



**City of Kingston
Information Report City Council
Report Number 18-195**

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner Community Services
Resource Staff: Luke Follwell, Director, Recreation & Leisure Services
Date of Meeting: July 10, 2018
Subject: Renovations to Murney and Shoal Towers by Parks Canada

Executive Summary:

Murney Tower, located in Macdonald Memorial Park, and Shoal Tower, located in Confederation Basin, have been identified by Parks Canada as needing renovations to ensure their longevity. The works to be undertaken will have an impact on City land and/or services. This report outlines the anticipated timing and scope of work on the projects. The City will be entering into an agreement with Parks Canada with respect to the conditions associated with the work. The license agreement will be executed under the delegated authority of Council.

Recommendation:

This report is for information purposes only.

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Options/Discussion:

Parks Canada is slated to renovate three of the four Martello Towers in the Kingston area. The works are planned for Murney Tower in 2018, Shoal Tower in 2019 and the Cathcart Tower (on Cedar Island) in 2020. The Fort Frederick Tower, at RMC, is not slated for renovations as part of this project. The works on the Murney Tower will impact Macdonald Memorial Park and the works on the Shoal Tower will impact the City marina in Confederation Basin.

Murney Tower

The renovation works of the tower include a full masonry restoration of the tower walls and counterscarp (moat walls). Works are expected to commence in late July 2018 and run for a period of six (6) to eight (8) months. The Murney Tower Museum is forecast to remain open during this period. While the tower is located on federal land, the renovation work will require access over and the establishment of two fenced compounds on City parkland. The locations and terms of access will be outlined in an agreement with Parks Canada. Preliminary discussions with City staff identified site options that are expected to have a limited impact on the use and programming of Macdonald Memorial Park.

Shoal Tower

The Shoal Tower is located on a federal water lot. The City marina infrastructure and services at Confederation Basin surround the tower on adjacent water lots permitted through a lease with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Small Craft Harbours. Marina impact from the tower restoration is expected but the scale and duration of that impact has yet to be determined by Parks Canada.

The renovation works will include full masonry restoration of the tower walls including the underwater portions of the tower. To access the underwater portion of the structure, a coffer dam will be erected on the lake bed around the base of the tower and pumped out. In-water works regulations limit the time available to complete the phases associated with the project. The installation of the coffer dam structure is expected to occur in 2018 in an effort to be prepared to begin masonry work in the spring of 2019. Parks Canada continues to investigate the logistics and timing of the works and has indicated an intent to be mindful of the impact to City marina services in both the 2018 and 2019 season. It is expected that information on the details of the Shoal Tower renovation and impact on marina services will be made available later this summer by Parks Canada. The scope of impact to the marina and terms of access will be outlined in an agreement with Parks Canada. Staff have inquired about possible future public access to the Shoal Tower with Parks Canada and they will be investigating this exciting opportunity.

Existing Policy/By-Law:

Not applicable

Notice Provisions:

Not applicable

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Accessibility Considerations:

Not applicable

Financial Considerations:

Not applicable

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Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

Neal Unsworth, Manager, Parks Development, Recreation & Leisure Services

Troy Stubinski, Operations Manager, Public Works Services

Kathy Gray, Property Specialist, Real Estate & Environmental Initiatives

Exhibits Attached:

Not applicable