

Municipality Of Chatham-Kent

Chief Administrative Office

Corporate Initiatives

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Amy Wilcox, FCPA, FCMA, PMP
Manager, Corporate Initiatives

Date: March 2, 2021

Subject: Together CK Grant - 2021 Funding Recommendations

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. Two applications, as endorsed by the Together CK Review Committee, be approved under the “Significant Events” component for a total of \$36,500 in funding against gross project costs of \$97,260.
2. Eleven applications, as endorsed by the Together CK Review Committee, be approved under the “Community Events” component for a total of \$51,000 in funding against gross project costs of \$240,120.
3. Seventeen applications, as endorsed by the Together CK Review Committee, be approved under the “Community Projects” component for a total of \$135,250 in funding against gross project costs of \$405,217.

Background

The Community Partnership Fund (CPF) was established by Council in 2000. It is a grant program which uses matching funding to promote community development projects within Chatham-Kent. The name of the grant program was changed to Together CK in 2019. The annual grant program consists of two components – Community Projects and Festivals & Events. Since its inception in 2000, the grant program has leveraged over \$4 million in municipal investment into over \$17 million worth of community development projects, including the events referred to in this report. This has encouraged widespread civic engagement and community improvement.

Comments

The 2021 round of the Together CK Event Grant opened in early September. The application deadline for events was set for November 5, 2020.

The Together CK Community Grant opened in early October. The application deadline for community projects was set for December 3, 2020.

The Together CK Review Committee evaluated each application against CK Plan 2035 Areas of Strategic Focus and the grant guidelines and priorities. The Review Committee proceeded on the assumption it had the following amounts for distribution.

- Significant events: \$100,000
- Community events: \$75,000
- Community projects: \$200,000

Events

Twenty applications for event funding were received.

Significant Events

Three applications were submitted for “significant event”. The three significant event applications requested \$46,500 in funding towards total project costs of over \$150,000. One significant event application was not eligible for funding as the application exceeded the 25% in-kind limit. The event was considered a core business of the applicant and the committee deemed the application ineligible as the application expenses were considered operating expenses for the applicant.

Community Events

Seventeen applications are classified as “community events”. One event submitted is not eligible for funding, as it is a fund-raising event, and fund-raising events are not eligible per the grant guidelines. The community events applications requested a total of \$69,850 in funding towards project costs of over \$670,000.

Of the remaining 16 community event applications, only 11 applications are eligible for funding. There are five events not eligible for funding as the in-kind limit of 25% was exceeded. This violates the grant guideline of contributions of in-kind cannot exceed 25%.

The application for the Erieau Community Association, Boulevard of Dreams event was removed from consideration. The event was cancelled by the event organizer. The grant administrator was notified on March 3rd of the event cancellation.

Community Projects

Twenty applications for community project funding were received. The 20 applications requested a total of \$98,872 in funding towards project costs in excess of \$507,000.

Of the 20 applications, only 17 applications are eligible for funding. The three applications that are not eligible for funding:

- One application was not eligible as the project was to fund operating expenses which violates the grant guidelines

- Two applications were not eligible as the in-kind limit of 25% was exceeded and this violates the grant guideline of contributions of in-kind cannot exceed 25%

Deliberations

The pandemic and social distancing guidelines resulted in a different format for reviewing the 2021 applications. As there was enough grant funding to recommend all eligible applications for a grant, the grant committee chairperson elected to have committee members review the applications on their own. If they had any issues with an application, they were to contact the review committee chair and the grant administrator of their concerns. Any concerns were discussed with the committee via email and voting was used to determine the outcome of this report. Majority votes determined the recommendations.

