

## Report to Council

**Report Title:** Update on Grant Applications 2022

**Prepared By:** Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services, Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer and Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer

**Department:** Parks and Recreation, Administration

**Date:** January 31, 2023

**Report Number:** REC2023-02 **File Number:** C11REC, F11

### Attachments:

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### Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number REC2023-02 – Update on Grant Applications 2022, prepared Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services, Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer and Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer for information purposes.

### Report:

#### Background:

The Municipality has been extremely successful over the last few years with many grant opportunities. This report provides an overview of the process, recent success and those projects we will need look for alternative funding sources or reapply for. Historically staff have utilized the services of Fairtax (Grant Match) for applications greater than \$25,000 due to the extensive professional team of staff that seek grant opportunities, complete profession applications that undergo extensive review from the team. Additionally, if successful, Fairtax completed all of the reporting requires for the application which can be very time consuming. Even with the assistance of Fairtax there was still staff time dedicated to each application in order to provide the information needed, and invoices for the reporting requirements.

Over the past two years staff have explored additional expertise where required for more technical grants with Public Sector Digest (PSD). PSD offers many options for each application, such as reviewing and advising on the completed application prior to submission or complete the application as a whole.

The key difference between the two is the overall fee, FairTax is based off the success of the application and based off percentage of the total grant funding. If the Municipality is not successful with the grant, then there was no fee application for that application. PSD is a fee based on time spent on the application regardless of the outcome of the application. This approach was more economical for some of the applications that were technical in nature and required some assistant, in addition to the staff time.

## **Analysis:**

Throughout 2021 and 2022 staff have been working together to complete the majority of the applications as a cost saving measure. There is an extensive amount of staff time required from start to finish for each application. Each application impacts multiple staff and range from at least 2 – 15 hours to write the initial application, review by peers, prepare the online submission, insurance requirements, tracking of funds and reporting deadlines.

For Council's knowledge we have included an Appendix A below listing the applications that were either completed in 2022 and/or initiated in 2022. This list outlines grants of which staff have completed majority of the applications and the associated reporting requirements. The project management following a successful grant application to implement the construction of such project is also often managed by the same staff personnel and reporting requirements (often multiple reports) depending on the extent and value of the project.

Appendix B below showcases some of the known 2023 grant opportunities staff are currently exploring.

Staff continue to monitor available grant opportunities through various means including Public Sector Digest, FairTax, Federal and Provincial News Releases, etc., and apply promptly to those programs that align with Brockton objectives and projects where time and resources permit. Eligibility, specific criteria and project readiness (short windows for application intakes often only 4-6 weeks) can prove to be challenging when trying to meet all of the grant criteria and find the most appropriate project to assign to each opportunity. It is well known that the volume of applications received for many capital grant programs usually exceeds the available funding and makes for a very competitive approval process.

Overall, we are pleased to report that we have been successful in achieving \$2,639,101 in grant funding in 2021-2022, which includes the \$1,336,821.53 for the ICIP COVID Rural and Northern low interest loan/grant.

## **Strategic Action Plan Checklist:**

What aspect of the Brockton Strategic Action Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| • Recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision                       | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Heritage, Culture, and Community              | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Quality of Life                               | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Land Use Planning and the Natural Environment | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Development                          | Yes |
| • Recommendations contribute to achieving Municipal Governance                          | N/A |

## **Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:**

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

Receiving grant funding for various projects brings considerable capital (often \$10's, \$100's of thousands and potentially millions) to the municipality which may not be realized otherwise. Some grants are stackable with others to a specific project. Grants leverage existing municipal dollars available in offsetting total project costs and help to secure additional grants. Grants often range from 30% to 100% funding. Some loan/grant

programs are where the grant is a percentage of the total loan (15%). Building, maintaining and using reserves is important to meeting municipal contribution requirements when applying for medium and large capital projects. Contributions to small projects/programs can often be funded through the operating budget.

