essex, the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport and a range of community-led groups.

This report offers immediate solutions to meet the needs of seniors in Tecumseh and provides a way forward for the Golden Age Club and its members to be integrated into a new approach for seniors in the community.

Tecumseh Senior Active Living Centre

The Town of Tecumseh has received annual Seniors' Active Living Centre (SALC) grants in the past which were used to support the activities of the Golden Age Club at 12420 Lanoue Street. The volunteers of the Golden Age Club have provided programs and activities for seniors in Tecumseh for many years, augmented by programs and events offered for seniors through the Town's former Senior Advisory Committee supported by the Manager of Clerks Services & Policy Advisor. As Council recalls, this Committee was discontinued on the recommendation of WSCS Consulting during the Clerks Services Review, with all recreational programming consolidated within the Department of Community & Recreation Services. Through our research and consultations to date, the Department recognizes that the need and demand for senior's programs and services exceed the capacity of any volunteer-run organization and require the operational leadership of a professional organization with staff trained in the specific requirements to support the complexities of working with seniors.

Therefore, in consideration of this shift in strategy, the Town of Tecumseh has applied for a grant from the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility in support of launching a formal Tecumseh Seniors Active Living Centre (SALC) at the St. Clair Beach Community Centre in May 2024. The Town of Tecumseh has been the successful recipient of a Senior Active Living Centre grant for many years and has received encouragement from senior advisors at the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility to formally designate a Senior Active Living Centre led by professional staff which will create the conditions for significant growth of new programs that will promote wellness, social interaction, and education to help seniors stay active, independent and engaged.

The SALC grant requires that both active and passive programs are provided. And, while the Town will continue to also offer active seniors programming in the arena, pool, parks and trails, Administration is recommending that the Town of Tecumseh formally launch a SALC at St. Clair Beach Community Centre in May 2024 with an Operating Agreement with the Community Support Centre (CSC) of Essex.

The CSC has a 40-year history of developing and implementing programs and services for the 55+ community. Currently, the CSC is operating two (2) successful SALC facilities, one in Lakeshore and one in Essex, with offerings such as yoga, Tai Chi, fitness, dance, book club, gardening, movie matinees, walking groups, cooking class, games and cards. It is the intention of the Town and CSC that such a full range of active and passive programming will be offered at the SCBCC and funded through the SALC grant and membership fees.

It is proposed that the CSC will operate and manage the Town's SALC programs based on the following parameters:

- the Operating Agreement with CSC will be effective May 6, 2024 (subject to Council approval at a forthcoming Council meeting);
- the annual membership fee for the Tecumseh SALC will be \$25 per person per year starting January 1, 2025 (subject to Council's annual budget deliberations), with any fee increases to be jointly determined by the Town of Tecumseh and the CSC as part of the annual SALC grant submission;
- the CSC will operate the Tecumseh SALC based at the SCBCC and the Town will accordingly provide office space for this purpose at the Centre.

The Town of Tecumseh will maintain all facility management, maintenance, and utilities costs at SCBCC. Further, the Town will work with other community partners and service providers to offer seniors programming and services at other Town locations such as the arena, pool, parks and trails, Maidstone Recreation Centre and the Lanoue Street facility. Most of these activities will operate with nominal user fees and/or will be supported by other grants and/or partner relationships.

This diverse approach will result in a significant expansion of seniors programming throughout Tecumseh over the next year and will ensure that more seniors in the community can access a diverse portfolio of both active and passive activities.

Golden Age Club – User Agreement

Currently, the Golden Age Club has non-exclusive use of SCBCC for programming. The term of this Agreement is noted as follows:

1.3 That the Initial Term of this Agreement shall be the earlier of: (a) one year starting the 1st day of May 2023 and ending the 30th day of April 2024 or (b) the end of the Cada Library renovation period with the Town to provide 60 days notice of the end of the Cada Library renovation period (hereinafter “the Initial Term”). The Initial Term shall be automatically further extended, subject to the terms of this Agreement (but as may be amended from time to time by the parties hereto), for subsequent terms of One (1) year each unless and until such time as either party gives the other written notice of termination, which party may give such notice at any time and for any reason upon at least sixty (60) days notice.

