

COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

From: Administration

Date: April 17, 2024

Subject: Community Grants – March 2024 First In-Take

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council approves the recommendations of the Grant Adjudication Committee for the first intake of the 2024 Community Grants Program as outlined in this report.

BACKGROUND:

The District of Mackenzie has adopted a Community Grants Policy (3.16) to provide financial and in-kind support to community organizations. This support is in recognition of these groups as a valuable resource in assisting the municipality to provide a strong community focus. Many of these non-profit organizations depend on the grants that are provided by the District to help subsidize costs and maintain their viability within the community. In accordance with Policy 3.16, each application was reviewed and scored using the weighted evaluation criteria outlined below:

- Community Need – 20%
- Potential Community Benefit – 20%
- Community Partnerships & Support – 15%
- Feasibility – 15%
- Public Access – 10%
- Financial Management – 20%

SUMMARY OF IN-TAKE REQUESTS

2024 Community Grants Budget	\$	200,000.00
Sept. 15, 2023 - Intake Approved	\$	135,371.50
One-Off Donation Approvals	\$	11,690.00
Mackenzie Nordiques Groomer Use (carry-over)	\$	6,500.00
March 15, 2024 - Committee Approved	\$	46,218.39
Total	\$	193,279.89
2024 Budget Remaining	\$	220.11



A copy of the Grant Adjudication Committee's agenda with the original grant applications is in the Centre Table file for Council's consideration. Attached to this report is a summary of the March 15, 2024 grant requests and Grant Adjudication Committee recommendations.

APPLICATIONS OF NOTE:

Two applications were received from the Mackenzie & District Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Store and the Mackenzie & District Museum for rental subsidies for their new locations within the community. The request total was \$31,800 in 2024.

With these two requests, the community grants budget was over-subscribed. The Committee is recommending these requests be considered separately and funded through other sources to ensure all tenants being required to leave the Ernie Bodin Community Centre facility are being given equitable support with their transition to new spaces this year.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

\$46,218.39 would be allocated from the 2024 Community Grants Budget.

\$31,800 would be funded through current year surplus to support the Mackenzie & District Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Store and Mackenzie & District Museum's requests for 2024. The subsequent year's rental subsidy contributions would come from the Community Grants budgets in 2025, 2026, and 2027.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Strong Governance and Finances

- As the municipality's elected governing body, we serve all residents and businesses in the community. We engage residents and stakeholders on important issues and make our decisions through open and transparent processes. We are careful in our use of resources, mindful of the need to maintain programs and services, while also meeting the community's infrastructure needs.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Emily Kaehn, Director of Corporate Services

Reviewed By: Corporate and Financial Services

Approved By: Chief Administrative Officer