



Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Memo No.
2018-M-061

Memorandum to Council

Staff
 Committee

Subject: Rural Economic Development Application

Agenda Date: September 27, 2018

Attachments:

RECOMMENDATION

To recommend that:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receive Memo 2018-M-061, and direct staff to withdraw the Municipality of Temagami's application to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) for a "Connectivity Plan" through the Rural Economic Development (RED) Stream.

INFORMATION

Background:

On February 23, 2017, Council passed a resolution to apply to OMAFRA through the RED funding stream for a Connectivity Plan and to update the Temagami Municipal Website. After discussions with or grant representative, it was determined that any website work was not covered under this application.

On March 31, 2017 we submitted an application for a consultant to develop a connectivity plan. The Application was approved in August 2017 and the funding agreement was executed in October 2017.

In April of 2018 there was an extension requested to extend the deadline to May of 2019.

Current:

The Special Initiatives Intern and the Special Projects Coordinator are finding it difficult to find a consultant that could provide us with such a plan. We have been informed that cell phone coverage would have to be negotiated with the cell service providers that people are using in the low coverage areas. It was said that it would not be feasible for the infrastructure to be erected and maintained for the few residents and visitors that it would cover.

It has been made very apparent by the IT professionals that we have spoken to that this plan may not be the best use of our funds. If we are able to find a consultant to complete it, then getting the service providers to install and maintain the infrastructure (following the plan) will be an astronomical amount of money.

The total project cost was estimated to be \$42,000 and the Municipal portion was 50% (\$21,000).

I am requesting the Municipality of Temagami withdraw this funding application.

Prepared by:

Reviewed by & Approved for Council consideration

Sabrina Pandolfo