



**Subject: Canada Community Revitalization Fund – Amending Agreement**

**To: Council**

**From: Office of the Chief Administrative Officer**

Report Number: 2023-53

Meeting Date: March 28, 2022

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### **Recommendation:**

That Office of the Chief Administrative Officer – Economic Development & Tourism Services Division – Report 2023-53 be received; and

That the Mayor and Acting City Clerk be authorized to execute the revised amending agreement with the Federal Development Agency for Southern Ontario for the Canada Community Revitalization Fund.

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### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the revised amending agreement for the Canada Community Revitalization Fund.

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### **Background:**

At the February 14<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, Report 2023-03 updated Council on the status of the waterfront centre project and a one-year extension for the Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF) received through the Federal Development Agency for Southern Ontario (FedDev Ontario). The report also sought authorization to have the Mayor and Acting City Clerk execute any further amendments between the City of Port Colborne and FedDev Ontario to the CCRF agreement.

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## **Discussion:**

A copy of the amending agreement was mistakenly omitted from Report 2023-03. Staff apologize for this omission. The amending agreement that would have been added as an appendix item to this report was dated December 16, 2022. Staff have worked with FedDev Ontario to have this amending agreement revised. FedDev Ontario proceeded to review the removal of two of the five activities listed under the Activities section of Schedule 1 (Statement of Work): a) phase two architectural plan & design, and b) site servicing, phase two engineering consulting, and site remediation.

Staff's request to remove these two activities was made on the basis that the waterfront centre project would be rescope and six guiding principles would take precedence over building construction. Put another way, with the waterfront centre being shifted to a future date or time period, activities tied to the second phase of the architectural and engineering planning process no longer required completion in 2023-24. Site remediation was listed twice and consequently removed for this reason.

Staff did not receive the revised amending agreement until March 16, 2023. Besides the above-noted revision to the Activities section of Schedule 1, the only other revisions made by FedDev Ontario were the addition of a new clause (section 4. General - 4.7 No modification, supplement or amendment to this Amending Agreement shall be binding unless executed in writing by all of the Parties hereto) and updated Project Costs & Financing.

The federal government is still supporting the project with a \$750,000 non-repayable contribution, and the City of Port Colborne is still required to contribute \$250,000. The City of Port Colborne's share is being supported by the Vale Community Improvement Fund. The updated Project Costs & Financing section reflects a reweighed allocation of capital and non-capital costs as well as a reallocation of funds by fiscal year to account for the one-year extension.

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## **Internal Consultations:**

The Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Tourism & Strategic Project Coordinator regularly consult with and inform the CAO, Director of Corporate Services/Treasurer, and Director of Public Works about the waterfront centre project.

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## **Financial Implications:**

The one-year CCRF extension, through the revised amending agreement, allows the City and the federal government to continue this important project partnership into the 2023-24 fiscal year and share costs (e.g., architectural services, other professional fees, and the first phase of site remediation) associated with the remaining \$512,119 balance.

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## Public Engagement:

Concerning the rescoped waterfront project, staff intend to engage the public and solicit community feedback through in-person information sessions and virtual consultation during Q2 2023.

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## Strategic Plan Alignment:

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

- Attracting Business Investment and Tourists to Port Colborne
  - City-Wide Investments in Infrastructure and Recreational/Cultural Spaces
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## Conclusion:

The purpose of this report was to provide Council with the revised amending agreement for the Canada Community Revitalization Fund. FedDev Ontario revised an earlier version of the amending agreement (dated December 16, 2022) and sent a new version on March 16, 2023. Authorization to execute the revised amending agreement will allow the City and the federal government to continue partnering on the rescoped waterfront centre project.

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## Appendices:

- a. City of Port Colborne CCRF Amending Agreement

Respectfully submitted,

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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.