

## **Municipality Of Chatham-Kent**

### **Finance, Budget, Information Technology & Transformation**

#### **Information Technology & Transformation**

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**From:** Catherine Fitzgerald  
Director, Information Technology & Transformation

**Date:** January 6, 2021

**Subject:** INTELIGHT Primary Partner Engagement

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#### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that:

1. Council support the participation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent as a Primary Partner for an Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) 2021 grant application by INTELIGHT.
2. Upon grant approval, 1 member of Council be appointed to participate in an 'Improved Community Insight' workshop, review of the proposed Statement of Work and provide feedback on project insights.
3. Administration be given authority to negotiate and enter into a non-disclosure agreement approved by the Director, Legal Services.

#### **Background**

"OCE focuses on ensuring the people of Ontario reap the personal and economic benefits of leading-edge research underway at our publicly funded universities, colleges and research hospitals - research that can be transformed into technologies and services that enhance quality of life and help build a globally competitive, job-creating economy in Ontario.

Specifically, OCE supports the commercialization of academic intellectual property (IP), industry-academic collaborations and the development and adoption of emerging technologies. This includes overseeing the execution of advanced technology platforms that will equip Ontario companies to compete in a competitive global digital economy.

[OCE] also supports and invests in early-stage projects where the probability of commercial success and investment return on innovation are substantial. OCE's strong expertise in de-risking innovation helps attract private investors and other funders to new ventures, bolstering their success. OCE contributes as well to the development and retention of talent to ensure that industry has access to personnel with the most advanced skills and knowledge and that highly trained personnel find opportunities to apply their expertise in Ontario." (<https://www.oce-ontario.org/about-us>)

Currently INTELIGHT is being considered for a 2021 OCE grant, which will fund a portion of an identified smart community project with a named partner. This allows for INTELIGHT to commission partnerships with cities and townships and explore areas that are of importance to their specific “smart” initiatives. INTELIGHT has identified Chatham-Kent as a potential primary partner that possesses insights into needs, wants, challenges and successes within this space. INTELIGHT has identified the Chatham-Kent perspective, combined with practical insights and/or applications will help drive the creation of relevant technologies. INTELIGHT would bear all associated costs regardless of outcome in this collaboration, with the exception of Council, staff and stakeholder time.

Total estimated time commitment for the appointed Council Member is 7 hours. Total estimated time commitment for administrative staff is 67 hours.

### **Comments**

The [Corporate Technology Strategic Plan](#) (CTSP), approved by Council on June 29, 2020 include a recommended initiative to ‘Pilot Business Innovation’. The initiative proposed in the CTSP is municipally driven and scheduled to initiate in 2024. A partnership with INTELIGHT would be a low risk and low cost opportunity for the corporation to participate in an innovation exercise with an experienced external agency.

### **Areas of Strategic Focus and Critical Success Factors**

The recommendation in this report supports 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 recommendation in this report supports 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**

The General Manager of Infrastructure and Engineering Services was consulted and support the recommendation.

**Financial Implications**

INTELIGHT would bare all associated costs regardless of outcome in this collaboration, with the exception of Council, staff and stakeholder time.

There is no obligation for the municipality to purchase any of the technology or other products developed under this engagement.

Prepared by:

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Catherine Fitzgerald  
Director, Information Technology & Transformation

Reviewed by:

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Gord Quinton, MBA, CPA, CGA  
Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer /  
General Manager, Finance, Budget, Information Technology & Transformation

Consulted and confirmed the content of the consultation section of the report by:

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Thomas Kelly  
General Manager, Infrastructure &  
Engineering Services

Attachments:

INTELIGHT Engagement Process Primary Partner Chatham-Kent Proposal.pdf

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INTELIGHT Primary Partner Engagement.docx

**SAVINGS**

**UNIFIED**

**APP DRIVEN**

**SIMPLICITY**

**SECURE**

**VANTAGE POINT**

**VERSATILE**

EMPOWERING SMARTER & SAFER COMMUNITIES

## PRIMARY PARTNER ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

**Background** Smart cities or the idea of a smart city has become the buzz word of today. Several companies are bringing forth concepts with sensors and gadgets that play into this space. However, there is currently a gap in technology preventing practical adoption of these “things” and “smart” infrastructures. We recognize that each Municipality has its own set of goals, however, we have identified 5 challenges:



With this in mind, we took our 25 years of experience in communication and lighting and re-imagined how to use streetlight infrastructure to overcome these problems and created INTELLIGHT. Currently, we are seeking qualified partners within Ontario who possess insights into the growing demands/challenges associated with “smart” communities. We further look to establish a partnership and invest with the support of the Provincial Government of Ontario.

**Provincial Funding & Partnerships Goals** OCE is a non-profit provincial organization that dispenses funds to businesses for various initiatives. Currently INTELLIGHT is being considered for a 2021 grant, which will fund a portion of identified projects with a named partner. This allows for INTELLIGHT to commission partnerships with cities and townships and explore areas that are of importance to their specific “smart” initiatives. We are interested in a partner that possesses insights into needs, wants, challenges and successes within this space. We believe that this creative thinking, combined with practical insights and/or applications will help drive the creation of relevant technologies (Province of Ontario’s mandates). INTELLIGHT would bare all associated costs regardless of outcome in this collaboration.

## Process:



