

## Staff Report

**To:** Mayor Bazinet and Members of Council  
**Report From:** Michaela Johnston, CEMC, Accessibility and Health & Safety Manager  
**Meeting Date:** February 24, 2025  
**Subject:** Tyler Smith – Mental Health Speaker

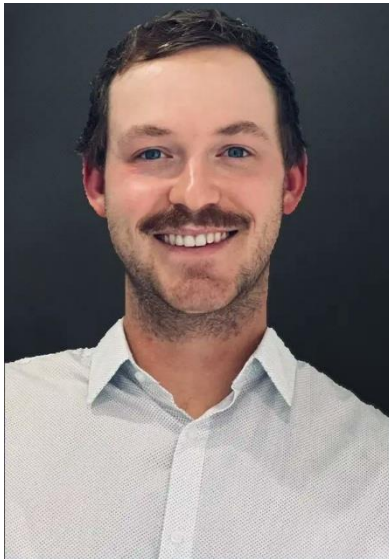
**Recommendation:**

That Goderich Town Council receive this report for information.

**Report Summary:**

There is a need for mental health support in area schools as students in Huron County are struggling with mental health and addictions. Tyler Smith has been scheduled to speak at all high schools in Huron County during the week of March 3, 2025. These presentations are made possible through the Proceeds of Crime, Front Line Policing Grant that the Town of Goderich and the Municipality of Central Huron received in 2024 from the Ontario Ministry of the Solicitor General. Tyler will be speaking specifically about mental health, safe spaces, belonging, and preventing mental health with yourself and your peers.

**Speaker Information (from Speakers Bureau of Canada):**



**Tyler Smith** | Calgary, Alberta

Humboldt Broncos Crash Survivor | Amazing Race Canada Winner | Mental Health Advocate

<https://speakerscanada.com/keynote-speaker/tyler-smith/>

Tyler Smith, winner of The Amazing Race Canada Season 9, is a survivor, mental health advocate, entrepreneur, and public speaker who has turned personal tragedy into a mission to inspire and support others. A survivor of the 2018 Humboldt Broncos bus crash, which claimed the lives of 16 teammates, staff, and coaches, Tyler has dedicated his life to raising awareness about mental health and the power of vulnerability. Alongside his partner Kat Kastner, Tyler captured the hearts of Canadians as Team #TyKat, often paying tribute to the “16 angels” lost in the tragedy. Their victory on The Amazing Race Canada was a powerful testament to resilience, teamwork, and the enduring strength of hope.

Tyler’s journey of healing led him to found Not Alone Co., a mental health awareness clothing line and social enterprise that promotes open conversations around trauma, PTSD, and mental health. He is also the co-host of the podcast Speak Your Mind, alongside NHL veteran Riley Sheahan, which focuses on normalizing discussions about mental health with guests from sports, entertainment, and beyond. Through public speaking, entrepreneurship, and advocacy, Tyler continues to inspire individuals and communities to create safe spaces to belong, embrace connections to empower one another, and support systems that enable paths of improving healing, hope, and community.

**Background and Analysis:**

In 2024, the Town of Goderich was awarded \$256,500.00 through the Proceeds of Crime, Front Line Policing Grant. The Town’s application focused on the community’s pressing mental health, addiction, and safety concerns in area schools.

**Linkage:**

- Corporate Strategic Plan Priority #2: Welcoming and Caring Community

**Financial Impacts and/or Source of Funding:**

There is no financial impact associated with this report as the entire cost of Tyler Smith’s speaking engagements is funded through the Ontario Ministry of the Solicitor General’s Proceeds of Crime, Front Line Policing Grants received by both the Town of Goderich and the Municipality of Central Huron.

**Consulted With:**

Janice Hallahan, Chief Administrative Officer

**Approved By:**

Janice Hallahan, Chief Administrative Officer

Andrea Fisher, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk