

Report to Council

Report Title: Early Investment in Education and Skills 2024 Mid-Year Update

Prepared By: Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer and Rachel Bryan, Municipal Executive Coordinator

Department: Administration

Date: August 13, 2024

Report Number: CAO2024-12 **File Number:** C11AD, F11

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CAO2024-12 – Early Investment in Education and Skills 2024 Mid-Year Update, prepared by Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer and Rachel Bryan, Municipal Executive Coordinator 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.

The Early Investment in Education and Skills (EIES) program was developed to support education and skills training for Brockton residents 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, food handling, SMART Serve Certificates and grants for skills training programs.

Analysis:

In January of 2024, Council approved participating in the EIES Program as part of the Adaptive Phase Management Project with a total of \$51,171.55. The total amount is made up from unspent funds from 2022 and 2023 with the addition of \$25,000.00 for 2024.

Staff has reached out to schools, committees, organizations, service clubs, and businesses in the community to promote the program and educate them on the available funding. We have had an increased uptake in 2024 from many families that have participated by using the funding to help send their children to summer camps. Additionally, local businesses have been using the funding for additional staff training and an opportunity to further educate their employees. With the promotion of the funding through social media and the addition of new parameters, more service clubs and organizations have been applying to receive available funding. As the year progresses, we will continue to promote and outreach to eligible service clubs, groups, residents, and businesses who could benefit from the grant.

As of July 2024, we have committed \$16,313.65 of the \$51,171.55 that is available. We intend to increase contact and promotion throughout the fall to ensure these funds are maximized by the community of Brockton and will seek any further Council approval required to ensure available funds are expended by December 31, 2024.

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

Rachel Bryan

Rachel Bryan, Municipal Executive Coordinator