

Subject: Grants for Non-Profits
To: Council
From: Chief Administrative Office

Report Number: 2022-41

Meeting Date: February 22, 2022

Recommendation:

That Chief Administrative Office Report 2022-41 be received; and

That Council approve the community grant requests totalling \$27,751 for the first allocation of community grants for 2022 as follows:

\$3,600	Community Living Port Colborne-Wainfleet
\$1,500	Friends of Roselawn
\$4,500	Niagara Health Foundation
\$13,001	POCOMAR
\$2,150	Port Colborne Feline Initiative
\$3,000	Women's Place of South Niagara Inc.

Purpose:

To seek Council's approval for the 2022 first allocation of grants to non-profit organizations.

Background:

In 2015, Council passed By-law 6317/143/15 establishing a Grant Policy Committee whose purpose is to oversee the distribution of grants to non-profit organizations.

In accordance with the Grant Policy, applications are received twice a year – January 31st and June 30th. Applications are reviewed by the Grant Policy Committee and recommendations are to be brought forward to Council for final approval.

Discussion:

On January 31st, six applications for funding were received. The Grant Policy Committee members were provided with copies of these applications for review and a meeting was held on February 7, 2022. It was noted in reviewing these applications, that several of the organizations had been unable to complete their regular fundraising efforts in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and were reaching out to the City for the first time in many years.

The following recommendation was made by the committee:

That grant requests for a total of \$27,751 be approved for the first allocation of grants for 2022 as follows:

\$3,600 Community Living Port Colborne-Wainfleet for 30 young people to attend a 2-day peer-led conference called TORCH, which is for young people who have intellectual disabilities, that focuses on giftedness, community building and social justice. This will also cover the cost of 2 TORCH facilitators and 2 adult chaperones. Community Living is partnering with Jericho House, a youth leadership, social & ecological justice centre in Wainfleet. If less than 30 young people are registered, their fees will be pro-rated back to the City.

\$1,500 Friends of Roselawn for the purchase of resources to create a permanent, sustainable community arts centre that stimulates and helps coordinate the development of the visual, literary, performing and heritage arts within the local community, with a focus on the heritage arts for the 2022 workshops.

\$4,500 Niagara Health Foundation for the purchase of a bariatric shower chair called the Revive Bariatric Shower Commode. This piece of equipment has been requested by the staff at Port Colborne Hospital to support their capacity to care for patients.

\$13,001 POCOMAR to upgrade and replace their AED, leads, pads and accessories; purchase new lights, a tow line and first aid equipment.

\$2,150 Port Colborne Feline Initiative to ensure 10 cats (5 male and 5 female) are treated under the Trap-Neuter-Vaccinate-Return Program and assistance for 10 cats (5 male and 5 female) under the Spay Neuter Assistance Program which provides a \$30 voucher to families experiencing financial challenges or living on a fixed income to have their cat vaccinated, spayed or neutered.

\$3,000 Women's Place of South Niagara Inc. to provide safe emergency shelter, food and basic needs for women and their children escaping domestic violence, as well as funds to support the 24-hour support line for safety planning and support, including virtual counselling, legal and housing support.

Financial Implications:

Council approved \$36,000 for grants in the 2022 budget and there is also a reserve of \$13,500 from unused funds in 2020 and 2021.

Public Engagement

The public was notified of the availability of grants through the City's website, as well as the December 2021/January 2022 edition of City Hall News.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

The initiative contained within this report supports the following pillar of the strategic plan:

- People: Supporting and Investing in Human Capital
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Conclusion:

With funds available in the 2022 budget, staff are recommending that Council approve the first 2022 allocation of grants as recommended by the Grant Policy Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Giles
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Staff Liaison to the Grant Policy Committee
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Report Approval:

All reports reviewed and approved by the Department Director and also the City Treasurer when relevant. Final review and approval by the Chief Administrative Officer.