



TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH

TO: Mayor and Council

DATE: 2024-04-22

MEETING TYPE: Open

SUBMITTED BY: Mandy Jones, Manager Community & Economic Development

REPORT #: C&ED 2024-016

REPORT TITLE: Grants and Donations Community Development Program

RECOMMENDED MOTION

THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Wellington North receive Report C&ED 2024-016 being a report on the Grants and Donations Community Development Program;

AND THAT Council, in recognition of the important role that not-for-profit organizations and community groups play in our municipality, approves the recommendation to advance \$61,635.82 in grants to the following organizations:

GROUP	RECOMMENDED
Arthur Agricultural Society	\$ 500.00
Arthur By the Fire	\$ 1,000.00
Arthur Chamber of Commerce	\$ 3,700.00
Arthur and District Horticultural Society	\$ 600.00
Arthur Lions Club (fee waiver)	\$ 685.00
Arthur Optimist Club	\$ 2,500.00
Arthur Opti-Mrs. Club	\$ 500.00
Arthur St Andrew's Presbyterian Church	\$ 750.00
Arthur SU Sports Camp (fee waiver)	\$ 663.70
Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Wellington (fee waiver)	\$ 740.00
Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Wellington	\$ 1,000.00
Christmastime in Arthur (fee waiver)	\$ 500.00
Community Resource Centre of North and Centre Wellington	\$ 3,825.00
Friends of Bill Walker "Git Yer Hillbilly On" Ribfest (fee waiver)	\$ 385.00
Hayden's Hope Foundation (fee waiver)	\$ 1,689.12
Hospice Wellington – Walking Group (fee waiver)	\$ 1,000.00
Hospice Wellington – Coffee and Caregivers Program (fee waiver)	\$ 1,000.00
Mount Forest Senior Group - Kay Ayres	\$ 500.00
Mount Forest Chamber of Commerce	\$ 2,500.00
Mount Forest Community Garden	\$ 1,000.00

Mount Forest & District Arts Council	\$ 350.00
Mount Forest Family Health Team – Gentle Movement Program (fee waiver)	\$ 1,000.00
Mount Forest Fireworks Festival	\$ 2,500.00
Mount Forest Horticultural Society	\$ 1,500.00
Mount Forest Leos Club (fee waiver)	\$ 1,000.00
Mount Forest Lions Club (\$1,155 fee waiver, \$500 donation)	\$ 1,655.00
Mount Forest Louise Marshall Hospital Auxiliary (fee waiver)	\$ 945.00
Mount Forest Louise Marshall Hospital Foundation – (fee waiver)	\$ 3,038.00
North Wellington Health Care Recruitment	\$10,000.00
Seniors' Centre for Excellence	\$10,000.00
The Raw Carrot Gourmet Soup Enterprise	\$ 500.00
VON Smart Program - Arthur (fee waiver)	\$ 1,560.00
Wellington Heights Secondary School – Warm Winter Wishes	\$ 650.00
Wellington Heights Secondary School – Scholarships	\$ 900.00
York Soaring Association	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL REQUESTS/GRANTS - \$15,360.82 (fee waivers) - \$46,275.00 (donations)	\$61,635.82

AND FURTHER THAT Council, provide direction to staff regarding the six applications outlined below, that require council review and decision;

GROUP	REQUEST
Arthur Minor Hockey Association	\$ 1,494.00
Arthur Public School Parent Council	\$10,000.00
Arthur – St. John's Catholic School	\$ 9,000.00
Green Wave Soccer Mount Forest	\$ 6,764.00
Mount Forest Air Cadets	\$ 7,500.00
Wellington North-Wide Yard Sale	\$ 1,370.00
	\$36,128.00

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct Staff to review the delivery of the Grants and Donations Community Development Program for 2025.

PREVIOUS REPORTS/BY-LAWS/RESOLUTIONS

- EDO 2023-011 Grants & Donations Community Development Program
- EDO 2023-012 Grants & Donations Community Development Program
- EDO 2022-012 Grants & Donations Community Development Program
- EDO 2021-012 Grants & Donations Community Development Program
- EDO 2020-007 Grants & Donations Community Development Program

BACKGROUND

The Township of Wellington North values the significant role that not-for-profit and community organizations play in delivering events and projects that support our community.

