



CITY OF HAMILTON
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Tourism and Culture Division

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency and Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	December 15, 2014
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Hamilton Veterans Committee - 2015 Volunteer Budget Submission (PED14193) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Rebecca Oliphant (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4290
SUBMITTED BY:	Jason Thorne General Manager Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- a) That the Hamilton Veterans Committee 2015 base budget submission in the amount of \$25,000, attached as Appendix "A" to Report PED14193, be approved and forwarded to the General Issues Committee (GIC) for consideration as part of the 2015 Budget process.
- b) That in addition to the base funding, that a budget allocation of \$2,000, funded by an increase to the tax levy, be approved and forwarded to the General Issues Committee (GIC) as part of the 2015 Budget process for consideration.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Hamilton Veterans Committee oversees the planning and delivery of military remembrance and commemoration activities on behalf of the City of Hamilton. When directed by Council, the Committee will provide input on projects and issues that are of concern to Hamilton Veterans. The Committee also acts as a liaison between the City and its Veterans.

The Hamilton Veterans Committee is requesting the amount of \$27,000 to coordinate various Veterans' activities throughout the year. These events include but are not limited to Remembrance Day and Decoration Day ceremonies. Costs associated with the safety of these events such as policing, warning boards, barricades, etc. are covered through the Community Partnership Program.

Each year the Hamilton Veterans Committee is asked to support an increasing number of Remembrance and Commemoration events. Expenses for the events that the Hamilton Veterans Committee coordinates have steadily increased partly due to the rise in audience attendance.

Increased costs include such items as wreaths, chairs and equipment, sun protection where applicable, an appropriate sound system (based on crowd size), program printing, and programming elements such as warbird "fly past" services.

There is also the expectation that the Veterans Committee will be asked to coordinate or, at least take a role planning events for the significant anniversaries of the First World War (1914-1918) starting in 2014 and continuing through to 2018.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: For 2015, the Hamilton Veterans Committee has requested their annual base budget of \$25,000 as approved at Council on April 9, 2014 - GIC Budget Report 14-002, as well as an additional \$2,000 for increased costs.

Staffing: N/A

Legal: N/A

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The City of Hamilton Veterans Committee was first appointed by the Council of The Corporation of the City of Hamilton in February 1972. At that time the responsibility of the Committee was to:

- i) Act as liaison for the veterans of the City of Hamilton, and the Hamilton Parks Board (re: Cenotaph); and the Hamilton Cemetery Board (re: Field of Honour, Woodland Cemetery);
- ii) Co-ordinate all parades in the City involving veterans; and,
- iii) Deal with all other matters directly relating to or of concern to veterans.

In November 2001, the existing Hamilton Veterans Committee was approved by City Council. They continue to oversee the planning and delivery of military remembrance and commemoration activities on behalf of the City of Hamilton. When directed by Council, the Committee provides input on projects and issues that are of concern to Hamilton Veterans.

Since 2001, these military remembrance and commemoration activities have included organizing the City of Hamilton Remembrance Ceremonies in addition to assisting with the coordination of annual ceremonies in Ancaster, Dundas, Glanbrook, Stoney Creek and Waterdown. Other annual events include the Dieppe Memorial Ceremony, East Hamilton Decoration Day and Decoration Day. The Hamilton Veterans Committee also led to the coordination of one-time events that included the 60th anniversary of D Day in 2004 and the 60th anniversary of VE Day in 2005.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

N/A.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Hamilton Veterans Committee: Their budget submission is attached as Appendix “A” to Report PED14193.

Arts, Events and Grants Section, Tourism and Culture Division, Planning and Economic Development Department: Provided cost estimates for Hamilton Veterans Committee activities in 2015 and clarification of costs covered by the Community Partnership Program.

Finance, Administration and Revenue Generation Section, Corporate Services Department: Provided reserve balance for Hamilton Veterans Committee.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The first recommendation is the request for the annual base budget for expenses related to the City of Hamilton Veterans Committee coordinated events.

The second recommendation is a request for an increase of \$2,000 to the base budget. City of Hamilton Veterans Committee coordinated events are attracting larger audiences requiring additional services and equipment. In addition, the Committee is starting to plan and execute 2014-2018 WWI Centenary Events.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

N/A.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2012 – 2015 STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Priority #1

A Prosperous & Healthy Community

WE enhance our image, economy and well-being by demonstrating that Hamilton is a great place to live, work, play and learn

Strategic Priority #2

Valued & Sustainable Services

WE deliver high quality services that meet citizen needs and expectations, in a cost effective and responsible manner.

Strategic Priority #3

Leadership & Governance

WE work together to ensure we are a government that is respectful towards each other and that the community has confidence and trust in

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” to Report PED14193 – 2015 Hamilton Veterans Committee Volunteer Committee Budget Submission

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