



**City of Kingston
Report to Council
Report Number 15-205**

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services
Resource Staff: Luke Follwell, Director, Recreation & Leisure Services
Date of Meeting: March 24, 2015
Subject: Kingston Ribfest & Craft Beer Festival 2015

Executive Summary:

The Recreation & Leisure Services Department has received a request from the Impact Events Group to host a 2015 Ribfest & Craft Beer Festival to take place on the grounds of the Kingston Memorial Centre from September 11 to 13, 2015. A new event in 2013, the Kingston Ribfest & Craft Beer Festival attracted close to 10,000 people. In 2014 the attendance grew to almost 15,000.

The Festival attracts Kingston residents and tourists who will taste award winning ribs and chicken as well as sample Ontario craft beers. Other food, including healthy choices and non-alcoholic drinks will also be offered. The family friendly event will include a weekend of live, local entertainment. The community-focused festival will support Partners in Mission Food Bank as admission is free, but donations will be accepted at the gate.

According to the current City of Kingston Municipal Alcohol Policy approved in 2006, it is mandatory that beer and coolers are served in plastic and/or paper cups. Impact Events Group has organized over twenty (20) Ribfest & Craft Beer Festivals and gives participants a pilsner glass for their sampling. The glass is a souvenir and it minimizes the amount of garbage produced. The organizers meet all other requirements outlined in the City of Kingston Municipal Alcohol Policy Standards.

Recommendation:

That Council designate the “Ribfest & Craft Beer Festival”, being held from September 11 to 13, 2015, on the grounds of the Memorial Centre, as an event of municipal significance, to which Special Occasion Permits may be issued by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario; and

That Council authorize an exemption to the City of Kingston Municipal Alcohol Policy to allow a souvenir glass to be used at the “Ribfest & Craft Beer Festival”.

March 24, 2015

Page 2 of 5

Authorizing Signatures:

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER

Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer

Consultation with the following Members of the Corporate Management Team:

Cynthia Beach, Corporate & Strategic Initiatives

Denis Leger, Transportation, Facilities & Emergency Services Not required

Jim Keech, President and CEO, Utilities Kingston Not required

Desiree Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer Not required

March 24, 2015

Page 3 of 5

Options/Discussion:

Impact Events Group has fourteen (14) years' experience running over twenty (20) Ribfest & Craft Beer Festivals. They have organized like festivals in other communities such as Kitchener, Hamilton, Peterborough and Toronto and two years ago expanded their portfolio to include Kingston. Following the success of last two year's event, organizers would like to continue to make this an annual event.

The Ribfest & Craft Beer Festival combines the best in craft beer and BBQ, allowing people to savour chicken and ribs while enjoying samples of craft beer and listening to live, local entertainment. The festival will include Ontario Craft Breweries and professional ribbers from across North America who will compete for the rights to 'Best Sauce', 'Best Chicken' and 'Best Ribs'. Other food, including healthy choices, will be available. Admission is free, but donations to the Partners in Mission Food Bank will be accepted at the gate. Below are the results of the donations for the previous two years:

- 2013 - \$1,492.99 and 1,034 pounds of food
- 2014 - \$3,603.10 and 1,835 pounds of food

Those nineteen (19) years and older who wish to participate in the craft beer sampling will pay \$6 to receive a wristband that is good for the weekend. They will receive a 4 ounce souvenir glass to be used for sampling of 10 microbreweries with over 50 different brands of craft beer available. Due to the nature of the event, anyone under the age of 19 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Impact Events Group hires three (3) staff to manage clean up and their sole responsibility is to remove garbage and patrol the area in case of any broken glass. Impact Events Group also has its own security on site.

Municipal Alcohol Policy

The City of Kingston's Municipal Alcohol Policy (MAP) was approved by Council in 2006. The policy provides for responsible management practices at functions or events held at City of Kingston facilities, properties or areas where alcohol is available under the authority of a Special Occasion Permit or a Caterer's Endorsement. The City has developed this policy as a means of enhancing and promoting the social enjoyment and physical safety of everyone who uses these facilities and areas, while at the same time avoiding or minimizing any alcohol-related liability issues. The following provisions will be implemented at the Kingston Ribfest & Craft Beer Festival:

- Persons under the legal drinking age are prohibited from adult events where alcoholic beverages are served unless accompanied and supervised by a parent or guardian.
- All servers have attended Smart Serve®; an Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) recognized server-training course and their names will be submitted to the City at least ten (10) working days prior to the event.
- Non-alcoholic drinks will be available at no charge or less than half the price of the lowest-priced alcoholic beverage. Water, soft drinks and lemonade will be available at the Kingston Ribfest & Craft Beer Festival.

March 24, 2015

Page 4 of 5

The MAP states the need for promoting safe transportation. Impact Events Group has posted the following statement on their website: "There is parking on-site but the best bet is either cab or public transit. This will avoid any chance of drinking and driving". The MAP states that the organizer must provide an insurance certificate that indicates comprehensive general liability coverage in an amount not less than five million dollars (\$5,000,000), which includes a host liquor liability endorsement in an amount acceptable to the City of Kingston. The certificate of insurance must also indicate the specific event, location and date that it is being provided for. The City of Kingston must be named as an additional insured on the policy for that event. Impact Events Group will provide their certificate of insurance for five million dollars (\$5,000,000) at least 10 working days prior to the scheduled event. Impact Events Group will enter into a facility booking permit similar to other facility or parks bookings in City owned facilities. The previous two events have gone well without incident and the popularity seems to be growing.

The MAP states that it is mandatory that beer and coolers are served in plastic and/or paper cups. Impact Events Group has used a glass for the craft beer sampling for thirteen (13) years without incident. The glass is a souvenir and collected annually, encouraging people to revisit the event. The glass also provides a sustainable solution as it saves on a significant amount of garbage. If the glass was not provided, each brewery would need to provide single use plastic sampling cups. Participants use the same glass all weekend so the glass is considered an environmentally conscious alternative.

Special Occasion Permit

In order for an organization to receive a Special Occasion Permit issued by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO), Impact Events Group must receive declaration from Council that the event is of municipal significance.

Existing Policy/By-Law:

The City of Kingston Municipal Alcohol Policy

Notice Provisions:

Not applicable

Accessibility Considerations:

The event will be accessible.

Financial Considerations:

Not applicable

Contacts:

Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services 613-546-4291 extension 1231

Luke Follwell, Director, Recreation & Leisure Services 613-546-4291 extension 1815

March 24, 2015

Page 5 of 5

Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

Alan McLeod, Senior Legal Counsel

Nancy Ruel, Supervisor, Special Events & Marketing

Exhibits Attached:

Not applicable