

Request for Decision

Title	2017 Library Membership
Proposed Motion	That Council approve the request to provide free Library Memberships to Sturgeon County residents as a way to celebrate Canada’s 150, funded by Council’s Contingency Fund.
Administrative Recommendation	Administration recommends that Council defeat the request to provide free Library Memberships to Sturgeon County residents as a way to Celebrate Canada’s 150. This recommendation is based on respecting current workplan commitments per the approved Business Plan and Budget and the process used to develop.
Previous Council Direction	<p>February 14, 2016 – Motion 072/17 That Council direct Administration to provide a recommendation that determines the viability of offering free library cards for the 2017 year including the costs involved, in honor of Canada’s 150th celebrations.</p> <p>December 13, 2016 – Motion 449/16 That Council approve the 2017 - 2019 Corporate Business Plan.</p> <p>December 13, 2016 – Motion 455/16 That Council approve the 2017 Operating and Capital Budget as presented in the 2017 Budget Document.</p>
Report	<p><u>Background Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When planning for Canada’s 150 Sturgeon County deliberately took a conservative approach to celebrations. • Administration and Council are both mindful that Sturgeon County will be celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2018. • Through the budget process Administration anticipated no additional budget impacts by adding special programs and services but intended to Celebrate Canada 150 more generally in all events throughout the year. • There have been a few municipalities that have announced free library memberships for their residents. These are municipalities that have libraries of record and their Municipal Library Boards took opportunities to balance their budgets with other revenue sources. • Northern Lights Library has recently provided statistics on the number of Sturgeon County residents currently using Library services – 3,327.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth in the numbers of library memberships held by Sturgeon residents under a free campaign is difficult to anticipate and cost implications difficult to estimate. • Annual Family Memberships within the region range from \$12.60-\$30.00. • Financial impact is material (see financial note below), and the investment in our community should not be made without consideration for community outcomes and benefits. • Council has demonstrated its support for library services through other budget commitment and enhancements directed to the Libraries. <p><u>External Communication</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been no communication with the public since the notice of motion was provided January 24, 2017 and no communication with the Local Libraries to ensure ease of implementation. <p><u>Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sturgeon County’s current practice is to provide free Seniors memberships during the month of June by way of a Proclamation of Council.
<p>Implication of Administrative Recommendation</p>	<p><u>Strategic Alignment:</u></p> <p>Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership –Being consistent and transparent in decision making supports confidence in local government.</p> <p><u>Organizational:</u></p> <p>No organizational impact</p> <p><u>Financial:</u></p> <p>No financial impact.</p>
<p>Alternatives Considered</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide free memberships in 2017. 2. Provide 150 free memberships, perhaps to new users. 3. Provide free memberships in 2018 (Sturgeon County Centennial) .
<p>Implications of Alternatives</p>	<p><u>Strategic Alignment:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council can be more intentional in our service enhancements if we deliberate them in consideration of other County priorities during the budget process. <p><u>Organizational:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This emerging work will significantly affect a number of departments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Corporate Communication to develop and implement a Communications Plan. ○ Finance to generate payment, develop and communicate reporting requirements and confirm; determine a funding source, and track and report on the budget impacts.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community Services to meet with each of the five (5) libraries to determine how best to implement the program <p>This initiative, if approved, would impact existing staff commitments in support of Morinville Recreation Joint Business Case, broader County Communications initiatives and Finance projects during the busy year-end time frame.</p> <p><u>Financial:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum financial impact could range from \$41,920.20 - \$99,810 funded from Council Contingency.
Follow up Action	Consider as an enhancement for Budget 2018.
Attachment(s)	None.
Report Reviewed by	 Susan Berry, Manager Community Services  Ian McKay, P. Eng., GM Municipal Services  Peter Tarnawsky, County Commissioner – CAO

Strategic Alignment Checklist

Vision: Sturgeon County: a diverse, active community that pioneers opportunities and promotes initiative while embracing rural lifestyles.

Mission: Provide quality, cost effective services and infrastructure to meet the diverse needs of the Sturgeon County community, while improving competitiveness and sustainability.

Focus Areas	Not consistent	N/A	Consistent
Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership			
<i>We promote consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Consistent with neighborhood role (see MDP), master plans, policies</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Considers fiscal stability and sustainability</i> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Has a positive impact on regional and sub-regional cooperation</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Respect the Natural Environment			
<i>We acknowledge the importance of a healthy environment and will minimize and monitor our impact on ecosystems (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Compliance with Provincial and Federal regulations and/or legislation</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ensure effective environmental risk management</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Identity & Spirit			
<i>We will build upon our strengths, where together we will create an inclusive, caring community (Strategic Plan, (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Promotes and/or enhances residents' identification with Sturgeon County</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Enhances service provision through community partnerships</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Supports Sturgeon County's cultural history</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planned Growth and Prosperity			
<i>We encourage varied and integrated enterprises that enhance our strong economic base, while balancing the needs of the community and natural environment. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Does the proposal align with the Integrated Regional Growth Strategy (map/policies) pg. 26 MDP</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Considers cumulative costs and long-term funding implications</i> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Targets growth around current or planned infrastructure</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities			
<i>We are committed to a safe, secure community, where our residents are respected and provided with access to opportunities. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Positive impact on residents' quality of life</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Supports and promotes volunteer efforts</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Provides programs and services that are accessible to all residents</i> 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Operational Excellence			
<i>We have the organizational capability to deliver consistent and defined levels of service to all stakeholders in a professional, efficient, and cost effective manner</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Staff have the knowledge, skills and capability to perform their jobs</i> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Streamlines operational processes and policies</i> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Promotes engagement and professional interaction with stakeholders</i> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Considers a cost-structure which allows Sturgeon County to remain competitive within a regional, national and global context</i> 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>