

Meeting Date: March 7, 2023

Subject: Municipal Significance Request - Raffi's Memorial Hockey Tournament

Submitted By: Patrick Trafford, Deputy Clerk, Records and Information Services, Corporate Services

RECOMMENDATION

That a designation of municipal significance be granted for the Raffi's Memorial Hockey Tournament for the purpose of obtaining a Special Occasion Permit.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The Town recently received a request to designate the Raffi's Memorial Hockey Tournament as a municipally significant event.
- In 2022 Council adopted a motion to support the event by providing grant funding.
- The event will honour Raffaele Scerbo who passed away in 2020 by raising money for brain tumor research to be donated to SickKids hospital.
- As the event will include the sale and service of alcohol, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) requires it to be designated as municipally significant before a Special Occasion Permit (SOP) can be issued.
- The event will be held on April 29, 2023 at the Caledon East Community Complex (CECC) with alcohol served only after 4 p.m.
- Staff have completed the Town's SOP circulation process and have no safety or other concerns with the event.
- Should the event be granted municipal significance by Council, no fee for the SOP review process will apply.

DISCUSSION

Background

On January 31, 2023, staff was contacted about an upcoming event to be held in Caledon which includes the sale and service of alcohol. The Raffi's Memorial Hockey Tournament event will be held on April 29, 2023 at the CECC. The Tournament will raise funds through donations and the sale of food and drink with proceeds going towards brain tumor research at SickKids hospital. In support of the event, at the June 28, 2022 Town Council Meeting, a motion was adopted to award grant funding through the Municipal Agricultural Community Grant and Caledon Council Community Golf Tournament. Funding in the amount of \$3,974.12 was approved by Council to cover rental of the ice rink and banquet hall at the CECC.

To permit the sale and service of alcohol, the AGCO requires that the event be designated as municipally significant. Therefore, the purpose of this report is to provide details on the event and the review completed by staff for Council to consider granting this designation.

Special Occasion Permit and Municipal Significance

The AGCO requires event organizers to obtain a Special Occasion Permit (SOP) if their event will include the sale or service of alcohol. Further, if the event is open to the public and being held by a group that is not a registered charity or not-for-profit, the AGCO requires the event to first be designated as municipally significant before issuing an SOP.

Council has delegated authority to the Town Clerk to grant a designation of municipal significance. However, this authority may only be exercised by the Town Clerk where Council has previously supported the designation for an event, such as in a past year, or for new events during a break in Council meetings such as during the summer or due to an election. As the delegated authority cannot be applied in this case, the request to grant municipal significance for Raffi's Memorial Hockey Tournament has been brought forward to Council, consistent with similar past requests.

The AGCO requirement for municipal significance has existed for many years going back prior to 2013. Designations of municipal significance are commonly granted by the Town for events. In 2022 three events were granted municipal significance with past years often varying between zero to two requests. Traditionally, municipal significance has often been granted by the Town for annual community events which include a charitable purpose. Attached as Schedule B is a chart from a recent memo provided to Council on February 7, 2023. The chart outlines the events in 2022 which received municipal significance as examples of the types of events for which the designation is commonly granted.

Event Details

Attached as Schedule A to this Staff Report is a letter received from the Raffi's Rebels organization hosting the event. The letter officially requests that a designation of municipal significance be granted for the Raffi's Memorial Hockey Tournament in order to obtain an SOP.

The event is being held to honour the legacy of Raffaele Scerbo who passed away in 2020. Family and friends will gather to raise money for brain tumor research to be donated to SickKids hospital. In addition to a hockey tournament, food and beverages will be sold within the banquet Hall of the CECC. The event is planned to take place on April 29, 2023, between 8 a.m. and 1 a.m. (April 30, 2023) with alcohol only being served after 4 p.m. The event will be open to the public to attend thereby requiring municipal significance. Although the event was previously held in Vaughan, the organizers wish to hold the second annual tournament in Caledon, being Raffaele's hometown.

Recommendation of Municipal Significance

When applying the delegated authority to determine if municipal significance will be granted, the Town Clerk reviews the following criteria which is also relevant for Council's consideration:

- based on the existing SOP circulation process to Fire & Emergency Services, Building & Municipal Law Enforcement, Operations and Community Services, are there any objections to the event and is it expected to be safe and not disrupt other residents or businesses;
- will the event benefit the community such as by contributing all or a portion of the proceeds to a local or other important charity or cause; and
- the event must not be inconsistent with the values of the Town or community.

Staff recommend that a designation of municipal significance be granted for the Raffi's Memorial Hockey Tournament for the purpose of obtaining an SOP. Through the SOP circulation process, no safety or other concerns were identified by Town staff. Proceeds from the event will be donated to SickKids to support an important cause and the event does not appear to be inconsistent with the values of the Town or community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Should Council adopt the recommendation within this report, staff will finalize the Town's special occasion permit review process by issuing a letter to the applicant and the AGCO granting municipal significance for Raffi's Memorial Hockey Tournament. Although a fee of \$200.00 normally applies to this process, the Fees By-law includes an exemption for when events are held at Town owned facilities. As this event will be held at the CECC, no fee will be collected for the special occasion permit review process. The Town's facility rental program, fee and associated insurance requirements for an event with alcohol will apply to this event consistent with all events on Town owned property.

COUNCIL WORK PLAN

Connected Community – Promote community enrichment through support of local groups, enhanced partnerships and events.

ATTACHMENTS

Schedule A: Request Letter for Municipal Significance from Raffi's Rebels
Schedule B: Chart of Events Designated as Municipally Significant in 2022