

| Type of Decision | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|--|----|-----------------|------------------------|------|--|--------|
| Meeting Date | Friday, June 15, 2012 | | | | Report Date | Thursday, May 31, 2012 | | | |
| Decision Required | X | Yes | | No | Priority | X | High | | Low |
| Direction | x | Information Only | | | Type of Meeting | X | Open | | Closed |
| REPORT TITLE | | | | | | | | | |
| Support For Resolution CAP grant - Report #15/06/12/1102 | | | | | | | | | |

Subject: Support for resolution of Killaloe Hagarty Richards and CAP grant funding loss.

RECOMMENDATION: That Council pass the resolution joining in the petitioning of the Federal Government to reconsider its decision to end Community Access Program funding through Industry Canada.

WHEREAS Industry Canada Community Access Program (CAP) funding gave everyone access to computers and high-speed internet, regardless of their economic situation;

AND WHEREAS CAP funding represents a significant portion of the annual budget in small rural libraries, and it will be next to impossible to make up this shortfall without renewed government support for continuation of this essential service;

AND WHEREAS even more than their urban counterparts, rural libraries house the technological lifeline which keeps citizens and small business informed and competitive;

AND WHEREAS Canadians regularly visit local libraries to make use of free internet through public access computers to search for jobs, to download government forms which are only available on-line, to connect to business, friends, family, social services and other resources and to simply stay connected;

AND WHEREAS students from low-income households with no computer access are at a further disadvantage when it comes to competing with classmates who have home computers and internet access;

AND WHEREAS this lack of access to technological resources will impact the students' ability to fully reach his potential as a student, future employee and as an individual;

THERE FORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby support the resolution of the Municipality of the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards and requests that the Federal Government review its decision and re-instate this essential community funding;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to MP Cheryl Gallant, the County of Renfrew, and all municipalities in Renfrew County for their endorsement and support.

Background/Executive Summary: Self Explanatory. Industry Canada has decided to eliminate the funding for this vital service. Many libraries including small rural ones like ours will be affected in significant ways.

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact: \$3,500 for the Library for funding for Computers and access including monthly costs of the satellite. Without this the library will have to fundraise considerably, increase their request for funding from the municipality or lose this valuable service. Since the Municipal office shares the costs of the monthly Xplornet bills and any hardware, it will ultimately be an increased cost for Council to maintain satellite service for the office.

Policy Impact: None.

Others Consulted/Resources/References: Noella Lebreton, Treasurer; Killaloe Hagarty and Richards.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,
Municipal Clerk

Melinda Reith