

June 1, 2020

Report To: Mayor and Council

From: Aaron Bisson, Manager of Recreation and Culture

**RE: Summer Programs**

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The Community Services Division has run the Summer Programs for the Youth in our Community for years. This year we made some changes to the program and expanded our offers to be more user friendly for Families and noticed great interest in the programs. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 many things have changed in how we are able to operate and offer programming. Our Summer programs schedule to start on June 29, 2020 and run for 8 weeks are well over 70% filled at this time and we had to stop registration due to COVID-19 less than a week into our sign up. Due to the fact the Province has indicated it will not allow overnight camps, that daycare facilities are not yet open to the general public, gatherings up to a maximum of 5 people, I cannot see how we are able to provide this service in 2020. I know a lot of families rely on this service for child care and an activity for their children over the summer months but with the uncertain times we find ourselves in I believe it best we contact the families and let them know we are unable to supply this service at this time. This program is generally run with up to 4 high school or university aged students and placing the added responsibility on these individuals with the requirements bestowed upon us due to COVID-19 may not be a reasonable request. I believe it will be in the Town and its residents' best interest to cancel our 2020 Summer Programs and look to offer this service beginning in 2021 under better circumstances.

**Recommendation**

The Community Service Division recommends to Mayor & Council to cancel the 2020 Summer Programs and refund all participants who have already paid for their spots.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Aaron Bisson*

Aaron Bisson  
Manager of Recreation and Culture

<p><b>Council approval of this report will agree to the recommendation of the Community Services Executive Committee to cancel Summer Programs as outlined in this report.</b></p>
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