

This document can be made available in other accessible formats as soon as practicable and upon request

STAFF REPORT: Community Services



REPORT TO: Committee of the Whole
MEETING DATE: June 27, 2016
REPORT NO.: CSPW.16.097
SUBJECT: Youth Friendly Designation
PREPARED BY: Shawn Everitt, Director of Community Services

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report CSPW.16.097 entitled “Youth Friendly Designation”;

AND THAT Council direct Staff to consider the application process needs for designation as a Youth Friendly Community in the 2017 proposed budget.

B. Background

At the May 30, 2016 Council meeting, Melri Wright of Georgian Bay Youth Roots and Jason Wepler of the Grey Bruce Public Health Unit provided a deputation that requested the Town consider submitting application for a Youth Friendly Designation.

As a follow up to the presentation, Staff have reviewed the request and have confirmed with the presenters that the Town would be required to provide the following;

- In-kind space and resources
- Staff support in completing the Youth Friendly Designation application
- Funding Youth Roots process through community investment grant
- Letters of support for Youth Friendly Designation
- Maintenance and enhancement of existing excellence in youth play
- Partnership to provide youth voices e.g., youth council, youth committee, etc.
- Celebrate, recognize and value youth in our community

Town Staff have confirmed that the Municipality of Meaford is moving forward with an application in 2016. In discussion with Jason Wepler of the Grey Bruce Health Unit, Staff have confirmed that the Town could apply for the designation in 2017 and that he would also support that application timeframe considering the workload Georgian Bay Youth Roots may face with the Municipality of Meaford’s application.

Considering the application in 2017 through the budget process will also allow Staff the opportunity to provide a detailed budget covering all of the required commitments by the Town and Staff.

C. The Blue Mountains’ Strategic Goals

Goal #1 - Create opportunities for sustainability

Goal #2 - Engage our communities and partners

Goal #3 - Support healthy lifestyles

Goal #4 - Promote a culture of organizational and operational excellence

D. Environmental Impacts

Engaging our Youth and Community

E. Financial Impact

To be determined through the 2017 budget process

F. In Consultation With

Jason Wepler, Grey Bruce Health Unit

G. Attached

1. Georgian Bay Youth Roots Youth Friendly Designation Presentation

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Everitt, Director of Community
Services

For more information, please contact:
Shawn Everitt
severitt@thebluemontains.ca
(519) 599-3131 Ext.281



Youth Friendly Designation

Georgian Bay Youth Roots

Who we are?

- Georgian Bay Youth Roots coalition is committed to ensuring all local youth are healthy, engaged and contributing members of the Municipality of Meaford and Town of the Blue Mountains. We are committed to supporting families, building assets and mobilizing our community.
 - Melri Wright – Beaver Valley Outreach
 - Jason Wepler and Lisa Prowd, Grey Bruce Health Unit
 - Amber Knott and Jaden Calvert, Municipality of Meaford
 - Shawn Everitt and Jennifer Perks – Town of the Blue Mountains
 - Maryann Almas – Meaford Chamber
 - Melissa Barfoot - OPP

Goal

The Town of the Blue Mountains is viewed as a youth friendly community by both residents and visitors.

Youth Roots is hoping for municipal support in submitting an application to become a youth friendly in community by January 2017



Criteria and Application

We are doing really well in many criteria.

Some criteria (activities) will need attention, direction and advocacy.

CRITERIA 1:
Youth have options for play

CRITERIA 2:
Youth are formally connected to the community

CRITERIA 3:
Facilities are dedicated to youth play

CRITERIA 4:
It is easy for youth to find information about play activities in the community

CRITERIA 5:
The community supports public youth events

CRITERIA 6:
The community celebrates and recognizes youth

CRITERIA 7:
The community commits funding for youth play

CRITERIA 8:
The community supports positive youth development

CRITERIA 9:
The community supports youth volunteerism and leadership development

CRITERIA 10:
The community has effective partnerships that support youth play

CRITERIA 11:
Youth activism and advocacy for play is nurtured

CRITERIA 12:
Youth feel valued by their community

CRITERIA 13:
Youth can get to the play programs that are offered

CRITERIA 14:
Schools support the youth friendly approach

CRITERIA 15:
Adults champion the cause for youth play

CRITERIA 16:
Play is inclusive

What do we mean by PLAY?

Play is any non-school activity that has elements of choice, leads to satisfaction, and encourages progressive learning and enjoyment. Activities can include, but are not limited to, recreation, sport, leisure, arts, drama, dance, civic engagement, youth activism, volunteerism, social clubs and youth leadership.

Process

- Coalition meetings
- Presentations to community youth organizations
- Collection of evidence/data for each criteria
- Reviewed by youth
- Analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities

Decreased crime
Increased high school and post-secondary completion

Skills development
Civic participation
Leadership
Volunteerism

Population recruitment
Family attraction
Doctor recruitment
Business/industry attraction

YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY WANT AND NEED A YOUTH FRIENDLY COMMUNITY

Increased physical and mental health for youth
Decreased risk of addiction and youth suicide

Youth Friendly Designation

Youth re-attraction to settle after post secondary studies

Community capacity building
Youth empowerment
Youth voice heard

Provision of mentors and role models
Encourages cross generational interaction

Inventory of youth friendly assets and maintenance of those assets

Fosters multi-agency collaboration in community

What the Town can and does contribute?

- In-kind space, resources and staff time
- Supporting youth through community grant program
- Council resolution supporting Youth Roots in this process
- Letters of support for the Youth Friendly Designation
- Maintenance/enhancement of existing opportunity for youth play
- Partnership to provide youth voices e.g., youth council
- Celebrate, recognize and value youth in our community

Because
youth
matter...

Thank-you
for your time!



Be the person you needed
when you were younger