

The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes

Council Report

Report Number CS2017-016

Date: July 11 2017

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Place: Council Chambers

Ward Community Identifier: All

Subject: Community Foundation

Author Name and Title: Craig Shanks, Director of Community Services

Recommendation(s):

RESOLVED THAT Report CS2017-016, **Community Foundation**, be received.

Department Head:_____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other:_____

Chief Administrative Officer:_____

Background:

At the Special Council Meeting of April 11, 2017 Council adopted the following resolutions:

CR2017-301

RESOLVED THAT the presentation by Marlene Morrison-Nichols and Mike Perry regarding Community Foundation for Kawartha Lakes, be received.

CARRIED

CR2017-302

RESOLVED THAT the Community Foundation request for funding to provide start-up investment for this organization, be referred to staff for a report and consideration as a decision unit in the 2018 budget.

CARRIED

This report addresses that direction.

Rationale:

Community foundations are all about nurturing community vitality through philanthropy. They bring resources and people together to build better places to live, work and play. They do that in three ways:

- Vitality depends on long-term resources for long-term solutions – so they work with donors to build endowment funds that ensure vital futures for communities.
- Vitality comes from all corners of a community, so they grant funds to the widest possible range of organizations and initiatives.
- Vitality needs leadership, so they bring people together from all parts of our communities to stimulate new ideas, build participation and strengthen community philanthropy.

Community Foundations: An Overview of Some Special Strengths

While many organizations are working for better communities, a few important factors make the community foundation approach different from others:

A long-term view: Because community foundations focus on building permanent endowments, they are able to tackle long-term community challenges as well as immediate needs;

Permanence: Gifts to a community foundation endowment meet community needs in perpetuity;

Community-based, personalized donor service: Community foundations are uniquely equipped to help individual donors meet their particular philanthropic

goals by providing in-depth knowledge of their community along with expertise in a wide range of flexible charitable giving options;

A broad perspective: Community foundations make effective grants and develop networks in a wide range of sectors. With this in-depth community knowledge, they can identify opportunities in many fields and build on existing community strengths. They are also well placed to make simple, but often powerful, connections between people and organizations in the community;

Commitment to community service: Community foundations are broad-based, volunteer-driven local organizations. Because their view of community issues and priorities is independent and crosses many sectors, community foundations have an opportunity for collaborative leadership that transcends “special interests” and reflects the interests of the community at large;

Accountability: Community foundations believe that their values and way of working, not just their work, can be a powerful tool for building social capital. As responsible members of the voluntary sector, community foundations strive for flexible, transparent governance and leadership practices that welcome volunteer involvement, encourage dialogue among diverse voices in the community, and inspire commitment to philanthropy.

Today in Canada

Over the past twenty five years, rapid expansion has taken place in communities both large and small. Today, there are more than 191 community foundations in Canada. At the close of 2012, their collective assets were more than \$3.4 billion and in 2012 they disbursed grants of \$153 million. Over time new trends have emerged. The approach to service areas being determined strictly on the basis of the geographic boundaries of an individual community has expanded to include regions and provinces. This change in thinking has resulted from recognizing the advantage in working with a larger, more viable population base. For the same reason some smaller communities have joined efforts with bigger neighbours. Seed money for community foundations now comes from additional sources such as private foundations, various levels of government, corporations and a variety of community groups like service clubs and the United Way. Partnerships with multiple stakeholders have grown. Professional staffing has increased. More and more donors have started contributing unrestricted funds (funds whose income is not earmarked for a particular use or cause) to their community foundations.

Community Foundation of Kawartha Lakes (CFKL)

The Community Foundation of Kawartha Lakes (CFKL) has developed their own Vision;

A prosperous, innovative, caring and progressive Kawartha Lakes enriching the lives of all,

and Mission Statement;

The Community Foundation of Kawartha Lakes champions inclusion, innovation and prosperity locally by connecting people, projects, partnerships and philanthropy.

Their goal is to partner with local government, agencies, donors and individuals to access and create funding sources available to community projects which will enhance the Kawartha Lakes. Their proposed budget (page 18 of Appendix A) highlights a Grant of \$125,000 to be used mainly to cover the salary and benefits of a Foundation Manager level position. It is believed that for a Community Foundation to be successful that a qualified individual is required to manage and lead the organization. The CFKL is specifically requesting that the City of Kawartha Lakes provide a portion of these funds (\$70,000.00), as an investor in the program, through a Grant. The CFKL believes that such an investment will pay off ten-fold for the City by leveraging existing funding programs and projects with CFKL raised funds for projects that will enhance the Kawartha Lakes.

Currently the City has no programs or funds available to provide this grant/request. If the City chooses to invest and fund this initiative and request, it would be as an additional request and increase to the 2018 City Budget through an increased Tax Levy. The other option would be to cancel an existing program and fund it via the dollars associated with that cancelled program.

Other Alternatives Considered:

Council may choose to continue to support the CFKL through an administrative role by having staff and Council continue in its current role as Affiliates of the Board. This would require no financial support from the City.

However, if Council chooses to support this initiative and provide funding support for 2018 then staff recommend one of the following two (2) recommendations be supported;

THAT Council supports the Community Foundation of Kawartha Lakes request for \$70,000 in Grant Seed Funding; and,

THAT Staff be directed to include the funding request in the 2018 Operating Budget as a new program to be funded through an increased Tax Levy.

or

THAT Council supports the Community Foundation of Kawartha Lakes request for \$70,000 in Grant Seed Funding; and,

THAT Staff be directed, during 2018 budget deliberations, to include the funding request in the 2018 Operating Budget and advise Council as to which program has been cancelled to allow for the flow of required funds.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

There is no financial impact as a result of this report for the calendar year 2017. If City Council chooses to support this initiative for 2018, depending on the model of support chosen, there will be an impact on the 2018 budget. It may be an increase to the City's tax levy based operating budget or Council may choose to fund it through an existing source by eliminating a current program.

Relationship of Recommendation(s) To The 2016-2019 Strategic Plan:

This report addresses Enablers 1-4 of the City's Strategic Plan.

- Enabler 1 – Responsible Fiscal Resource Management
- Enabler 2 – Effective Human Resource Management
- Enabler 3 – Municipal Service Excellence
- Enabler 4 – Efficient Infrastructure and Asset Management

Through this action the City is working in partnership with the local community in a financially responsible way.

Link to Strategic Plan

[City of Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan](#)

Attachments:

Appendix A: Community Foundation Presentation



Community
Foundation Overview

Consultations:

Corporate Services
Economic Development
Community Foundation

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Department Head:

Craig Shanks, Director of Community Services

Department File: