

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF KINCARDINE REPORT

Subject: Community Investment Grant Policy

Director: Corporate Services

Manager: Legislative Services

Report Number: Legislative Services-2023-15

Meeting Date: Wednesday, July 5, 2023

Recommendation:

That Council pass a by-law to adopt the updated Community Investment Grant Policy including the application form and statement of accountability.

Date to be considered by Council: Wednesday, July 5, 2023

Report Summary:

Proposed changes to the Community Investment Grant policy were presented to Council at the Monday, June 5, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting. Committee of the Whole members had questions about modifying the eligibility requirements for the Community Investment Grant. The Community Investment Grant Evaluation Team met on June 20, 2023 to discuss the questions and concerns from Committee of the Whole and is recommending that the proposed Policy presented to Council on June 5, 2023 be adopted without any changes.

Origin: LS 2023-11 Proposed Changes to the Community Investment Grant

Existing Policy: GG.3.5 Community Investment Grants

Background/Analysis:

An updated draft Community Investment Grant (CIG) Policy was presented at the June 5, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting for Council's consideration.

There was some discussion about modifying the eligibility requirements to allow only non-profit organizations to apply for a CIG, since registered charities would be able to apply to other grant programs including the Kincardine Community Fund. Council recommended that the CIG Evaluation Team meet to further review and reconsider the grant's eligibility criteria.

The Evaluation Team met on June 20, 2023 and discussed the concerns raised by members of Council regarding eligibility. The charitable status of the 2023 CIG applicants was reviewed, and more than half of the community organizations that received funding would no longer be eligible for future funding if they were to be excluded from the program. Of the 35 organizations, 19 (54%) were registered charities with the remaining 46% being other non-profit organizations. As a result the Evaluation Team does recommend amending the draft CIG Policy to exclude charitable organizations.

It was also noted that the CIG application form includes a section where applicants must declare other funding sources that the organization receives. This allows the Evaluation Team to review the merits of individual applications, and they can decide not to award funding if grant funds were received from other sources.

The Community Investment Grant Evaluation Team recommends that the Community Investment Grant Policy be adopted as originally presented at the June 5, 2023 COW meeting.

Integrated Strategy 2020 – 2025: 5.4 Promote Kincardine as a great place to live, work, and celebrate diversity.

Financial Implications: The budget was \$69,000 and has been dispersed for this year.

Attachments: Draft Community Investment Grants Policy including an updated application form and accountability statement.

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Submitted by: Jennifer Lawrie, Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk