



Report to Council

Report Number: REP-AD-04-2025

Subject: [Limoges Commemorative Park Proposal Follow-Up]

Date of the meeting: [date]

Prepared by: [Pierre Leroux, CAO]

Circulated to and/or collaborated with: [Directors]

Approval: [N/A]

In agreement with the recommendation based on the contents of this report.

Recommendation

[That Council direct the Administration to begin discussions with the Conseil scolaire de district catholique de l'Est ontarien (CSDCEO) regarding the Limoges Commemorative Park proposal, aligning with the committee's vision. However, before Council accepts any responsibility for the project, it will require a fully costed plan, including all phases of development, to ensure long-term feasibility and sustainability.]

Financial Considerations

[The Nation Municipality currently faces a \$7.8 million Asset Management Plan (AMP) shortfall. Council must carefully weigh the acceptance of new assets against the condition of existing infrastructure. Every dollar allocated to a new asset is a dollar not available for maintaining or upgrading existing assets. Any future financial commitment must be balanced against the municipality's ability to sustain core infrastructure and services.]

Financial implications have been verified with annual budget and / or approved applicable policy or by-law: [NOT APPLICABLE at this time]

Context

[The Limoges Cenotaph Committee proposed creating a new commemorative park at the Limoges Sports Complex and relocating the existing Limoges cenotaph from private property to this proposed future park.

The committee has requested that the municipality:

- **Commit to working with CSDCEO** to obtain approval for the development of the recommended site as a commemorative park.
- **Commit to providing support in-kind** for the development of the park.
- **Commit to assuming responsibility** for the upkeep and maintenance of the site following project delivery on a "turnkey" basis, including costs related to insurance, utilities, and potential maintenance of any gifted artifacts.
- **Endorse the Way Forward Plan.]**

Report

[The Limoges Cenotaph Committee presented a proposal to Council, outlining their vision for relocating the existing cenotaph to a newly established commemorative park at the Limoges Sports Complex. Their presentation highlighted the importance of accessibility, visibility, and creating a space for community reflection and veteran remembrance.

Key points from their presentation included:

- The historical significance of the cenotaph and the need for a more appropriate location.
- The proposed park design, featuring pathways, seating, landscaping, and accessibility considerations.
- A financial framework outlining potential funding sources and requests for in-kind municipal support.
- A long-term vision for maintenance and sustainability, including a request for the municipality to assume full responsibility for upkeep post-project completion.

The Administration acknowledges the passion for this initiative and supports further exploration. However, before any municipal commitments are made, the administration suggests the following conditions should be addressed in sequence:

- With the considerable growth of the village of Limoges and the addition of several new recreational spaces through development in the upcoming years, the administration recommends conducting a recreational study before committing to any specific permanent location or project scope. This study would ensure a long-term vision for the best placement and integration of active and passive parks within the village.
- After a recreational study, the next steps should be undertaken in sequence:
 - Develop a **comprehensive design plan** detailing site layout, cenotaph placement, and infrastructure.
 - Establish **detailed cost estimates and identify funding sources** to ensure financial feasibility.
 - Implement a **phased approach**, prioritizing key construction elements with estimated timelines to manage financial and logistical constraints effectively.

To illustrate the financial impact, if the municipality were to assume responsibility for the park upon completion, financial planning must be considered. For example, with an initial cost of **\$50,000** and a projected lifespan of **40 years**, the municipality would need to budget an additional **\$2,106 per year**, accounting for an annual minimal inflation rate of **2.5%**, to cover long-term asset management costs.

Once the recreational study is complete and these conditions are met, Council will be in a better position to evaluate municipal involvement, ensuring the project aligns with long-term recreational planning and financial sustainability. This approach will also allow Council to fully understand the long-term cost implications before making a final commitment.]

Relevance to priorities

[This proposal has the potential to contribute to The Nation Municipality's community spaces and local heritage. However, its execution must be carefully assessed against existing municipal priorities and financial constraints to ensure a balanced approach to asset management.]

Communication Plan

[N/A.]

Other Option/Options to the Recommendation

- [A Reduced Scope Alternative, which would allow for a faster timeline, could be considered first (as shown in Appendix B). This option does not require modifications to the lease agreement or additional approvals from the School Board, making it the simplest and quickest way to establish a commemorative space while broader planning discussions continue. This option involves a scaled-down version of the project, such as a cenotaph-only structure which is designed to be moveable placed on the grassy area next to the existing flags at the complex. This approach will allow for potential relocation in the future if Council decides to pursue a more comprehensive park development.
- **Partnership Model:** Explore a shared responsibility approach where the committee or other stakeholders contribute to yearly costs.
- **Non-Commitment to New Infrastructure:** Council may decide not to assume responsibility for additional infrastructure at this time, prioritizing existing asset management needs over new development, but still play a supporting role.
- **Deferred Decision:** Postpone discussions until a more detailed financial impact analysis is conducted, ensuring a clearer understanding of long-term costs.

Attachments

[Annexe A – Presentation Proposal

Annexe B – Temporary Location]