Areas of Strategic Focus and Critical Success Factors

The recommendations in this report support the following areas of strategic focus:

- Economic Prosperity:

Chatham-Kent is an innovative and thriving community with a diversified economy

- A Healthy and Safe Community:

Chatham-Kent is a healthy and safe community with sustainable population growth

- People and Culture:

Chatham-Kent is recognized as a culturally vibrant, dynamic, and creative community

- Environmental Sustainability:

Chatham-Kent is a community that is environmentally sustainable and promotes stewardship of our natural resources

The recommendations in this report support the following critical success factors:

- Financial Sustainability:

The Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is financially sustainable

- Open, Transparent and Effective Governance:

The Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent is open, transparent and effectively governed with efficient and bold, visionary leadership

- Has the potential to support all areas of strategic focus & critical success factors

- Neutral issues (does not support negatively or positively)

Consultation

These recommendations were reviewed and are supported by the CPF Review Committee. The CPF Review Committee consists of citizen representatives and municipal staff members.

The staff members are:

1. Manager, Corporate Initiatives, Chief Administrative Office – Amy Wilcox
2. Manager, Chatham-Kent Library Services, Community Human Services – Cassey Beauvais
3. Manager, Data & Integration, Information Technology & Transformation – Erica Hoppe
4. Supervisor, Tourism – Shannon Paiva
5. Planner II, Planning Services, Community Development – Greg Houston
6. Budget Analyst, Finance, Budget and Information Services – Hayley Wilbur

The citizen representatives are:

1. Mike Lowther - Committee Chairperson
2. Janet Barnes
3. Libby Passmore
4. Marlee Robinson
5. Fannie Vavoulis

Financial Implications

The financial implications of the recommendations made in this report are fully discussed in the comments section above.

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:

Amy Wilcox, FCPA, FCMA, PMP
Manager, Corporate Initiatives

Don Shropshire
Chief Administrative Officer

C: The Together CK Grant Review Committee

Attachments:

- Appendix A: “Significant Events” Recommended for Funding
- Appendix B: “Significant Events” Not Recommended for Funding
- Appendix C: “Community Events” Recommended for Funding
- Appendix D: “Community Events” Not Recommended for Funding Due to In-Kind
- Appendix E: “Community Events” Not Recommended – Fund Raising Event

Appendix F: "Community Projects" Recommended for Funding

Appendix G: "Community Projects" Not Recommended for Funding Due to In-Kind

Appendix H: "Community Project" Not Recommended – Eligible Application – Operating Expense

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Appendix A: "Significant Events" Recommended for Funding

Organization	Event Name	Requested	Event Cost	Grant Recommended
Retrofest	Retrofest	\$11,500	\$47,760	\$11,500
Wallaceburg Antique Motor Boat and Outing	Wallaceburg Antique Motor Boat and Outing (WAMBO)	\$25,000	\$86,000	\$25,000
	Totals	\$36,500	\$133,760	\$36,500

Appendix B: "Significant Events" Not Recommended for Funding – Due to Operating Expense

Organization	Event Name	Requested	Event Cost
The Mary Webb Cultural and Community Centre	Continuance of the Performance Centre, Art Gallery, Social Hub events	\$10,000	\$17,000
	Totals	\$10,000	\$17,000

Appendix C: “Community Events” Recommended for Funding

Organization	Event Name	Requested	Event Cost	Grant Rec.
Blenheim BIA with the Friends of Blenheim	Festival of Lights-Light Up Our Neighbourhood	\$5,000	\$114,120	\$5,000
Chatham-Kent Gay Pride Association	Pride in CK	\$5,000	\$20,500	\$5,000
Dresden Rotary Club	Summer Concert Series	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$5,000
East Kent Celebrates Committee	Monthly Music Concerts 2021	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$5,000
Glad Tidings Community Church	Canada Day in the Park 2021	\$5,000	\$27,000	\$5,000
Kinsmen Club of Tilbury and District	End of Summer Concert	\$5,000	\$11,000	\$5,000
Sati Hall Mindfulness & Meditation Center	Sati Hall Mindful Wellness Expo	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,000
Tilbury BIA	Canada Day Fireworks	\$5,000	\$14,500	\$5,000
Wallaceburg BIA	Wallaceburg Farmers’ Market	\$5,000	\$11,000	\$5,000
Wallaceburg Kinsmen Club	2021 Wallaceburg Kinsmen Pumpkinfest	\$5,000	\$12,500	\$5,000
Wheatley BIA	Hogs for Hospice Wheatley Stop	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$5,000
	Totals	\$51,000	\$240,120	\$51,000