**Reviewed By:**



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

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**Respectfully Submitted by:**



Mark Coleman, Director of Community Services

**Reviewed By:**



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Office

## Appendix A: 2022 Grants

Grant Name	Project	Funding Amount	Status of Grant
Save on Energy	LED lighting update in the arena changerooms	\$750	Approved – Work completed
Celebrate Canada	Canada Day Celebration	\$5,800	Approved – Funded programing, supplies and fireworks for Canada Day  Project is completed and funding finalized in December 2022
New Horizons for Seniors Program 2022	Cargill Lawn Bowling Club – Greens Equipment	\$24,020	Approved – awaiting on final equipment to be delivered
Enabling Accessibility Fund 2022 – Midsize Projects	Elmwood Community Centre -Entrance, washroom, accessibility improvements	Aug 2021 application for \$271,466	Declined – December 2021
Canada Summer Jobs – Recreation	To assist with funding several summer student positions within Parks and Recreation		Declined – May 2022
ICIP: Community, Culture and Recreation Stream – Soccer Building	Soccer Building with washrooms	\$645,362.66	Project in progress and to be completed by March 31, 2027
ICIP: COVID Stream Local Government – Pool Repairs	Pool Repairs	\$100,000	Project is completed and funding finalized in December 2022
ICIP: COVID Rural and Northern – Culvert Replacement – Bridge 13	Culvert Replacement	\$1,336,821.53	Approved in 2020 - Project is completed and funding finalized in December 2022  *this grant is a low interest grant/loan
Tourism Relief Fund – RT07	Waste/Recycling Stations, Park Benches, Trail/Park	\$100,000	Approved – equipment installed/ordered, signs designed, installation ongoing

Grant Name	Project	Funding Amount	Status of Grant
	Signage Upgrades, EV Charging Station		
Rural Economic Development Grant – Mobile App	Municipal App	\$11,850	Approved – on-going to 2024
My Main Street FedDev Southern Ontario 2022	Market Garden Park Development – design time of consultant, tables	\$54,000	Approved - equipment ordered – extension granted to February 15, 2023
Canada Community Revitalization Fund 2022	Market Garden Park Development	\$55,281	Approved – site preparation, construction, electrical/water, fencing, furnishings - extension granted through to June 30, 2023
Site Readiness Program	Survey, legal fees and vegetation plan for ERBP	\$25,000	Approved – in progress
Municipal Modernization Program Intake II 2021-2022	Municipal Digital Modernization Strategy Development  Projects included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E-permitting and building software</li> <li>• Budgeting Software</li> <li>• Municipal App</li> <li>• Online form/e-commerce</li> <li>• Webcasting software implementation</li> </ul>	\$112,500	Approved - to be completed on January 31, 2023
Municipal Modernization Program Intake III 2022 Project #1	Development of Recreation Master Service and Facility Plan	\$86,496	Approved – to be completed on January 31, 2023 -Province offered extensions.
Municipal Modernization Program Intake III 2022 Project #2	Municipality of Brockton E-Permitting and Service Delivery Solutions	\$76,320	Approved - to be completed on February 28, 2023

Grant Name	Project	Funding Amount	Status of Grant
VPI - Training Incentive Placement	Help support various positions within their placement incentives program	\$4,901	Approved
Inclusive Community Grant 2022-2023	Resurfacing of Cargill CC, Elmwood CC and Lobies Park Playgrounds	\$60,000	March 2022 application declined October 2022 Referred to other alternative funding programs that may be available
Ontario Trillium Foundation – Capital Stream 2022	Walkerton Tennis Courts Rehabilitation	\$150,000	June 2022 application declined November 2022 Next deadline June 14, 2023 – plan to re-apply for tennis courts rehabilitation
Infrastructure Canada's Active Transportation Fund 2022-2026	Rail Trail Signage/Surface improvements, Centennial Park Foot Bridges Replacement	\$66,000	March 2022 application declined January 2023 No further intakes planned
Scott's Canada – Go for Good Grant Program	In support of community gardens and green spaces	Up to \$2,500 – details to be determined	Declined in 2022
Canada Summer Experience Program	To help fund the Visitor Information Position in 2022		Declined in 2022

