

Subject: Grants for Non-Profits

To: Council

From: Chief Administrative Office

Report Number: 2021-79

Meeting Date: March 8, 2021

Recommendation:

That Chief Administrative Office Department Report 2021-79 be received; and

That the following grants for non-profits be approved for the first allocation of 2021 grants:

\$5,200 Community Living Port Colborne-Wainfleet

\$1,200 Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum

\$2,300 Port Colborne Lions Club

\$1,525 Royal Canadian Legion Branch

\$4,000 The Evening Optimist Club of Port Colborne Inc.

\$3,000 Women's Place of South Niagara Inc.

\$3,000 Niagara Health Foundation

Purpose:

To seek Council's approval for the 2021 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 February 1st, 2021 (January 31st being a Sunday) seven applications for funding were received and found to be in order. The Grant Policy Committee members were provided with copies of these applications for review and a meeting was held on February 18th.

The following recommendation was made by the committee:

That grant requests for a total of \$20,225 be approved for the first allocation of 2021 as follows:

- \$5,200 Community Living Port Colborne-Wainfleet to create and facilitate virtual online leisure and recreational activities for children who have intellectual disabilities
- \$1,200 Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum Auxiliary to support a community reach-out project involving tapestry kits to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the Village of Port Colborne
- \$2,300 Port Colborne Lions Club to purchase a new hot water tank, remove the brick chimney and repair the roof at the Lions Community Centre
- \$1,525 Royal Canadian Legion Branch 56 to purchase a new computer and printer for record keeping and communications with members and the community
- \$4,000 The Evening Optimist Club of Port Colborne Inc. to maintain the viability of the club during the pandemic by assisting with on-going operating expenses (rent, storage) as fundraising activities in 2020 and 2021 have been cancelled.
- \$3,000 Women's Place of South Niagara Inc. to maintain the existing level of emergency shelter, programs and services. The pandemic has created significant stress for families and the shelter occupancy rates are at an all-time high.
- \$3,000 Niagara Health Foundation to purchase a lift and transfer device called The Rifton Tram for use at the Port Colborne Hospital Site.

Financial Implications:

Council approved \$36,000 for grants in the 2021 budget. There is also \$12,250 held in reserves from 2020.

Public Engagement:

The public was notified of the availability of grants through the City's website, as well as the December edition of City Hall News and a media release on January 13, 2021.

Conclusion:

With funds available in the 2021 budget, staff are recommending that Council approve the 2021 first allocation of grants as recommended by the Grant Policy Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Giles
Executive Administrative Assistant
Staff Liaison to the Grant Policy Committee
905-835-2900 Ext 301
nancy.giles@portcolborne.ca

Report Approval:

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