



Subject: *2022 Volunteer Recognition Location and Date*
To: Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee
Date Prepared: 10/12/21
Related Motions: N/A
Prepared by: Corrine Giles, Community Recreation Coordinator
Approved by: Adam Clarkson, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture

Summary

In preparation for the 2022 East Hants Municipal Volunteer Recognition and Volunteer Firefighter Long Service Awards Ceremony, staff is recommending the date of April 29th, 2022 which is during the National Volunteer Week. In keeping with our efforts to move this event throughout the municipality the 2022 recommended venue is the Mount Uniacke Legion. A sit down dinner with an Awards Ceremony to follow will take place.

Financial Impact Statement

The East Hants Municipal Volunteer Recognition event is budgeted annually based for a ceremony and dinner for approximately 120 people including Councilors.

Recommendation

1. That Council approve to host the East Hants Municipal Volunteer Recognition and Firefighter Long Service Awards April 29th, 2022.
2. That Council approve the Mount Uniacke Legion as the location for the 2022 Recognition Ceremony.

Recommended Motion

Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee recommends that Council accept the recommendations as presented by staff.

1. *That Council approve to host the East Hants Municipal Volunteer Recognition and Firefighter Long Service Awards on April 29th, 2022.*
2. *That Council approve the Mount Uniacke Legion as the location for the 2022 Recognition Ceremony.*

Background

The Municipality of East Hants Volunteer Recognition Awards dinner is held annually as a way to recognize the important role that volunteers play in our municipal programs and services. Each year a different location is chosen which allows the municipality to showcase the event in as many communities as possible.

In 2019 the event was hosted at the Rawdon Fire Hall, in 2020 and 2021 we were scheduled to host the event at the Uniacke Legion but due to COVID-19 restrictions we were unable to host an in-person event.

In 2021, twelve Volunteer Fire Fighters were recognized for serving thirty years or more and awarded the Municipal Volunteer Fire Fighter Long Service Award.

The Municipal event historically attracts 18 to 24 volunteer nominees who are nominated by local community groups and organizations for the over and above contributions to their community. Each nominee receives a Shining Star Award.

A Model Volunteer will be awarded from the Shining Star recipients of the Community Volunteer nominees determined by Parks, Recreation and Culture staff based on the significant contributions and impact the nominee has in East Hants. This recipient will represent East Hants in attending the Provincial Volunteer Celebration in 2023.

It is expected that there will be an estimated 5-10 Long Service Fire Fighter recipients.

The evening consists of a reception, sit down dinner and recognition awards to end the evening.

Discussion

Staff is recommending the location of the Mount Uniacke Legion for the 2022 East Hants Municipal Volunteer Recognition and Long Service Volunteer Fire Fighter Awards.

Staff is recommending the recognition ceremony be held on Friday April 29th, 2022. All public health measures will be followed for an in person event.

In 2020 and 2021 Volunteer Recognition was present in an Online Presentation format due to COVID-19 restrictions. If Council were to choose this format or if COVID-19 restrictions change to be unable to host an in-person ceremony, the online presentation would be similar to 2020 and 2021:

- Social Media Campaign
- Online Presentation on the website
- Councillors would have the opportunity to present a recognition certificate and gift to the nominated volunteers.

Alternatives

1. If the suggested date of Friday April 29th, 2022 is not acceptable, staff would make the recommendation of an alternate date.
2. Online Presentation

Conclusion

The East Hants Municipal Volunteer Recognition is an annual event that makes an important statement on how the Municipality and Council supports its Volunteers.

Staff is recommending the date of April 29th, 2022 at the Mount Uniacke Legion for the East Hants Municipal Volunteer Recognition and Long Service Fire Fighter.

Recommendation

1. That Council approve to host the East Hants Municipal Volunteer Recognition and Firefighter Long Service Awards on April 29th, 2022.
2. That Council approve the Mount Uniacke Legion as the location for the 2022 Recognition Ceremony.