



Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

REQUEST FOR DECISION

REPORT TO: Mayor & Municipal Council
SUBMITTED BY: Tom MacEwan, CAO
DATE: June 23, 2020
RE: PVEC 2020 Graduation Ceremony

RECOMMENDATION

Council award a sponsorship grant in the amount of \$2500 in support of the PVEC 2020 Graduation Ceremony hosted by the LCLC with the funds to come from the Council Contingency Fee.

PVEC - FUNDING REQUEST

A small group of parents has been working hard to pull together a prom/graduation event to celebrate the PVEC Graduates of 2020 and the group is requesting financial support.

As the school is unable to contribute to this celebration, the group is asking for financial support from the government constituencies in which these students reside. The ask is for a total contribution of \$5000 from all of the municipal units , which will cover the costs outlined in their original budget.

As the students of PVEC reside throughout the county, the group is requesting that municipal units provide funding based on the approximate ratios of the students' places of residence. In particular, the group is asking for contributions in the following amounts:

Town of Bridgewater: \$1500
Municipality of the District of Lunenburg: \$2500
Town of Mahone Bay: \$500
Town of Lunenburg: \$500

We have been advised that without these financial contributions this event can not go forward.

The groups requests that council note that these are not ordinary fiscal expenditures, but we are not in ordinary times. The students have already sacrificed the traditions they have waited 13 years to realize. The group feels this is an incredibly important event for the students - as well as their families.

The event is being hosted by the LCLC and the LCLC will be responsible to ensure that all public health guidelines and restrictions are adhered to during the event. Our insurer has confirmed that the event is covered in the LCLC Insurance Policy and that no additional coverage is needed.

Particulars of the Event

The Grads would be dropped off in the lower parking lot at the back of the LCLC (off Cook Rd. where team busses go) by families at 8:00-8:15pm. They would line up 6 ft apart in the parking lot and along Cook Dr. Fire Chief, Mike Nauss, and volunteers from Bridgewater Fire services will be present to ensure students are maintaining 6 feet of social distancing space at all times. Students can choose to wear a mask if they wish. After drop-off, families would continue along and park in the LCLC main parking area. Cars would have only 1 family bubble. Cars would all reverse in the parking spaces so everyone is parked the same way.

Crossfire Music Productions will set up a booth for music to be played as well as set up dance lights along a truss to act as an arch for students to walk through. We project this to be set up near the round about drop off area of the LCLC. In addition to the DJ set up, the projection screen from Fresh Air Films will be set up so students can see themselves on a live feed as they walk through the arch. Patrick Hirtle will be filming and recording students to then post to social media

At 8:30pm students would begin to march up the steps of the LCLC to the main parking area. At this time an announcement will be made of the graduating class as well as valedictorian and salutatorian speeches will be made from the DJ booth. Students will still be lined up 6 feet apart along the stairs and in the back parking lot. After the speeches are finished the grads will march through the main parking lots. At this time families are allowed to exit their vehicles if they wish, only standing on the driver's side to maintain social distancing. Graduates will thread through the parking lot from the stairs and head west along the first row of cars, down to the lower parking lot, back up and continue to weave through the parking rows. When they are on the last row (closest to Wentzell Dr.) they will then head back toward the stairs, walking under the arch and seeing themselves on screen. They will continue back down the stairs where they will get picked up by families. Once the last few grads have completed the march there will be a firework display put on by Andy Wentzell, Deputy Chief BFD and licensed fireworks technician. When the fireworks are over students will be picked up and families will return home.

We would approach Bridgewater Fire Services to direct traffic as well as help crowd control the grads in the LCLC back entrance parking lot. We would ask participation from the Bridgewater Police Department as well as EHS. We would request that BFD and BPD to direct traffic on Wentzell Dr. at the entrance to the LCLC and along Cook Dr. for safety.

We have been in contact with Mary Ann Bell-Massey to take pictures of the event, and Patrick Hirtle to video and post to social media for the Grads.

Students and families can refer to the Town of Bridgewater website for details of parking and drop off as well as listen to CKBW and check social media for details.

The Town of Bridgewater would assist in the event by allowing the use of the Lunenburg County Lifestyle Centre Parking lots. We feel this is the safest and most reasonable place to hold the event. A request for the building to be open for washroom use, if at all possible, and have a volunteer monitor the door at all times controlling the number of persons allowed to enter to use the washroom.

We are asking for financial support from the Town of Bridgewater, Town of Mahone Bay, the Town of Lunenburg and the Municipality of Lunenburg for financial support. Students attending Parkview Education Center represent all of these regions. A budget has been sent previously via email.

From the LCLC we are asking for use of the parking lot, possibly the facility as well as being a sponsor for the event.

We would be looking at holding the event on June 25th with a rain date of June 26th.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Council award a sponsorship grant in the amount of \$2500 in support of the PVEC 2020 Graduation Ceremony hosted by the LCLC with the funds to come from the Council Contingency Fee.

Department: Administration

Report Prepared By: Tom MacEwan, CAO

Report Approved By: _____ Date: _____

Reviewed By CAO: _____ Date: _____