Briefing – to Members of Council

Council Meeting Date: January 7, 2020

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<th>TopicMaxY</th>
<th>Review of Capital Grant Funding Requests for 2020</th>
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<tr>
<td>Confidential</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attachment(s)</td>
<td>1. Summary of Applications</td>
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<td>2. Applications</td>
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### Issue

- 10 applications for capital grant funding for 2020 have been submitted from 8 different organizations, totaling $331,653.

- These requests were submitted as part of the October 31, 2019 intake.

- A total of $285,000 has been budgeted for capital project requests for 2020. This means if all requests were funded outright, the County budget would need to increase by $46,653.

- Annually, Council reviews and approves applications.

- The submitted applications for 2020 are attached.

- Council may have additional questions regarding specific elements of the project (budget, scope, etc.) which are not apparent or self-evident in the application.

- Administration will be able to either follow up with these organizations to retrieve this information and provide it to Council, or, direct these organizations to appear before Council to elaborate.

### Background

- Annually, local community organizations submit grant funding requests for projects they plan to undertake in the coming year.

- This grant program is intended primarily to fund organizations which own their own facilities and are incurring costs related to new constructions, non-routine repairs or renovations, or equipment purchases.

- The Art Society, which has submitted a capital grant request this year, does not yet own their own facility. In this way, there are
different from the organizations that typically are approved for grant funding under this program.

- Normally, applicant organizations are required to match the County grant. In other words, County grant funding normally doesn’t exceed 50% of project costs.
  - The Plamondon Seniors Rendez-Vous Centre and Owl River Recreation Association, both which have submitted grant requests this year, have applications where they are requesting funding to support over 50% of the project costs. In this way, their requests exceed what is normally provided.

- Normally, funding is not provided for projects that have already begun prior to the consideration of the request.
  - The Hylo/Venice Recreation and Agricultural Society has submitted a grant request this year. Their project is slated to be completed prior to the consideration of the request. In this way, the request is outside of the normal parameters.

- Despite the policy and practice that is normally considered, Council can (and has) approved funding at their own discretion based on what they feel is reasonable for projects that don’t normally fit.

- Although the grant program does not have specific evaluation criteria, the following considerations have historically factored into the decision-making process:
  1. Project Need within the Community;
  2. Organization’s Need for Funding;
  3. Council Priorities;
  4. Compliance with Policy (see above);
  5. Past Funding/Other Grant Funding Requested; and
  6. Project Viability.

- The PDCDS requests, which are those submitted by ACFA, the Plamondon Seniors Rendez-Vous Centre, and the Mini Heritage Park, have all been ranked by PDCDS according to their priority. The ranking is identified in a letter accompanying each application.

- The application submitted by the Historical Chapelle Society of Plamondon has not been submitted as part of PDCDS and therefore is not ranked.

**Strategic Alignment**

- Social Wellness: the capital grant funding will be used to maintain or enhance cultural and/or recreational activities in the County.

**Follow-up**

- Administration is seeking direction from Council regarding how to proceed with the review and approval of these applications.
- Administration is seeking Council's direction on when they would like to hold delegations to have these organizations present their requests.
- Council may wish to invite some or all of the organizations requesting capital grant funding as a delegation.