

*Request for Decision United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria Council*

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, February 17, 2017				Report Date	Monday, February 13, 2017			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed

## Ontario Senior Secretariat Community Grant Program- Report #17/02/17/1207

**Subject: Consideration of Application under the Ontario Senior Secretariat Grant Program**

### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council considers supporting a grant application to finance a seniors program similar to that held in 2015/2016.

**WHEREAS** Council supports the provision of programs and services for the community's seniors with a focus on intergenerational interaction;

**AND WHEREAS** a funding opportunity through Ontario's Seniors' Secretariat's Seniors Community Grant Program might provide funding for the development of municipal programs directed at improvements for Seniors;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby authorize staff to apply for the Ministry's grant and commits up to \$2,000 for council's contribution which may include in-kind expenses including staff salaries;

**AND FURTHER THAT** Council does hereby authorize Mayor Gibson to endorse the required letter of support for the program application for the municipality and the Library Board.

### BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This program is the same as that which we were successful in obtaining in 2015 which culminated in our appreciation dinner. It is staff suggestion to apply for this funding and create a program similar to that held in the past.

Although we will canvas area seniors, initial considerations include:

- Raised garden beds to plant a community vegetable garden, in conjunction with the Healthy Kids project focus on promoting intergenerational activities;
- It may be followed up with healthy cooking lessons in conjunction with canning techniques being taught by some of our seniors;
- Coordinated trip to North Bay or Ottawa for shopping or a show;
- Repetition of some of the programming provided in 2016 as directed by participants. Attendees appreciated the crafting workshops, we have had suggestions for other events such as flower arranging, crafting other products, hosting a psychic and a painting workshop.

This is one of the opportunities which might also be applicable to the Library Board and its support of Mr Boyce's play. Stream one would provide for funds up to \$3,000 to offset costs of admission under the following eligible expenses "group tours, travel and admission costs to cultural or learning events". Mr. Boyce's play seems to fit right in.

To avoid losing this funding opportunity, staff have reviewed the documentation and will work, with Council's permission, on completing the application(s) by the deadline – March 3, 2017.

With Council's decision to have 1 day of Crystal's week dedicated to recreation, and after having already been through the process, hosting this type of program again should be feasible.

There is a need in the community for social inclusion for single seniors and it would be good to take advantage of funding which relates to ideas previously discussed by Council and the Recreation Committee.

### **Financial Considerations/Budget Impact:**

Successful grant applications will provide funds to begin the program, hire trainers/instructors, purchase supplies and equipment to begin implementation of programming.

### **Policy Impact:**

As per policy. Staff make recommendations, Council discusses and creates policy which then provides direction for staff to follow moving forward.

### **Others Consulted:**

Crystal Fischer, Admin Assistant, Mel Theil, Librarian

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith, Municipal Clerk

*Melinda Reith*