



Staff Report

Report Title: April 2022 Status Report, Manager, Strategic Initiatives

Prepared By: Michelle Goetz, Manager, Strategic Initiatives

Department: BED

Date: Apr. 4, 2022

Report Number: BED-2022-04-20

File Number:

C11 BED22

Attachments:

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby approves Report number BED-2022-04-20, prepared by Michelle Goetz, Manager, Strategic Initiatives AND approves entering into an agreement with Bang the Table to host our community engagement website until July 31st 2026, for \$5,000+ HST annually AND FURTHER authorizes the appropriate by-law coming forward.

Background:

This report provides an update by the Manager, Strategic Initiatives on current projects.

Discussion:

[Discovery Guide](#)

Unfortunately, the cost of printing increased from our initial quote in December, the paper industry is experiencing supply chain issues and pricing is volatile in this environment. After re-quoting with multiple printing companies, McLaren still provided the most competitive price, the quotes received are listed below. The weight of paper we preferred was not available but we were able to compromise on a similar paper weight to stay within our budget for this project.

Quotes

- McLaren Press: \$11,401 + HST
- Blyth Printing: \$13,630 + HST
- M&T Printing Group: \$14,673.27 +HST

- Reliance: \$14,910 + HST
- ABC, Waterloo: \$14,220.41 + HST

The guide will be delivered to the Ripley-Huron Community Centre in mid-April and we aim to have the mail-out to residents and tourism centres completed before the Victoria Day long weekend in May.

Bang the Table

Bang the Table is the software provider that hosts our community engagement website www.haveyoursayhk.ca, they were recently purchased by a new company called Granicus. We were notified recently that with the migration to Granicus our fees for the site may increase. The Team reached out to our account manager to confirm what the fees would be beyond our multi-year agreement (terminates in July 2023) and they did not have that information available at this time. We were however, able to re-negotiate an extended multi-year agreement with Bang the Table that would see our current annual pricing remain in effect until July 31st 2026. Our current pricing is \$5,000 + HST annually for unlimited project admin licences.

Ripley Industrial Park

We were notified on March 21st that our application to the Ontario Certified Site Program was accepted. The team will be working with our Account Manager to provide any final documents and details required to finalize the acceptance. Once all documentation is provided we will be eligible for funding for site preparation (photography, maps, surveys, etc.) and marketing.

Women in Carpentry

Intake 2 is completing their last week of skills training and with that includes the completion of the shed they built and donated to a Community Living residence. 3 participants began their work placements (1 participant from intake 1 is included in these numbers) and the placements are going well. The other 9 participants will be starting their work placements in the next few weeks.

The participants also participated in a volunteer day at Habitat for Humanity. The onsite builds (Habitat and the shed) have been a great experience for many participants. Several participants have commented that they weren't sure what area of carpentry they were interested in, or even if carpentry was the career path they wanted, until they experienced onsite workdays. The feedback from several participants is that they love working on site and want to pursue jobs in either renovations or new house construction.

5 of 8 participants from intake 1 have found permanent employment in carpentry.

Communications Strategy Implementation

In March, staff initiated the monthly department communications meetings as part of our strategy implementation. The goal of the meetings is to share information between departments and encourage collaboration. The first meeting included one member from each department and the Communications Coordinator. Each department shared upcoming communications information from their respective departments and will take all the information they received at the meeting back to their teams.

The meeting also served as an opportunity for the team to solve problems collaboratively, one department required assistance with the disposal of batteries and communications around the appropriate drop-off locations. The team worked together to develop a solution to both issues.

We are excited to see continued collaboration and cooperation through these meetings.

Financial Impacts:

None at this time. Our annual licence fee for Bang the Table was included in our 2022 budget.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

The information provided in this report is consistent with and in keeping with the Municipality's Vision & Mission. The recommendations contribute to the goals in achieving a prosperous, spirited, vibrant and accessible community.

Projects in this report assist staff in achieving the following projects in the 2019-2023

Strategic Plan Action Plan:

- P4.1 Ripley Industrial Park
- A3.5 Skilled Trades Training
- A6.1 Communication Plan

Respectfully Submitted By:

Michelle Goetz, Manager, Strategic Initiatives

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer