

TO: Mayor J. Lehman and Members of Council

FROM: K. Bradley, B.A., MLA, Manager of Parks & Forestry

NOTED: D. Friary, Director of Roads Parks and Fleet

R. J. Forward, MBA, M.Sc., P. Eng., General Manager of Infrastructure & Growth Management

C. Ladd, Chief Administrative Officer

RE: 2017 Parks & Forestry Weekend Waterfront Staffing Pilot Program

DATE: June 12, 2017

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide members of Council with information regarding new pilot program to be launched in mid-June 2017 by Parks & Forestry Operations to address challenges with increased activity, safety and cleanliness of the central waterfront during peak season weekends.

In the past Parks & Forestry staff were only scheduled on weekends for major special events to assist with the event setup, coordination, litter control, and general parks inspections. In considering the increasing activity of the waterfront throughout the peak summer season, the reopening of an enhanced Centennial Park, and Council's discussions regarding the condition of the waterfront on weekends during the 2017 Business Plan discussions, Parks & Forestry management wanted to be proactive and are implementing a pilot program for the 2017 peak season to address these challenges.

Starting June 17, 2017, and running through to Labour Day, Parks & Forestry will have a crew of staff scheduled from 6:00 am to 10:00 am on Saturday and Sunday whose focus will be the inspection and general cleaning of the central waterfront from Heritage Park to Tiffin Boat Launch and the Lampman Lane and Heritage Parks splash pads. This would include inspection and cleaning of the surfaces at the splash pads, general park clean-up, litter control, inspection of Centennial Beach and playground, and sanitizing public drinking fountains, etc. Not truly knowing how long that above activity will take, we are hopeful that staff will have time available to include the inspection and cleaning of the beaches and parking lots at Johnson's Beach and Minet's Point Park. This will be monitored through the pilot and adjusted based on public feedback and our observations.

The pilot is being delivered without additional staff, funding or equipment and we will be adjusting regular weekly summer student shifts to accommodate the additional service. We will monitor any impacts on our regular weekday services this season and adjust as required to ensure our services are not significantly impacted. The full program will be evaluated at the end of the season and based on public feedback and management observations we will determine a future plan for the program most likely to be presented to Council through the 2018 Business Plan acknowledging that the Military Heritage Park and a new Meridian Square will be further added to the Parks & Forestry portfolio in 2018.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at extension 4825 if you need any further information.