

Community Investment Program Proposed Policy Amendment (FIN-220)

Presenters: Toni Elliott, Manager
Community Investment Program

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Background

- June 2014: Council approved the Community Investment Program (CIP) Policy, FIN-220
 - amended in March 2015, due for revision March 2018
- Grant distribution has been between \$31M and \$35M annually since policy implementation
- CIP has been under review since Spring 2017, communicated in various ways with funded organizations

Current Status

There are two main challenges with the current funding model:

- Dependency on municipal subsidy
- Operating Grants are not “available” to all organizations

2018 CIP Grant Programs:

- 6 grant categories
 - Operating, Capital, Joint Initiatives, Games Legacy, Community Development (FCSS), Community Plan on Homelessness

Proposed CIP Policy Amendments

Main proposed changes to the CIP Policy FIN-220 include:

- Incorporates the requirement that eligible organizations shall not hold “unrestricted net assets in excess of the organization’s annual operating expenses” (Section 3.1.4)
- Council shall approve all grant allocations
- Sustaining Grant applicants shall present requests to Council during the annual operating budget process; other grant applicants “may” be requested to present their requests

Proposed Changes to the CIP Grants

4 Grant Categories

1. Sustaining Grant

- Facility Operators and Key Strategic Plan Partners;
- Will have to present to Council as part of the annual operating budget process

Proposed Changes to the CIP Grants

2. Community Impact Grant

- 3 streams: Community Programs and Projects, Community Events, New Events
- Combines objectives of Operating, Joint Initiatives, and Community Development Grants
- Recipients have to respond to Call for Applications, identifying the community impact and outcomes
- Lump sum funding included in 2019 Operating Budget
- Council approval of specific grant allocations subsequent to budget approval and application review process

Proposed Changes to the CIP Grants

3. Games Legacy

- Guidelines modified to be more open and clear;
- Addition of Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Call to Action component

4. Community Plan on Homelessness

- Governed by Partnership Agreements with Provincial and Federal Governments
 - unchanged

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Reduction of the number of grant programs to allow streamlining of processes
- Community Impact Grant's Call for Applications:
 - More open and accessible;
 - Will be in advance of the fiscal period, allowing a more timely disbursement of funds
- Organizations may be able to access larger grants (must meet grant guideline criteria)

Next Steps

- If the amendments are approved as presented:
 - Proceed immediately with a Call for Applications for the following:
 - Sustaining Grant (approval December 2018)
 - Community Impact Grant (all streams) (approval January 2019)
 - Games Legacy Grant (approval January 2019)
 - (Community Plan on Homelessness will continue to call for applications in a separate process, to begin in November 2018)
 - Communicate the changes to the grant programs to the communities, using scheduled information sessions in the urban area and each rural hamlet, and directly, as required

Next Steps

- Introduce outcome measurement reporting concept to all funded organizations starting in 2019
 - Reporting will address how funding directly contributes to Council's Strategic Plan and goals

Questions?