

CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

City Council: June 21, 2023

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR N. NANN.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR.....

Centre Français Hamilton Inc – FrancoFEST (Ward 3)

WHEREAS, about 750 families, representing approximately 1,500 Ward 3 residents, are Francophones (as estimated based on 2021 Census data as well as Immigration and Refugees and Citizenship Canada);

WHEREAS, Ward 3 is home to the first established Catholic French School, Notre-Dame, that has 350 students from kindergarten to Grade 8 and is considered the centre of the Francophonie in Hamilton;

WHEREAS, there is a long history of Francophone organizations in Ward 3, with Centre Francais Hamilton Inc forming in 1971 and purchasing a house at King and Sherman with donation assistance from its 125 members to afford the down payment;

WHEREAS, FrancoFEST has been gathering over 30,000 Francophones and Francophiles in the last ten years at Gage Park every summer;

WHEREAS, FrancoFEST has a tourism regional economic impact of about \$2.2M every year, as calculated using the provinces model; and

WHEREAS, FrancoFEST provides a space for francophones, including folks who are new to Hamilton from French-speaking countries, to gather, celebrate culture and build community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That \$2,000 be allocated from the Ward 3 Bell Tower Funds Non-Property Tax Revenue Account (3301609603) to Centre Français Hamilton Inc toward costs associated with the FrancoFEST; and
- (b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute any required agreement(s) and ancillary documents, with such terms and conditions in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.