In December 2016, Council approved the Grants & Donations Community Development Program Fund. This fund supports project and event-based initiatives, for not-for-profit organizations and community groups, and encourages a high-level of collaboration.

Applications are accepted throughout the year, with a due date of March 31 each year.⁰²⁴
Applications include requests for rental fee waivers, as well as general donation requests.

ANALYSIS

In 2024, 41 applications were received with a total request of \$107,687.32 in funding. This compares to 2023, when the program had 41 applications totalling \$79,820.33. The 41 applications received this year have been reviewed as per the fund guidelines, with an overview as follows:

1. Eight applications are being recommended for a reduced amount of funding:

- The Arthur By The Fire event have asked for \$1,599.50 in funding to support this new event, which will be offered free of charge to the community. Staff are recommending \$1,000 to be consistent with other events of similar size.
- The Arthur Optimist Club have asked for \$5,000 to support their Canada Day events. Staff are recommending \$2,500 to be consistent with the donation being granted to the Mount Forest Fireworks Festival. This is the same amount that has been approved in past years.
- Big Brothers & Big Sisters of North Wellington have asked for \$2,000. Staff are recommending \$1,000, which is consistent with previous years' funding.
- Hospice Wellington – Walking Group has asked for \$2,000 in fee waivers for the Plume Room at the Mount Forest Sports Complex to provide grief counselling during walking group. Staff are recommending a \$1,000 limit for these types of requests.
- Hospice Wellington – Mount Forest Family Health Team have requested \$1,480 in fee waivers for use of the Meeting Room at the Mount Forest & District Sports Complex to operate a “Coffee and Caregivers” program. Staff are recommending a \$1,000 limit for these types of requests.
- The Mount Forest Community Garden has requested \$2,000 to support its 2024 operations. Staff are recommending \$1,000. In addition to this grant the Township is also providing summer student support, in partnership with the Wellington North Farmers' Market, to assist the Community Gardens.
- The Mount Forest Family Health Team – Gentle Movement Program have requested a fee waiver of \$3,700 for the use of space at the Mount Forest & District Sports Complex. This program is hosted in partnership with Cancer Patient Services. Staff are recommending a \$1,000 limit for these types of requests.
- The Mount Forest Leos Club have requested \$1,370 in fee waivers to offer two Teen Dances at the Mount Forest & District Sports Complex in June and October. Staff are recommending \$1,000 to be consistent with other events of similar size.

2. One application, \$244 fee waiver, from the Arthur Chamber is not being recommended.

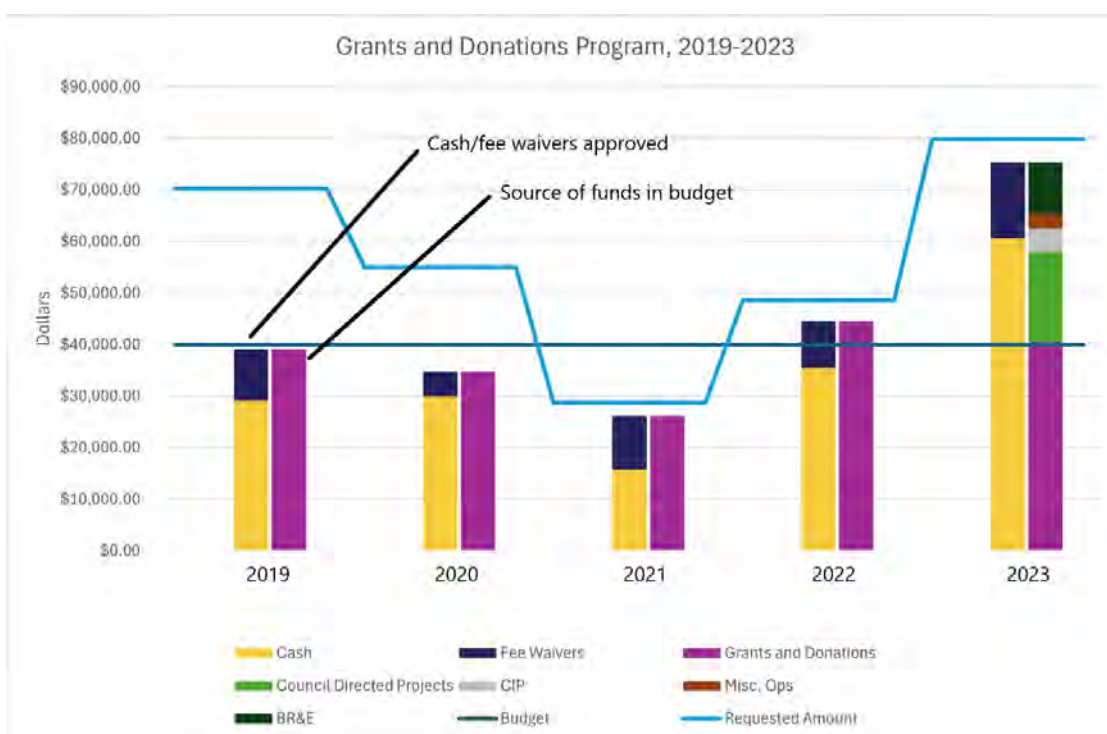
- The Upper Leisure Hall is not available in October 2024 due to planned renovations, and the Township also provides \$2,500 in support to the Arthur Chamber on an annual basis as part of a Memorandum of Understanding, Staff believe that this request is not suitable for the fund.

