

8 May 2012



City Council Committee Report

To: Mayor & Council

Fr: John Nabb, City Facilities Supervisor

Re: Coney Island Shuttle

Recommendation:

That Council give three readings to a by-law to authorize a two year contract between the City of Kenora and Wharf Marina to provide a shuttle service to Coney Island for the 2012 and 2013 seasons; and

That approval be given to provide a municipal grant to Wharf Marina in the amount of \$2,500 for the Coney Island Shuttle Service for the 2012 season; and further

That the Mayor and Clerk be hereby authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the City of Kenora.

Background:

It has been identified over the last several years that Coney Island was being underutilized, the Economic Development Commission through Tourism Kenora made a priority to increase tourism traffic to Coney Island. An expression of interest was developed and a public private partnership was secured in 2009 with Kenora Marine Services (John O'Flaherty) for a two period with option to extend two years. The City did extend the term for the 2011 year, but for the 2012 year the Mr. O'Flaherty declined to extend the contract.

A tender for the Coney Island Shuttle was put out providing for a three year Shuttle Service contract, two submissions were received Green Adventures (Scott Green) proposal included a minimum grant from the City of \$7500.00 and the MS Kenora (Al Luby) proposal included a minimum grant from the City of \$10,000.00. Both submissions were substantially more than what the 2012 approved budget included which is \$2,500.

Shortly after completing the review Mr. Green contacted staff explaining that he was not willing to pursue the shuttle business and asked to have his submission revoked. At this point, Mr. Luby was the only submission left from the tender process and he approached the City to provide alternate options to meet our budget and tender requirements using the MS Kenora to service Coney Island.

Due to the lack of information on the condition of the Coney Wharf, the City could not accept that alternate option until a review of the wharf was completed

which would ultimately leave nothing in place for shuttle service to Coney Island for the 2012 season.

Further a report to Council dated **May 7th 2012** the City had contracted to Dominion Divers to review and provide an underwater inspection of the Coney Island Wharf. The inspection was completed in late April and the City received a report concluding that the underwater structural components (Cribs) of the wharf were compromised and failing. In Dominion Divers opinion, the use of this wharf should be carefully considered and clearly it should not be used for any major vessel docking, concluding that the MS Kenora will not be able to provide shuttle services to Coney Island.

During the elapsed time of tender, to the completion of the inspection, the City had an opportunity to receive another offer to provide shuttle services to Coney Island from Wharf Marina. Staff met with the Manager of the Wharf Marina (Brad Doerksen) which he provided a business plan of the proposed services. After review of the proposal staff considered the proposal to meet and exceed all financial and regulatory conditions as per the document for service.

Budget:

N/A

Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:

City Clerk, Facilities Supervisor, Finance