



City Council Committee Report

Date: 08 December 2010

To: Mayor & Council

Fr: Jennifer Findlay, Economic Development Officer

Re: 2011 Summer Students

Recommendation:

That City of Kenora Council approve hiring 8 summer students for Tourism Kenora and 1 summer student for the Northwest Business Centre for a total of 9 summer students working with the Lake of the Woods Development Commission.

Background:

In 2010, the Lake of the Woods Development Commission, through the City of Kenora, hired 7 summer students to work with tourism and 1 summer student to work with the Northwest Business Centre. Tourism students staffed the visitor information centres located at Highway 17 East and the Thistle Pavillion, provided local hotels and businesses with visitor information, and published a summer newsletter informing people about activities in the City of Kenora.

The business student working with the Northwest Business Centre assisted in the organization and delivery of the BizKids and Summer Company programs, both of which provide young people with entrepreneurial skills.

Students were highly visible throughout the community and both visitors and local businesses alike commented on their professionalism. These students bring a new energy to the workplace and are great ambassadors for the community. Students gained skills in customer service, communications, workplace protocols, marketing, and organization.

Grants for summer student positions were successfully accessed through the federal and provincial summer student programs and through partnerships with Ontario's Sunset Country and Kenora Harbourtown Biz.

Budget: From 2011 operating budgets, offset by summer student grants

Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements: N/A at this time