



Subject: *Wyatt Sanford - Keys to the Municipality*
To: Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee
Date Prepared: September 26, 2024
Related Motions: Motion made at September 25, 2024 Council meeting
Prepared by: Alana Tapper, Director, Parks, Recreation & Culture
Approved by: Kim Ramsay, CAO

Summary

At September 25, 2024 meeting of Council, a motion was passed that the Municipality proceed with recognizing Olympic Medalist, Wyatt Sanford by presenting a Key to the Municipality.

Financial Impact Statement

The costs for presenting this include the award itself and the hosting of an event or ceremony for the presentation. The key will cost up to \$250 and event costs would be approximately \$500.

Recommendation

That Wyatt Sanford, in recognition of his hard work, dedication and success as an Olympic Medalist, be awarded a Key to East Hants, at a ceremony to be arranged in conjunction with Council and the local community.

Recommended Motion

Move that Wyatt Sanford of Kennetcook be awarded a Key to the Municipality in recognition of his accomplishment as a Bronze Medalist in boxing at the 2024 Paris Olympics at a time and place to be announced; and that up to \$750 from the General Government cost centre be approved to cover the cost.

Background

Council's Recognition Policy, outlines the following criteria under Resident Recognition:

Keys to the Municipality can be awarded to an individual or group that has significantly contributed to the development of, the promotion of, or goodwill towards the Municipality.

5.1. Recommendations to receive the Keys to the Municipality must be made by a sitting Councillor.

5.2. Recipients must have the support of a 2/3's majority of Councillors to receive the award.

Keys to Municipality have only been awarded three times; Richard Terfry (Buck 65), Tracy Cameron (Olympian), and Luke Boyd (Classified). Previous awards were handcrafted by Mount Uniacke artist Francis Moore, who has since passed away, so a new award design will be sourced.

Wyatt Sanford is an Olympic boxer from Kennetcook, Nova Scotia. He began boxing at age 10 and quickly rose through the ranks, moving to Montreal in 2017 to join Canada's high-performance training group. He made his Olympic debut at Tokyo 2020 and won Bronze at the Paris 2024 Games. His outstanding career in boxing,

combining with his deep connection to his hometown makes him a deserving recipient of the Key to the Municipality.

Discussion

At the September 25th Regular Meeting of Council, a motion to recognize Wyatt had unanimous support, meeting the criteria of Council's Recognition Policy.

To recognize Wyatt Sanford's achievements, staff recommend that Council approve the selection of an appropriate award and the planning of a presentation ceremony. The award, such as a customized plaque, should reflect the significance of receiving a Key to the Municipality. Parks, Recreation & Culture Staff will coordinate an event with Municipal Council to celebrate Wyatt's contributions. This event will honor both his sporting excellence and the pride he brings to East Hants.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Awarding Wyatt Sanford a Key to the Municipality aligns with the East Hants Strategic Plan, particularly its focus on Building a Strong Community. Wyatt's achievements embody local pride and inspire youth, contributing to community well-being and engagement.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The design of the award will impact cost with an estimated cost of under \$250. Cost of a ceremony or event would be up to \$500 with the total cost of up to \$750 coming from the General Government cost centre.

Alternatives

Council can provide direction on budget and potential events or locations for presentation.
