

# SYNOPSIS

## Stadium Canteen

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Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the stadium canteen had not been in service since March 14, 2020. Since then, an RFP for the operation of the canteen was issued on two separate occasions and no submissions were received. Subsequently staff contacted local community groups and business owners to gage their interest in operating the stadium canteen. While some groups initially showed interest in operating the canteen only one proposal was received which was from local business owner Dwayne Ripley.

An agreement was reached and approved by Council for Mr. Ripley to operate the canteen for the remainder of the 2022/23 season as a trial period. The current agreement ends on May 1, 2023.

All reports of the canteen operation since Mr. Ripley took over have been favorable. It seems that he is providing quality service and products for which there is a market for at the Stadium. As our Procurement Policy allows the Town to negotiate directly with service providers where such services are in short supply staff reached out to Mr. Ripley to negotiate a one-year extension to his contract. Mr. Ripley has indicated that he wishes to continue to operate the canteen for another year at a rate of \$750 / month plus HST for the months of September to March inclusive, an increase over the current \$500 / month and \$350 per month plus HST for the months of April to August inclusive. He has also requested that Section 12 of the agreement be amended to allow the CAO to approve use of the canteen during times when the ice is not being used.

Staff are of the opinion that allowing Mr. Ripley to operate the canteen for the 2023/24 ice season is fair and justified. As discussed above the canteen contract has been tendered twice with no responses and Mr. Ripley was the only member of the community to 'step up' and take this on as the Town emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **MOTION:**

**That Council approve of the stadium canteen concession agreement between Dwayne Ripley and the Town of Amherst at a rate of \$750 plus HST per month for the months of September to March inclusive, and \$350 per month plus HST for the months of April to August inclusive, and authorize the Mayor and CAO to sign on behalf of the Town.**