



The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle

To: Mayor and Members of Council

Prepared by: Peter Marra, P.Eng. – Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

Department: Administration

Date of Report: December 17, 2021

Report Number: AD-21-2021

Subject: Healing Hearts Forest Sponsorship

Recommendation

That the report of the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer dated December 17, 2021 (AD-21-2021) regarding the Healing Hearts Forest Sponsorship be received; that Council approves the sponsorship and directs Administration to prepare the necessary agreements, with a view to completing the project by the end of 2022; and that Council authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to execute the applicable agreement(s).

Report

The Town has been approached by Mr. and Mrs. Brain and Mary-Lynn Parent along with Families First Funeral Homes & Tribute Centre to provide a sponsorship for the development of a reforestation area within the Town of LaSalle.

Through Town administration, a proposal was put together that would see this reforestation effort to occur on the Vollmer property. Enclosed is a letter from the proposed sponsors and a sketch that depicts what is being proposed.

The proposal is to provide a gazebo, a butterfly garden, trail connections, benches, and an approx. reforestation area of 3.25 acres, over the large hill immediately south of the existing stormwater management pond. The reforestation area will consist of planting 425 trees that will be anywhere from 5' to 7' tall at time of planting.

The Essex Region Conservation Authority will also form part of the effort, by taking the lead on the tree orders and planting efforts.

The sponsors are proposing to contribute a combined total of \$118,000.00 for this work. This will cover much of the proposed works specific to this reforested area.

The Town will need to contribute about \$40,000.00 for some extra trails connection to change them from gravel to asphalt to provide for accessibility to this area.

The sponsors are proposing to call this area the "Healing Hearts Forest".

The sponsors thoughts and vision for the Healing Hearts Forest are outlined within their letter attached.

Therefore, it is recommended that Council approve and support this sponsorship opportunity.

Furthermore, should Council approve this sponsorship, there will be a need for the Town to prepare a formal agreement between the Town and the sponsorship parties outlining financial contribution, payment terms, work coordination, approval of works, naming rights, etc.

Additionally, as part of this sponsorship, their will be sign installed with the Healing Hearts Forest name and acknowledgement of this sponsorship. Exact details will be coordinated through the agreement.

Consultations

The contents of the report have been discussed through the CAO, and the Director of Strategy and Engagement. The Director of Finance has confirmed the financial section of this report.

Financial Implications

As noted, much of the cost are being proposed to be paid for by the sponsors for all the directly related features/items.

There is about \$40,000.00 of funds needed from the Town for some asphalt trails not directly related to this sponsorship. It is proposed that these will be funded from the Vollmer reserve.

Prepared By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Marra', is positioned below the 'Prepared By:' heading.

Peter Marra, P.Eng. – Deputy CAO

Link to Strategic Goals

1. Enhancing organizational excellence - Not Applicable
2. Strengthen the community's engagement with the Town - Yes
3. Grow and diversify the local economy - Yes
4. Build on our high-quality of life - Yes
5. Sustaining strong public services and infrastructure - Yes

Communications

Not applicable.

Notifications

Mr. and Mrs. Brian and Mary-Lynn Parent

Jennifer Wells - Families First

Sherri Tovell - Families First

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	AD-21-2021 healing hearts forest sponsorship .docx
Attachments:	- Healing Hearts Forest Proposal for Council report.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Dec 17, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:



Chief Administrative Officer

Joe Milicia