

Report to Council

Report Title: NWMO Early Investment in Education and Skills Grant Update

Prepared By: Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer

Department: Administration

Date: January 23, 2024

Report Number: CAO2024-02

File Number: C11AD, F11

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CAO2024-02 - NWMO Early Investment in Education and Skills Grant Update, prepared by Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer for information purposes.

Report:

Background:

The Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) is working with communities to build capacity for participation in the Adaptive Phased Management project. This includes investments in training and education to equip community members, including youth, to work at the Centre of Expertise, and in site preparation, construction and operation activities. These investments are intended to include transferable skills that could be applied to other projects or workplaces as well.

The Early Investment in Education and Skills (EIES) program was developed to support education and skills training for Brockton residents as well as provide funding for youth with an emphasis on learning initiatives that focus on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). Expenses in this EIES program may include: Traditional Knowledge-related education, work experience in a community-minded endeavor, local/regional job fairs to support students in understanding opportunities for post-secondary/trades, workshops for general skills development on topics such as computer literacy, business planning, proposal writing, bookkeeping, first aid training, project planning, conflict resolution skills, communication training, and grants for skills training programs.

In April of 2022, Council approved participating in the EIES Program as part of the Adaptive Phase Management Project with \$25,000 in funds from NWMO. Uptake was slow in 2022 with \$3,233.60 distributed from the program launch date mid year until the end of 2022.

Analysis:

Further marketing continued into 2023 and staff were able to provide \$21,641.88 through the Early Investment in Education and Skills grant in 2023. Funds were provided to local businesses, schools and families for a variety of programming and education. Local schools were able to leverage funding for robotics programming and Brockton also used funding to be able to provide Summer Camp programming at a cheaper price for all attendees as part of Mad Science Week. Funding was provided to a number of local families for children to attend local programming and camps as well as a number of local businesses to assist with technical and health and safety classes for employees.

We continue to meet with NWMO on funding related to the EIES program for 2024. We will continue to market the EIES funds to support developing the capacity of residents and business in Brockton through training and educational opportunities.

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 Yes

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

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

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer