



Committee of the Whole Report

Report Number: HS2021-002

Meeting Date: April 6, 2021

Title: Community Pandemic Recovery Fund Grants

Author and Title: Rod Sutherland, Director of Human Services

Recommendation(s):

That Report HS2021-002, **Community Pandemic Recovery Fund Grants**, be received; and

That the balance of \$205,668.22 in Lindsay Legacy CHEST Funds allocated to the Community Pandemic Recovery Fund but not awarded, be released to the Lindsay Legacy CHEST Fund Grant Committee and their distribution process be reinstated; and

That the balance of \$49,162.48 in City Contingency Reserve funds allocated to the Community Pandemic Recovery Fund but not awarded, be made available to eligible organizations located outside the geographical boundaries for eligibility for the Lindsay CHEST Fund through a second application process of the Community Pandemic Recovery Fund, to a maximum of \$7,500 per application; and

That this recommendation be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

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.

Council established the Community Pandemic Recovery Fund (CPRF) through the following resolution on January 28, 2021:

CR2021-023

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

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

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

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.

The application process for the CPRF was open from February 3, 2021 to March 1, 2021. Communications for the fund were shared through various City media channels including the City website, engagement website (jumpinkawathalakes.ca), media releases and social media. The Application form and details were distributed to multiple community agency networks and distribution lists.

Rationale:

A total of 18 applications were submitted. One application was received from an individual, not an organization. The submission did not meet the basic criteria to be evaluated and was not reviewed by the committee.

Through the Terms of Reference, the CPRF Evaluation Committee was delegated the decision-making authority for the funds. Report HS2021-001 identified that staff would report back to Council with the funding decisions.

The Committee met on March 11, 2021 to review the submissions. The total amount requested from the eligible applications was \$503,736.05.

As identified in the resolution from Report HS2021-001, the total potential funding in the CPRF was \$500,000, with 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. Awards from the Lindsay CHEST Fund could only be made if the submission met the geographical requirements of that fund.

Table 1 below lists completed applications that were received, in alphabetical order, as well as a very high level description of the program or service and the funding request. The amount awarded is listed for successful applicants. The Funding Source column identifies if the grant will be issued from the City Reserve allocation to the CPRF, or from the Lindsay CHEST allocation.

For unsuccessful applicants, the primary reason they were denied was a lack of alignment with the fund objective "to support pandemic recovery and relief efforts for non-profit and community service providers in the broader health and human services sector."

Table 1: Summary of Applications

Applicant	Project	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded	Funding Source
A Place Called Home	Contribution toward shelter redevelopment	70,000.00	0.00	
Bethany Athletic Society	Operating costs to maintain the community owned park.	4,090.00	4,090.00	Reserve
Big Brothers Big Sisters	Technology support and pandemic cleaning	5,000.00	5,000.00	CHEST
Coboconk & District Lions Club	Maintain community support services	8,600.00	8,600.00	Reserve

Community Care City of Kawartha Lakes	Develop and enhance improved technology and communications to support access to services	67,300.00	67,300.00	CHEST
Fenelon Falls & District Chamber of Commerce	Operating costs to support the Chamber/Tourism Office	15,000.00	0.00	
Fenelon Falls Farmer Market	Portable Toilet for market, and cleaning supplies	1,000.00	0.00	
Fenelon Falls Museum	Virtual Museum and Travelling Community Programming	26,243.00	0.00	
Heritage Christian School Society Inc.	Pandemic cleaning and protective equipment	16,531.78	16,531.78	CHEST
John Howard Society of Kawartha Lakes & Haliburton	Crisis response program	60,000.00	60,000.00	CHEST
Kirkfield & District Historical Society	Operating costs for Historical Society	30,000.00	0.00	
Omeme Curling and Recreation Club	Operating costs (taxes) to survive	7,647.52	7,647.52	Reserve
Ottawa-Huron Tract Historical Association	Costs to create online exhibits and International Plowing Match exhibit	10,348.75	0.00	
Pinnguaq Association	Lindsay Makerspace retrofitting, reopening, programming and staffing costs	102,975.00	0.00	
Senior Citizens Club of Fenelon Falls	Operating costs to maintain club; consultant to improve operations and future opportunities; technology upgrades for online communications	50,500.00	50,500.00	Reserve
St. James Anglican Church Fenelon Falls	Technology costs to support online services and programs	3,000.00	0.00	
United Way for the City of Kawartha Lakes	Administrative operating costs (facility and cleaning)	25,500.00	25,500.00	CHEST
Total Requests		503,736.05	245,169.30	

The total funding awarded by the Evaluation Committee was \$70,837.52 from the City's Contingency Reserve allocation, and \$174,331.78 from the Lindsay CHEST Fund. Written notification of the decision was sent to all applicants on March 15, 2021 and funding letters are being executed with successful applicants to flow funds as soon as possible.

The Terms of Reference for the Evaluation Committee included the following activities:

1. To meet as required to review and evaluate applications for the CPRF.
2. To make funding decisions based on the approved CPRF Framework and within the Council approved budget.
3. To make recommendations to City Council on various issues which may arise concerning the CPRF.
4. To review projects funded with the CPRF, where a request for change has been made by the applicant.
5. To review and make recommendations to Council concerning changes to the CPRF Framework.

The committee has completed the first two activities. After their evaluation of submissions on March 11, 2021, the committee passed a resolution with the following recommendations to Council:

- That the balance of Lindsay CHEST funds not awarded (\$205,668.22) under the Community Pandemic Recovery Fund be returned to the Lindsay CHEST Fund Committee.
- A second call for applications be completed for the balance of the City Reserve allocation (\$49,162.48), to a maximum request of \$7,500 per application, for agencies and organizations outside the boundaries for eligibility under the Lindsay CHEST Fund.

The return of the Lindsay CHEST Fund balance will allow that committee to consider the disbursement of those funds through their standard process. Organizations who applied and were not approved under the CPRF may be able to apply to the Lindsay CHEST Fund, or CHEST funds in their home communities, such as Fenelon Falls.

The recommendation for a second round of applications for the CPRF could be accomplished in approximately 6-8 weeks. Based on the current framework, those applicants who were not successful in the recent process would likely not be successful in a second round. It would provide an opportunity for any organization to submit a proposal with a more limited scope of value at \$7,500 maximum.

If applicants applied for the full maximum of \$7,500, there could be six successful submissions at most. If some requests were for less than the maximum, the overall number of successful submissions could be higher.

Other Alternatives Considered

Council could choose not to issue a second round of applications for the CPRF. The balance of reserve funding could be retained in the Pandemic related portion of the City's Contingency Reserve for Council's future consideration.

As there was excess funding available in the first round, a second round may be beneficial for less urgent needs as opposed to those envisioned originally for the fund.

If Council chooses to retain the funds at this time, an alternative resolution replacing the third 'That' on page 1 of this report is:

That the balance of \$49,162.48 in City Contingency Reserve funds allocated to the Community Pandemic Recovery Fund but not awarded, be retained in the Pandemic related portion of the City's Contingency Reserve for future consideration

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 Fund Evaluation Committee

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Department Head: Rod Sutherland, Director