



**Subject: Canalside Restaurant Inn – Request to Extend Sidewalk Patio Encroachment Agreement Year-Round**

**To: Council**

**From: Office of the Chief Administrative Officer**

Report Number: 2022-251

Meeting Date: November 8, 2022

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### **Recommendation:**

That Chief Administrative Office Report 2022-251 be received; and

That Economic Development and Tourism Services staff be authorized to extend the sidewalk encroachment agreement with Canalside Restaurant Inn from November 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023.

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### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to follow-up on Report 2021-272 from October 25, 2021, regarding sidewalk-based patio encroachment agreements and the pilot project from November 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022 for Canalside Restaurant Inn (Canalside). City staff are seeking Council approval for a request received from Greg Poisson at Canalside to extend the encroachment agreement from November 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023.

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### **Background:**

During the October 25, 2021, Council meeting, Council approved a staff recommendation that the encroachment agreement with Canalside be extended from November 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022 as a pilot project. Staff were to report back on the results of the pilot program. Mr. Poisson is requesting an extension of the pilot for the November 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023 time period.

In 2021 Canalside invested in heaters and awnings for the sidewalk patio area that are affixed to the building.

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**Discussion:**

Throughout the pandemic the City of Port Colborne has worked collaboratively with local businesses in partnership with the local Business Improvement Areas (BIA) and Chamber of Commerce to provide flexibility and solutions to allow for business continuity. As local businesses continue to recover and reposition themselves in this business climate it is important for the City to continue to provide this flexibility and support.

During the 2021-2022 pilot program, four (4) conditions were required, and all were met by Canalside.

The Economic Development and Tourism Services (EDTS) would propose three (3) conditions for 2022-2023:

- 1) EDTS to amend the encroachment agreement and submit a site plan;
- 2) Fire and Emergency Services perform an inspection on the awnings and overhead heaters;
- 3) It is understood by Canalside that it is their responsibility to maintain the sidewalk and remove tables/chairs daily and the City may have to cut the snowbanks in the winter and will require the area to be clear. It is advised that snow be kept on the interlock area of the sidewalk.

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**Internal Consultations:**

The By-law Division, Fire and Emergency Services Division, and the Public Works Department were consulted on the 2021/22 pilot and the 2022/23 request.

There are no objections from City Divisions for 2022/23 and no issues were raised during the 2021/22 pilot program.

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**Financial Implications:**

There are no financial implications.

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**Public Engagement:**

The Downtown BIA and Port Colborne Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce were consulted and raised no objections.

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## Strategic Plan Alignment:

The initiative contained within this report supports the following pillars of the strategic plan:

- Service and Simplicity - Quality and Innovative Delivery of Customer Services
  - Attracting Business Investment and Tourists to Port Colborne
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## Conclusion:

The pandemic caused significant and ongoing hardship on local businesses including restaurants, in the City of Port Colborne. This has led to innovative approaches and changes in how restaurants operate in Port Colborne. The pilot program in 2021-2022 that permitted Canalside to operate a winter patio was successful and they are seeking permission to operate this patio again from November 1, 2022 to April 30, 2023.

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## Appendices:

A. Canalside Pub Eatery Winter Sidewalk Patio Request from Downtown BIA

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 review and approval by the Chief Administrative Officer.