

External Briefing Note

Subject: Community Building Fund – Capital Stream

To: Mayor and Council

From: Olga Lawton, Lead of Corporate Strategy

Reviewed by: Shawn Nastke, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (acting)

Dan Buttineau, Director of Community Services

Date: September 22, 2021

Briefing:

Ontario Trillium Foundation opens Community Building Fund - Capital Stream

The Ontario Trillium Foundation opened the Community Building Fund – Capital Stream on September 1, 2021 with the application submission deadline being September 29, 2021. This program is designed to help municipalities fund the repair, renovation or retrofit of existing sport and recreation facilities to address the following:

- extending the life and maximizing the use of existing facilities (e.g. playgrounds, splash pads, etc.) OR
- COVID-19 related public health requirements to support future preparedness

Senior Management Team has identified a playground repair initiative (multiple locations) as the best option

The Senior Management Team met on September 13 to discuss funding application ideas. The project believed to be the best option for this funding application is the repair and/or replacement of various playgrounds across the municipality. A playground rehabilitation initiative is already being proposed through the 2022 budget process to address aging playground infrastructure incorporating the installation of accessible (AODA) features. Therefore, the project aligns well with next year's business plan and should the grant funding be received, would allow the Town to add additional playground repairs/replacements to the 2022 initiative.

The funding program will cover up-to 80% of the eligible project costs

The program will cover up-to 80% of the eligible project costs to a maximum of \$500,000. In this regard, staff are suggesting that we submit an application that would propose an overall project cost of up-to \$625,000 with \$500,000 (80%) to be covered by the grant funding and \$125,000 (20%) to be funded by the Town.

Recommendations

Staff are requesting that Council approve the following recommendations in the interest of ensuring the Town meets the program timelines and maximizes potential funding opportunities.

- 1. That Council receive this briefing note (Community Building Fund Capital Stream dated September 22, 2021);
- 2. That Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to submit a funding application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation under the Community Building Fund Capital Stream on or before September 29, 2021;
- 3. That Council pre-approve up-to \$125,000 in the 2022 budget for playground rehabilitation, funded through the Parks Repair and Replacement Reserve;
- 4. That Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to determine the exact funding to be applied for, provided the Town's share does not exceed \$125,000;
- 5. That staff advise Council of the outcome of the application.