



## The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Legislative & Clerk Services

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council  
**From:** Robert Auger, Director Legislative Services & Clerk  
**Date to Council:** Tuesday, March 25, 2025  
**Report Number:** LCS-2025-08  
**Subject:** Tecumseh Ribfest – Municipal Significance

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### Recommendations

It is recommended:

**That** Report LCS-2025-08 entitled “Tecumseh Ribfest – Municipal Significance” **be received;**

**And that** the Tecumseh Ribfest, taking place July 25-27, 2025, at the Tecumseh Arena **be designated** as ‘municipally significant’ for the purpose of obtaining a Special Occasion Permit from the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario.

### Background

In consultation with the Town’s Community & Recreation Services, the Owner and Operator of Tecumseh Ribfest has submitted a letter advising of their interest to host and operate an event called the ‘Tecumseh Ribfest’ during the weekend of July 25 -27, 2025. (Attachment 1)

The event will take place outside at the Tecumseh Arena, with operating hours as follows:

Friday, July 25 3:00 pm - 11:00 pm

Saturday, July 26 11:00 am - 11:00 pm

Sunday, July 27 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

The Tecumseh Ribfest will be a fenced-in event, held to the west of the Tecumseh Arena parking lot. (Attachment 2) The event will feature a variety of rib vendors, kids' zone and musical entertainment, providing a weekend of family-friendly enjoyment.

It is the intent of the event organizer to operate a 'Sale' Permit through the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) for the purpose of earning revenue towards the show's continued success.

## Comments

The AGCO is responsible for overseeing the administration of Special Occasion Permits (SOPs). An SOP is required any time alcohol is offered for sale, served or consumed anywhere other than in a licensed establishment or a private place or when public consumption of a patron's own alcohol is permitted at a tailgate event. SOPs are for occasional, special events only and not for personal profit or running an ongoing business. An SOP may be issued for Private Events, Public Events and Industry Promotional Events.

The Tecumseh Ribfest would be making application for a Public Event SOP; a Public Event permit can be issued to registered charities, or non-profit organizations, or for events of municipal, provincial, national or international significance. A permit holder that is not a registered charity or non-profit organization may hold a Public Event if the event is an event of municipal significance and is designated by the municipal council as an event of 'municipal significance'.

SOP applications to the AGCO for a municipally significant Public Event must be accompanied by either a municipal resolution or a letter from a delegated municipal official designating the event as municipally significant.

Under the Public Event SOP, the event can be advertised and fundraising/profit from the sale of alcohol at the event is permitted. The permit holder is required to purchase alcohol under the permit from an authorized government retail store (LCBO, LCBO Agency Store, The Beer Store or authorized manufacturer's retail store).

For outdoor events, the permit holder must provide written notice to the local municipality (including Clerk, Fire, Police and health departments) at least 30 days prior to the event when expecting fewer than 5,000 people per day. If expecting 5,000 people or more per day, a notice to the same group is required 60 days prior to the event. The Building Department must be notified as well if a tent or marquee is used. The event organizer is expecting approximately 2,000 people in attendance.

The licensed area must be clearly defined and separated from the non-licensed area by a minimum of 36" high barrier/partition.

Subject to Council's favourable consideration of the 'municipally significant' designation, the event organizer will proceed with making application for a Public Event SOP.

Additionally, the event organizer is partaking in ongoing meetings with the Town's Special Events Resource Team (SERT) to review the proposed event plans and the municipal policies that relate to the event plans. The SERT team is working with the event organizer to ensure compliance and adherence with the provisions contained within the Town's Municipal Alcohol Risk Management Policy No. 31 and Outdoor Special Event Policy No. 85. Under these policies, the event organizer is responsible but not limited to executing a rental contract, providing a Certificate of Insurance, Sign Display and Safety Plans, arranging security or OPP, as required, etc.

While new to Tecumseh, this family-friendly event has been held in other regional locations and has seen positive attendance, generating tourism and economic benefits to the community.

It is recommended that the Tecumseh Ribfest, taking place July 25-27, 2025, at the Tecumseh Arena be designated as 'municipally significant' for the purpose of obtaining an SOP from the AGCO.

## **Consultations**

Community & Recreation Services

## **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	<a href="#">2023-2026 Strategic Priorities</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Growth: Achieve prosperity and a livable community through sustainable growth.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Health and Inclusion: Integrate community health and inclusion into our places and spaces and everything we do.
<input checked="" 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:

Christina Hebert, BA (Hons), MA, Dipl. M.A.  
Deputy Clerk – Clerks Services & Policy Advisor

Reviewed by:

Brett Palmer  
Senior Manager Recreation Services

Reviewed by:

Beth Gignac, BA Hons  
Director Community & Recreation Services

Reviewed by:

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

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP  
Chief Administrative Officer

<b>Attachment Number</b>	<b>Attachment Name</b>
1	Tecumseh Ribfest – Request for Municipal Significance
2	Tecumseh Ribfest – Site Map