



## Township of North Kawartha

280 Burleigh Street, PO Box 550, Apsley, ON K0L 1A0  
Tel: 705-656-4445 | 1-800-755-6931 | Fax: 705-656-4446  
[www.northkawartha.ca](http://www.northkawartha.ca)

### Report to Council

To: Mayor and Council Members  
From: Edward Hilton, Economic Development Officer  
Date: July 30, 2025  
Subject: Creekside Music Festival Approval and Noise By-Law Exemption

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#### Recommendation:

That Council provide approval for the Creekside Music Festival event (September 5<sup>th</sup> to September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025) as required under the Townships special event by law 2019-48, as amended, and authorize the Clerk to issue a special event permit for the Festival pending compliance with all terms and conditions of the special event by-law and the temporary use by-law including the agreement entered into between the Township and the owners of properties of:

- 10027 Highway 28, North Kawartha - Roll Number 153602000230000
- 10058 Highway 28, North Kawartha - Roll Number 153602000230001

And further that Council provides an exception to the Township's Noise By-Law 17/04 for the Creekside Music Festival on the following dates and times:

- Friday, September 5, 2025: from 4:00 p.m. to 11:59 p.m.
- Saturday, September 6, 2025: from 12:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. and from 11:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m.
- Sunday, September 7, 2025: from 12:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. and from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

And further that staff be directed to notify the Township's Chief Building Official and the Ontario Provincial Police of the exemption.

#### Background:

The [Creekside Music Festival](#) is an annual music festival held in North Kawartha. The festival operated in 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023 and 2024 with great success. The festival was cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to public health measures around COVID19. Festival organizers are planning to hold the event September 5-7<sup>th</sup> 2025. Festival organizers submitted an application for a special event permit as required by the



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Municipality and completed their pre-consultation with Township staff in July 2025. Notice has been circulated to required Township staff and external agencies.

Special event by law #2019-48, as amended, requires that all events with over 300 attendees receive approval from Township Council before the Clerk is authorized to issue a special event permit.

On May 16, 2023, Council approved a Temporary Use By-law to permit the appropriate zoning for the Festival. Organizers are welcome to apply for a new three-year Temporary Use By-law in 2026 or explore alternative zoning options for the property.

The Township noise by-Law 17/04 prohibits persons within the Township to make or permit any noise, vibration, odour dust and outdoor illumination, including indoor lighting that can be seen outdoors, likely to disturb the inhabitants thereof.

Section 6. (a) of Noise By-Law 17/04 has an exceptions clause that states, Notwithstanding anything contained in this By-law, any person may make application to Council to be granted an exemption from any of the provisions of this By-law with respect to any sources of sound for which he/she might be prosecuted and council, by resolution, may refuse to grant any exemption of lesser effect and any exemption granted shall specify the time period, not in excess of 6 months, during which it is effective and may contain such terms and conditions as council sees fit.

The organizers of the Creekside Music Festival have submitted a request for an exemption from the noise by-law.

### **Analysis:**

The Creekside Music Festival organizers have been successful in working with Township staff to comply with the requirements of the special event by-law for the 2025 Creekside Music Festival. Inspections remain to be carried out by the North Kawartha Fire Chief and Building Official just prior to the commencement of the event to review compliance with the site plan and applicable regulations.

Similar previous events, festival organizers have taken the necessary steps to ensure a well-run and safe event for attendees and the general public. A portion of the proceeds from previous festivals have been donated to Apsley Minor Hockey, Apsley Public School Music Program, Apsley Food Bank and Community Care. In 2024 donations were to Roter's Reach Mental Health Awareness <https://rotersreach.ca/events>.

The event also benefits the local economy and has been supported by Council.



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**Financial Implications:**

n/a

**Strategic and/or Other Plans:**

Strategic Plan – Guide Economic Growth for a sustainable community

Strategic Economic Development Plan – Tourism

**In Consultation With:**

CAO and Department Managers  
Connie Parent, Clerk

**Attachment(s):**

[Special Event By-Law 2019-048 and Amending By-Law 2023-0039](#)

[Noise By-Law 17/04](#)

Creekside Agreement with McGinn and Delmastro

Creekside 2025 Submission from Festival Organizers