



CITY OF HAMILTON
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Economic Development Division

TO:	Mayor and Members General Issues Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	February 19, 2020
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council - Funding Agreement (PED20046) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Sarah Wayland (905) 546-2424 Ext. 7565
SUBMITTED BY: SIGNATURE:	Glen Norton Director, Economic Development Department Planning and Economic Development

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the City of Hamilton accept \$1,769,034 from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada for the purpose of supporting the Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council (HIPC) and continued implementation of HIPC's strategic plan and annual work plans over the next five fiscal years, from April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2025;
- (b) That the General Manager of the Planning and Economic Development Department be authorized to execute a new Grant Agreement between the City of Hamilton and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, subject to any amendments approved by the General Manager of Community Services and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks approval to receive \$1,769,034 from Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) as part of a new Grant Agreement for the period April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2025. This new funding arrangement will succeed a series of Contribution Agreements that funded the Hamilton Immigration Partnership Council (HIPC) from 2009 to March 31, 2020.

Alternatives for Consideration – N/A

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: Program funding will be provided by the Federal Government through IRCC totalling \$1,769,034. The funds will be paid by IRCC in five one-year grants beginning with \$328 K for the period April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021. Grants for the subsequent four years are \$346,682, \$359,521, \$364,901, and \$369,930. The Agreement stipulates that the City of Hamilton receive funding subject to an annual appropriation from Parliament for the purpose in which the grant is contemplated, and that IRCC may cancel or reduce the grant if IRCC funding levels are changed by Parliament.

As the contract holder with the Government of Canada, the City of Hamilton also provides in-kind support in the form of financial administration and supervision.

Staffing: The existing staffing complement of 3.0 FTEs (Senior Project Manager, Program and Policy Advisor, and Communications Associate) will be fully funded by the federal government, in accordance with the Grant Agreement.

Legal: Legal Services will review the final version of the new Grant Agreement.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

HIPC was established in January 2009 as a planning and advisory body dedicated to forging community partnerships to coordinate and enhance the delivery of local settlement services and support the integration of newcomers. The vision of the HIPC is “Hamilton that welcomes newcomers, celebrates diversity and is a place for everyone to call home”.

In its role of catalyst, convenor and collaborator, HIPC leads community-based planning to address the needs of immigrants. The multi-sector stakeholder Council of HIPC includes community leaders from settlement services, government, education, research, business, employment, housing, health and the Francophone community. HIPC consistently enjoys a high-level of attendance, participation and in-kind support from members.

The partnership is funded by the federal government through IRCC. The federal government has provided funding to HIPC in a series of annual or multi-year contribution agreements, most recently for the period April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2020. Hamilton City Council, at its meeting of April 25, 2018, approved Item 12.1 of Healthy and Safe Communities Committee, Report 18-004, (Report HSC18018) to transfer the

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resources of HIPC to the Economic Development Division of the Planning and Economic Development Department. This realignment provides for efficiencies to be gained from better integrating HIPC and Global Hamilton, and, incorporating other aspects of the City's global economic portfolio, under the Global Hamilton umbrella. Improved integration will help ensure that Hamilton benefits from the social, political, cultural and economic contributions of newcomers.

Since moving to Economic Development in 2018, HIPC has:

1. Released timely reports such as A Demographic Profile of Immigrants in Hamilton, Migration and Mobility in Hamilton (secondary migration data), and Exploring Informal Settlement Services in Hamilton;
2. Organized numerous community-focused events such as Newcomer Day, workshops for front-line service providers, and CommuniTea sessions that bring members of the public together to share immigration stories and learn about immigration;
3. Delivered presentations to community partners, potential investors, and local businesses about immigration trends in Hamilton and the local service landscape;
4. Promoted opportunities for City of Hamilton to mentor internationally-trained professionals, resulting in more than 50 city staff volunteering to be mentors across all city departments; and
5. Communicated the benefits of immigration to Hamilton through a growing social media presence and launch of its biweekly ImmPress newsletter. HIPC's social media presence continues to grow, with more than 1700 followers on Twitter and close to 300 Instagram followers. The HIPC website (www.hamiltonimmigration.ca) features HIPC research and local settlement and integration resources.

