

## Fenelon Falls Powerlinks Committee

### Report to CKL Council

April 4, 2022

#### **THE COMMITTEE:**

The Fenelon Falls Powerlinks Committee is a volunteer committee established to provide advice and recommendations to Council on financial assistance for capital projects that lead to the physical improvement, enhancement, beautification, sustainable tourism and for the benefit of the Village of Fenelon Falls residents. The Committee operates under Terms of Reference dated December 11, 2018.

#### **MEMBERS:**

The current members of the Committee are:

Chris Handley – Chair

Mike Barkwell – Vice-Chair and Secretary

Councillor Doug Elmslie

Chris Appleton

Sandra Barrett

Craig Backman

Brian Rump

Attending City Staff – Director Craig Shanks, LeAnn Donnelly

#### **REVENUE:**

Revenue is derived from royalty payments from the operator of the electrical generating station located at the falls, Orillia Power. The renewal contract for this facility was recently negotiated by the Committee with a significant increase in the royalty payment schedule, together with a signing bonus.

Requests for financial support of projects are considered at Committee meetings. The Committee makes recommendations for support by way of Resolutions, recorded in the Minutes. The Minutes are submitted to Council for review, and the Committee's recommendations are subject to Council's final approval.

Disbursements and project administration are typically handled through the Fenelon Chamber of Commerce. The Committee and the Chamber have an excellent working relationship, with a mutual interest in projects that benefit the community.

## **APPROVED PROJECTS:**

Over the past several years the Committee has supported numerous projects benefiting the community. Examples include:

Fenelon Horticultural Society for community beautification:

\$15,000 - Nov. 2018 for the Rain Garden, opposite the Museum;

\$5,335 - Aug. 2019 for north gorge stairs and railing; terrace gardens;

\$14,739 – Sept. 2021 for stair railing replacement, stone edging, shrubs, lighting repairs.

Fenelon Arts Committee

\$10,000 – March 2020 for the Sculpture Project in the Rain Garden.

Garnet Graham Park:

\$25,000 – for redevelopment of the Munchie Hut, Washroom and Splash Pad.

Fenelon Theatre Marquee Sign:

\$10,000 – April 2019 for rehabilitation and installation.

Wayfaring Signage:

\$14,350 – April 2019 for rock signage, engraving and placement.

Lighting the Falls;

\$1,500 – Spring 2021 for negotiating Terms of Reference with TSW.

Kawartha Works Co-op:

\$4,000 – Sept. 2021 for a rental bicycle repair station.

Lower Gorge Development:

\$25,000 – Nov. 2018 for design study and visioning for lower gorge docking and bridge;

\$35,000 – Sept. 2021 for detailed estimates on costing for shoreline landscaping, structural design for boardwalks, potential docking tie-offs, potential pavilion and bridge.

## **FUTURE PROJECTS:**

Lower Gorge Development:

Docking: The Committee is actively pursuing an ambitious project to develop docking in the lower gorge. There is a serious lack of docking on the Sturgeon side of the falls, and the TSW cannot provide any additional facilities. More docking will enhance access to the village by boaters. It will also support village tourism and tourism on Sturgeon Lake. Project estimates are being obtained.

Clifton Street Pedestrian Bridge: The Committee is actively pursuing the installation of a pedestrian bridge over the Fenelon River at Clifton Street. In discussion with the TSW it appears that project approval will likely be attainable, subject to permit approval. Other agencies will also need to be contacted for approval. Presently the Committee has passed a Resolution approving the disbursement of \$150,000 towards this project for the purposes of funding detailed on-land site design, surveying, engineering investigation and other project elements through Jacket Construction. This Resolution will be presented to Council for consideration.

Respectfully submitted for Council information.

Chris Handley, Chair