



Committee of the Whole Report

Meeting date:	June 30, 2020
Title:	Recreation – West Grey Alcohol Policy
Prepared by:	Kodey Hewlett, Recreation Supervisor
Approved by:	Laura Johnston, CAO

Recommendation

THAT report Recreation – West Grey Alcohol Policy be received for information; and further,
THAT that committee of the whole recommends council adopt the updated West Grey Alcohol Policy; and further,
THAT committee of the whole supports staff's recommendation to leave event licences and special occasion permits status quo.

Executive summary

Following regulatory changes by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) in early 2020, both Grey Bruce Public Health and the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) notified municipalities of the regulatory updates. The following report outlines the changes to the West Grey Municipal Alcohol Policy to meet the legislative requirements as well as updates to the alcohol policy as discussed by West Grey Committee of the Whole on May 5, 2020. Additionally, staff completed research regarding the municipality licensing its facilities and recommends status quo of leaving licensing with the renter.

Background and discussion

Recent regulatory changes in Ontario affect how alcohol-related events are hosted on municipal property.

Municipalities have the authority to reduce these potential risks by requiring events to adopt additional mitigation measures. These measures may also have the benefit of reducing liability to the municipality.

The Grey Bruce Health Unit and the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) outlined some of the associated public health and safety concerns and provided detailed mitigation measures for consideration by municipalities.

Following comments made by committee on May 5, 2020, the West Grey Municipal Alcohol Policy (MAP) was re-written to include required updates from the AGCO as well as requested updates from committee including clearer language, updated beverage container policies, and



updates to the designation of properties

The changes to the policy concerning the AGCO include updated signage regarding who alcohol can be served to, changes to the “last call,” and updates to the “drink ticket” system. While undertaking this review of the policy, under committee direction staff also reviewed the possibility of licensing of the municipal recreation facilities.

Licensing our facilities would provide an extra service to our renters however there would be additional costs to the municipality and renter would receive less revenues.

To licence the facilities the municipality would encounter many costs including storage, inventory, staffing, licensing, and increased deductible payments. Staffing is the most significant challenge, as current recreation staff do not have the capacity to manage licensing and alcohol within their current duties.

In licensing the facilities, the municipality would now hold majority of the liability in a licenced event. In continuing with the current model, the majority of the liability is passed to the renter. The current model uses registered bar tenders to serve under a renter’s Special Occasion Permit (SOP) and through this model the municipality is able to retain control of the event while limiting the liability.

If the municipality held the licence, renters would save the cost of the SOP, corkage, and bartenders but would lose alcohol sales revenues. In accordance with the AGCO, the maximum cost sharing option is 10%, meaning renters would now only earn \$0.40 per drink sold as opposed to the \$2.50 (assuming drinks are \$4.00). This would apply to service clubs, minor sports teams, and volunteer groups as well.

Legal and legislated requirements

Ensures compliance with current AGCO legislation and best practices.

Financial and resource implications

None

Staffing implications

None

Consultation

- Alcohol Gaming and Control Commission of Ontario
- Grey Bruce Public Health
- Ontario Public Health Association
- Frank Cowan Insurance
- Dave Eccles, CRM Insurance Brokerage
- Kerri Mighton, Director of Finance and Treasury



Click or tap to enter a date. (3)

- Parks and Recreation Ontario
- Randy Murray, Facilities Manager (Durham)
- Tom Culliton, Facilities Manager (Aytton and Neustadt)

Alignment to strategic vision plan

Pillar: Build a Better Future

Goal: Stewards of the Environment

Strategy: Look for sustainable practices throughout municipal venues and programming; look for alternatives to single use plastic

Attachments

West Grey Municipal Alcohol Policy (MAP)

Next steps

On council approval, staff will begin implementing the Municipal Alcohol Policy informing all upcoming renters and uploading the MAP to corresponding municipal websites.

Respectfully submitted: