



CITY OF KINGSTON
REPORT TO COUNCIL

Report No.: 12-087

TO: Mayor and Members of Council

FROM: Denis Leger, Commissioner of Transportation, Properties & Emergency Services

RESOURCE STAFF: Sheila Kidd, Director of Transportation
Jeremy DaCosta, Transit Manager

DATE OF MEETING: February 21, 2012

SUBJECT: Special Olympics Ontario – Spring Games 2012
(May 31–June 2, 2012) Request for Complimentary Transit Service

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Special Olympics Ontario – Spring Games 2012 will be held in the City of Kingston from May 31 to June 2, 2012.

Kingston Transit staff received a request from the Special Olympics organizing committee requesting that athletes, families, and other delegates be permitted to use Kingston Transit's regular fixed-route service at no charge for the duration of the event. The current Kingston Transit fare policy does not address this type of request therefore Council approval is required. Staff has reviewed the request and recommend that the request be granted.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT athletes, families, and other delegates with Special Olympics Ontario – Spring Games 2012 credentials be permitted to use Kingston Transit at no charge for the period of May 31 to June 2, 2012.

- and -

THAT Kingston Transit staff collect ridership information for future fare policy development.

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES:

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER _____ Denis Leger, Commissioner of Transportation, Properties & Emergency Services
ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER _____ Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer

CONSULTATION WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMISSIONERS:

Cynthia Beach, <i>Sustainability & Growth</i>	N/R
Lanie Hurdle, <i>Community Services</i>	N/R
Jim Keech, <i>President and CEO, Utilities Kingston</i>	N/R

(N/R indicates consultation not required)

OPTIONS/DISCUSSION:

The Special Olympics Ontario – Spring Games 2012 will be held in the City of Kingston from May 31 to June 2, 2012, and are expected to attract 979 athletes and coaches. An additional 2,200 friends, family and guests will also travel to Kingston to attend the event.

The Games venues are located throughout the City including Queen’s University (main campus and west campus), Royal Military College, and the K-Rock Centre (opening ceremonies). Many of the events will take place during peak hours when demand for parking is at its highest.

Kingston Transit staff received a request from the Special Olympics organizing committee requesting that athletes, families, and other delegates be permitted to use Kingston Transit’s fixed-route service at no charge for the duration of the Games. The organizing committee will promote the use of the public transit in an effort to reduce automobile usage and reduce the demand for parking.

Staff recommends that the request be approved. This request will not require any additional resources to fulfill. Any participants that chose to use public transit can be served by the existing transit service at no additional cost. To use Kingston Transit at no charge, a passenger will be required to show their official Spring Games 2012 credentials to bus operators at time of boarding.

EXISTING POLICY/BY LAW:

The current Kingston Transit fare policy does not address this type of request therefore Council approval is required.

In December 2011, Kingston Transit provided free transit to anyone attending the BDO Canadian Open curling event. A total of 141 free rides were provided during the event. The majority of rides occurred between 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. suggesting that transit assisted in reducing the number of vehicles traveling and parking during peak hours.

Staff will collect ridership information to assist in future fare policy development.

NOTICE PROVISIONS:

N/A

ACCESSIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

N/A

February 21, 2012

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FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Approval of this request will not result in any additional costs.

CONTACTS:

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OTHER CITY OF KINGSTON STAFF CONSULTED:

N/A

EXHIBITS ATTACHED:

N/A