



Corporation of the Township of Brock

Staff Report to the Mayor and Members of Council

From: David Tompkins

Position: Manager Facilities, Parks and Recreation

Title / Subject: Permission to Apply for McLeod Park Cenotaph Grant

Date of Report: September 20, 2021

Date of Meeting: September 27, 2021

Report No: 2021-PRF-010

1.0 Issue / Origin

The statue on the Cenotaph in McLeod Park is starting to deteriorate from weather and exposure to the elements. The barrel of the rifle has been broken off for the second time and staff were asked to obtain a quote for repairs.

2.0 Background

The cenotaph at McLeod Park has a statue that represents our soldiers that have served Canada in military operations. It is believed that an act of vandalism and deteriorating marble were the cause of the gun barrel to be broken. Staff were asked to source the cost of repairing the gun barrel to restore the statue to the original condition. Permission is being sought as the Community War Memorials Grant program deadline for submission is November 1st, 2021. Funding announcements would be made in the spring of 2022.

3.0 Analysis

The statue at McLeod Park is constructed from marble. Marble is a soft stone that over time will begin to deteriorate. It does not weather well. Sanderson Monuments were contacted to give a quote for the repair. Repairing the statue requires it be removed and shipped to a site where the repair would be done. This is a labour-intensive project and becomes more difficult when working with deteriorating marble. It was conveyed to staff that since the marble on the original statue is deteriorated, a repair will fail in time. It was also discussed that sourcing a new monument made from granite might be an option to consider. The workmanship on the monuments are extremely high quality and a new granite statue, barring a natural disaster or vandalism, will last for generations to come.

The grant application will not be awarded until the spring of 2022. Once the funds are in place it could be up to a year from time of order to delivery and installation. At the time of the report staff are unsure as to whom will take the lead on the grant application. The cenotaph is on Township property and maintain ownership.

4.0 Related Policies / Procedures

5.0 Financial / Budget Assessment

Two quotes were obtained from Sanderson Monuments to replace the statue and to fix the statue. The quote obtained to fix the existing statue is \$23,500 and to replace the statue is \$25,900 (plus HST). Financial commitments to date include \$500 from the Cannington Lions Club and funds to be confirmed from the Cannington Legion. Community War Memorial Funding is available from Veterans Affairs Canada in the form of a grant. As per the application we would need 25 percent of the cost in place at the time of the application. The grant portion will not exceed half of the projected cost of the project. The cost to the Township will be approximately \$13,000 (plus HST) based on the quotes given and minus any funds that would have been received through fundraising. The funds provided from the Township would come from insurance reserves which would be appropriate given the memorial has been vandalized and remains in that state.

6.0 Climate Change Impacts

7.0 Communications

8.0 Conclusion

The existing statue is deteriorating quickly and needs to be fixed or replaced. Staff would like permission to move forward with the grant application. There is on-going discussion as to whom will be taking the lead with the application. The property belongs to the Township and staff will advise as to who will eventually make the application.

9.0 Recommendation

That Council receive the report for information;

That the Council grants permission for an application to be made to the Community War Memorials Grant program, given the memorial is on Township property;

That Staff will advise whether the Legion will take the lead or whether the Township will after they continue their discussions;

That Council will consider contributing money to assist with the community contribution portion of the grant application with funds being made available through the insurance reserve, with the amount not yet known.