



Committee of the Whole Report

Report Number HS2020-005

Meeting Date: November 3, 2020

Title: Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force
Recommendations

Author and Title: Rod Sutherland, Director Human Services

Recommendation(s):

That Report HS2020-005, **Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force Recommendations**, be received; and

That staff be directed to develop a framework for a Kawartha Lakes Community Recovery Fund to support pandemic recovery and relief efforts for non-profit and community service providers in the broader health and human services sector, including the identification of the scope and criteria for the fund; funding levels and source for presentation to Council in the first quarter of 2021; and

That the proposed Kawartha Lakes Community Recovery Fund incorporate the 2021 Lindsay Legacy CHEST Fund allocation for eligible proposals within Lindsay; and

That staff be directed to proceed with modifying the 2021 and 2022 50/50 Community Project Capital Funding Program application process by waiving the requirement for a matching contribution from applicants; and

That staff be directed to identify internal resources and external supports that could be made available for workshops and information sessions to community organizations in support of pandemic response and recovery and develop a 2021 schedule for delivery; and

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

That these recommendations be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Background:

The Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force (CPRTF) was created by Council on May 26, 2020 through Resolution CR2020-122.

That Report HS2020-003, **Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force**, be received for information purposes;

That the Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force Terms of Reference, appended as Attachment A to Report HS2020-003, be approved;

That Councillors Ashmore, Elmslie and Richardson, Fire Chief Mark Pankhurst, and Director Rod Sutherland be appointed to the Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force; and

That the appointed Task Force members be delegated the authority to appoint the community representatives to the Task Force from the sectors as identified in the Terms of Reference.

Councillor Dunn was appointed to the Task Force under a separate resolution at the same meeting.

The CPRTF was established to provide advice and recommendations to Council and Staff on resources and support required to ensure community recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic, including:

- Co-ordination and implementation of recovery and relief efforts to support non-profit and community service providers in the broader health and human services sector
- Compilation of a comprehensive list of community support services
- Identification of funding opportunities and mobilization of appropriate resources to obtain funding
- Recommendations for partnerships and working groups in order to best leverage existing programs and services
- Identification of gaps in service delivery and recommendations to address them
- Recommendations for the City's 2021 Operating Budget

The Task Force established a Gaps Working Group and a Funding Working Group to better understand the challenges and concerns of local agencies and community service providers and to identify potential funding opportunities, including how to support organizations in pursuing them.

On June 23, 2020, Council passed the following resolution:

That the Memorandum from Councillor Yeo, **regarding the 2020 Community Partnership Funds**, be received;

That the 2020 Community Partnership Fund and other Community Funding Programs be referred to the Community Recovery Task Force with options for the remainder of 2020 and the 2021 program.

Co-chairs Heather Kirby and Amy Terrill presented a summary of the Task Force recommendations at the November 3, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting. This report provides these recommendations to Council for direction.

Rationale:

The four Task Force recommendations are summarized below followed by a proposed corresponding Council resolution for each. At this stage in the pandemic, the City remains under Stage 3 restrictions. The City remains focused on immediate pandemic response with planning for the recovery stage primarily through this Task Force and the Economic Recovery Task Force.

1. Recommendation: The establishment of a new Kawartha Lakes Community Recovery Fund for the fiscal years of 2021 and 2022.

Proposed Council Resolution: That staff be directed to develop a framework for a Kawartha Lakes Community Recovery Fund to support pandemic recovery and relief efforts for non-profit and community service providers in the broader health and human services sector, including the identification of the scope and criteria for the fund; funding levels and source.

Rationale: The Task Force and its working groups have recommended goals and a structure for the administration of the fund. These will be incorporated within the fund framework to be developed with Council's approval. The overall allocations to the recovery fund will be determined by Council following the presentation of the proposed framework, considering the Community Partnership Funds referenced in the June 23rd, 2020 Council resolution, and other potential funding sources.

The framework for the Community Recovery Fund will be presented to Council in the first quarter of 2021.

