

THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAMBTON SHORES

Report CAO 05-2024

Council Meeting Date: May 14, 2024

TO: Mayor Cook and Members of Council

FROM: Steve McAuley, CAO

RE: Pride Flag Request

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report CAO 05-2024 regarding the “Pride Flag Request” be received; and

THAT the Pride Flag be flown for the month of June on Municipal flag poles located at the Shores Recreation Centre, the Legacy Recreation Centre and the Lambton Shores Administration Building.

SUMMARY

This report presents a request received from the North Lambton Community Health Centre and Diversity Ed. – Safer Spaces Canada to fly the Pride flag for the month of June on select Municipal flag poles.

BACKGROUND

The Municipality has received a request from the North Lambton Community Health Centre and Diversity Ed. – Safer Spaces Canada to fly the Pride flag for the month of June on Municipal flag poles. A copy of the request is attached.

Lambton Shores Flag policy states the following:

3.2 *Flying of Flags on Municipal Flagpoles*

- a) *The only flags flown on municipal flagpoles will be the National Flag of Canada, the flag of the Province of Ontario, the Municipality of Lambton Shores flag, the United States of America Flag and the Blue Flag. Other flags may be approved at the discretion of the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer.*

- f) *The Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer may together approve the raising of any of the following flags on municipal flagpoles regularly occupied by the Municipality of Lambton Shores Flag:*
 - i. *The flag of a state recognized by Canada when an official representative is visiting the Municipality*

- ii. *A flag intended to recognize a significant event or activity sponsored or supported by the Municipality including special commemorations (i.e. Blue Flag, major sporting events)*

Due to the duration of the request, staff are seeking Council approval to fly the Pride flag at the following locations for the month of June: the Shores Recreation Centre, the Legacy Recreation Centre and the Lambton Shores Administration Building. The North Lambton Community Health Centre and Diversity Ed. – Safer Spaces Canada intend to host flag raising ceremonies at each location. Flags will be provided by Diversity Ed. – Safer Spaces Canada.

Council's Flag Policy states that only one flag shall be flown per flagpole. Therefore, it is suggested that the Pride flags are flown on poles bearing the municipal flag, and as such the municipal flag will be removed for the month of June at these select locations.

ALTERNATIVES TO CONSIDER

There are no alternatives presented. The recommendation is consistent with Council's strategic priority of community vitality, fostering a sense of belonging for all residents.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The recommendation is to approve the request received from the North Lambton Community Health Centre and Diversity Ed. – Safer Spaces Canada to fly the Pride flag at select municipal locations for the month of June.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact associated with this request. Flags will be provided by Diversity Ed. – Safer Spaces Canada.

CONSULTATION

Ashley Farr, Director of Community Services

Attached:

- 1) Flag Request Letter