Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – September 23, 2023

REPORTS

Item No. 17 Collaboration with the Charleswood Rotary Club for Bottle Cap and Pop Tab Containers in City Facilities

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On July 7, 2023, the Human Rights Committee of Council recommended that the Executive Policy Committee direct the Winnipeg Public Service to collaborate with the Charleswood Virtual Rotary Club in their efforts to purchase wheelchairs, and report back within 90 days on a process for:

1. Placing pop/drink tab collection containers in all City of Winnipeg staff rooms, cafeterias, canteens, and pertinent public areas and transporting them to Trailblazers Life Choices at 1069 Autumnwood Drive when filled.

2. Publicizing methods of making monetary donations.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On July 7, 2023, the Human Rights Committee of Council passed the following motion:

WHEREAS the Accessibility and Inclusion sub-committee of the Human Rights Committee of Council (HRCC) recognizes, and actively works to support community stakeholders and to generate recommendations to the HRCC via discussions pertaining to Accessibility & Inclusion at the City of Winnipeg as part of our mandate;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian Human Rights Act recognizes that all individuals should have an opportunity equal with other individuals to make for themselves the lives that they are able and wish to have, and to have their needs accommodated without discrimination and, in particular, discrimination on the basis of disability;

AND WHEREAS a proactive and systemic approach for identifying, removing and preventing barriers to accessibility without delay complements the rights of persons with disabilities under the Canadian Human Rights Act;

AND WHEREAS Canada is a State Party to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and Canada has agreed to take appropriate measures respecting accessibility and to develop and monitor minimum accessibility standards;

AND WHEREAS barriers to accessibility can impact all persons in Canada, in particular those with disabilities and their families, and can prevent persons with disabilities from achieving their full and equal participation in society;

AND WHEREAS access to wheelchairs, like accessible transportation, community space (such as properly maintained sidewalks in every season), and assistive technology/supports must be non-negotiables for our community, the Access and Inclusion sub-committee is leading by example, in partnership with the Charleswood Virtual Rotary Club, to ensure access to wheelchairs, alongside various accessibility and inclusion initiatives are at the table of Council;

AND WHEREAS no child, no student, no citizen should be without a required wheelchair;

AND WHEREAS In the words of the Charleswood Virtual Rotary Club, “Wheelchairs are freedom machines. They are not one size fits all. They must be replaced every four to five years. The cost of a basic children's wheelchair is more than $4,000.00. Sports chairs for example, are considered luxuries. They are especially cost prohibitive to many disabled people, children and adults alike”;

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION (continued):

AND WHEREAS alongside this motion, a donation of $500.00 to Tabs for Children is being provided, in partnership with Western Scrap Metal Inc & Trailblazers Life Choices;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Executive Policy Committee be requested to direct the Winnipeg Public Service to collaborate with the Charleswood Virtual Rotary Club in their efforts to purchase wheelchairs and report back within 90 days on a process for:

1. Placing pop/drink tab collection containers in all City of Winnipeg staff rooms, cafeterias, canteens, and pertinent public areas and transporting them to Trailblazers Life Choices at 1069 Autumnwood Drive when filled.

2. Publicizing methods of making monetary donations.