

**Municipality Of Chatham-Kent**  
**Chief Administrative Office**  
**Economic Development Services**  
**Information Report**

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council  
**From:** Stuart McFadden, Acting Director  
**Date:** July 23, 2018  
**Subject:** Approval of Payment to Body Language CK

---

This report is for the information of Council.

**Background**

Starter Company Plus, a provincially-funded program designed to assist individuals who are starting, expanding or purchasing a small business, provided the Municipality with \$150,000 to administer this program from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2019. Under the Starter Company Plus agreement, the Municipality provides training, mentoring and grant opportunities for eligible participants.

Successful participants in this program are eligible to receive grant financing up to \$5,000. Eligible recipients must meet the following requirements:

- 18 years of age or older at the time of application;
- Proposing a new company, expansion or an existing company or buying a business in Ontario;
- Not attending school full-time nor returning to school;
- Resident of Ontario;
- Canadian citizen or permanent resident;
- Not enrolled in other provincial employment or self-employment related programs that include or do not include financial assistance;
- Not currently enrolled concurrently in any self-employment or entrepreneurship training/financing programs offered by government funded organizations;
- Success completion of approved business plan and three days completion of business start-up training along with business targets and milestones (municipality's requirement for eligibility – not required by Province).

While the Starter Company Plus program is open to all eligible individuals, entry is not automatic. Recipients must undertake a competitive process and evaluation through

local screening criteria. Recipients may also be prioritized based on specific industries and sectors.

Mark Reinhart, Community and Outreach Coordinator for Community Attraction and Leisure Services and Simon Swanek, Library Assistant 2 with Library Services are municipal employees who have opened Body Language CK, an alternative movement studio located in downtown Chatham, rooted in yoga, pilates and dance.

**Comments**

For transparency purposes, Administration is advising Council that two municipal staff, who have a business outside of their municipal duties, were awarded this grant. They met all criteria required with this Provincial funding opportunity.

**Consultation**

No others were consulted in the preparation of this report.

**Financial Implications**

The grant of \$3,500 associated with this grant financing is covered through the funds provided by the Province of Ontario administered by the Municipality.

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stuart McFadden  
Acting Director  
Economic Development Services

\_\_\_\_\_  
Don Shropshire  
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment: None

P:\RTC\ECODEVAUG 13 - INFORMATION REPORT - APPROVAL OF PAYMENT TO BODY LANGAUGE CK.DOC