

Appendix B

Service Re-design Interim Program Changes and Modifications

Festivals and Events **Recreation Services**

Festivals and Events – Recreation Services

Executive Summary:

The Events unit provides and or supports community events held on city property. Events can be held at a variety of locations from city parks and roadways to city facilities. As we entered **Stage 1**, with limitations on social gatherings, group size and physical distancing, the Events Unit quickly identified the need to cancel all permitted events for the summer and explore virtual eventing tools to support the Canada Day event. Staff adapted plans to engage with residents using corporate social media channels and apps such as Goosechase as well as an augmented reality display of fireworks offered through the Snap'd HUB.

As we entered **Stage 2**, there was a slight increase to social gatherings and group size set by the Province. Based on the province providing only a slight easing of group size, staff recommend that all events should be cancelled until group size is increased to 1,000 people.

Given the recent experience with Canada Day, including the use of new technology and human resource requirements, staff will continue to investigate and implement virtual celebrations where feasible.

To this end, there are two important community events that staff will investigate opportunities to deliver virtually: Remembrance Day and the annual Santa Claus Parade.

Festivals and Events – Recreation Services

Financial Implications:

Staff propose retaining the approved 2020 events budget to support the delivery of virtual events such as Remembrance Day and the Santa Parade.

Human Resource Implications:

The world of virtual events will require more support from Corporate Communications staff as they lead the City's social media platforms and support engagement activities.

Festivals and Events – Recreation Services

Recommendation:

Direct the Director of Recreation Services to proceed with the interim service delivery program for Festivals and Events, and report the financial implications through the Chief Financial Officer as part of the ongoing financial COVID-19 impacts.