



The Corporation of the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie

Staff Report – Appendix ‘D’

Council Meeting Date: November 25, 2024

Subject: FIN2024.20 – 2025 Budget Draft 2 - 2025 Grants and Donations

Report from: Jennifer Isber-Legge, Economic Development Coordinator

and Emily Dance, Chief Administrative Officer

Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council hereby, (to be considered with FIN2024.20)

1. Approves a 3.5% increase to the Grants and Donations budget for 2025
2. Approves the Grants and Donations requests included in Schedule ‘D’ of By-Law 45-201 in the amount of \$26,346.02
3. approves the following Grants and Donations be included in the 2025 Municipality of Arran-Elderslie Budget:
 - a. Arran-Tara Grade 8 Parents - in kind use of Curling Club, Community Centre, and Kitchen for grade 8 graduation ceremonies in the amount of \$810.13
 - b. Chesley Homecoming -50% of request for in-kind use of facilities for the 2025 Homecoming up to a maximum of \$8,000 with details outlined in a memorandum of understanding.
 - c. Chesley Nursery School- In kind use of Community Centre for pancake supper fundraiser in the amount of \$401.50
 - d. Tara Area Food Bank - Financial Contribution in the amount of \$500
 - e. Trinity Theatre and Paisley Rotary Club -In-kind support for use of Paisley Community Centre 1x month for in person meetings in the amount of \$772.92

Report Summary

The Municipality of Arran-Elderslie recognizes the many benefits that various groups, organizations, volunteers, events and other municipalities provide by promoting and improving upon the social, cultural, and economic well-being of the community.

In the yearly budget, the Municipality provides financial and in-kind support to various organizations based on the criteria outlined in the Grants and Donation Policy.

It was a difficult task as all requests support the community in different ways. Staff have reviewed the submitted requests and the municipal priority areas and recommend an approximate 3.5% increase to allow for the committed grants and donations as well as \$10,484.55 in new requests.

Background

The purpose of the Grants and Donations Policy is

- to provide support to non-profit groups and organizations that provide programs, services or events that are a general benefit to the community
- to offer awards and gifts to persons whose actions or achievements are in the opinion of Council, worthy of note and recognition
- to support volunteer, community-based organizations that are fundamental to maintaining our quality of life
- to provide staff with clear direction in considering and responding to donation requests and,
- provide an equitable process for groups and organizations seeking donations, grants and in-kind donations from the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie.

The policy applies to any group or organization towards initiatives or events within the Municipality or that service residents within the Municipality. The policy is tailored to two types of grants and donations: a direct donation or grant – monetary value or in-kind donations – contributions of municipal properties/facilities.

The policy recognizes that many groups and organizations offer events programs and services that benefit the community. Council will consider requests for events, programs and services that fall under one of the following Municipal Priority Areas:

1. Operating Support Grants – that support an on-going community-based program recognized as a priority within the community
2. Community Social Recreational and Parks Grants – assists with community-based recreation programming, seniors programming or property and community facilities maintenance (buildings, flowers, sites, trails, playground areas)
3. Community Cultural and Heritage Grants – supports culture and heritage conservation and public education.
4. Community Festivals and Events Grants – a one-time or reoccurring event that Council has determined provides some significant benefit to the community and is open to all members of the public.
5. Community Development Grants – supports youth and recognition awards, economic advancement of the community, health, and welfare of people within the community.
6. Other priorities as deemed appropriate by Council.

Types of Financial Assistance

- In-kind use of municipal facilities
 - Use of municipal owned facilities – fee waived or reduced
 - Use of municipal owned equipment – fee waived or reduced
 - Use of municipal owned materials – fee waived or reduced
 - Use of staff resources – fee waived or reduced
- Maximum value of any in-kind donation is \$500. A higher amount may be considered by Council subject to an agreement
- Maximum value of a grant is 10% of the project budget, to an upset limit of \$10,000. Council has the discretion to alter the funding allocation as deemed appropriate.

The policy under Schedule 'D' has included grants and donations to the organizations on an on-going basis. These organizations do not have to reapply every year.

Analysis

Staff have reviewed the grants and donations for the upcoming 2025 budget in keeping with the Grants and Donations Policy.

There was a total of fourteen requests from various community organizations and service groups. The total amount requested was \$98,473.

Recognizing the financial constraints of the municipality, staff focus was to recommend support in areas not already included in another area of the 2025 budget, align with the municipal priority areas and are in line with the budgeted amount of previous years.

The following are recommended:

Organization	Request	Amount
Arran-Tara Grade 8 Parents	To rent the Curling Club, Community Centre, and Kitchen for grade 8 graduation ceremonies	\$810.13
Chesley Homecoming	In-kind use of facilities for the 2025 Homecoming	\$8,000
Chesley Nursery School	In kind use of community centre for pancake supper fundraiser	\$401.50
Tara Area Food Bank	Financial Contribution – Food	\$500
Trinity Theatre and Paisley Rotary Club	In-kind support for use of Paisley Community Centre 1x month for in person meetings,	\$772.92
Total		\$10,484.55

Link to Strategic/Master Plan6.5 Engaging People and Partnerships

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding/Link to Procurement Policy

The 2024 Council Grants and Donations budget was \$35,598. Staff is recommending an approximate 3.5% increase for a total of \$36,830.57 for 2025.

Description		Reserve	Expense
2025 proposed		\$36,830.57	
Schedule 'D' Events and Organizational Support – Financial Support			\$4,810.00
Schedule 'D' Community and Service Groups In- Kind support			\$21,536.02
Community Grants and Donation Requests			\$10,484.55
Total		\$36,830.57	\$36,830.57

Approved by: Emily Dance, Chief Administrative Officer