

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, October 2, 2009				Report Date	Wednesday, September 16, 2009			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction Only		Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
REPORT TITLE									
Trillium and Old Mackey Park Report #02/10/09/203									

SUBJECT: Request for Council's consideration of support for Trillium fund application for grant to upgrade Old Mackey Park with play equipment and a pavilion.

Recommendation: That Council adopt the following motion committing to funding for the installation of playground equipment and a pavilion at Old Mackey Park pending approval of funding through Trillium or other applicable grant programs and fund raising.

WHEREAS we are currently marketing our municipality as a recreational destination and attempting to promote increased residency;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality owns a beautiful underutilized expanse of property along the Ottawa River in Mackey;

AND WHEREAS the local population of children within the community, although small, is increasing;

AND WHEREAS outdoor events such as our Canada Day Celebration and the annual outdoor mass are difficult to plan due to possible inclement weather;

AND WHEREAS there are available funding programs and the potential for private fundraising to help pay for park improvements;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby agree to support the idea of possible procurement of a limited amount of children's play equipment and the construction of a pavilion to be located at Old Mackey Park for use by all residents and visitors;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council authorizes staff to determine what cost estimates, funding limits and Council contribution would amount to and bring back to Council for further consideration.

Background/Executive Summary: It appears that the majority of Council agrees that the Canada Day celebrations that occurred in 2009 were a worthy expense and something we would like to continue as long as there is community interest. The beach at Old Mackey's is used frequently during the summer months by various families. Some use it annually for family reunions. The challenge is with planning and the potential for rain. Our Canada Day celebrations are a case in point. The alternative is to rent or borrow tents to provide cover.

The cost for the tents from Fleury's was \$600 for 2009. The cost for the tents for the outdoor Mass was \$600. The organizers of these two events alone could contribute \$1,200 to the construction of a pavilion which could be used to provide protection from the weather offsetting construction costs. Labour and some equipment might be donated. A

program whereby past residents are contacted and asked to contribute by purchasing a piece of timber or brick to commemorate their families might work. Does Council see the value in having a pavilion erected for the use of Council, ratepayers and visitors?

As for the playground equipment. It would be another draw for the Park. More people might make use of the facility. At last count there were 11 children under about 13 in permanent residences in Mackey and Stonecliffe. That number jumps significantly with summer visitors and summer residences. An improved municipal park might help to attract additional young families to the municipality as AECL and the base continue to hire.

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact: to be determined. Will depend on available funding and fundraising activities. A commitment of \$5,000 - \$10,000 would likely be sufficient to finance decent improvements.

Policy Impact: No impact to current policy. Would be incorporated into 2010 budget.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,

Municipal Clerk

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