

2. Contact the Ministry of Culture and Recreation. Ken Carter from the Ministry's office in Kingston should be informed of your interest in forming a recreation committee. A meeting with the council and interested citizens are invited. Ken Carter then explains the various types of committees that can be formed and the legislation affecting each type. He also explains the contents of the bylaw which must be passed creating the recreation, community centre or parks committee.
3. A bylaw creating the committee must be drawn up and after it is passed, it is sent to the head office of the Ministry of Culture and Recreation for final approval.
4. Ken Carter sets up a training program for the new committee. This program teaches committee members such things as: budgeting, program planning, grants available to the committee, public relations, operations planning, community awareness.

One of the advantages of forming a township or village recreation committee is that recreation services may be provided where previously none were available. In addition, annual grants are made available from the Ministry of Culture and Recreation to recreation committees to cover the cost of:

- programming
- administration
- leadership
- some equipment
- minor maintenance
- operating costs (for example, grass cutting for a ball diamond)

The grants are applied for on the basis of the previous year's operation and the committee is then reimbursed for appropriate expenses incurred during the previous year. In other words, with this grant scheme, you must spend money to get money.

Some committees for rural areas have received annual grants ranging between \$600 to \$2500.

Community Centre committees can apply for grants for capital expenditures incurred on facilities. These may be for acquisition, renovation or construction costs.

In addition, once a bylaw has been passed creating the official recreation committee, a certain percentage of the mill rate of the township should be allocated to the recreation committee.

The rest of the budget of a recreation committee is usually raised through various fund-raising activities.

The key to a successful recreation committee is a group of committed volunteers and a supportive council.

Watch next month's newsletter for an article on the growth and development of the South Crosby Recreation Committee.

272-2871



L.L. SCOVIL

Chartered Accountant

P.O. BOX 2

PORTLAND

