




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

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency and Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	December 10, 2020
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	City of Hamilton Veterans Committee 2021 Budget Submission (PED20216) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Brydie Huffman (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4122
SUBMITTED BY:	Carrie Brooks-Joiner Director, Tourism and Culture Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

That the Hamilton Veterans Committee (Veterans Committee) 2021 base budget submission, attached as Appendix "A" to Report PED20216 in the amount of \$43 K, be approved.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with the process for submission of budgets for the Volunteer Advisory Committees, the Hamilton Veterans Committee budget for 2021, in the amount of \$43 K is being submitted for approval.

Hamilton residents have high and increasing expectations for the quality and inclusivity of veterans' memorial services to properly honour the sacrifices made past and present.

Alternatives for Consideration - Not Applicable

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: The Hamilton Veterans Committee is requesting their annual base budget of \$43 K, the same as the budget requested and approved in the previous year.

Staffing: N/A

Legal: N/A

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Since 2001, 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. The Veterans Committee also acts as a liaison to the military community in Hamilton. Other annual events include the Dieppe Memorial Ceremony and Decoration Day. The Veterans Committee, supported by City of Hamilton staff, have most recently worked to include and promote the inclusion of youth in their events and matters of public art installations.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

The City's role in veterans' memorial services and related activities furthers the objectives of the City's Strategic Plan.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

External

- The Hamilton Veterans Committee

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The rationale for continued use of funds for the Hamilton Veterans Committee budget is based on:

- Increased attendance numbers at Remembrance Day services resulting in additional costs, e.g. enhanced security and traffic management services;
- Addition of large video screens to make the services accessible to the public and active military members on parade as downtown construction projects have reduced the space permitted for events in Gore Park; and
- In 2021, the Veterans Committee plans to return to hosting two services of remembrance on November 10 and 11 (Public Health restrictions allowing) to include active members of the Reserve Forces who cannot attend if November 11 falls on a weekday. This will continue until 2028 when Remembrance Day will take place on a weekend again.

Without funding provided by Council, these expectations cannot be met for these events that hold national historical significance.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

The alternative would be not to fund the operations of the Veterans Committee.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 - 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Community Engagement and Participation

Hamilton has an open, transparent and accessible approach to City government that engages with and empowers all citizens to be involved in their community.

Healthy and Safe Communities

Hamilton is a safe and supportive City where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

Culture and Diversity

Hamilton is a thriving, vibrant place for arts, culture, and heritage where diversity and inclusivity are embraced and celebrated.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" - Hamilton Veterans Committee 2021 Budget Submission

BH:ac