



MEMO

To: Recreation and Culture Standing Committee
From: Kari Kluge, Director of Recreation and Culture
Date: November 2nd, 2023
Subject: Department Update

Simpson's Trailer Park closed for the season on Monday, Oct. 9th. The park had a total of 798 day rentals for the season at its 22 sites. Please see the chart below that displays occupancy rates for the summer.

Total Stays (in days)	May	June	July	August	September	October
Full Service Trailer (14 sites)	61	103	148	122	100	13
Partial Service Trailer (4 sites)	7	50	48	51	29	5
Tent (4 sites)	3	18	17	14	12	0
Average Occupancy Rate	10%	26%	31%	27%	21%	9%

The Fall Youth Basketball League is being offered at the Collins Hall over 10 weeks. The league is broken down into 3 different age groups hosted on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. There are 96 participants registered in the league. Drop-in volleyball and basketball are also being hosted on Mondays and Thursdays for youth in grades 9-12.

Free programming continues to be offered at the Collins Hall through the New Horizons Senior Program grant. The walking program will be offered free during the month of December. Pickle ball will also be free during the month of December. Pickle ball is being hosted at the Collins Hall four times a week. The next speaker series talk is taking place on Monday, November 20th at the Collins Hall from 2 – 4 pm. The speakers at the November session are from the Elliot Lake Palliative Care Program to discuss their services and the Elliot Lake Fire Department to discuss fire safety.

The first Spooktacular decorating contest was judged and awarded to the winning participants on Oct. 30th. 24 participants submitted their decorated houses into the contest. All participants were added to a map that was provided to community members to drive around and view the different decorations. There were three categories for prizes: Most Spine Chilling Award, Most Creative Award, and People's Choice. The People's Choice was a fan voted award that received 384 votes. Winners of the three categories were provided with prizes and signs on their lawns for people to see while they were out trick or treating. City staff received a lot of positive feedback on the event and will offer a similar contest for the holiday season.

The gingerbread contest is set to take place on December 16th at the Collins Hall from 1 – 3 pm. Participants of all ages are encouraged to submit their gingerbread constructed creations into the contest

for a chance to win prizes in the different age groups/categories. Everyone is welcome to attend the event to view the display of creativity in the community and enjoy some hot chocolate, treats, activities, and a surprise visit from a special guest.

The City is also hosting a 'Name that Plow' contest. We have asked the community to help us name our four plow trucks. Submissions are open until November 17th. A panel of judges made up of Public Work employees and supervisors will select 15 names to move on to the second round of voting. The second round of voting will be open to the community to vote for their favourite name between November 22nd-29th. Within the first 24 hours of submissions, we have received over 117 responses.

The Santa Claus Parade is set for Friday, December 1st. The theme for this years' parade is "Christmas Songs." The route is set to begin at the Scotiabank parking lot and will run along Ontario, ending at City Hall. There will be a sensory friendly zone at the beginning of the parade route from the Scotiabank start line to the Funeral Chapel.

The Elliot Lake Museum continues its operations in assessing and creating records for the extensive heritage collection the City continues to amass. The museum is preparing these records to be available to the public through an online database and certain artefacts can be seen in person on display at the Elliot Lake Public Library. As part of its educational programming, the museum is hosting two Trivia Nights this fall on November 3rd and December 8th.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KL', followed by a second, more stylized signature.

Kari Kluge, Director of Recreation and Culture