

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Council

FROM: Scott Surette Deputy CAO

SUBJECT: Communauté Francophone Accueillante/ Welcoming Francophone Community

**DATE:** May 16, 2024

Last week, our warden and Alain were approached by Kenneth Deveau, President of CDENE, regarding an opportunity to apply for a program under Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada (IRCC). The program aimed to invest in our municipality to attract new Francophone immigrants, connect them with potential employers, and integrate them into our communities and culture. Unfortunately, the application deadline was May 17, which did not provide us with adequate time to gather more details about the program and prepare a strong application.

It is worth noting that the Municipality of Clare has been identified as a Welcoming Francophone Community since 2018. Therefore, we reached out to them and CDENE for more information on the program. After gathering all the necessary details, we shared the pros and cons with you, the council, and collectively decided not to apply for this program.

We hope to have another opportunity to participate in the future.

Please see other attachment for my correspondence with CDENE and their responses.