In addition to the 20 grant applications listed above, staff continue to manage the reporting requirements for the following grants:

- 1) R.I.D.E program
- 2) Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (O.C.I.F)

## Appendix B: 2023 Grant Opportunities

Grant Name	Project	Funding Amount	Status of Grant
Tennis Canada – The National Bank Play Your Court Program	Walkerton Tennis Courts Rehabilitation	Funding for 100 projects across Canada up to \$30,000	Expression of interest submitted September 2022  Application: Awaiting application process to rolled out.
New Horizons for Seniors Program 2023	Walkerton Lawn Bowling Club – Storage Shed and Greens Equipment	\$15,598	December 2022 application completed  Decision pending March 2023
TD Friends of Environment Foundation – TD Tree Days	Planting of landscape trees on slopes of Centennial Park	\$7,023	January 2023 application completed  Decision pending April 2023
Enabling Accessibility Fund 2023	Add Accessible Swings and Spinner Equipment to Optimist Park Accessible Playground in support of Phase II	\$83,144	October 2022 application completed  Decision pending February 2023
Celebrate Canada 2023	Canada Day 2023 – funding in support of supplies, programs, fireworks	\$16,555	December 2022 application completed  Decision pending March 2023
Canada Summer Jobs 2023	Summer Student 50% of Minimum Wage Subsidy	\$15,810	January 2023 application for funding for 7 students  Decision pending April/May 2023, last approved 2021
Canadian Parks Recreation Association – Youth Experience 2023	Summer Student 100% Wage Subsidy	Up to \$10,000	January 2023 application for funding of 1 parks student  Decision pending April 2023
Seniors Community Grant 2023-2024	Social and recreation fitness programs for seniors		Intake: March 6, 2023 - programs and amount to be determined - Decision pending October 2023

Grant Name	Project	Funding Amount	Status of Grant
Rural Economic Development Program	<p>To be determined</p> <p>The program has two project streams:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The Strategic Economic Infrastructure stream for minor capital projects that advance economic development and investment opportunities.</li> <li>2) The Economic Diversification and Competitiveness stream for projects that remove barriers to business and job growth, attract investment, attract or retain a skilled workforce, strengthen sector and regional partnerships and diversify regional economies.</li> </ol>	<p>The Strategic Economic Infrastructure stream provides up to 30 per cent, to a maximum of \$250,000 in cost-shared funding.</p> <p>The Economic Diversification and Competitiveness stream provides up to 50 per cent, to a maximum of \$150,000 per project in cost-shared funding</p>	Intake: February 23, 2023
Green and Inclusive Community Build Program – New Build Net Zero Carbon Design	New build Net Zero Design Ready of Walkerton Community Centre	Up to \$13.5 million	<p>Intake I: Declined - require attestation letter and feasibility study from engineer to be more project ready</p> <p>Intake II: February 28, 2023</p> <p>Seeking consultants to assist with application and address technical requirements</p>
Scott's Canada – Go for Good Grant Program	In support of community gardens and green spaces	Up to \$2,500	<p>Details to be determined</p> <p>Intake: February 28, 2023</p>
Federation of Canadian Municipalities	Feasibility Study for New Build Net Zero Energy	Up to \$65,000	<p>Intake: anytime</p> <p>Seeking consultants to assist with application to complete</p>



Grant Name	Project	Funding Amount	Status of Grant
			feasibility study of current vs. new facility
Spruce the Bruce 2023	Market Garden Park Development		Seek funding per eligibility to help offset balance needed to complete all elements of the project.  Intake: Ongoing