

# Community Investment Program Update

Presenter: Toni Elliott, Senior Manager

Department: Corporate and Community Services

Meeting Date: June 25, 2019

# Background

- First call for applications for the Community Impact Grant was held in Fall 2018.
- Council approved 42 grants on January 22, 2019, totaling \$2,141,850.
- Follow-up debrief sessions hosted by the CAO and Community Services in March.
- Survey distributed to applicants in April.

# Post-Application Debrief

- In March, the CAO and Community Services hosted 2 preliminary sessions, with approximately 30 different Community Impact Grant applicants/organizations in attendance.
- CIP Grant Process Survey was distributed in April; there were approximately 24 respondents.
- A follow-up session was held in May to communicate the actions as a result of feedback from the preliminary sessions and the survey; approximately 16 organizations returned to receive the update.

# Survey Results

- Positive feedback in most aspects:
  - Accessibility of the CIP Team;
  - Changes such as adding EFT option;
  - Pertinent information requested in application and reporting.
- Some areas requiring action:
  - Administrative changes, including timing;
  - More clarity on the processes between application submission and appearance before Council, including scoring of applications;
  - Outcome measurement training.

# Actions for 2020 Call for Applications

- Clerical changes to the forms, as identified.
- Update of CIP website to outline full process, as well as discussion at the information sessions.
- Make scoring templates available as part of application package.
- Notification period to be minimum of 2 weeks.
- Outcome measurement training to begin Fall 2019/Winter 2020.
- Change of dates for Calls for Application and Council approval.

# Additional Actions

- Discussions with Recreation and Culture Branch to develop a grant program to serve the Arts Community (Culture Plan).
- Work with other funders within Wood Buffalo, to be more collaborative and better serve the social profit sector and meet community need.

# Key Dates

- Call for Applications for Community Impact Grant and Games Legacy Grant: August 12 to September 23.
  - Information sessions during the open period.
- Presentation of grant recommendations during Council budget sessions in November.
- This is a key change:
  - Council can set the CIP budget during the operating budget process based on actual organization requests; and
  - Organizations will begin 2020 with RMWB funding known.

Questions?