

United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria Council

Request for Decision

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Tuesday, June 21, 2022				Report Date	Monday, May 30, 2022			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
Report #22/06/21/1202- Recreation Equipment Lending Hub									

Subject: Re-opening the Lending Hub

Recommendation: That Council proceed with opening the recreation equipment Lending Hub without rental fees; that Council implement a daily late return fee; and the Equipment Loan Agreement be updated to require equipment maintain within the municipality at all times.

Resolution:

Resolution No.: 22/06/21/003

Moved by Councillor _____ and seconded by Councillor _____

WHEREAS Council has received Report #22/06/21/1202 concerning the recreation equipment Lending Hub; **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara and Maria does enact the following:

- Direct staff to re-open the Lending Hub for the 2022/2023 season;
- Directs staff to implement a \$5.00 per day late fee;
- Authorizes staff discretion of restricting lending to users who are in non-compliance with the loan agreement;
- and
- Directs staff to update the loan agreement to include that the equipment must stay within the boundaries of the municipality throughout the duration of the loan.

Background/Executive Summary:

At its regular meeting of May 17th, Council received Report #22/05/17/1201 concerning re-opening the recreation equipment Lending Hub. Council passed a motion to defer to the June 21st meeting in order for staff to provide more information.

The following information has been compiled to compare local municipality’s Lending Hubs:

Municipality	Cost	Policy
Arnprior	SUP/Kayak - \$25 per day \$50 per weekend	No formal policy – would rather that equipment doesn’t leave municipality
Laurentian Valley	Free	Must be resident
Killaloe, Hagerty and Richards	Free	Must be resident/ ratepayer of KHR, BLR, NAW and BV
South Dundas	Free	Must be resident
Petawawa	Free	3-day loans - Must be resident
Pembroke	Free	Loans to non-residents
Renfrew	Free	Loans to non-residents
Laurentian Hills	Free	Loans to non-residents

The chart below shows how many residents versus seasonal and non-residents signed the equipment out during the 2020 and 2019 seasons.

Year	Residents	Seasonal Residents	Non-Residents	Uncertain
2020	11	13	6	2
2019	14	6	7	

It is staff recommendation that the program continue to be offered at no cost. The Lending Hub was created through the Healthy Kids Program which provided municipalities with funding to purchase equipment for the public to borrow free of charge in order to increase availability and access to physical activity opportunities. Charging a fee for the rental of equipment may deter people from using the program.

In December 2020, Council passed resolution 12/12/20/006 directing staff to implement a modest fee for Lending Hub use for large items; however, a figure was not included in the resolution.

Staff recommends that the late fee be set at \$5.00 per day, and that Council allows staff discretion in restricting rentals to those who frequently return equipment late and/or are in non-compliance of the loan agreement.

In discussion of residents versus non-residents loaning equipment; Staff recommends stating in the equipment loan agreement that all equipment must stay within the boundaries of the municipality at all times.

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact:

Not significant at this time. The summer student mainly operates the lending hub in the summer months and their wage is subsidized through Canada Summer Jobs. Any damage to equipment that is caused outside of regular wear and tear is billed directly to the user.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Crystal Fischer,
Clerk/Treasurer