



STAFF REPORT

Title: Cold Lake Museums Society (CLMS) - May 26, 2020 Delegation

Meeting Date: June 9, 2020

Executive Summary:

Cold Lake Museums Society (CLMS) Kael Rennie and CLMS Chairman Chris Holoboff appeared as delegates at Council's May 26, 2020 regular meeting of Council.

Mr. Rennie and Mr. Holoboff presented Council with a Power Point presentation wherein they requested Council's consideration in providing \$50,000.00 to install a fifty (50) foot observation tower on the grass outside the western fence of the museum grounds.

The tower would be the best view in the Lakeland Region and a very family friendly tourist attraction. Combined with the opening of the new mountain bike part trails and the paving of the road, this attraction in the middle of Cold Lake is easily accessible by all with a secondary objective of increasing traffic to the museum itself.

Brief questions and discussions ensued.

Mayor Copeland thanked Mr. Rennie and Mr. Holoboff for their presentation advising that Council would consider the request at their next regular meeting of Council being June 9, 2020.

Background:

It should be noted that the CLMS have not made application to the Council's annual Community Capital Grant Program. That being said, they are requesting that the fifty (50) foot observation tower be installed outside the western fence of the museum grounds for year round and open access to the public, rather than on the museum grounds itself as originally planned.

Administration believes that this is a very positive initiative of which has some tremendous opportunities however some concerns have been raised including the following:

- The CLMS has come up with the idea however they are requesting for the City to provide grant funding to build it and also provide the ongoing maintenance of the attraction.



- Perhaps if the City is going to be providing the ongoing maintenance for the attraction, the City should be providing greater input into the design requirements and/or leading the project (it is unknown if this would have further budget implications.....e.g. theme, build materials, and zip line?). If the scope were to expand, the need to provide a consultant with further area expertise will be necessary; there would also likely be a broader procurement process.
- The CLMS is requesting for the City to take on the ongoing monitoring of the attraction including any day-to-day upkeep. Again, if this is the case, perhaps the city should be providing greater input into the design requirements and/or leading the project with input from the CLMS.

Further to the above, Council could request the CLMS to file an application under the Community Capital Grant Program so that further clarity can be provided on fundraising efforts.

In summary, Administration strong feels either the attraction should be built within the area of the museum society (if lead by the CLMS) so that the organization can benefit from the people coming to the museum and provide any day-to-day upkeep. The opportunity to open the museum year-round could be considered by the CLMS. Alternatively, the project could have a greater role of the City of Cold Lake with input with the CLMS with an expanded scope for an even more significant attraction opportunity.

Alternatives:

Council may consider the following options:

- Council may request Administration to establish budget to potentially expand the design project scope for the project.
- Council may provide a \$50,000 grant to the Cold Lake Museum Society funded from Contingency.
- Council may refer the request to Council's 2021 Budget Deliberations.
- Council may refer the issue to Council's Corporate Priorities Committee for further discussion and seek a recommendation.

Recommended Action:

That Council accept the Cold Lake Museums Society (CLMS) delegation presentation made at the May 26, 2020 regular meeting of Council as information, and direct Administration to establish a design budget for an expanded scope for an observation tower located at the Cold Lake Museum for Council's consideration.

Budget Implications (Yes or No):

No



City of **Cold Lake**

Submitted by:

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