Appendix D: “Community Events” Not Recommended for Funding Due to In-Kind

Organization	Event Name	Requested	Event Cost
Chatham-Kent Lambton Children’s Water Festival	Chatham-Kent Lambton Children’s Water Festival	\$5,000	\$188,100
Royal Canadian Legion Merlin Branch 465	Merlin Family Fun Day 2021	\$3,000	\$14,200
Soar Innovation Development Initiative Inc.	Chatham-Kent 40 under 40	\$5,000	\$15,000
Wheatley Two Creeks Conservation	Summer Concert Series	\$5,000	\$50,222
	Totals	\$18,000	\$267,522

Appendix E: “Community Events” Not Recommended – Fund Raising Event

Organization	Event Name	Requested	Event Cost
Kent Athletic Youth Organization	David Jenner Invitational Boxing Tournament	\$5,000	\$12,000
	Totals	\$5,000	\$12,000

Appendix F: “Community Projects” Recommended for Funding

Organization	Project Name	Requested	Project Cost	Grant Recommended
Blenheim Kent Golden Eagles	COVID19 Safety	\$6,978	\$13,956	\$6,978
Blenheim Masonic Community Hall Corp.	BMCH 2021 Kitchen and Hall Renewal Project	\$8,250	\$16,509	\$8,250
Chatham Sports Hall of Fame	Virtual Hall of Fame	\$10,000	\$67,500	\$10,000
Dog Off-Leash Recreation Area	New sidewalk leading from parking lot	\$3,050	\$6,100	\$3,050
Erieau Community Association	Erieau Pickleball Project	\$10,000	\$75,500	\$10,000
JA South Western Ontario	JA Digital Programs in Chatham	\$2,600	\$5,200	\$2,600
Mental Health Network of Chatham Kent	Hope House Renovations	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$10,000
Merlin and Area Kinsmen Park	Playground Equipment Enhancement 2021	\$10,000	\$39,500	\$10,000
Merlin Parks & Recreation Foundation	Upgrades to Storage Room, Chair room, Bar, & Interior Entrance	\$2,279	\$4,558	\$2,279
Mitchell's Bay Area Association	Mitchell's Bay Community Park Project	\$10,000	\$35,000	\$10,000
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 243	Restoration of our Community's Cenotaph	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$10,000
Sati Hall Inc.	New Floor	\$10,000	\$20,507	\$10,000
Tilbury & District Horticultural Society	Upgrades to Northside Park	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$5,000
Wallaceburg Kinsmen Club	Parking Lot and Building Rehab	\$10,000	\$26,201	\$10,000
Wheatley Area Minor Soccer	Wheatley Minor Soccer Under 10 Field Development	\$8,625	\$17,250	\$8,625
Wheatley B.I.A.	Event Resources/Community Accessibility	\$8,468	\$17,436	\$8,468
Wheatley Two Creeks Association	UTV purchase	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$10,000
	Totals	\$135,250	\$405,217	\$135,250

Appendix G: “Community Projects” Not Recommended for Funding Due to In-Kind

Organization	Project Name	Requested	Project Cost
Lower Thames Valley Conservation	Imagine McGregor	\$10,000	\$66,000
Maple City Centre for Older Adults (Active Lifestyle Centre)	Outside Exercise, Event/Social Gathering Facilities-Rental of Large Tent Systems	\$5,340	\$17,680
	Totals	\$15,340	\$83,680

Appendix H: "Community Project" Not Recommended – Eligible Application – Operating Expense

Organization	Project Name	Requested	Project Cost
Society of St. Vincent de Paul	Truck Repair	\$4,132	\$8,264
	Totals	\$4,132	\$8,264