



# Staff Report

## Strategic Initiatives

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**Report To:** COW- Admin, Corp and Finance, SI, Comm. Services  
**Meeting Date:** April 28, 2025  
**Report Number:** SI.25.014  
**Title:** Temporary Exemption of the Town's Municipal Alcohol Policy  
**Prepared by:** Tim Hendry, Director of Strategic Initiatives

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### A. Recommendations

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THAT Council receive Staff Report SI.25.014, entitled "Temporary Exemption of the Town's Municipal Alcohol Policy";

AND THAT Council approves a temporary exemption of the Town's Municipal Alcohol Policy and directs staff to add Tomahawk Golf Course (417230 10th Line, Thornbury) to the list of designated properties suitable for events that will sell or serve alcohol, subject to obtaining a Special Occasion Permit or a Liquor Licence for the sole purpose of supporting the following two events:

1. Chamber of Commerce 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
2. 2025 Grey County Wardens Golf Tournament

AND THAT Council acknowledges that Community Services staff are actively working on an update to the Municipal Alcohol Policy that will be brought forward for future consideration.

### B. Overview

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This report presents Council with an opportunity to approve a temporary exemption of the Town's Municipal Alcohol Policy in support of the Blue Mountains Chamber of Commerce's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and the 2025 Grey County Warden's Golf Tournament.

### C. Background

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In February 2025, Council received report [SI.25.006](#) and approved an exemption of the Town's Municipal Alcohol Policy for the purposes of co-hosting a Chamber After 6 event at Town Hall in April. Unfortunately, due to challenges beyond control, the Chamber of Commerce cancelled the event.

Through discussions with the Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Directors presented an opportunity for the Town to partner on its 60th-anniversary celebration, which is scheduled for summer 2025 and will include a golf tournament held at the Tomahawk Golf Course. Partnering with the Chamber of Commerce is an excellent opportunity for the Town to proudly support a

long-standing association dedicated to supporting and advocating on behalf of local businesses. The golf tournament will also provide an opportunity for Town staff and Council members to engage directly with local businesses.

In addition, at the same time, the Town was engaged in discussions regarding support for Grey County's annual Warden's Golf Tournament at the Tomahawk Golf Course. The Golf Tournament is tentatively scheduled for Friday, July 11, 2025. The Warden's Golf Tournament is a long-standing Grey County tradition with the tournament hosted in the Warden's home municipality. The tournament is hosted in the spirit of collaboration, partnership and celebration of "Team Grey" through participation by each lower-tier municipality within the County.

## **D. Analysis**

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Town staff fully support the opportunity to sponsor and co-host both events detailed within this report. Exemption to the Town's Municipal Alcohol Policy will help enhance the attractiveness of both events and encourage stronger participation and ticket sales.

If approved, the exemption would add Tomahawk Golf Course to the list of designated properties as outlined in the policy as a property that is designated as suitable for events that will sell or serve alcohol, subject to obtaining an AGCO-issued Special Occasion Permit or a Liquor Licence. For clarity, the AGCO permit and all associated costs will be managed by the Chamber of Commerce and Grey County, respectively.

For reference, the current [Municipal Alcohol Policy](#) is linked in this report. Staff acknowledge that the policy provides the Director of Community Services with delegated authority to add additional Town facilities to the list of permitted properties. However, as serving alcohol at Tomahawk Golf Course has not been previously considered, staff felt that it was in keeping and appropriate for the request to be brought forward to Council for consideration.

## **E. Strategic Priorities**

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### **1. Communication and Engagement**

We will enhance communications and engagement between Town Staff, Town residents and stakeholders

### **2. Organizational Excellence**

We will continually seek out ways to improve the internal organization of Town Staff and the management of Town assets.

### **3. Community**

We will protect and enhance the community feel and the character of the Town, while ensuring the responsible use of resources and restoration of nature.

#### **4. Quality of Life**

We will foster a high quality of life for full-time and part-time residents of all ages and stages, while welcoming visitors.

#### **F. Environmental Impacts**

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No environmental impacts are anticipated as a result of this report.

#### **G. Financial Impacts**

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The Chamber of Commerce and Grey County will plan and manage their respective events, including costs and staff time associated with the AGCO Special Occasions Permit.

The Town will sponsor the Chambers of Commerce golf tournament through the use of funds that were allocated for the cohosted After Six event.

At the time of writing this report, subsidy requests for the use of the golf course have not been requested. As a result, there are no additional anticipated financial impacts associated with this staff report.

#### **H. In Consultation With**

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Ryan Gibbons, Director of Community Services  
Executive Director, Blue Mountains Chamber of Commerce  
Grey County Staff

#### **I. Public Engagement**

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The topic of this Staff Report has not been the subject of a Public Meeting and/or a Public Information Centre as neither a Public Meeting nor a Public Information Centre are required. However, any comments regarding this report should be submitted to Tim Hendry, Director of Strategic Initiatives [si@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:si@thebluemountains.ca).

#### **J. Attached**

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N/A

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Hendry  
Director of Strategic Initiatives

For more information, please contact:  
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### Report Approval Details

Document Title:	SI.25.014 Temporary Exemption of the Town's Municipal Alcohol Policy.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Apr 14, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Tim Hendry - Apr 14, 2025 - 2:29 PM**