An overview of funding received by the City of Hamilton from the Federal Government to carry out the work of HIPC is as follows:

Fiscal Year	Funding Period	Amount Received
1	July 15, 2009-March 31, 2010	\$285,195
2	April 1, 2011-March 31, 2011	\$393,145
3	April 1, 2011-March 31, 2012	\$297,168
4	April 1, 2012-March 31, 2013	\$260,311
5	April 1, 2013-March 31, 2014	\$261,266
6	April 1, 2014-March 31, 2015	\$246,818

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7	April 1, 2015-March 31, 2016	\$237,500
8	April 1, 2016-March 31, 2017	\$237,500
9	April 1, 2017-March 31, 2018	\$294,699
10	April 1, 2018-March 31, 2019	\$320,315
11	April 1, 2019-March 31, 2020	\$320,000
12	April 1, 2020-March 31, 2021	\$328,000
13	April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022	\$346,682
14	April 1, 2022-March 31, 2023	\$359,521
15	April 1, 2023-March 31, 2024	\$364,901
16	April 1, 2024-March 31, 2025	\$369,930
	Total Federal Government Funding	\$4,922,951

The new Agreement with IRCC totals \$1,769,034 and will cover the period April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2025. The Agreement is unprecedented in being the longest agreement entered into for HIPC and also that it will take the form of a Grant rather than a Contribution Agreement. Graduation to a Grant Agreement shows confidence by the Federal Government in HIPC and the City of Hamilton and is based on a track record of quality projects and responsible fiscal stewardship. Implementation of activities for 2020-2025 will be guided by HIPC's current and future strategic plans and laid out in annual work plans.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

Acceptance of this funding from IRCC will have no direct effect on corporate policies.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

The Grant Agreement will be reviewed by the Corporate Services Department, Legal Services Division and Finance and Administration.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Immigration to Hamilton continues across all immigration categories (economic class, family class, and refugees), with migration of newcomers from other parts of the province now outpacing direct immigration to Hamilton. Approximately 3,000 to 4,000 newcomers arrive in Hamilton each year, not including international students and temporary workers. As newcomers seek to settle in their new country, they above all look for economic opportunities, availability of services and welcoming communities.

Hamilton has a long history of welcoming immigrants, but our City has been challenged by its high incidence of hate crimes. There is also evidence of continued polarization of views across Canada on immigration and diversity, some of which is being fuelled by the current political climate outside of Canada.

Employment is a top priority for most newcomers and families, yet finding work continues to be a challenge for many. Newcomers often lack the social and professional networks that can help connect them to employment opportunities. Finding adequate and affordable housing is a growing challenge in Hamilton. Through its own responsibilities as a major employer, housing provider, and as a significant influencer of public opinion, the Municipal government has a distinct leadership and managerial role to play in making Hamilton a more welcoming community.

As with the rest of Canada, immigration is key to Hamilton's future growth and prosperity. How that growth occurs, how immigrants and new Canadians are received into the community, and how these individuals and family integrate and adapt, will have a direct influence on Hamilton's trajectory.

As a community table supported by the City of Hamilton and the Federal Government, HIPC that brings together key stakeholders who share information about immigration and settlement on the ground and take action to directly affect newcomers. For example, HIPC launched an Employment and Language Task Force in 2019 that is working to better connect employers to newcomer talent and to fill local labour market needs. HIPC has worked with multiple community partners to create timely, publicly accessible research to inform local programming and service delivery. HIPC has initiated public education campaigns such as "Hamilton For All" and launched an annual Newcomer Day to celebrate newcomers, showcase services and promote citizenship. Over the past year, HIPC has been an active member of the "No Hate in the Hammer" coalition.

Over the years, HIPC's partners have leveraged millions of dollars in in-kind and financial resources to carry out the work of HIPC. HIPC is a champion and facilitator in connecting community partners and institutions throughout the city and supporting them in working together to ensure the successful settlement and integration of Hamilton's newcomers. Much progress has been made, but needs are great and continued efforts along these lines are necessary components of a prosperous, safe, and growing city.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

N/A

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Economic Prosperity and Growth

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

Culture and Diversity

Hamilton is a thriving, vibrant place for arts, culture, and heritage where diversity and inclusivity are embraced and celebrated.

Healthy and Safe Communities

Hamilton is a safe and supportive City where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

N/A

SW:dt