



## 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, July 22, 2025

**Report Number:** LCS-2025-20

**Subject:** Twinkling Lights Tecumseh Night Market – Municipal Significance

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### Recommendations

It is recommended:

**That** Report LCS-2025-20 entitled “Twinkling Lights Tecumseh Night Market – Municipal Significance” **be received**;

**And that** the Twinkling Lights Tecumseh Night Market, taking place September 5, 2025, at 12105 Tecumseh Road East **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 Tecumseh Business Improvement Area (BIA) has expressed interest in partnering with the Town to host and operate an event call the ‘Twinkling Lights Tecumseh Night Market’ (Night Market) on September 5, 2025.

The event will take place at 12105 Tecumseh Road East (Re/Max Care Realty, Team Goran’s Office) outside in the rear parking lot from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. The event will feature a variety of vendors, food, games for all ages and live musical entertainment, providing a night of enjoyment under the moonlight.

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 continued success of supporting the local business community.

## 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 Night Market 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.

The AGCO does not provide a definition of what constitutes an event as "municipally significant" and therefore leaves the interpretation of this definition with the particular municipality.

Administration is proposing that the definition of a municipally significant event be as follows:

"A one time, annual, or infrequently occurring event that is open to the public and has a predetermined opening and closing date and time, which:

- Has local, regional, national or international historical or cultural significance; or
- Builds awareness of diverse cultures; or
- Has a charitable aspect, that sees profits or portion of profits going to local charities; or
- If fundraising in nature, the proceeds will benefit local residents or community at large."

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.

Over the years, the BIA has hosted Night Markets which have been enjoyed by all, seen positive attendance and generated local economic benefits to the community.

It is recommended that the Night Market, taking place September 5, 2025, at 12105 Tecumseh Road East, 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:

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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>
None	None