The Corporation of the Town of Blind River FOR ACTION Report of the Director of Facilities and Community Services

UPDATE

June 5, 2020

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT

PURPOSE

To provide Council options to promote its tourism product, as well as business retention and expansion tactics through funding opportunities.

BACKGROUND

Staff have consulted FedNor to leverage funds allocated for "C Dock" to nearly double Council's investment. C Dock value dollars act as municipal contribution toward developments at Marine Park. Blind River's application has been authored and submitted following peer review and direction that timing for such request is aligned with senior government priorities.

- ✓ Complete Boardwalk
- ✓ Removal of Turbine Tower
- ✓ Installation of pavilion with trilingual education
- ✓ Ramping for accessibility to pavilion
- ✓ Accessible picnic spaces
- ✓ Accessible tourism push through local product
- ✓ Product development to lure travelers, and support value-added TREIM reporting

BUDGET IMPLICATION

None. Funds are being utilized through previous resolution.

RECOMMENDATION

Mayor and Council are in full support of The Town of Blind River's application to FedNor seeking funding that will allow Blind River to have a fully-developed accessible tourism product. And that Council fully supports goals of:

Business Retention and Expansion English, Ojibwe, French, and Braille Product Promotion Local Investment Accessible Tourism Marine Tourism Professional Product Offering Regional Economic Prosperity Local Merchant Covid-19 Business Rescue Efforts

The Town of Blind River looks forward to a positive response from The Honourable Minister Joly, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages, as this project meets the mandate of FedNor. Respectfully Submitted,

K Bittner Director of Facilities and Community Services