



## Committee of the Whole Report

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Report Number:	<b>PLAN2025-005</b>
Meeting Date:	January 14, 2025
Title:	<b>Support for Climate Change Strategy Funding Application</b>
Description:	To receive support for the Application for Funding through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for the Climate Change Strategy
Author and Title:	Jenna Stephens, Planning Officer, Environmental Policy

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### Recommendations:

**That** Report PLAN2025-005, **Support for Climate Change Strategy Funding Application**, be received;

**That** Council support the application for funding from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation initiative for the project "Creating a Comprehensive Climate Change Strategy for the City of Kawartha Lakes"; 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:**

Renamed in 1976 to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the former Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities was formed in 1937, comprised of the Union of Canadian Municipalities and the Dominion Conference of Mayors. Representing over 2100 municipalities and 20 provincial and territorial municipal associations across Canada, FCM supports municipalities in ensuring that the needs and interests of their citizens are reflected in both federal and provincial programs and policies.

FCM offers a wide variety of funding opportunities and support programs for municipalities, including funding sustainability projects, training on climate innovations, support for women in local government, creating a First Nation-Municipal community economic development initiative, creation and training on a municipal asset management program, various international programs, and a multitude of case studies, toolkits, and webinars. One program in particular, the Green Municipal Fund (GMF), provides funding for all stages of environmentally friendly projects, from plans and feasibility studies to pilots and capital projects.

To date, the City of Kawartha Lakes has received funding for four (4) projects through the GMF, most recently, the project "Studying the feasibility of a net-zero cultural centre in Kawartha Lakes, Ontario".

In 2024, FCM was accepting applications for Climate-Ready Plans and Processes to fund the development of climate adaptation plans, climate-focused asset management strategies, community-wide climate risk assessments, and capacity-building initiatives. After speaking with staff from FCM, it was determined that the City qualifies for this funding stream for the creation of the Climate Change Strategy, resulting in staff preparing an application.

This report brings forward the opportunity to apply for Federal funding to supplement the costs of developing and establishing a Climate Change Strategy for the City of Kawartha Lakes.

## **Rationale:**

As stated in the 2025 Mayor's Budget, the development and establishment of a Climate Change Strategy is the top priority for the Planning Division, and one of the top priorities for Council. Council has approved a budget of \$150,000 for the completion of the Climate Change Strategy, and a Request for Proposals has been prepared to procure a consultant who will complete much of the work on the Strategy.

Upon review of the funding application requirements and discussion with FCM staff, it was determined that City staff would complete and submit a funding application for the completion of the Climate Change Strategy. Accordingly, on December 10, 2024, staff submitted the application package (compiled of Appendix A, Appendix B and Appendix C) for the project titled “Creating a Comprehensive Climate Change Strategy for the City of Kawartha Lakes” within the Climate-Ready Plans and Processes stream of the FCM Green Municipal Fund – Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation program. The funding is in the form of a grant that would cover a minimum of 60% of eligible project costs up to a maximum of \$105,000, for the completion of the Climate Change Strategy within two (2) years.

Due to the short turnaround time between the decision to apply for the funding and the application deadline, FCM had indicated that a letter from the CAO detailing their support for the project and their contribution in matching funds (Appendix D) would be accepted in lieu of the required formal Council resolution in support of the funding application, however, the Council resolution must be submitted by February 2025 at the latest.

In the event that the funding application is not successful, the entirety of the Climate Change Strategy will be funded through the approved municipal budget. The project is not contingent on securing the GMF or other funding.

### **Other Alternatives Considered:**

No other alternatives were considered.

### **Alignment to Strategic Priorities**

The recommendation to Council is consistent with the 2024-2027 Council Adopted Strategic Plan in the following ways:

“A Healthy Environment” – support for the funding application will help to ensure the completion of the Climate Change Strategy which will replace the existing Healthy Environment Plan, aimed at reducing the City’s carbon footprint and mitigating environmental risks.

“An Exceptional Quality of Life” – the funding application will aid in the improvement of the health and well-being of residents by providing support to innovative programs within the Climate Change Strategy which promote citizen safety and well-being.

“Good Government” – support for the application for funding to complete the Climate Change Strategy is an example of providing accountable government and responsible management of resources.

### **Financial/Operation Impacts:**

There are no financial or operational impacts associated with the submission and support of the funding application. A successful application could result in up to \$105,000 in funding to support the development and establishment of the Climate Change Strategy.

### **Consultations:**

Director, Development Services  
Supervisor, Policy Planning  
Planner II – Policy  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Green Municipal Fund

### **Attachments:**

Appendix A – Local Leadership for Climate Adaptation Application Form



CKL\_LLCA-CRPP\_Application\_10Dec2024

Appendix B – Climate Ready Plans and Processes Workplan and Budget



CKL\_crpp-workplan-budget\_10Dec2024

Appendix C – Climate-Ready Communities Assessment Tool



CRC\_AssessmentTool\_10Dec2024.xlsx

Appendix D – CAO Letter of Support



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**Department Head:** Leah Barrie, Director of Development Services