



CITY OF HAMILTON
HEALTHY AND SAFE COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT
Tourism and Culture Division

TO:	Chair and Members Emergency and Community Services Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	December 5, 2024
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Hamilton Veterans Committee 2025 Budget Submission (PED24234) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Christopher Redford (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4688
SUBMITTED BY:	Lisa Abbott Acting Director, Tourism & Culture Division Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	<i>Lisa Abbott</i>

RECOMMENDATION

That the Hamilton Veterans Committee 2025 base budget of \$65,000 be approved, attached as Appendix "A" to Report PED24234, and referred to the 2025 budget process for consideration.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Hamilton Veterans Committee (HVC) oversees the planning and delivery of remembrance and commemoration activities and services 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 \$65,000 (the same as 2024) to coordinate various Veterans' activities throughout the year. These events include but are not limited to Remembrance Day, Decoration Day ceremonies and Youth Education initiatives. Costs associated with policing these events are covered through the Tourism and Culture Division, Events Office operating budget. The remaining safety factors such as road closures, traffic warning signs and fencing for members of the public are covered through the Hamilton Veterans Committee approved budget.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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Other expenses for the events that the Hamilton Veterans Committee coordinates include wreaths, chairs and equipment, sun protection, appropriate sound and video systems, printing, and programming elements such as aircraft flyovers at services.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: For 2025, the Hamilton Veterans Committee has asked for their annual base budget of \$65,000.

Staffing: N/A

Legal: N/A

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The 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. 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. Other annual events include the Dieppe Memorial Ceremony and Decoration Day. The Committee and their staff liaison have most recently worked to include and promote the inclusion of youth in their events.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

Not applicable.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

- Hamilton Veterans Committee;

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- Financial Coordinator, Financial Planning, Administration and Policy Division, Corporate Services Department; and,
- Acting Manager, Finance and Administration, Financial Planning, Administration and Policy Division, Corporate Services Department.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

There is an expectation from the citizens of Hamilton for Remembrance services to be provided in order to properly honour the sacrifices made by our veterans and those currently serving.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

N/A

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix 'A' to Report PED24234 – Hamilton Veterans Committee 2025 Budget Submission