

Memorandum to the Council of Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Subject: Request for Endorsement and Donation for the Deep Water Music Festival

Memo No: 2025-M-040

Date: February 13, 2025

Attachment: None

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Recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Temagami approve the request from the Nipissing Region Curatorial Collective (NRCC) to endorse and sponsor the Deep Water Music Festival by providing in-kind support through the donation of the Town Waterfront for event use, as well as tables and chairs, in accordance with the Municipal Donation Policy.

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Executive Summary

The Nipissing Region Curatorial Collective (NRCC) has submitted a request for the Municipality of Temagami to endorse and provide in-kind sponsorship for the Deep Water Music Festival, a cultural and artistic event planned for October 3–5, 2025, at the Temagami Town Waterfront. The endorsement will

support the festival's application to the Canadian Heritage - Building Communities through Arts and Heritage (BCAH) Local Festivals Component, which requires municipal support for eligibility.

The request includes:

- Endorsement from the Municipality to strengthen the funding application.
- In-kind donation of the Town Waterfront for the event.
- Use of tables and chairs for festival activities.
- There is no request for direct financial support or additional municipal services.

Background

The Deep Water Music Festival is a revitalization of a previous cultural event that last ran in 2019 which was the musical element of the Temagami Canoe Festival. It is a collaboration between NRCC and Living Temagami, aiming to bring Indigenous and regional musicians, performance artists, and community engagement activities to the shores of Lake Temagami.

According to the grant application, the festival will:

- Feature performances by local and Indigenous artists such as David Laronde, Christine Friday, Aanmitaagzi, and Debajamajig.
- Engage approximately 45 volunteers in planning, security, and event management.
- Attract an estimated 5,000 attendees from local and surrounding areas.
- Be free to the public, with donations encouraged to support event sustainability.

The NRCC has also secured commitments from local businesses and organizations, contributing \$10,000 in cash and in-kind support to the festival.

Rationale

Supporting the Deep Water Music Festival aligns with municipal priorities for cultural development, tourism promotion, and community engagement. Benefits of endorsing and providing in-kind support for the festival include:

1. Economic and Tourism Benefits

- The festival is expected to draw local and visiting attendees, benefiting local businesses, accommodations, and service providers.
 - Cultural festivals contribute to economic development and increased regional visibility.
2. Cultural and Community Engagement
- The festival supports Indigenous and local artists, aligning with community values of inclusivity and cultural heritage preservation.
 - Provides free access to cultural programming for residents and visitors.
3. Alignment with Municipal Donation Policy
- The request meets the criteria for in-kind donations as outlined in the Council Donation Policy:
 - The applicant is a non-profit organization.
 - The event is within municipal boundaries.
 - No direct financial assistance is requested.
 - The endorsement supports an external grant application without financial burden on the Municipality.
4. Minimal Operational Impact
- The Town Waterfront is a public space suitable for hosting community events.
 - The request for tables and chairs is within reasonable resource availability.
 - No additional costs for security, waste management, or staffing have been requested.

Legal Compliance and Relevant Acts

The request is compliant with:

- Municipal Donation Policy (1.3.1): The in-kind support does not exceed budgeted limits and aligns with donation approval guidelines.
- Building Communities through Arts and Heritage (BCAH) Grant Requirements: Municipal endorsement is a standard requirement for festival funding applications.

Implementation Plan

1. Approval of the In-Kind Contributions
 - Confirm Council approval of in-kind support (use of Waterfront, tables, and chairs).
 - Ensure event organizers provide insurance coverage and liability waivers.
2. Municipal Endorsement Letter
 - Prepare an official letter of endorsement for NRCC's grant application
3. Coordination with Event Organizers
 - Establish communication between municipal staff and NRCC to coordinate event logistics.
 - Ensure adherence to municipal regulations regarding event setup, noise, and waste management.

Conclusion

The Deep Water Music Festival presents an opportunity for community enrichment, economic stimulation, and cultural engagement. The requested endorsement and in-kind support align with municipal policies, pose minimal financial or operational impact, and contribute to the festival's long-term sustainability.

Council approval is recommended to strengthen the grant application and support this culturally significant event in Temagami