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**TO: RECREATION AND CULTURE COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF DECEMBER 3, 2016**

**FROM: APRIL MARSHALL, TOURISM MARKETING & PROMOTIONS  
MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: REPORT EDO 2016-36 BEING A REPORT ON THE YOUTH ACTION  
COUNCILS REQUEST FOR AN OUTDOOR SKATING RINK**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT THE Recreation and Culture Committee Receive report EDO 2016-36 for  
information and comment**

#### **PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER**

N/A

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Wellington North Youth Action Council is sub-committee of the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable. This youth-driven grassroots initiative is made up of local youth volunteers, aged 13-24. Members have an opportunity to create change in their community and make a difference in the issues that affect youth. This is a chance for youth to have their voice heard!

The YAC has been meeting since May and have a group of approximately 6 participating members. The YAC has recently identified the desire to build an outdoor skating rink in Mount Forest and host special games and events throughout the winter season.

Their original request was for the rink to be located on the Cork Street soccer fields, as there is access to lights, benches, the pavilion and potentially water. They are fully dedicated to the project and will ensure full management of the outdoor rink. They have discussed utilizing the Wellington Heights Secondary School shop class to make the boards and will dedicate volunteers to tend to it regularly and maintain. As mentioned above, they would like to host special game days and events throughout the winter season. They would also like to include the Arthur outdoor rink, by organizing events or tournaments between the two.

We understand that the Arthur Optimist maintains the outdoor rink in Arthur – can we have a contact that we can speak to in detail about the logistics?

We are in the midst of confirming WHSS participation, from the teacher, and will also be requesting if it is feasible to have the outdoor rink onsite there, as a possibility.

We would like to know from the Township’s perspective:

- Do we support this initiative?
- Do we have an adequate location to be home to the outdoor rink that will serve all of our needs?
- Are there any other items not covered that we must consider or find a solution to?

In conclusion, this is the first initiative coming from the YAC, which we would like to help make happen if reasonable, as we don’t want to discourage their enthusiasm and ideas. They have done a great job so far considering partnership opportunities and a work and volunteer plan.

We appreciate your consideration and feedback.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The YAC have a budget of \$5000/year previously supported by Council to cover the costs of their initiatives.

**STRATEGIC PLAN**

Do the report’s recommendations advance the Strategy’s implementation?

- Yes                       No                       N/A

Which pillars does this report support?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Growth Plan             | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service Review          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human Resource Plan               | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Communication Plan      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brand and Identity                | <input type="checkbox"/> Positive Healthy Work Environment |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategic Partnerships |  |

<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED BY:</b>
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*April Marshall*

*Michael Givens, CAO*

<b>APRIL MARSHALL TOURISM MARKETING &amp; PROMOTIONS MANAGER</b>	<b>MICHAEL GIVENS CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER</b>
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