



CITY OF HAMILTON
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
Strategic Partnerships and Communications Division

TO:	Chair and Members Grants Sub-Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	May 6, 2019
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	2019 City Enrichment Funding Recommendations (GRA19002) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
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SUBMITTED BY:	John Hertel Director, Strategic Partnerships and Communications
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That, the 2019 City Enrichment Fund recommended funding allocation, in the amount of \$6,115,890 (as outlined in the attached Appendix “A” to Report GRA19002), be approved;
- (b) That, Appendix “B” to GRA19002, Application Summary be received;
- (c) That, Appendix “C” to GRA19002, Payment Plan be approved; and
- (d) That, the grants as listed in Appendix “D” to GRA19002 be approved and the funds be released pending the submission of additional information, by July 19, 2019;

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the 2019 budget process, Council approved a budget for the City Enrichment Fund of \$6,115,890. This amount includes an enhancement request of \$93,200.

The City Enrichment Fund budget allocation as presented in this document, recommends funding allocation within the approved amount.

As in past years, adjudication committees met to review and rate all applications. The result of the reviews and resulting recommended allocations are outlined in Appendices “A” and “B” to Report GRA19002, as attached.

Alternatives for Consideration:

Not Applicable.

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: The 2019 approved budget for the City Enrichment Fund is \$6,115,890. All recommendations are within the approved 2019 budget. Payments of grants will be made based on the approved City Enrichment Fund payment plan (per Appendix “C” to GRA19002).

Staffing: There are no staffing implications associated with the recommendations in Report GRA19002.

Legal: There are no legal implications associated with the recommendations in Report GRA19002.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Each year, various community organizations apply for funding offered through the City Enrichment Fund. The applications are reviewed and rated by adjudication committees and recommendations are forwarded to the Grants Sub-Committee for consideration and approval by Council.

The City of Hamilton has played a significant role in enriching the community through grant programs that have been in place in various forms both pre and post amalgamation. As the City of Hamilton continues to grow and evolve, the population and needs within the community have continued to transform. The City Enrichment Fund Program currently offers funding to community organizations within 6 (six) program areas: Agriculture; Arts; Communities, Culture & Heritage; Community Services; Environment and Sport & Active Lifestyles.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

All policies with respect to the City Enrichment Fund have been adhered to.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Healthy & Safe Communities – Recreation and the Neighbourhood and Community Initiatives section has provided input into the development of this report and were represented on the City Enrichment Fund Evaluation Team.

Planning and Economic Development – The Business Development and Tourism and Culture section has provided input into the development of this report and was represented on the City Enrichment Fund Evaluation Team.

Public Works – The Policy and Programs section has provided input into the development of this report and was represented on the City Enrichment Fund Evaluation Team.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONAL FOR RECOMMENDATION

In 2019, there were 328 applications received for the following program areas: Arts; Communities Culture & Heritage (CCH); Community Services (CS); Sport and Active Lifestyles (SAL); Agriculture (AGR) and Environment (ENV) that requested \$9,056,976 in funding. Of that amount, \$6,065,890 (67%) has been recommended for funding.

Administration:

Staff continues to provide Organizational Development support and City Enrichment Fund Process workshops. As many of the applicant organizations are volunteer run, there is significant staff turnover each year, therefore the need exists to annually assist them with the application process. It is anticipated that this work will continue to strengthen community organizations' capability and sustainability.

Through the use of advertising and social media we strive to build the capacity of the newly and established organizations to engage the community in workshops, drop-ins and one-to one meetings. Staff works with the organizations to identify gaps and needs of the program areas, and provide guidance to develop and implement a funding model.

In the fall of 2018, staff co-ordinated:

1. Information Sessions to review program area Streams; Eligibility; Goals; Application Process and Budget
2. Drop-In Session providing an opportunity to meet with the Program Manager one-on-one to discuss specific application questions, budget questions, and to troubleshoot the online portal.
3. Provided communication through City of Hamilton staff liaisons to the following committees:
 - Access and Equity Committee; and
 - Business Improvement Advisory Committee

Staff will continue to reach out for intake of projects that promote diversity and inclusion and invest in the continuous improvement of the online application system, as well as provide training or other additional resources to the City Enrichment Fund applicants. Applicants are supported free of charge in areas that include but are not limited to:

- Organizational Development
- Succession Planning
- Business Plans
- Marketing Plans
- Outcome Measures

Staff applied the same funding model that was used in 2018, across all six program areas. A consistent funding formula further aligns the CEF program with best practices and addresses the identified objectives of the CEF including greater transparency and increased opportunity for new applicants.

