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Item No. 07
Halifax Regional Council
February 16, 2016

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed by Director
Brad Anguish, Director, Parks and Recreation

DATE: February 1, 2016

SUBJECT: Canada *Giver* 150 Build Program

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

October 6, 2015 Halifax Regional Council Report and recommendation that Council authorize staff to submit the four candidate sites, listed in the discussion section of the report, for consideration as a *Giver* project with Sinking Ship Entertainment Inc.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, Section 79(1)(ah) Council may expend money required by the Municipality on playgrounds, trails...ice arenas and other recreational facilities.

BACKGROUND

On October 6, 2015, staff presented a report to Council which explained that Sinking Ship Entertainment is an award winning production, distribution and new media company specializing in kids' live-action cross-platform content. Since its launch in 2004, the company has created and produced live action programs and recently won 3 Daytime Emmy Awards for Children and Pre-School Children's Series.

Sinking Ship Entertainment approached staff in Parks & Recreation to participate in Season 4 of their playground renovation/building show *Giver*. They were beginning to gather submissions from cities across Canada for the *Giver* 150 build. In its first 3 seasons, *Giver* has built playgrounds in communities across Ontario. In honor of Canada's 150th Birthday, the *Giver* team intended to build 13 new playgrounds in capital cities across Canada. Sinking Ship Entertainment indicated that they would be conducting their first round of selection during October and November 2015.

Council approved a recommendation authorizing staff to submit four candidate sites for consideration as a *Giver* project. The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Council on the status of this project.

DISCUSSION

Subsequent to the report to Council on October 14, 2015, staff provided a package of information to Sinking Ship Entertainment for each candidate playground site and began discussions on next steps and preparation for the *Giver* Scout presentation and site visit.

On December 17, 2015, staff was advised by the Producer for *Giver* that one of their major funding partners had to withdraw from the project and, as a result, they had to push back their production schedule of playground builds that was originally set to take place during Summer 2016. They have advised that more information will be provided in the coming months on delivering the program in Summer 2017.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

There is no community consultation planned at this time.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.php> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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