

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND CULTURE

Re: 2024 Winterfest Science North Outreach Program

RECOMMENDATION

That the City enter into a contract with Science North for Winterfest 2024;

And that funds be taken from the 2024 Winterfest Budget;

And that council pass the appropriate by-law.

BACKGROUND

Winterfest is an event that the City has traditionally hosted annually, notwithstanding a brief two-year hiatus during the pandemic. Winterfest provides opportunity for the community to attend outdoor events at a variety of locations. Past events have been hosted at Spruce Beach and Mt. Dufour ski hill. Over the years, the length of Winterfest festivities has varied between a weekend-long festival or a single day festival.

ANALYSIS

The Recreation and Culture Department has arranged for Science North's Outreach Program to visit Elliot Lake on February 11th, 2024 as part of the 2024 Winterfest. The Outreach Program provides table-based STEM stations, which allow families to interact with hands-on activities that encompass a variety of learning styles. The exhibit for this year's event will be "Natural Curiosity". The exhibit will run for 7 hours, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The day will also feature 2 live science shows, which is a high-impact audience –style presentation that incorporates many engaging science demonstrations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The financial cost to hosting Science North Outreach Program at our 2024 Winterfest is a total cost of \$1, 789.35 plus accommodations for 2 staff for 1 night. This cost will come from the 2024 Winterfest Budget.

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This event aligns with the City's Strategic Plan through:

- Health and Community Wellness
 - Provide activities and promote healthy lifestyles through recreation for all age groups.

SUMMARY

In order to secure the Science North Outreach Program for Winterfest on February 11th, 2024, The City of Elliot Lake must enter into a contract with Science North.