## Pointe Des Chenes may continue, at a loss

By **Dan Gray** - October 15, 2021 @ 2:59 pm



A pilot project to send a bus to Pointe Des Chenes beach this summer has lost money.

A staff report, asking for \$11,000 to cover projected costs of the bus next season, identified ways for the service to be better.



Staff reported to council that an average of 19 users a day used the bus this summer. Bringing in \$114. When questioned about the total cost to operate the bus by Councillor Bruni, Director of Community Services, Brent Lamming said the bus costs \$464 a day to run.

Bruni asked what the \$11,000 dollars would cover.

"That will cover the whole cost of the pilot, including wages and fuel and maintenance from running late June until just after Labor Day next year, so it'd be referred to budget so it's an all in cost," said Lamming.

Councillor Shoemaker thinks it's a great program and appreciates some of the changes including reducing trips and cancelling trips on rain days that staff suggested for next year.

"I think that this offers a great service to people who might not otherwise be able to make it out to Pointe Des Chenes, which as we know is quite a trek. To be able to do it at such a minimal cost is a huge benefit," said Shoemaker. "So thanks to Mr. lambing for the report and for the recommendations on improvements to the program. And come budget time I'll be supporting the \$11,000 budget request."

Mayor Christian Provenzano also believes the bus is a good idea.

"Thanks Councillor Shoemaker, I agree with you. It's nice to be able to get people out there to enjoy that park, it's a great park."

As this motion was on the consent agenda and that agenda was passed, the \$11,000 will now be debated during budget season.

## **Dan Gray**

A native of Centre Wellington, Ontario, I have worked as a freelance journalist all over the province of Ontario. Most recently I ran a local news page in my hometown of Fergus, Ontario. I look forward to bringing my experience covering breaking news, municipal matters and general interest stories to the team at Superior Media and communities we serve.

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