



Corporate Report

NO: R231

COUNCIL DATE: October 3,

2005

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **September 30, 2005**

FROM: **General Manager Planning and Development
General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture** FILE: **0870-20
(Newton Seniors Centre)**

SUBJECT: **Addition to and Rehabilitation of the Newton Seniors' Centre**

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Council:

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. Approve the construction of an addition to, and building envelope rehabilitation of, the Newton Seniors' Centre with a budget of \$1,550,000 funded by way of \$1,390,000 from excess revenues from land sales and \$160,000 by way of donation from the Newton Seniors Society.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval to proceed with an addition to, and building envelope rehabilitation of, the Newton Seniors' Centre with the project funded in part from unanticipated land sales revenues and in part by a donation from the Newton Seniors Society.

DISCUSSION

For several years, the seniors in Newton have requested an addition to the Newton Seniors' Centre. The Newton Seniors' Centre is a very successful facility that annually hosts many seniors' events that include participation by over 1,900 seniors. The Newton seniors have a high level of ownership with more than 200 active volunteers participating in various areas of the operation, including teaching programs, leading of club activities, planning and working at special events, providing opportunities for the frail elderly, working at the cafeteria to provide 40 to 60 hot meals per day and representing the Centre in a variety of other ways.

All areas of the facility are programmed to a maximum during the day on Monday through Friday, as well as on

Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoons. This facility is also utilized for community programming on Monday through Thursday evenings. In addition, it hosts several regular private events. The facility also hosts 30 activity clubs as well as 50 volunteer-led programs. In addition, between 20 and 25 health and wellness classes are held within the facility on a regular weekly basis.

An expansion to the Centre will enable the delivery of additional programs that will assist in meeting the growing demand for programs and uses at the facility. The proposed expansion will involve the construction of new multi-purpose space that will be dividable to allow up to three programming areas or be used as a larger consolidated space, as necessary.

A dedicated group of members established the Newton Seniors Society to fund raise for the subject addition to the Centre. The Society has been successful in raising \$160,000 for the project (including a \$125,000 donation from Progressive Construction). The Society has also advised staff that they are in the process of applying to the Province for funding that is potentially available from Provincial gaming revenues. If this funding becomes available it will act to reduce the required project funding from other sources.

The Society's fundraising activities to date have included:

- 3 wine and cheese parties;
- 1 wine and cheese party with an auction (more than \$5,000 was raised);
- A Karaoke night;
- 3 raffles;
- More than 300 individual donations including \$14,000 raised in a 12 x \$10 incentive plan;
- Significant memorial donations; and
- Many community partners have participated, including 30 local merchants, the Newton Lions Club and the Firefighters charitable Fund

Building Envelope Rehabilitation

An examination of the envelope of the existing Newton Seniors' Centre building has revealed water penetration problems that need to be addressed to maximize the life of the existing building. It is estimated that this work will cost \$750,000 to complete.

Project Funding

The estimated cost of the project, including both the addition and the rehabilitation work, is \$1,550,000. The Newton Seniors Society has raised and is prepared to donate to the City, \$160,000 toward this project. The balance of the funding, amounting to \$1,390,000, is available from unanticipated revenues from 2005 land sales that occurred as a result of the strong real estate market in Surrey.

Timing

Should Council approve this project, the design work will commence immediately, followed thereafter by construction.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above, it is recommended that Council approve the construction of an addition to, and building envelope rehabilitation of, the Newton Seniors' Centre with funding for the project in the amount of \$1,390,000 being made available from excess revenues from land sales in 2005 and \$160,000 in donation revenue from the Newton Seniors Society.



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