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LOCAL BUSINESSES & COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER

The Current Challenge

Ward One has a chronic shortage of doctors which has evolved to a crisis level.

The Need for Continued Operation

- Rural Population
- Many area residents need to travel between 30 and 90 minutes for a family doctor.
- The lack of rural medical services also leads to higher hospitalization rates in rural areas.
- Large population of seniors – at higher risks for health issues, and require greater medical services. 75% of Canadians over 65 have at least one chronic health condition and 44% of provincial health care funds can be attributed to this demographic.
- With an aging, rural population, it is important to ensure permanent medical services continue to operate in Coboconk.

The Need for Continued Operation (cont'd)

- No rural transit
- No other nearby medical facilities in the area.
- Many residents in Ward One are not served locally by the Coboconk Medical Centre and no after-hours care is available.

Background

- In 2016, the Coboconk Medical Centre needed to be vacated immediately due to structural issues.
- Since that time, the doctor has been housed in a temporary portable building.
- At the Feb 13, 2018 meeting, Council made the decision to demolish the old Coboconk Medical Centre.

Background (cont'd)

- Staff were directed to investigate the cost of erecting a permanent medical centre facility in Coboconk
- In April 2018, the costs of erecting a permanent medical centre in Coboconk were presented to Council: $1,277,710 for a 3,500 sq.ft. facility (an ideal facility) or $912,130 for a 2,600 sq.ft. (reduced) facility.

The Concept

- A Wellness Centre located in Coboconk
- To serve as a 'hub for wellness services' in the north
- Providing space for 2-3 doctors, walk-in clinic hours, and other practitioners such as dentist, massage, seniors foot care, chiropractor/physio, etc.

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Project Proposal

- Residents and organizations in the City have approached the current challenges with the Coboconk Medical Centre with a vision for opportunity.
- This vision is to provide quality medical and wellness services to the residents of Ward One by establishing a permanent wellness centre in the historic Coboconk Train Station.

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Project Proposal

- Provide the medical services available today, and enhance services provided.
- Renovate and expand the main and top floors of existing Coboconk Train Station facility to accommodate permanent medical services in the community.
- This proposal solves two issues: a permanent facility for the provision of medical and health services, and a new use for the under-utilized train station building.

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Celebrating Local History

- Restoration, renovation and revitalization of this facility will enable this local history to be preserved and celebrated.
- A portion of the new Wellness Centre will be dedicated to showcasing the history of the facility allowing patients, residents and visitors the opportunity to celebrate the historic impact of the building on their community for so many years.

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Engaged Stakeholders

- To date, 18 stakeholder groups have been engaged
- Each group involved has indicated they are supportive about proceeding with the proposed project.
- Discussions with City Staff has indicated a willingness to explore this solution.

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Alignment with Local Priorities

- The need for this project is not only reflected in the statistics and voices of the community, but in the priorities set by local government.
- The 2016-2019 City of Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan sets the vision for Kawartha Lakes: naturally beautiful, offering an exceptional lifestyle.
- Helps Kawartha Lakes to deliver on this vision, specifically as it relates to Goal 2 of the plan: an exceptional quality of life - "enhance access to Community and Human/Health Services."
- Aligned with the City's Economic Development Strategy, Goal 3: Encourage a positive community business culture - "support community based organizations in local development activities".
- Generate significant economic benefits for the community.

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Council Support

- We are asking for Council's support of the concept in principle and to direct staff to work with our group to bring back to you the framework of an agreement.

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