

STAFF REPORT

TO: Shelburne Municipal Council

FROM: Val Kean, Community Development Coordinator

APPROVED BY: Trudy Payne, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: November 23, 2020

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Grant - Recommendation

ORIGIN

The Municipality has received funding requests from organizations for the COVID – 19 Emergency Assistance Funding for Community Organizations program.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended to Council:

THAT the Municipality of the District of Shelburne approve the recommended grant amount of \$500 for the Shelburne Longboat Society, to come from the Economic Development, GL# 00-26210-500

BACKGROUND

The Municipality of Shelburne recognizes that the coronavirus has had a direct negative impact on the operation of local community groups and facilities. Following the advice of provincial officials, fundraising events and activities such as suppers, concerts and bingos have been canceled in an attempt to prevent the spread of the virus.

The closure of community facilities and the high likelihood of community festivals/events/fundraisers being canceled has/will result in a financial loss for many. The COVID – 19 Emergency Assistance Fund for Community Groups was established to assist community groups to address financial challenges due to COVID-19. This is a one-time fund and will not be available annually.

DISCUSSION

At the May 19, 2020, Council meeting \$15,000 was approved by Council for the new COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Grant for Community Organizations. The following organization has applied for the grant and staff recommend approval at the listed amount:

Shelburne Longboat Society

- Financial Loss:
 - Liverpool Privateers' Days
 - Shelburne Founders' Days
 - Fundraising and Donations
- Recommended Emergency Assistance - \$500

There is no application deadline date for this program, staff will continue to review applications as they are submitted. Recommendations will come to the next available Council meeting for consideration. At the June 29 and July 27, 2020, Council meetings applications were approved totaling \$6,500, leaving \$8,500 remaining.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The amount of \$500 will be taken from the Economic Development GL# 00-26210-500, leaving \$8,000 for consideration of future requests throughout the 2020/2021 fiscal year.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

1. COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Grant Guidelines



MUNICIPALITY OF THE DISTRICT OF SHELBURNE GRANT APPLICATION

Emergency Assistance Fund for Community Groups

Background

The Municipality of Shelburne recognizes that the coronavirus has had a direct negative impact on the operation of local community groups and facilities. Following the advice of provincial officials, fundraising events and activities such as suppers, concerts and bingos have been cancelled in an attempt to prevent the spread of the virus.

The closure of community facilities and the high likelihood of community festivals/events/fundraisers being cancelled has/will result in a financial loss for many. This emergency fund has been established to assist community groups to help address financial challenges due to COVID-19. This is a one-time fund and will not be available annually.

Guidelines

- Community groups that provide a benefit to residents in the District of Shelburne
- The applicant must demonstrate the negative financial impact due to COVID-19.
- Churches that have halls or multi-purpose space and who can clearly demonstrate a financial loss during the closure, are eligible to apply (places of worship are not eligible).
- Legions, Fire Departments, clubs are eligible.
- If a community facility or group has not been negatively affected by the coronavirus closures, they should not apply for emergency funding.
- Groups may not request funding above and beyond the funds lost as a direct result of COVID-19.
- Groups approved for emergency assistance funding and who qualify are still eligible to apply for regular Grants to Organizations funds in the 2020-21 fiscal year.
- There is no application deadline date. Council will review applications as they are submitted.
- Council reserves the right to approve funding amounts lower than requested. Council also reserves the right to reject any grant application, regardless of whether the criteria have been met.

Funding

- Maximum eligible funding is \$500 per community group
- It is not known how long the COVID-19 closure will last and since each group has different financial circumstances, groups may submit one application that covers anticipated financial losses. Depending on the timing of the application and the timing of the group's financial losses, funds may be dispersed in a lump sum or multiple payments. Staff will work with each applicant to determine payment schedule.
- Groups must provide their most recent financial statement.