2. Recommendation: Lindsay Legacy C.H.E.S.T. Fund Committee has suspended their normal program operations for 2021 for the purpose of supporting relief efforts to respond to COVID-19. Funds allocated in 2021 will form part of the Kawartha Lakes Community Recovery Fund, to be considered for eligible proposals within Lindsay. When the committee

returns to normal program operations in 2022, it is requested that COVID-19 related operating expenditures also be included in the mandate.

Proposed Council Resolution: That the proposed Kawartha Lakes Community Fund incorporate the 2021 Lindsay Legacy CHEST Fund allocation for eligible proposals or services within Lindsay.

Rationale: The Fund Committee has made 2021 allocations available for incorporation into the Community Recovery Fund, but as with all funds under the program, they can only be used for Lindsay based services. The framework to be drafted and presented to Council as referenced in recommendation #2 above will incorporate these CHEST funds, maintaining their designation within Lindsay.

Requests have been made to CHEST Fund groups in the City that have remaining funds, Bobcaygeon and Woodville, to determine if a similar approach is agreeable. Early indications are that these will not form part of a new Community Fund; this will be investigated further as part of the development of a recommended framework.

Additionally, a request will be made to the Lindsay Legacy CHEST Fund committee to consider incorporating COVID-19 related operating expenses for consideration in 2022.

3. Recommendation: That the applicant matching component of the 50/50 Community Project Capital Funding Program be removed for 2021 and 2022.

Proposed Council Resolution: That staff be directed to proceed with the 2021 and 2022 50/50 Community Project Capital Funding Program application process waiving the requirement for a matching contribution from applicants.

Rationale: The 50/50 Community Project Capital Funding Program provides capital funds to be used in partnership with local community organizations to provide for the betterment of the City's facilities and parks and requires a matching contribution of 50% from the applicant. To support pandemic recovery of eligible organizations, the recommendation is to remove the matching contribution for 2021 and 2022. Funds for 2020 were previously awarded in January 2020. With the passing of the recommended resolution, Community Services staff will be able to proceed with the application process for 2021.

4. Recommendation: That the City of Kawartha Lakes mobilize internal resources and external support to offer a series of capacity-building workshops including:
 - a. Developing safety protocols for operations during COVID-19;
 - b. Planning events during COVID-19;

- c. Business/strategic planning during COVID-19;
- d. Innovation and adaptation as a response to significant change; and
- e. Technology training to support operations during COVID-19.

Proposed Council Resolution: That staff be directed to identify internal resources and external supports that could be made available for workshops and information sessions to community organizations in support of pandemic response and recovery and develop a schedule for delivery in 2021.

Rationale: The City has internal resources and access to external supports that could be leveraged in support of community organizations. A review of how these could be offered through workshops or information sessions will be completed with a report back to Council in the first quarter of 2021.

Other Alternatives Considered:

The Terms of Reference for the Task Force identified its scope as including “recovery and relief efforts to support non-profit and community service providers in the broader health and human services sector.” Through Task Force discussions and the community surveys, it was identified that the broader sports and recreation sector did not fit within the mandate. There are strong connections between this sector and health, social inclusion and personal well-being that could warrant expansion of the proposed Community Recovery Fund to include sports and recreation organizations, in particular non-profit or charitable organizations.

If Council wishes to consider the inclusion of sports and recreation organizations in a Community Recovery Fund framework, a proposed additional recommendation is:

That the scope of the framework for the Kawartha Lakes Community Recovery Fund include options to incorporate non-profit and charitable sports and recreation sector organizations.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities:

The goals and recommendations of the Task Force directly contribute to the Vision of thriving and growing communities and the following goals within the Exceptional Quality of Life Priority:

- Improve the health and well-being of residents
- Build social infrastructure
- Community Building

Financial/Operation Impacts:

The proposed resolutions do not have a direct financial impact on their own as they result in reports back to council with more specific program recommendations, including financial commitments.

Consultations:

Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force members
Community Services

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