

COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

From: Corporate Services

Date: September 11, 2023

Subject: Grant Applications – Arena Slab and Energy Upgrades Project

RECOMMENDATION:

Resolution #1

THAT Council supports the District's application to the South Peace Mackenzie Trust (SPMTrust) Program for the Arena Slab and Energy Upgrades Project;

AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the grant application, and if the application is successful, any related documentation.

Resolution #2

THAT Council supports the District's application to Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) Recreation Infrastructure Program for the Arena Slab and Energy Upgrades Project;

AND THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute the grant application, and if the application is successful, any related documentation.

BACKGROUND:

In January 2023, the District of Mackenzie (District) received funding approval from the Government of Canada's Green and Inclusive Community Buildings (GICB) program for the Mackenzie Recreation Centre – Energy Recover and Facility Upgrades project in the amount of \$2,395,753, with a District contribution of \$598,939.

This project involves the replacement of the arena slab as well as other green initiatives such as heat pump and new solar panel array. The original application for the grant program was submitted two years ago in 2021. Staff expect that the inflation of costs over this period could lead to cost overruns that are not reflected in the original GICB application budget. This means the project could cost the District more than the \$598,939 than originally budgeted.



Staff recommend applying for additional grant funding to minimize possible cost overruns for this project. The grant funds identified are the South Peace Mackenzie Trust (SPMTrust), and the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT).

GRANT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

The SPMTrust grant provides up to \$250,000 per project. The SPMTrust requires that the applicant provides at least \$1 in matching funds for every \$3 granted by the SPMTrust for the first \$50,000 of a project, and \$1 for each additional \$1 beyond that. With 80% of our total project funding provided by the GICB grant, we will satisfy these requirements.

The NDIT Recreation Infrastructure Program is a grant for the construction, rehabilitation, or material enhancement of recreational infrastructure, excluding routine maintenance. The program awards grants of up to \$100,000 to a maximum of 70% of the eligible project budget; or up to a \$300,000 grant to a maximum of 50% of the eligible project budget. The program supports recreational infrastructure that encourages resident attraction and retention, along with increased opportunities for recreation and sports tourism. With 80% of our total project funding provided by the GICB grant, we will satisfy the eligible project budget requirement for the \$300,000 grant.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

Any additional grant funding would possibly reduce the District's contribution of \$598,939.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Community and Social Development

- Our investment in the municipality's services and infrastructure, our commitment to principles of social equity and well-being, and our belief in the value of resident engagement, creates a healthy community in which everyone feels valued and enjoys a high quality of life.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Terry Gilmer, Director of Recreation Services

Reviewed By: Corporate and Financial Services

Approved By: Chief Administrative Officer