3. Attachment A contains an overview of each of the applications where a recommendation is being made. Should any member of Council wish to receive a copy of the actual application(s) prior to the April 22 Council Meeting, Staff would be pleased to send them to you.

Request Type	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Grants and Donations	\$51,618.50	\$46,275.00
Waiver of Fees	\$19,910.82	\$15,360.82
Council Consideration	\$36,128.00	-
Total	\$107,657.31	\$61,635.82

4. Six applications have not been decided by Staff and require Council discussion and decision, included as Attachment B. Copies of the six applications are included as Attachment C to this report. Should Council wish to provide funding to any of these applications, additional funding sources will need to be identified. The six applications total \$36,128 in requested funding (\$9,628 in fee waivers, \$26,500 in Grants and Donations).

Staff have noticed an increased uptake in applications over the past two years, and expect this trend will continue in 2025. A chart tracking the requests, awarded amount and how those funds were allocated in the budget between 2019-2023 is below:



Staff recommend that the delivery of the Grants and Donations Community Development Program be reviewed for 2025 and a future report will be brought back to council for consideration.

CONSULTATION

Brooke Lambert, CAO

Dale Small, Economic Development Officer

Mike Wilson, Community Development Coordinator

Tom Bowden, Recreation Services Manager

Jerry Idialu, Director of Finance/Treasurer

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Council have allocated \$40,000 to cover grant applications, while Staff have recommended \$61,635.82 for approval. Staff believe this amount can be managed within the current budget, as follows:

- \$ 40,000.00 from the Grants and Donations Community Development Program
- \$ 17,045.82 from Council Directed Projects (2024 operating budget)
- \$ 2,100.00 from the Recreation Department (parks maintenance)
- \$ 1,750.00 from the C&ED Cultural Roundtable Budget
- \$ 740.00 waived as per the Fees & Charges By-Law #129-22

Should Council wish to provide funding to any of the six applications in Attachment B, additional funding sources will need to be identified. Staff have provided funding recommendations in Attachment B for consideration.

Once finalized, notification letters, along with the funds, will be distributed to each organization. Groups receiving a fee waiver will be advised that once their event is over, an accounting entry will be made by the Township to cover the fee.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Grants and Donations Requests recommended for approval.

Attachment B – Requests Requiring Council Discussion and Decision.

Attachment C – Applications for Attachment B applicants.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2024

- Shape and support sustainable growth
How:
- Deliver quality, efficient community services aligned with the Township's mandate and capacity

How: Supporting local not-for-profit organizations with funding and fee waivers for local events and programs, which will directly benefit the residents of Wellington North. ⁰²⁷

- Enhance information sharing and participation in decision-making

How:

- N/A Core-Service

Approved by: Brooke Lambert, Chief Administrative Officer ☒