

CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

General Issues Committee: April 15, 2026

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR T. MCMEEKIN.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR

Flamborough Connects

WHEREAS, Flamborough Connects is a registered charity proudly providing free and low-cost Seniors Service and Community Service to residents of Flamborough. We serve residents who may be geographically isolated, socially isolated, vulnerable, physically challenged, financially disadvantaged or new to Flamborough, encouraging them to be engaged, active and empowered;

WHEREAS, the Flamborough Connects' free Income Tax Program supports low income Flamborough residents by providing no-cost tax preparation and filing for individuals earning under \$40,000 and couples under \$55,000 with simple tax situations;

WHEREAS; many of the people served rely solely on Canada Pension Plan (CPP) and Old Age Security (OAS), often living on less than \$20,000 annually – some on under \$10,000 – making the cost and complexity of filing a significant barrier;

WHEREAS, by partnering with the Canada Revenue Agency's Community Volunteer Income Tax Program, we help residents remain compliant while ensuring they can access critical benefits such as GST and Trillium rebates, the Guaranteed Income Supplement, the Canadian Dental Care Plan, and maintain eligibility for subsidized housing;

WHEREAS, with the average Canadian spending \$130 annually to file taxes, this program removes a financial and technological barrier for vulnerable residents, many of whom do not have internet access or the ability to file independently;

WHEREAS, the program is entirely offered by trained volunteers;

WHEREAS, the program value to low-income Flamborough residents is estimated at 200 returns costing an average of \$130 saving the residents \$26,000 and the total benefits claimed by clients are estimated at \$688,595.75; and,

WHEREAS, the Ward 15 Community Council has reviewed and unanimously supported grant funding for this project.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That a grant be provided to Flamborough Connects for their Income tax Program and funded from the Ward 15 Non Property Tax Revenue Account (3301609615) at an upset limit, including contingency, not to exceed \$11,500 to support this clinic; and,
- (b) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to approve and execute all required agreements and ancillary documents, with such terms and conditions in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.