

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GEORGINA

REPORT NO. LS-2024-0014

**FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF
COUNCIL**

June 12, 2024

**SUBJECT: NOISE BYLAW EXEMPTION TO ALLOW FOR THE PLAYING OF
AMPLIFIED MUSIC AT EVENTS HELD WITHIN THE HISTORIC DOWNTOWNS AND
TOWN PARKS DURING THE 2024 SUMMER SEASON.**

1. RECOMMENDATION:

1. That Council receive Report No. LS-2024-0014 prepared by the Municipal Law Enforcement Division, Legislative Services dated June 12th, 2024 respecting a request for a Noise Bylaw Exemption to allow for the playing of amplified music at special events held within the historic downtowns and in Town parks during the 2024 Summer season.
2. That Council approve an exemption from the Town's Noise Bylaw to allow for the hosting of Town-supported events that include amplified music within the historic downtowns and Town parks for the balance of 2024.
3. That Council direct the Manager of Municipal Law Enforcement to review each event to be held in the historic downtowns and Town parks which are intended to include amplified music, to ensure that potential causes of noise complaints are mitigated.

2. PURPOSE:

This report is presented to seek Council's approval of a request for a Noise Bylaw Exemption to allow for amplified music to be played at Town-supported events held within the historic downtowns and Town parks for the balance of 2024.

3. BACKGROUND:

On April 17th, 2024, the Municipal Law Enforcement Division received a request for a Noise Bylaw Exemption from the Town's Economic Development and Tourism Division to permit the playing of amplified music at events held within the historic downtowns during the Summer of 2024.

On July 12th, 2023, Council had granted a similar Noise Bylaw exemption for these downtown areas. During the duration of the Noise Bylaw exemption in 2023, only

one complaint was received from a resident regarding noise. This was promptly addressed by event organizers and no further complaints were received.

On May 28th, 2024, the Municipal Law Enforcement Division received a further request for a Noise Bylaw Exemption from the Town's Community Services Department to permit Starlight Cinema Nights on August 8th, August 15th, August 29th, and September 7th. These events will rotate between De la Salle Park, Pepperlaw Lions Park, and the Georgina Pioneer Village.

With the rising popularity of small musical performances, the goal of these events is to encourage more residents and visitors to visit the Town's downtown areas and explore the shops, eat at local restaurants, and enjoy local entertainment.

Because Town of Georgina Noise Bylaw No. 2003-0075 (PWE-1) prohibits amplified music, an exemption from the provisions of the Town's Noise Bylaw is required if amplified music is to be permitted outdoors.

4. ANALYSIS:

Section 2(b)(xii) of Town of Georgina Noise Bylaw 2003-0075 (PWE-1) prohibits the operation of any electronic device or group of connected electronic devices incorporating one or more loudspeakers or other electro-mechanical transducers, and intended for the production, reproduction, or amplification of sound.

Under Section 4 of the Noise Bylaw, Council may grant an exemption to the Noise Bylaw by resolution.

While the dates of all events and the scheduling of the musical programming have not been confirmed, it is proposed that any amplified music would be played between 10:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. from Friday to Sunday. The musical performances will be held on existing infrastructure and no additional construction will occur.

The Starlight Cinema nights will begin in one of the designated parks on each of the specified dates at 8:30 p.m. and should be completed no later than 10:30 p.m.

In the past there have been a variety of events that have taken place on Town properties with amplified music – for example, Jazz Fest in the Jackson's Point Parkette, Music in the Uptown Keswick Parkette, and Movie Night at Mill Pond Park.

Rather than requiring individual requests for each event, a request covering all Town-supported events for the summer of 2024 is being made. If approved by Council, staff will monitor the programs and any complaints or feedback received

and make recommendations for 2025. The Municipal Law Enforcement Division does not typically receive any complaints regarding these types of events. In any event, though, the Manager of Municipal Law Enforcement will review each event to mitigate any noise concerns.

5. RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

If approved, the proposed events will promote the strategic pillar of Diversifying our Local Economy by continuing to support Georgina's tourism sector and downtown revitalization as economic drivers.

6. FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY IMPACT:

There is no associated cost with the proposed Noise Bylaw Exemption.

7. PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND NOTICE REQUIREMENTS:

There is no obligation under the Town of Georgina Noise Bylaw to notify the public of this request for exemption.

It is staff's intent to monitor the success of these music events and to consider any feedback they may wish to make regarding recommendations for future events and programming.

8. CONCLUSION:

This report contains a staff recommendation for Council to approve this request for a Noise Bylaw Exemption. Given that additional events may be planned for the Fall and Winter seasons that include the opportunity for amplified music, staff are recommending that this exemption be granted to the end of 2024.

APPROVALS

Prepared By: Mike Hutchinson, Manager of Municipal Law Enforcement

Recommended By: Michael Bigioni, Director, Legislative Services

Approved By: Ryan Cronsberry, Chief Administrative Officer