

COMMON COUNCIL

M&C No.	M&C
Report Date	January 21, 2022
Meeting Date	January 24, 2022
Service Area	Finance and Administrative Services

His Worship Mayor Donna Noade Reardon and Common Council

SUBJECT: Canada Games Aquatic Centre (CGAC) Request for COVID-19 Relief

OPEN OR CLOSED SESSION

This matter is to be discussed in open session of Common Council.

AUTHORIZATION

Primary Author	Commissioner/Dept. Head	City Manager
<i>Kevin Fudge</i>	<i>Kevin Fudge</i>	<i>John Collin</i>

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

1. Common Council approve the transfer of \$250,000 from Safe Restart Reserve Funds to provide COVID relief to the Aquatic Centre.
2. The City COVID-19 relief funding be conditional on the Canada Games Aquatic Centre Commission (CGACC) agreeing to be fully cooperative with and fully engaged in the City's renewed efforts to find a suitable long-term business model that is practical, of value to our community, and affordable.
3. The City COVID-19 relief funding be conditional on the CGACC making a request to all members of the Regional Facilities Commission to contribute their share of the COVID-19 relief funding.
4. The City Manager be required to complete the analysis on all alternative business models, as part of the ongoing review of the City's agencies, boards and commissions, and bring forth recommendations no later than September 1st, 2022.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Canada Games Aquatic Centre Commission (CGACC) is facing revenue shortfalls due to impacts of COVID-19. With the current restriction in place for Level 3, and operating limitations associated with Level 2, revenue generation is legitimately impacted. The CGAC has requested COVID-19 relief funding in the amount of \$250,000 to allow the Aquatic Centre to remain open throughout 2022.

If approved by Council, the City would fund the request with Safe Restart Reserve Funds which has been established specifically to mitigate the risk of service disruptions associated with COVID-19. The City's reserve fund strategy is best practice to ensuring the City achieves its long term financial goals.

As part of its restructuring plan, the City is undergoing a fundamental review of its agencies, boards and commissions. To facilitate best value for money for the community, it is recommended that any COVID relief funding to the Aquatic Centre be conditional on the CGACC fully cooperating with the review. It should also be noted that the White Paper on Municipal Reform has mandated regional recreation services with obligatory cost sharing of both operating and capital costs. The fundamental review affords the opportunity to explore this new governance models.

Based on discussions with the Commission Chair, there is full support with respect to the recommendation and the interests of the City and the Commission are aligned.

PREVIOUS RESOLUTION

N/A

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

This report aligns with Council's strategic priority to Perform

SERVICE AND FINANCIAL OUTCOMES

The recommendations presented to the CGACC supports sound financial management fiscal responsibility.

INPUT FROM OTHER SERVICE AREAS AND STAKEHOLDERS

This report has been reviewed with the City Manager.

ATTACHMENTS