Community Services:

The Community Services program area received 95 applications in 2019 and continues to support both established and emerging community programs. A total of 73 programs were recommended for funding in the Established Program stream (Categories A-G) and 14 programs were recommended for funding in the Emerging Needs and Program Innovation stream. Funding stability continues to be provided for established programs, while continuing to foster and incubate new and emerging programs. By supporting both established and emerging needs, funding from the Community Services stream the City of Hamilton continues to provide strategic and targeted investment in the local social safety net.

Agriculture:

The Agriculture Program received 18 applications for the 2019 intake. The Program had a slight shift in focus towards funding more programming and event related activities and away from operating. While the number of organizations applying to the Agriculture program declined slightly this year (by two from 2018), the pivot in the grant program will provide the opportunity for more and varied applications in the future. The quality of applications shows that organizational capacity is gaining and agricultural groups are continuing to pursue programming and events that celebrate, educate and provide impact to Hamilton's rural communities.

Arts:

The Arts program area received a total 88 applications, 31 of which are from new applicants, and continues to support innovative programming and projects from both established and emerging applicants. The arts sector continues to demonstrate need and growth, as our applicants present to growing audiences providing opportunities for all the people of Hamilton to enjoy and actively participate in the arts while enhancing social, economic and cultural prosperity.

The Arts program continues to adjudicate with an arms-length jury. This year, 6 separate adjudication teams reviewed all applications. Staff will continue to work directly with all applicants, successful and unsuccessful, to assist them to strengthen the responsiveness, effectiveness and accessibility of Hamilton's arts community.

Environment:

Ten applications for funding through the Environment Program area were received in 2019, an amount that is consistent with previous years. Of the 10 applications received, staff recommend 8 applications for funding because one funding request was withdrawn prior to adjudication and two applications from the same organization was merged into one application following adjudication.

Several environmental organizations were impacted by reductions in provincial funding for environmental initiatives, which has made it increasingly difficult for local organizations to secure matching project funds. The request for funds remains in line with the total amount of funding available through the Environment Program and some returning applicants have increased their requested amounts for their returning programs. This demonstrates the continued need for funding within the local environmental sector. Staff continue to engage with environmental organizations to increase awareness about funding opportunities available through the City Enrichment Fund and work with returning and potential applicants to ensure CEF continues to receive applications for high quality initiatives that will build the strength of Hamilton's environmental sector.

Communities, Culture & Heritage:

The Communities, Culture & Heritage program area received a total of 69 applications with 12 applications from new organizations and / or programs. The funding recommended supports both new and established cultural programming across the city. A number of returning applicants have achieved improved scores as they have worked with staff over the funding cycles in reviewing applications and in receiving adjudicator feedback. Staff will continue to work directly with all applicants, successful and unsuccessful, to assist them to strengthen the responsiveness, effectiveness and accessibility of Hamilton's cultural community.

Sport & Active Lifestyles:

In 2019, the Sport and Active Lifestyle program for the City Enrichment Fund, has continued to grow. Compared to last year this program received 25% more applications and 14% of those were from new organizations. The improved processes and direct work undertaken with individual organizations has increased the average scores of the applications and as such the grant allocated to the Sport and Active Lifestyle stream was used in its entirety. The demand for sport funding within the City of Hamilton is obvious and reflects the need for increased support.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

(Include Financial, Staffing, Legal and Policy Implications and Pros and Cons for each alternative)

Not Applicable.

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Economic Prosperity and Growth

Hamilton has a prosperous and diverse municipal economy where people have opportunities to grow and develop.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” to Report GRA19002: 2019 City Enrichment Fund

Appendix “B” to Report GRA19002: 2019 Application Summary

Appendix “C” to Report GRA19002: 2019 Payment Plan

Appendix “D” to Report GRA19002: 2019 Pending Applications