



Staff Memo

Report To: South Huron Council

From: **Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk**

Date: January 21 2019

Report: CAO 3-2019

Subject: South Huron Become a Gaming Host Site

Recommendations:

That the report of D. Best, Chief Administrative Officer dated January 21, 2019 with respect to the Municipality of South Huron becoming a gaming host site be received; and

That the Council of the Municipality of South Huron declares its support for a casino gaming facility within the former Stephen Township (Grand Bend); and

That the casino style gaming facility within the community could include but is not limited to, a wide variety of entertainment options such as sport games, charitable gaming, electronic gaming devices and live table games; live entertainment, restaurants and hotel; and

That staff be authorized to proceed with discussions with the appropriate governing bodies.

Purpose:

Approval and Direction

Background and Analysis:

The Municipality of South Huron is an ideal location for hosting a gaming facility.

Less than an hour's drive from London, Sarnia and Stratford, South Huron is an established tourism destination in Southwestern Ontario that works collaboratively with neighbouring municipalities and partners to grow the regional tourism economy.

South Huron is the best part of Grand Bend! The preliminary branding of the area as it stands today could be the "South Huron Entertainment District". The addition of a casino gaming facility would enhance an already "signature experience".

A quick environmental scan of the area provides the following tourism assets in South Huron:

- An estate winery – Dark Horse Estate Winery
- A first class theatre through Drayton Entertainment- Huron Country Playhouse
- Grand Bend Speedway
- Oakwood Inn Resort and Spa
- Oakwood Golf Course
- Proximity to Lake Huron and Beach
- Available land and potential partner(s)

Financial Impact:

There are no financial implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

Legal Impact:

There are no legal implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

Staffing Impact:

There are no staffing implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Best, Chief Administrative Officer/Deputy Clerk