

**Date:** 2022-05-11

**Subject:** **City of Brampton Concert Band Inc. Bandstand Request – Follow-Up Report**

**Contact:** Laura Lukasik, Manager Tourism and Special Events  
416-801-3623 | laura.lukasik@brampton.ca

**Report Number:** Corporate Support Services-2022-529

**Recommendations:**

1. That the report from Laura Lukasik, Manager Tourism and Events, dated May 11, 2022, titled City of Brampton Concert Band Inc. Bandstand Request – Follow-Up Report be received;
2. That Council approve the request to waive fees for five years from and including 2022 for the use of the Gage Park bandstand to the City of Brampton Concert Band Inc. on Thursday evenings for a period of 15 weeks from June to September from 7pm for two hours; and
3. That the City of Brampton Concert Band Inc. be provided with four weeks' notice (to the designated contact person) for each of the five years in the event there is a request to rent the Gage Park bandstand at its posted rate during the 15 week period between June and September making the bandstand unavailable to the City of Brampton Concert Band Inc.;
4. And that recommendations 2 and 3 should apply only so long as the organization continues to provide free Thursday evening performances.

**Overview:**

- The City of Brampton Concert Band Inc. has a long history in the City of Brampton having been founded in 1884 and making it one of the oldest concert bands in Canada.
- The City of Brampton Concert Band Inc. has performed on the Gage Park bandstand, erected specifically for the band, for many years with financial assistance from the City of Brampton and/or the Downtown Brampton BIA.

- The free Thursday night concert series is well-loved by the community and particularly by the City's seniors population as it provides an opportunity to socialize in a safe, accessible environment thereby playing a significant role in helping to combat social isolation issues.
- The request to secure the Gage Park bandstand for a five year period at no charge would ensure the ongoing Thursday Night concert series remain accessible to the residents of Brampton and alleviate the annual need to secure funding for use of the bandstand.
- A proviso will be put in place to address potential paid requests for use of the bandstand by other groups during the 15 week concert series.

### **Background:**

The City of Brampton Concert Band Inc. has had a presence in the City of Brampton since 1884. The Band has provided free entertainment to the residents of Brampton on an annual basis on Thursday evenings for a period of 15 weeks from June to September for many years.

The Thursday Night Concert series takes place on the Gage Park bandstand and has is well-loved. Residents not only look forward to the music but also appreciate the opportunity to spend time in Gage Park, a jewel in the City of Brampton's park inventory. The series showcases talented local musicians and provides a cultural experience at no charge to attendees. Of particular note is the opportunity the free concert series provides to older adults, often at risk of experiencing social isolation, to gather in a safe environment for a cultural outing.

### **Current Situation:**

Members of the City of Brampton Concert Band Inc. perform on a voluntary basis for this concert series. Funds to showcase additional musical groups as part of the series are sourced from sponsorships. Organizers are faced with the annual task of securing the Gage Park bandstand and funds to cover rental costs.

By securing the bandstand for an extended period for the Brampton Concert Band Inc., less staff time is required to assist with these arrangements and more importantly, organizers are able to focus on promoting the concert series earlier knowing space requirements are confirmed.

While rental data from previous years confirms there have been no other requests for the bandstand on Thursday evenings in the summer, a proviso to provide the City of Brampton Concert Band Inc. with four weeks' notice should the bandstand become unavailable because of a paid rental request for the space will be put in place.

The total dollar figure to rent the Gage Park bandstand for 15 weeks at today's council-approved rate of \$161.87 per hour is \$4,865.10 a year.

### **Corporate Implications:**

#### Financial Implications:

The recommendations in this report will result in foregone rent of approximately \$4,865 over a one year period or \$24,326 over a five year period, pending Council approval.

### **Term of Council Priorities:**

This report achieves the Strategic Plan priorities of Strong Communities and Smart Growth by celebrating citizens and creating partnerships through arts, culture and social interaction and practising proactive, effective and responsible management of municipal assets and services.

### **Conclusion:**

Staff recommends that Council approve the Brampton Concert Band Inc.'s request to secure the Gage Park bandstand for 15 weeks from June to September for a five year period at no charge so that the Thursday Night Concert Series may continue to provide an enjoyable cultural experience for the residents of Brampton.

Authored by:

Laura Lukasik  
Manager, Tourism and Special Events

Reviewed by:

Natalie Stogdill  
Interim Director, Strategic Communications,  
Culture and Events

Approved by:

Cynthia Ogbarmey-Tetteh  
Interim Commissioner Corporate Support  
Services

**Attachments:**