Subsequently, Administration is recommending that the GAC be provided with sixty (60) days written notice of termination of the current agreement (in accordance with section 1.3 thereof), and that the Town enter into a mutually agreeable new Agreement with the GAC that provides continued use of the SCBCC, subject to the following conditions:

- all card programs currently offered by the Golden Age Club at SCBCC will be incorporated into the new Tecumseh Senior Active Living Centre (SALC) and will be managed by CSC;
- all members of the Golden Age Club will automatically become members of the Tecumseh SALC, at no cost for the remainder of 2024 and thereafter the annual membership fee for the Tecumseh SALC will apply;
- that the GAC will vacate the office in SCBCC by April 30, 2024 since all seniors activities at SCBCC will be managed exclusively by CSC;
- that all rental groups formerly associated with the GAC, and currently accommodated by the Town of Tecumseh with GAC rental fees, be provided the opportunity for rental contracts with the Town at Council approved fees.

The term of this agreement will be one (1) year to support the integration. The Golden Age Club has been advised through written correspondence and a meeting.

Consultations

Chief Administrative Officer

Legislative Services & Clerk
Community Support Centre of Essex
Golden Age Club

Financial Implications

Working in coordination with the Purchasing Officer and Financial Services, single source procurement is recommended in concurrence with the stipulation as set under By-Law 2021-60 section 3.4, and in section 3.9 and 3.11 of the Purchasing Policy No.17 (RCM 263/21).

3.4 Single/Sole Sourcing/Direct Negotiation

In circumstances where there may be more than one source of supply in the open market, but only one of these is recommended by the Department Director, with the concurrence of the Purchasing Officer, for consideration on the grounds that it is more cost effective or beneficial to the Town; and where the expenditure will exceed \$100,000, approval must be obtained from Town Council prior to negotiations with the single source. The Department Director shall be responsible for submitting a report detailing the rationale supporting the use of the single source.

In support of utilizing single source procurement, Administration is recommending that the Community Support Centre of Essex be considered as the operator and manager for the Tecumseh Senior Active Living Centre due to their 40 year history of providing programs and services to older adults in Essex County and, their current operations in Lakeshore of a Senior Active Living Centre which adjacency will enable leverage of resources including staffing, materials and supplies and the provision of congregate dining. This approach will accelerate the number of new programs and services in 2024. Lastly, senior advisors at the Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility are supportive of this proponent due to their long track record of success in the region. The term of the operating and management agreement will be concurrent with grant terms (April 1, 2024 - March 31, 2025) and will be reviewed annually.

The Town of Tecumseh has submitted a 2024 Senior Active Living Centre grant in the amount of \$50,000 for Operations and a Special Equipment request in the amount of \$15,000. Conditional on a successful grant application, these funds will be used to support the retention of the Community Support Centre of Essex to manage all activities associated with the Senior Active Living Centre. The Town will support facility management, maintenance, and utilities at SCBCC through its annual operating budget, all of which are requirements of the SALC grant application.

The SALC will also be supported by an annual membership fee of \$25 per person starting January 1, 2025, subject to Council's 2025 budget deliberations and approval of new fees and charges. Any increase in annual membership fees will be jointly

determined by the Town of the Tecumseh and the Community Support Centre and approved by Council during annual budget deliberations.

All other seniors' programs, services and activities that will occur in other locations may have fees and/or be supported through other grants and/or partnerships.

Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2023-2026 Strategic Priorities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Growth: Achieve prosperity and a livable community through sustainable growth.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community Health and Inclusion: Integrate community health and inclusion into our places and spaces and everything we do.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Experience: Enhance the experience of Team Tecumseh and our citizens through responsive and respectful service.

Communications

Not applicable

Website

Social Media

News Release

Local Newspaper

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

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Director Community & Recreation Services

Reviewed by:

Robert Auger, LL.B.
Director Legislative Services & Clerk

Reviewed by:

Tom Kitsos, CPA, CMA, BComm
Director Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment Number	Attachment Name
None	None