



STAFF REPORT

Title: Request for Funding - Lakeland Catholic School Division - Assumption Junior/Senior High School - September 12, 2023 Delegation

Meeting Date: September 12, 2023

Executive Summary:

Lakeland Catholic School Division - Assumption Junior/ Senior High School representatives Lynné Vining, Principal Elaine Ernst and Band Director Meredith Keizer appeared as a delegation earlier on tonight's agenda.

Background:

Based on the submission, students in the Assumption Senior High Band (Grades 10-12) will be travelling to Toronto/Niagara Falls in March 2024 for a Concert Band Trip. Due to the significant cost associated with this trip, the organizing group would like to request a Travel Grant to offset some of the cost of the trip to keep it affordable for students. There are 45 students registered and 5 waitlisted.

In an attempt to draw similarities, the Northern Lights School Division - Cold Lake Highschool also attends educational trips to various locations. An example would be their two (2) Canmore Trips (Water Experience and Winter Experience). Further, the Northern Lights School Division – Art Smith Aviation Academy has also made a similar request for a band trip to Red Deer, AB (albeit a lesser age group).

It is understood that many other local schools from either the Lakeland Catholic School Board, Northern Lights School Board, and the East Central Francophone Education Region also attend various school trips for various reasons and intent including educational.

Administration is unclear in that the Community Recreation, Arts, Culture, and Heritage Grant Program intended this type request or not. It is administrations advice that there should be some policy discussion regarding requests from school districts, parent advisory councils, and the scope thereof.

Further to the above, Administration recommends that Council postpone this request for funding from the Lakeland Catholic School Division and first have a discussion on the intent of the policy (as it relates to school field trips).



Alternatives:

Council may consider the following options:

- That Council accept the Lakeland Catholic School Division - Assumption Junior/ Senior High School delegation presentation made at the September 12, 2023 regular meeting of Council as information.
- That Council accept the Lakeland Catholic School Division - Assumption Junior/ Senior High School delegation presentation made at the September 12, 2023 regular meeting of Council as information and approved their grant request of \$1,000 toward their Senior High Band Trip to Toronto/Niagara Falls in March 2024.
- That Council accept the Lakeland Catholic School Division - Assumption Junior/ Senior High School delegation presentation made at the September 12, 2023 regular meeting of Council as information and approved an alternative amount (higher or lower) toward their Senior High Band Trip to Toronto/Niagara Falls in March 2024.
- That Council accept the Lakeland Catholic School Division - Assumption Junior/ Senior High School delegation presentation made at the September 12, 2023 regular meeting of Council as information and postpone the request to Councils October 24 regular meeting Council (Allow for policy review)
- That Council accept the Lakeland Catholic School Division - Assumption Junior/ Senior High School delegation presentation made at the September 12, 2023 regular meeting of Council as information and respectfully decline the offer to provide funding for the Senior High Band Trip to Toronto/Niagara Falls in March 2024.

Recommended Action:

That Council accept the Lakeland Catholic School Division - Assumption Junior/ Senior High School delegation presentation made at the September 12, 2023 regular meeting of Council as information, and postpone the request to Council's October 24, 2023 regular meeting of Council. (Allow for policy review)

Budget Implications (Yes or No):

Yes

Submitted by:

Kevin Nagoya, Chief Administrative Officer