



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG

OFFICE OF THE CAO

Mission Statement: As stewards of the Town of Amherstburg, we strive to improve the quality of life of all residents through the delivery of effective, efficient, and affordable services.

Author's Name: Kevin Fox	Report Date: January 10, 2025
Author's Phone: 519 736 0012 ext. 2272	Date to Council: January 27, 2025
Author's E-mail: kfox@amherstburg.ca	Resolution #:

To: Mayor and Members of Town Council

Subject: County of Essex Accessibility Fest-for-All

1. **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that:

1. The Libro Credit Union Centre location **BE NOMINATED** for consideration by the County of Essex for hosting the 2025 County of Essex Accessibility Fest-for-All; and,
2. Administration **BE DIRECTED** to assist the County of Essex with required elements of planning and hosting the 2025 County of Essex Accessibility Fest-for-All.

2. **BACKGROUND:**

In 2024, based on the recommendation of the County of Essex Accessibility Advisory Committee, the County of Essex worked with the Town of Essex to host the first Accessibility Fest-for-All at Colchester Harbour to highlight the services and offerings of local agencies, organizations and businesses that seek to improve the access to goods and services for people with disabilities. The Town of Amherstburg participated in the 2024 event.

3. **DISCUSSION:**

In seeking a location for the 2025 Accessibility Fest-for-All, the Libro Credit Union Centre in the Town of Amherstburg was seen as a potential site and host community. Doing so will allow the Town of Amherstburg to highlight the accessible businesses and services of Amherstburg and the region, including its notable achievement as the first in Canada

to host a Miracle League. The Town's Aphasia Friendly Amherstburg goal will also be something that can be highlighted to those attending, encouraging greater support and adoption of this worthy cause.

The proposal was discussed with the Town's Accessibility Advisory Committee on December 5th, 2024, and the following motion was adopted:

That the Amherstburg Accessibility Advisory Committee ENDORSES the Town of Amherstburg hosting the County of Essex 2025 Accessibility Fest-for-All at the Libro Centre.

Although a date has not been formally adopted yet, as planning continues, the event is expected to take place in September.

4. RISK ANALYSIS:

There is little risk posed to the municipality by this recommendation.

5. FINANCIAL MATTERS:

There are no direct financial implications to the Town of Amherstburg. It should be noted that no fee would be assessed for this undertaking, as it would be considered a Town event utilizing the Libro Centre grounds.

A donor will be sought for some support for a lunch to be provided for the event and any group or individual seeking to offer support for this is encouraged to contact Town Administration.

6. ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPACTS:

N/A

7. CONSULTATIONS:

County of Essex

Amherstburg Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAAC)

Valerie Critchley, Chief Administrative Officer
Trese MacNeil, Manager of Recreation Services
Terry Fasan, Manager of Municipal Facilities

8. CORPORATE STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT:

Vision: Preserving our past while forging our future.

<i>Amherstburg Community Strategic Plan 2022 - 2026</i>	
<p style="text-align: center;">PILLAR 1 Deliver Trusted & Accountable Local Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Improve trust between council and staff, and residents, by strengthening governance and internal accountability structures. <input type="checkbox"/> Deliver transparent and efficient financial management. ✓ Increase effective communication and engagement with residents. <input type="checkbox"/> Develop our staff team, resources, and workplace culture. <input type="checkbox"/> Continue to deliver strong core municipal services. ✓ Ensure Amherstburg is an inclusive accessible and welcoming community committed to reconciliation. 	<p style="text-align: center;">PILLAR 3 Encourage Local Economic Prosperity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Encourage development of commercial and industrial lands. <input type="checkbox"/> Continue to promote local tourism industry, especially overnight accommodation. <input type="checkbox"/> Continue to facilitate downtown development for residents and visitors. ✓ Continue to leverage partnership opportunities with other provincial, federal, and local governments, agencies, and organizations.
<p style="text-align: center;">PILLAR 2 Invest in Community Amenities and Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Maintain safe, reliable and accessible municipal infrastructure and facilities. <input type="checkbox"/> Increase access to recreation opportunities for all ages. <input type="checkbox"/> Finalize and execute plans for town-owned lands (e.g. Duffy’s site, Belle Vue) <input type="checkbox"/> Create public access to water and waterfront <input type="checkbox"/> Prioritize opportunities to reduce environmental impacts of Town operations and increase Town resilience to climate change. 	<p style="text-align: center;">PILLAR 4 Shape Growth Aligned with Local Identity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Define and communicate a vision for the Town’s future and identity. <input type="checkbox"/> Promote and plan for green and “climate change ready” development. <input type="checkbox"/> Review and implement policies that promote greater access to diverse housing. <input type="checkbox"/> Protect the Town’s historic sites and heritage. <input type="checkbox"/> Preserve the Town’s greenspaces, agricultural lands, and natural environment.

9. CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that the support for the Town of Amherstburg to host the County of Essex Accessibility Fest-for-All be expressed by Council.



Kevin Fox
Municipal Clerk / Risk Manager

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	County of Essex Accessibility Fest-for-All.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Jan 15, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:



Tracy Prince



Valerie Critchley



Kevin Fox