Subject: Amendments to Vehicle for Hire and Businesses and Adult Entertainment Parlour By-laws

Report to: Corporate Services Committee

Report date: Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Recommendations

1. That the recommendations contained in Appendix 1 and 2 to Report CSD 5-2020 BE APPROVED outlining amendments to Niagara Region By-law 2018-75 (Vehicles for Hire and Businesses) and 2018-76 (Adult Entertainment); and

2. That the necessary by-laws BE PREPARED and PRESENTED to Council for consideration.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to make amendments to the Vehicle for Hire and Businesses and Adult Entertainment By-laws.
- Council of the Regional Municipality of Niagara is authorized under Part II section 11 and Part IV of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001 c.25, as amended to pass by-laws licensing, regulating and governing businesses.
- On June 01, 2019 the Region took over licensing responsibilities from Niagara Regional Police “as-is” including the by-law structure.
- The Region has an existing Fees and Charges by-law that was updated on December 12, 2019 to include Licensing Fees and Charges.

Financial Considerations

Revenue received from the issuance of business licences offsets the direct costs of the Business Licensing Division.

Analysis

On June 01, 2019 business licensing responsibility was transferred from Niagara Regional Police to Niagara Region and the operation, including by-law structure, was on-boarded “as-is”.

The structure for both the Vehicle for Hire and Businesses and Adult Entertainment by-laws included a licence fees schedule. The Region maintains a separate Fees and Charges by-law. This by-law contains all fees charged by the Region including Business
Licensing fees. It is staff’s intention to complete a thorough review of all applicable licensing fees associated with these services once a full year of operations has been completed.

Staff are recommending to remove the fees schedule from both licensing by-laws, and amend applicable sections within the by-laws to reference the Fees and Charges by-law and not the schedules. This will eliminate any confusion for licence holders in determining what fees need to be paid and place licensing fees in the correct by-law.

Alternatives Reviewed
No Applicable

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities
The Region’s Fees and Charges By-law is the only location where this type of information should be contained. By removing the fees schedule from the Region’s business licensing by-laws it supports the following Niagara Region Council Strategic Priorities:

- Sustainable and Engaging Government

Other Pertinent Reports
No Applicable

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Appendices

Appendix 1  Recommended By-law Amendments By-law 2018-75
Appendix 2  Recommended By-law Amendments By-law 2018-76