



The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle

To: Mayor and Members of Council
Prepared by: Linda Jean, Deputy Clerk
Department: Council Services
Date of Report: May 7, 2019
Report Number: CL-10-2020
Subject: 2020 Volunteer Recognition Event

Recommendation

That the report of the Deputy Clerk dated May 7, 2020 (CL-10-2020) regarding the 2020 Volunteer Recognition Event BE RECEIVED; and that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 Volunteer Recognition Event BE CANCELLED and resume in 2021.

Report

A volunteer Recognition Event is held each September to celebrate LaSalle residents who have volunteered their time and energy to a community service club or organization.

Each spring, a call for nominations for the Citizen of the Year Award, Young Citizen of the year Award, Outstanding Service Club Volunteer Award, Outstanding Board Volunteer Award, and Milestone Recipient is communicated to the public through a variety of channels. The deadline to nominate a volunteer ends July 31st. Nominees must be a LaSalle resident and once awarded are ineligible for future recognition.

In 2019, a concentrated effort was undertaken with the Corporate Communication & Promotions Officer to appeal to the community with hopes of increasing the response for nominations. Communications began in April and extended until mid-July and included advertising in the local newspaper, placing inserts in tax and water bill mail outs, posting information on social media, our website, and lobby screens, public service announcements, a monthly email blast and more. Nominations received in 2019 included 7 nominations for citizen of the year, 2 nominations for young citizen of the year, 11 nominations for outstanding service club volunteer, 2 nominations for outstanding board volunteer and 2 nominations for milestone recipient, some of these

being duplicate nominations. Due to the increased communication, a slight increase of nominations were received 2019.

	2016	2017	2018	2019
Citizen of the year	2	3	4	7
Young Citizen of the year	3	4	2	2
Outstanding Service Club	5	2	7	11
Outstanding Board	3	1	3	2
Milestone	4	0	0	2

In August of each year, members of the Parks, Recreation and Events Committee review submissions and choose the winners. Winners are contacted and invited along with nine guests to attend the Volunteer Recognition Event in September.

Preparations and advertising for the event begin in April of each year but have been placed on hold due to the restrictions and uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time it is unknown if the present restrictions of physical distancing, social gatherings of five people or more and other limitations will remain in effect or will be lifted. It is also anticipated that public fear of being in a large gathering may continue even in the event these restrictions are modified or lifted.

Due to the delayed opportunity to advertise the event, restrictions regarding social gatherings, physical distancing and other limitations imposed in response to COVID-19, it is recommended the 2020 Volunteer Recognition Event be cancelled and resume in 2021.

Consultations

Not applicable.

Financial Implications

At this time, Administration has not begun coordinating the event. If we are to proceed it will be necessary to retain vendors and provide deposits. In the event it is necessary to cancel at a later date, it is likely these deposits will not be refunded.

Prepared By:


Deputy Clerk

Linda Jean

Link to Strategic Goals

	Enhancing organizational excellence
	Sustain strong public services and infrastructure
Yes	Strengthen the community's engagement with the Town
	Grow and diversify the local economy
	Build on our high-quality of life

Communications

	Not applicable
Yes	Website
Yes	Social Media
	News Release
	Local Newspaper
	Bids & Tenders
	Notification pursuant to the Planning Act

Notifications

Name	Address	Email

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2020 Volunteer Recognition Event.docx
Attachments:	- Awards Policy.pdf
Final Approval Date:	May 18, 2020

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



Director, Council Services/Clerk

Agatha Robertson



Chief Administrative Officer

Joe Milicia