

Vehicle for Hire Program

June 20, 2023 – AAC Meeting

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Agenda

1. About the Vehicle for Hire Program
2. Summary of AAC discussion to date
3. City of Guelph TaxiSCRIP Program
4. AAC Motion: October 2022
5. Potential partnerships:
 - March of Dimes Canada
 - Guelph Wish Fund for Kids
6. Collective AAC motion

About the Vehicle for Hire Program

- In 2018 a Bylaw was passed that allow non-taxi vehicles for hire (such as Uber) to compensate the municipality when they do not have accessible vehicles
 - The compensation is \$0.07 per trip
- A holding account was established, and the funds have been collected since September 2018, with October 2018 being the first full month.
 - As of December 31, 2022, approximately \$170,000.00 has been collected
 - Funds are currently being allocated as a grant program for accessibility modifications to vehicles, including taxis.

Summary of AAC discussion

Between 2018 and 2022, the AAC proposed that the Vehicle for Hire Program funds be allocated to:

- Accessible initiatives in the community
- Accessible vehicle modifications, including taxis
- Allow registered Mobility Transit passengers to purchase one (1) additional TaxiSCRIP coupon book for \$20.00 each month, making the maximum number of coupon books per passenger per month three (3).

City of Guelph TaxiSCRIP Program

Provides discounted coupons for Red Top Taxi accessible vehicle service provided within City of Guelph limits to passengers that have a permanent Mobility Service registration number.

- A \$40.00 TaxiSCRIP coupon book can be purchased for \$20.00, with a maximum of two (2) coupon books per passenger per month.
- Between June 1 and December 31 2022, approximately 346 TaxiSCRIP coupon books have been sold
- Between January 1 and May 31 2023, approximately 243 TaxiSCRIP coupon books have been sold

October 2022 AAC Motion:

Motion: To receive the information provided regarding possible ways to allocate funds of the Vehicle for Hire Program and to defer the motion to recommend how funds should be allocated to February 2023 to give time to explore a potential partnership and gather more information from March of Dimes and Guelph Wish Fund for Children.

Motion by: Mike

Seconded: Bryan

Carried

March of Dimes Canada

[Existing Home and Vehicle Modification Program \(HVMP\)](#)

- Funded by the Ontario Government Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility
- 22 years experience, serving almost 30,000 Ontarians

- March of Dimes Canada (MODC) could oversee the entire program delivery
 - Provide funding to individuals, families and caregivers (within the City of Guelph) who require vehicle modifications.
 - Vehicle for hire drivers (licensed within the City of Guelph) could apply to have their vehicles made accessible.
 - Guelph residents with disabilities could apply for vehicle modification, adaptations, and devices to support personal employment opportunities through vehicle for hire businesses.

Guelph Wish Fund for Children

The [Guelph Wish Fund for Children](#) (GWFC) provides 'wishes' and support to children under the age of 19, residing in Guelph or Wellington County, who are living with a significant illness, life-altering injury or a rare and debilitating syndrome.

A 'wish' can be:

- Creating a memory of a special family vacation, attending a sporting event or meeting a famous hero
- Attending to the physical needs of the child with help towards the purchase of specialized equipment

The GWFC refers families to the March of Dimes Home and Vehicle Modification Program as requests are received. If a top-up is needed to achieve the necessary modifications, the GWFC uses the individual wish fund (up to \$10,000 per child) to support families.

- Requests for vehicle modifications 'wishes' are rare for GWFC
 - In 2022, 1 request for vehicle modification was received

Collective AAC Motion

1. Clearly describe the AAC's recommendation for the fund allocation (such as naming an existing program)
2. Outline how often the City should update the AAC regarding the activities related to the funding (for example: how often and the content of the updates); and
3. Include the AAC's recommendation of when the program and motion should be reviewed again by the AAC (for example: annually, every two years, etc.)

Recommended Motion: That the AAC recommend funds of the Vehicle for Hire Program be allocated to _____(and _____). Further that the City update the AAC regarding _____, every _____.

Thank you for your time!