



Community Grants Ad-hoc Committee Memo

Report To: Mayor Finch and Members of South Huron Council

Meeting Date: July 15, 2019

From: Community Grants Ad-hoc Committee

Report: CGC 03-2019

Subject: Proposed Framework and Guidelines

Recommendations:

That the memo of the Community Grants Committee be received; and

That the Community Grants Ad-hoc Committee be authorized to proceed with drafting a proposal for a legacy fund to be invested with the South Huron Community Fund for Council consideration.

Purpose:

Council direction to provide a draft agreement as outlined in this report for Council consideration.

Background and Information:

Council directed the Committee establish a Community Fund framework for Council consideration which is to be brought back for the August 12, 2019 Council meeting. The Community Grants Ad-hoc Committee met with Tom Prout, Chair, South Huron Community Fund and Pat Morden, Executive Director, Grand Bend Community Fund on July 2, 2019.

The Committee discussed that Council already provides support for Community organizations under the following programs:

- 1) In-kind donations - any licensed Not-For-Profit or Charity in South Huron are exempt for payment of fees related to the rental of South Huron facilities for Special Events.

- 2) Memorandum of Understandings with Community Groups that become line items for budget consideration. (The MOU formalizes the collaborative partnership and outlines a working framework that identifies key responsibilities of both partners.

Following a review of the South Huron's Community grant requests from 2017 to 2019, the Committee noted that Council's donations to the community (less the in-kind donations and MOU grants) averaged approximately \$16,000.00. The Committee discussed a legacy framework for this portion as it will provide long term funding for the community year after year and will provide the next term of Council the option of not adding any more funds to the legacy fund.

The Committee proposes that Council provide the South Huron Community Fund with enough funds to support Community Project Grants in an amount requested up to the amount approved by Council (based on the average cash donation portion for the last three years). The earned income is used to make grants and is based on at least 3.5% of the principal invested per year. For example a total investment of \$100,000.00 will pay at least \$3,500.00 per year.

The Committee discussed options for the 2020 transition year when taking into account budget approval timelines. South Huron's current Community Grant process receives applications on or before September 21, 2019 of each year and the monies are funded following the approval of the budget. The Community Fund does their granting in the fall but are able to make grant decisions within a month of the deadline at the end of September.

South Huron Council had previously invested \$10,000.00 with the Community Fund and the fund currently sits at a little over \$15,000 (as a result of donations from the Municipality and from community members). If South Huron Council does not accept grant applications for 2019, the 2020 Community Fund grant will be approximately \$500.00 (with no further monies added). Council could consider increasing the amount invested to equal the amount of monies that Council would like to pay.

The Committee is proposing up to 25% per year will be allocated to each of the areas of interest for projects located within the geographic boundary of South Huron. The intent is to invest local resources in local initiatives and build residents' organizational capacity, not to supplement campaigns developed and delivered into the region through international, national, or provincial organizations.

The Committee reviewed South Huron's draft Vision, Mission and Values Statement and proposes the following areas of focus/pillars for the Grant process:

- Children, Youth and Seniors
- Community Investment
- Physical Activity and Recreation
- Arts, Culture and Beautification

These areas of focus will be further defined as projects/events, activities, or programs that support/sustain, promote, inform/educate, celebrate, preserve and/or provide access.

Grant Assessment Procedures:

Applications will be presented to the Community Foundation for approval. The Committee was advised that the Community Foundation would welcome a recommendation from Council for composition of the Grant Approval Committee.

The Committee would recommend that Council consider a representative from each Ward as well as a recording secretary.

Additional Considerations:

The Committee considered the following:

- Projects carried out on municipal property are to be carried out in partnership with the municipal department involved. All such applications must be reviewed by the municipal contact prior to grant decision making.
- Organizations that receive grants must acknowledge the support of the Municipality of South Huron in all advertising, publicity, signage, plaques, etc., related to the project. Branding, signage, and logo usage pertaining to the Corporation of the Municipality of South Huron must be approved by the municipality prior to use or inclusion in any marketing/communications material.
- The Committee discussed that multi-year projects and requests of over an amount decided by Council will be brought forward to the Municipality directly and not part of the Community Grant Process.

Legal Implications:

There are no legal implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

Staffing Implications:

There are no staffing implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

Financial Implications:

The South Huron Community fund will report to Council on an annual basis, usually in June. There are no further financial implications as a result of the actions outlined in this report.

Related Documents:

2017-2019 Grant Requests

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Ted Oke
Councillor Diane Faubert
Councillor Barb Willard

Community Grants Ad-hoc Committee