





**CITY OF HAMILTON**  
**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE**  
**Government Relations and Community Engagement Division**  
**and**  
**PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**  
**Tourism and Culture Division**

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members Grants Sub-Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	May 9, 2022
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	2021 City Enrichment Funding Recommendations (GRA21002(a)/PED22122) (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Diedre Rozema (905) 546-2424 Ext. 4517
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>  <b>SIGNATURE:</b>	Morgan Stahl Director, Government Relations and Community Engagement Corporate Initiatives  
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>  <b>SIGNATURE:</b>	Carrie Brooks-Joiner Director, Tourism and Culture Planning and Economic Development Department  

**RECOMMENDATION**

- (a) That 2021 grant recipients in the Arts Creation and Presentation stream be given a project deadline extension until November 1, 2022 pending the receipt of a written request for said extension by the recipient to the Arts Program Manager by June 30, 2022.
- (b) That any 2021 grant recipients in the Arts Creation and Presentation stream who have withdrawn approved applications and returned surplus funds to the City of Hamilton be eligible to reactivate their project and be given a project deadline extension until November 1, 2022 pending the receipt of a written request for said extension by the recipient to the Arts Program Manager by June 30, 2022.

**SUBJECT: 2021 City Enrichment Funding Recommendations  
(GRA21002(a)/PED22122) (City Wide)**

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Mayor's Task Force on Economic Recovery noted that the local cultural sector is one of the most negatively impacted by the pandemic. Planned programs and projects in 2021, approved for funding through the City Enrichment Fund (CEF) continued to feel the effects of previous health restrictions prohibiting live performances, limits on audience size, facility closures and ongoing supply chain pressures. As a result, the scope of projects changed and project budgets modified accordingly.

City Enrichment Fund final reports submitted by grant recipients continue to show a high number of Arts grant recipients that are required to repay funds to the City of Hamilton as a portion of the funds they received are deemed "surplus". Surplus funds are defined by CEF policies to be City of Hamilton investment in excess of 30% of an applicant's final eligible project expenses in the calendar year.

The Report Recommendations apply to one-time projects in the Arts Creation and Presentation stream. Organizations receiving annual funding for reoccurring projects or events are unaffected by the Report Recommendations. Eight projects in the Arts Creation and Presentation stream have been identified as potential candidates for the proposed extension. The proposed extension of the project completion date will provide the opportunity and option for these grant recipients to successfully complete their projects and utilize the previously approved grants.

**Alternatives for Consideration - Not Applicable**

**FINANCIAL - STAFFING - LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

**Financial:** There is no additional cost to the City of Hamilton. With a one-time deadline extension, surplus funds from Arts Creation and Presentation are estimated to be net zero. Recipients will be able to continue and or complete their projects resulting in the incursion of additional expenses, thereby eliminating any funds owing to the City of Hamilton. If after the extension, grant recipients are still unable to complete their proposals by November 1, 2022 or do not submit their final reports per CEF existing requirements, recipients would be required to return funds.

**Staffing:** N/A

**Legal:** N/A

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

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OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.  
OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.  
OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

**SUBJECT: 2021 City Enrichment Funding Recommendations  
(GRA21002(a)/PED22122) (City Wide)**

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In 2020, due to the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic, CEF funding was approved through a phased approach. Applicants indicated that their programming had no change, had to be modified or was cancelled outright. The approach was considered successful and allowed recipients, who, where possible, developed innovative ways to conduct programming. Following Council approvals, many recipients continued to modify and or cancel programs in response to the pressures of the pandemic, resulting in changes to overall budgets.

As per CEF guidelines, all recipients were required to submit final reports on February 1, 2022 to ensure that funds were spent in accordance with CEF guidelines. An increase in organizations holding “surplus” funds were identified and recipients informed. In May 2021, the Grants Sub-Committee approved project extensions for 14 projects in the Arts Creation and Presentation stream and three projects in the Arts and Communities Culture and Heritage Capacity Building streams that were not completed within the 2020 calendar year. The affected projects were all successfully completed and final reports were submitted by the extended deadline of October 31, 2021.

During the 2021 funding year, applicants continued to indicate when their CEF funded projects, programs or events were cancelled or modified due to the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and overall budgets were adjusted accordingly. All 2021 recipients were required to submit final reports on February 1, 2022. The number of organizations holding “surplus” funds has not continued to increase, indicating that the approach has been successful. However, a high proportion of grant recipients in the Arts Creation and Presentation stream continue to describe that project implementation was significantly delayed or altered due to implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS**

The Recommendations provide an exemption to CEF policy requiring all projects to be completed within the calendar year. All other CEF policies have been maintained.

**RELEVANT CONSULTATION**

**External**

- Arts Creation and Presentation grant recipients in the 2021 funding cycle

**Internal**

- City Manager, City Manager’s Office
- General Manager, Planning and Economic Development Department

**SUBJECT: 2021 City Enrichment Funding Recommendations  
(GRA21002(a)/PED22122) (City Wide)**

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- Director, Government Relations and Community Engagement Division, City Manager's Office
- Director, Tourism and Culture Division, Planning and Economic Development Department

**ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION**

**One-time Projects Affected by the Recommendations**

The 14 projects in the Arts Creation and Presentation stream and three projects in the Arts and Communities Culture and Heritage Capacity Building streams funded in 2020 were given a project extension until November 1, 2021. The extension of the project completion date provided the opportunity for these grant recipients to successfully complete their projects and utilize the previously approved grants.

Multiple recipients in the Arts Creation and Presentation stream have again expressed a preference to complete their projects as planned. Factors related to the ongoing pandemic continue to cause significant delays and prevent recipients from implementing their projects within their originally anticipated timelines. The Recommendations maximize the opportunity for successful completion of approved projects by extending the project completion deadline.

Arts Creation and Presentation is a one-time project stream. As applicants can only apply to these streams every two years, recipients of 2021 funding are not eligible for funding in 2022, thus allowing the project deadline to be extended without any overlap in financial contribution from the City of Hamilton.

**Annually Funded Organizations with Amounts Owing to the City of Hamilton Unaffected by the Recommendations**

Project extensions for annually funded organizations would create overlap in financial contribution from the City of Hamilton. Up to 16 recipients funded in 2020 in the Arts Operating; Arts Festivals; Communities, Culture and Heritage Events and Established Activities and Communities, Culture and Heritage New Projects streams were identified as having received "surplus" funding. These recipients were not eligible to receive a project extension in 2021; their original eligible grant funding was reduced due to lower overall eligible expenses and staff requested that "surplus" funds be returned to the City of Hamilton.

Following this approach, annually funded organizations with amounts owing to the City of Hamilton from 2021 will not be eligible to receive a project extension and will be unaffected by the Recommendations of this report. As "surplus" funds are identified and

**SUBJECT: 2021 City Enrichment Funding Recommendations  
(GRA21002(a)/PED22122) (City Wide)**

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confirmed, these recipients will be asked to return “surplus” funds in accordance with the Council approved CEF Repayment Plan.

**ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION**

N/A

**ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 - 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN**

**Community Engagement and Participation**

Hamilton has an open, transparent and accessible approach to City government that engages with and empowers all citizens to be involved in their community

**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.

**APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

N/A

DR:ac