

REPORT

REPORT TO: Community and Corporate Affairs Committee

REPORT FROM: Elizabeth Van Ravens, Tax Analyst
Wendy O'Donnell, Deputy Treasurer and Manager of Revenue and Taxation

DATE: October 29, 2018

REPORT NO.: CORPSERV-2018-0047

RE: Waiver of Development Charges- Bob Rumball Canadian Center of Excellence for the Deaf

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. CORPSERV-2018-0047 dated October 29, 2018 regarding the Waiver of Development Charges- Bob Rumball Canadian Center of Excellence for the Deaf be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approve the waiver of Town development charges for The Range operated by the Bob Rumball Canadian Centre of Excellence for the Deaf, as allowed under By-Law 2017-0049 section 3 (3) in the amount of \$4,725.34;

AND FURTHER THAT the Town contact the Region of Halton on behalf of the Bob Rumball Canadian Centre of Excellence for the Deaf, requesting they consider a grant in lieu of the Region's development charges amounting to \$22,869.36.

BACKGROUND:

The Bob Rumball Canadian Centre of Excellence for the Deaf (BRCCED) is a registered charity that provides better futures for deaf, deaf-blind, and hard of hearing children and adults with additional special needs. It offers a variety of care and support services including:

- Children and adult group homes;
- Adult programs, e.g., providing activities, sports and community outings, computer use, motor and life skills development, employment readiness and volunteer opportunities;

- Respite care and parent relief, e.g., providing deaf individuals with special needs the chance to meet new friends and become involved in new activities in a signing environment.

The Centre is located at 7801 No. 5 Side Road and Highway 25. It serves the area from Burlington to Guelph, and from Cambridge-Kitchener-Waterloo to Orangeville.

COMMENTS:

The Range is a driving range and golf centre; it is owned and operated by the Bob Rumball Canadian Centre of Excellence. The Range provides a unique working environment for the residents and clients of the BRCCED while providing a sense of responsibility and self-worth that ultimately makes a significant contribution to the community.

The majority of the staff employed at The Range are clients and residents of the BRCCED. Various job responsibilities include maintaining the grounds around the clubhouse, tee decks and putting and chipping greens, picking up balls, serving customers and stocking the shelves inside the clubhouse.

Any profits from The Range are used to augment services delivered to clients of the BRCCED.

In 2003, the Centre purchased a school portable from the Dufferin-Peel Catholic School Board. The portable was converted to a retail store where they sell golf balls and other golf services. Stairs and a deck were built around the portable. For unknown reasons, a permit application was not completed. Inspection staff recently paid a visit to the site to clear deficiencies.

The portable is 77.3 square meters with a 49.0 square meter deck and stairs. The portable conversion to retail results in development charges in the total amount of \$29,000.79, broken out as follows:

Town	\$ 4,725.34
Region	\$22,869.36
Public School Board	\$ 923.74
Catholic School Board	\$ 482.35

The Town's Development Charges By-Law No. 2017-0049 section 3 (3) allows for charities, non-profit, and not-for-profit organizations to apply to Council to seek relief from development charges if they meet the following criteria:

- (a) the building must be used for the exclusive or intended use of the organization;
- (b) the organization must have a valid registration number;
- (c) the organization must have been in existence for a period of at least three (3) years immediately prior to the application;
- (d) the organization must be willing to sign an undertaking under seal agreeing that it will pay the development charges if the property ownership is transferred to a non-charitable organization with three (3) years of the date of the building permit issuance, unless the transfer is part of the agreed upon business or purpose of the organization; and
- (e) the use of the building must be directly related to the core business or purpose of the organization.

The Range has requested that Council provide relief from the Town's development charges for their retail outlet. The school boards do not provide a waiver under their current by-laws. The Region also does not have a clause in their development charges by-law to exempt charitable organizations. The applicant has asked that Town Council contact Regional Council, requesting they consider a grant in lieu of the Region's development charges of \$22,869.36.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

This report supports Council priorities related to the effective, efficient and economical delivery of the Town's existing services, and establishing sustainable financing, asset management and master plans to acquire, operate, maintain, renew and replace infrastructure.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The waiver of development charge fees for the Town will impact the Town's DC Reserves in the amount of \$4,725.34.

CONSULTATION:

Staff has worked with the applicant and the Region to establish an equitable solution.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

This report is an administrative matter and is not applicable.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

The Town is committed to implementing our Community Sustainability Strategy, Imagine Halton Hills. Doing so will lead to a higher quality of life.

The recommendation outlined in this report is not applicable to the Strategy's implementation.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Recommendations will be communicated to the applicant.

CONCLUSION:

Staff is recommending that Council approve the waiver of Town development charges for The Range, a charitable golf driving range and golf centre operated by the Bob Rumball Canadian Centre of Excellence for the Deaf, as per the Town's Development Charges By-Law 2017-0049 section 3 (3) in the amount of \$4,725.34. Staff is also recommending that the Region of Halton be contacted on behalf of the Bob Rumball Canadian Centre of Excellence for the Deaf, requesting that they consider a grant in lieu of the Region's development charges amounting to \$22,869.36.

Reviewed and Approved by,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wendy O'Donnell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Wendy O'Donnell, Manager of Finance

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Diamanti". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jane Diamanti, Commissioner of Corporate Services

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brent Marshall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brent Marshall, CAO