

Council Report

Report Number: HS2021-001

Meeting Date: January 28, 2021

Title: Community Pandemic Recovery Fund Framework

Author and Title: Rod Sutherland, Director of Human Services

Recommendation(s):

That Report HS2021-001, Community Pandemic Recovery Fund Framework, be received; and

That the Community Pandemic Recovery Fund Framework, attached as Appendix A to Report HS2021-01, be approved; and

That the Community Pandemic Recovery Fund Evaluation Committee Terms of Reference, attached as Appendix B to Report HS2021-01, be approved; and

That Marina Hodson, Heather Kirby, Lynda Nydam, Max Radiff and Councillor Tracy Richardson be appointed to the Community Pandemic Recovery Fund Evaluation Committee; and

That a total maximum of \$500,000 be allocated to the Community Pandemic Recovery Fund for 2021, funded up to \$120,000 from the Pandemic related portion of the City's Contingency Reserve and up to \$380,000 from the 2021 Lindsay Legacy CHEST Fund.

Department Head:	
Financial/Legal/HR/Other:	
Chief Administrative Officer:	

Background:

Council established the Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force on May 26, 2020 to provide advice and recommendations to Council and Staff on resources and support required to ensure community recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic. The twelve appointed members of the Task Force are:

- Councillor Ron Ashmore
- Councillor Pat Dunn
- Councillor Doug Elmslie
- Councillor Tracy Richardson
- Penny Barton Dyke, United Way of Kawartha Lakes
- Marina Hodson, Kawartha North Family Health Team
- Heather Kirby, Kawartha Lakes Food Source (Co-chair)
- Lynda Nydam, Children's Services Council of Kawartha Lakes / Haliburton
- Mark Pankhurst, City of Kawartha Lakes
- Pam Stuckless, Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit
- Rod Sutherland, City of Kawartha Lakes
- Amy Terrill, Boys and Girls Clubs of Kawartha Lakes (Co-chair)

At the Council Meeting of November 17, 2020, Council adopted the following resolution:

CW2020-122

That the Memorandum from the Lindsay Legacy C.H.E.S.T. Fund Grant Committee, regarding **2021 Lindsay Legacy CHEST Fund Grant Awards**, be received; and

That the grant award and distribution process for the 2021 year for the Lindsay Legacy C.H.E.S.T. Fund be suspended so funds can be utilized to assist with relief efforts to charitable and non profit organizations within the Town of Lindsay.

At the Council Meeting of November 17, 2020, Council adopted the following resolution:

CW2020-167

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

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;

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

That staff be directed to proceed with modifying the 2021 and 2022 50/50 Community Project Capital Funding Program, Beautification Program and any other City 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.

At the Council Meeting of December 1, 2020, Council adopted the following resolution:

CR2020-395

That Report CORP2020-018, Disposition of 2019 Surplus, be received; and

That the 2019 Surplus of \$2,999,743 be maintained in the Contingency Reserve for the purpose of funding community, economic, and corporate pandemic recovery initiatives.

This report addresses the direction to establish the Community Recovery Fund.

Rationale:

The Task Force has developed the proposed framework for the Community Pandemic Recovery Fund (Appendix A). The framework establishes the fund to support pandemic recovery and relief efforts for non-profit and community service providers in the broader health and human services sector. A formal application process is described in the framework to allow organizations to submit funding requests.

The framework includes the eligibility criteria and evaluation process for the fund. Funding may be considered from eligible applicants that support pandemic recovery and relief efforts in the community. A range of eligible expenses may be considered with the Evaluation Committee scoring applications on a ranked basis.

The total maximum available funding in the 2021 Community Pandemic Recovery Fund (CPRF) is \$500,000. This is comprised of up to \$120,000 from the Pandemic related portion of the City's Contingency Reserve identified by Council on December 1, 2020, and up to \$380,000 from the 2021 Lindsay CHEST Fund. This is a onetime allocation for

2021 at this point. The Task Force may recommend additional future allocations to Council for consideration based on continuing recovery needs.

The terms of the Lindsay CHEST Fund specifically identify that funds must be allocated to eligible organizations and services primarily within the historical boundaries of the Town of Lindsay. The CPRF portion coming from the Lindsay CHEST Fund must still meet their geographical and service criteria. Mr. Max Radiff is specifically identified as a member of the Evaluation Committee to connect the CPRF process to the Lindsay CHEST Fund.

The Evaluation Committee will assess all applications and make funding decisions based on the framework. There is not a set maximum amount that can be requested through each application, although the committee may award funding at levels less than requested based on the number of applications received and the assessment of each request.

The proposed Evaluation Committee Terms of Reference, attached as Appendix B, describes the role of the committee in reviewing and evaluating CPRF applications. The members recommended for appointment to the committee are:

- Councillor Tracy Richardson (Council representative)
- Max Radiff (Lindsay CHEST Fund representative)
- Marina Hodson (Task Force member)
- Heather Kirby (Task Force member)
- Lynda Nydam (Task Force member)

The intake period for applications will begin as soon as possible following approval of the framework, and be open for approximately four weeks. The review and evaluation will occur in March with final decisions and funding letters being issued by the end of March 2021.

City staff will support the process and oversee the administration of the funds. A staff report will be presented to Council with the outcome of the process.

The CPRF is just one focus of the Task Force. As directed in the November 17, 2020 resolution, changes were made to the 50/50 Community Program for 2021 to remove the requirement for proponents to match City funding. At its December 1, 2020 meeting, Council also increased the overall budget of the 50/50 Community Program by \$80,000 for 2021 to maintain the overall benefit of the program. This was funded from the Pandemic related portion of the Contingency Reserve.

Work is also continuing on identifying additional supports and resources for community organizations including workshops and other programs. Building on the existing capacity of the community will continue to be essential for overall community well-being through the pandemic response and recovery periods.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities

The Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force and the CPRF both relate directly to the Exceptional Quality of Life and Vibrant and Growing Economy priorities by supporting overall community well-being and health.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

The Lindsay CHEST Fund allocation of \$380,000 is derived from the annual interest earned from the principal of that Legacy fund.

The allocation of \$120,000 from the Contingency Reserve is consistent with Council's designation of a portion of that Reserve to support Pandemic recovery.

Consultations:

Community Pandemic Recovery Task Force City Treasurer

Attachments:

Appendix A – Community Pandemic Recovery Fund Framework



Appendix B – Community Pandemic Recovery Fund Framework Evaluation Committee Terms of Reference



Department Head email: rsutherland@kawarthalakes.ca

Department Head: Rod Sutherland, Director