

PROPOSED GRANT APPLICATION POLICY

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

Township of Puslinch September 5, 2017

Tonight we will discuss...

- The purpose of the Grant Application Policy
- A summary of the proposed policy
- Total Upset Limit of Grant Funding
- Implementation Strategy
- Feedback from the public.

What is the purpose of the Grant Application Policy?

- To create a fair, equal and transparent process for grant requests from all organizations that provide services that benefit the Township and its residents
- The creation of a Grant Application Policy is in line with:
 - Council's goals/objective for the 2014 to 2018 Council term.
 - The recommendations from the Recreation and Parks Master Plan dated May 2015.

Which organizations are eligible?

- Organizations applying for grant funding must meet the following eligibility criteria:
 - Be in existence for at least one year; and
 - have its principal address in the Township; and
 - be a not-for-profit organization or an unincorporated community group; and
 - offer services that primarily benefit the Township and its residents; and
 - demonstrate financial need; and
 - be in good financial standing with the Township and not in litigation with the Township; and
 - be in compliance with any other Township by-laws and policies.
- For the purposes of this policy, Puslinch Minor Sports Organizations and the Aberfoyle Agricultural Society are deemed to meet the eligibility criteria.

Which organizations are not eligible?

- Adult sports organizations ie. Old Timers, Puslinch Kodiak's, Morriston Men's League, The Aberfoyle Dukes
- Groups or organizations of a religious nature.
- County, provincial, and federal organizations.
- Groups or organizations affiliated with any political party or event.
- Individuals, commercial organizations, and coalitions such as ratepayer associations.
- Hospitals, hospital foundations and hospital auxiliary groups or agencies.
- Educational institutions including universities, colleges, schools and associated auxiliary groups.

Which funding requests are not eligible for funding?

- Donations to charitable causes.
- Travel or accommodations, uniforms, personal equipment, banquets, entertainment.
- Attendance at conferences, workshops or seminars.
- Personnel costs.
- Insurance and accounting costs.
- Food and beverages
- Office equipment, furniture, and supplies
- Retroactive costs for purposes which have already occurred.
- Funding of prior year deficits.
- Political campaigns, parties or events.

What criteria will be used to evaluate grant applications submitted?

- Demonstrates collaboration, positive community engagement and civic pride
- Promotes volunteerism, participation and leadership development
- Fosters a healthy, safe and active community
- Fiscal and overall accountability
- Responsiveness to existing community need

What are the categories of funding?

Category 1 – Donation (funds requested - \$500 to \$2,999)

Grants for organizations that are community-based and fairly represent both their own interest and those of the community in which they serve. Services, programs and activities must demonstrate a benefit to the Township and its residents.

Category 2 – Sponsor or Contributor (funds requested - \$3,000 to \$5,000)

Grants for organizations for the purpose of a community event or program that benefits the Township and its residents. Examples include the Santa Claus Parade, Aberfoyle Fall Fair, Canada Day, and Family Day.

Category 3 – Project Funder (funds requested – greater than \$5,000)

Grants for organizations for special purposes and/or projects for an activity deemed to be of significant value to the Township and its residents.

What are the initial application requirements (ie. for the first application only)

- A copy of the letters patent or articles of incorporation, if applicable.
- A copy of its Notification of Charitable Registration letter from the Canada Revenue Agency with any supporting documentation indicating the applicant's status and terms of registration, if applicable.
- A copy of mandate, constitution and by-laws, as applicable.

What are the annual application requirements?

- Completed grant application form with all requested information attached.
- A copy of the most current budget.
- A copy of the most current financial statements.
- Organizations requesting grants under Category 3 applications are required to present their requests to Council during the budget process.
- Recipients awarded a grant under a Category 3 application are required to submit an annual report. The annual report must include a financial statement and/or receipts and outline how the funding was utilized and how it contributed to the overall goals and objectives of the organization. The annual report must also be presented to Council.

What is the proposed total upset limit of grant funding?

- Directed by Council at the June 15, 2016 Special Council Meeting
 - The funds available under the program be limited to a maximum of 0.50% of the previous year's taxation levy per calendar year.
 - Based on 2017's taxation levy \$17,416 Grant Budget for 2018

What is the implementation strategy for this program? 2017

- Letters sent to previous funding recipients in early October 2017.
- Advertisement placed in local newspaper and Township website in October.
- Organization submission deadline 2:00 pm October 31, 2017.
- Summarized information provided to Council in the form of a report as part of Operating Budget process.

Future

- Advertisement placed in local newspaper and Township website in August.
- Organization submission deadline 2:00 pm on the last business day of August.
- Summarized information provided to Council in the form of a report as part of Operating Budget process.