



Subject: King of the Lake Fishing Tournaments

To: Council

From: Chief Administrative Office

Report Number: 2021-192

Meeting Date: July 12, 2021

Recommendation:

That Chief Administrative Office Report 2021-192 be received; and

That City sponsorship of the King of the Lake fishing tournaments be approved, with \$5,000 in financial support from the City, and waiving the fees for H.H. Knoll Lakeview park permit, bandshell permit, and hydro access permit; and

That approval of the above-noted event and sponsorship is conditional on the King of the Lake fishing tournaments submitting a certificate of liability insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000 naming the City of Port Colborne as additional insured.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to present a request from Yvan Charrois, the President of King of the Lake. Mr. Charrois is seeking support to host two King of the Lake Walleye Fishing Tournaments in Port Colborne on July 30-31, 2021 and September 10-11, 2021 at Sugarloaf Harbour Marina and H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park.

Background:

The King of the Lake Tournament Series is a group of Salmon and Walleye tournaments on Lake Ontario and Lake Erie. In 2019, King of the Lake hosted the Maui Jim Walleye Open at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park in conjunction with Canal Days Marine Heritage Festival. The City provided \$5,000 in financial support for that event.

King of the Lake has submitted a tournament proposal and COVID-19 protocols for their 2021 tournament series on July 30-31, 2021 and September 10-11, 2021. Staff have reviewed the proposal and discussed the tournament and the logistics involved. The

level of support that is being requested is similar to the level of support provided by the City for other fishing tournaments. The proposal is attached as Appendix “A” and the COVID-19 protocols are outlined in Appendix “B”.

Mr. Charrois requested financial support from the City in the amount of \$5,000, due to the time, effort, and expenses that are involved in operating both tournaments. This will allot \$2,500 to each tournament. Mr. Charrois stated that the financial support would help alleviate the costs of the tournament that include, but are not limited too:

- Creation, distribution, and collection of various administrative documents, tournament rules, regulations, etc.
- Collection of tournament entry fees payable by cheque, money order, interact, or credit card.
- Creation of event signage.
- Insurance and bank fees.
- Weigh-in costs.
- Sponsor and volunteer recruitment and supplies for volunteers on-site.
- Tournament prizes and purse.

Mr. Charrois is also requesting that park rental fees for H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park be waived. Council approved the establishment of an account dedicated to supporting local fishing tournaments during the 2019 budget process and allocated a total of \$25,000 to the account for this purpose. Should Council approve the \$5,000 sponsorship request, staff recommend the funding be allocated from this account.

The City has provided infrastructure and logistical support for other tournaments in the past, which in turn has helped event organizers promote and maintain manageable tournament participation fees. If Council approves the request for sponsorship and financial support, King of the Lake will recognize the City as an event sponsor.

Event staff presented this request to the City’s Emergency Control Group (ECG), to ensure COVID-19 protocols are in place and this event operates in a safe manner. City staff will continue to work with the event organizer and Niagara Region Public Health through the rapidly changing COVID-19 environment to ensure that the health and safety of everyone involved is a top priority.

Discussion:

The King of the Lake fishing tournaments promote sport fishing tourism in the City and enhance the City’s recognition as an “Ultimate Fishing Town” destination (a designation awarded to the City of Port Colborne in 2013-2014). As with other City sponsored events, should Council approve the City’s support, staff would provide oversight and would manage the necessary infrastructure and logistical support.

Staff will be working with the event organizer to provide information to the City at the conclusion of the event. The City will create a small survey that the event organizer will require all tournament participants to fill out. This will provide information to the City about the participants and how they spend their time in Port Colborne. Staff are also looking into other ways to obtain data that will more accurately represent the economic impact fishing tournaments have on the Port Colborne economy. Staff have requested the organizer to provide economic impact numbers estimated from this tournament, once those have been received, staff can share them with Council.

The event organizers are required to provide a certificate of liability insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000, naming the City as additional insured, for the duration of the event, and must comply with the City's Festival & Event Insurance Requirements.

Internal Consultations:

The tournament has been discussed with staff at the Sugarloaf Harbour Marina. They do not have any objections to the tournaments.

The tournament has also been discussed with the ECG regarding protocols for COVID-19.

Financial Implications:

The following is a summary of the requested sponsorship:

City Sponsorship Type	Approximate Value (\$)
Park Permit Fee x2	\$156
Bandshell rental fee x2	\$104
Hydro access fee x2	\$10.40
Financial contribution	\$5,000
Total	\$5,270.40

Conclusion:

In conclusion, staff recommend that Council approve the City sponsorship of the King of the Lake fishing tournaments and provide the following support:

- \$5,000 financial contribution
 - Waiver of fees for H.H. Knoll Lakeview park permit, bandshell permit, hydro access permit.
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Appendices:

- a. King of the Lake Tournament Proposal
- b. King of the Lake COVID-19 Protocols

Respectfully submitted,

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Report Approval:

All reports reviewed and approved by the Department Director and also the City Treasurer when relevant. Final approval is by the Chief Administrative Officer.