



Ste.

146, 207 Bank Str., Ottawa ON K2P 2N2

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
November 7, 2023

FCA says City proposals to end insurance coverage for community activities will threaten neighbourhood events

(Ottawa) The Federation of Citizens Associations (FCA), representing 70 community groups in Ottawa, expressed disappointment, concern and opposition to a City staff report that recommends ending the City's Community Insurance Partnership Program (CPIP) which covered the insurance costs for community-organized neighbourhood events, and shifting the costs of obtaining insurance for previously-supported events onto community groups. The City report will be considered at the November 7 meeting of the City's Finance & Corporate Services Committee.

Said Alex Cullen, past-president of the FCA and spokesperson for the FCA Community Insurance Working Group: "This report flies in the face with direction given to City staff by the City Committee to enhance City financial support for community activities, and to minimize insurance costs on community groups. Our associations provide thousands of volunteer hours to support community activities but we can't do that without City support to help cover the insurance required. We can't do this by ourselves."

The City's CPIP program covered 124 community groups across the City, dating from amalgamation. The FCA has been lobbying to expand the program so that more neighbourhood associations could participate. The CPIP program currently costs the City \$234,000. The current program ends in June 2024.

For more information, please contact Alex Cullen at cullen@fca-fac.ca