

**STAFF REPORT:**

**REPORT TO:** Finance and Administration Committee  
**MEETING DATE:** December 20, 2011  
**REPORT NO.:** CEDC.11.26  
**SUBJECT:** Review of Grants and Donations Applications  
**PREPARED BY:** Lisa Kidd, Communications and Economic Development Coordinator

**A. Recommendations**

That Council receive Staff Report CEDC.11.26 'Review of Grants and Donations Applications' for information purposes; and

THAT Council authorize the funding of these applications as determined by the Committee.

**B. Background**

For the fifth year in a row, the Town of The Blue Mountains has administered a grants and donations program for community groups and organizations to make application for financial support for operations, events and activities.

The program aims to reduce duplication and streamline the process for subsidies and donations.

New this year, and in August of 2011, Council adopted a recommendation to stream the program so that only community groups and organizations may make application for support under the grants and donations program.

The rationale for this was as follows:

- The number of requests are increasing;
- The amount of each request is increasing;
- Requests for support of tourism events via business associations are increasing; and
- Business associations and community groups are competing for the same funds.

Attachment 1 provides the following information with respect to the community group or organization applying for funds:

- Name of applicant;
- Purpose of request;
- Whether or not the applicant meets the criteria and guidelines outlined in the application;
- The amount of the request;
- Whether or not the applicant has received funds in previous years; and
- How the request aligns with previously endorsed Town Plans (e.g. Our Sustainable Path).

There were 17 applications received on time through the grants and donations program.

Please note that \$8,400.00 of the grants and donations budget is already committed for support of the Beaver Valley Outreach as per a decision of Council on September 12, 2011.

This reduces the grants and donations budget of \$30,000 to \$21,600.00.

### **C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan**

Strategic Action 3.5 Continue to support cultural groups and community events.

### **D. Environmental Impact**

None.

### **E. Financial Impact**

The grants and donations program is part of the 2012 Communications and Economic Development Budget. Council pre-approved \$30,000 for the program on September 26, 2011. Contingent upon support of these recommendations, the grants and donations budget will have \$0 remaining.

### **F. In Consultation With**

This staff report was prepared in consultation with Chief Administrative Officer, Troy Speck and Director of Financial and Information Services, Robert Cummings.

### **G. Attached**

Attachment 1- Grants and Donations Qualification and Request Summary

Respectfully submitted,

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Lisa Kidd, Communications and Economic Development Coordinator

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<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Meet Criteria?</b>	<b>Amount of Request</b>	<b>Funded by Town Before?</b>	<b>How Does Request Align with Town Plans?</b>
Golden Beavers	Seniors' card playing	Yes	\$1,260 Rental Subsidization	Yes 2011 \$1,260	Our Sustainable Path: "Ensure there is a variety of programs for seniors that meet their needs"
Collingwood General and Marine Hospital Foundation	Electronic Medical Record System	Yes	\$8,950 Cash	Yes 2010 \$6,000	Our Sustainable Path Signatory Our Sustainable Path: "Enhance the use of technology based communication to improve access to specialized health care"
Theatre Collingwood	Expansion of the theatre season to four productions (from three)	No	\$5,000 Cash	No	Our Sustainable Path: "Celebrate and support the development of the arts and culture sector in The Blue Mountains"
Breaking Down Barriers	Expansion of the Thumbs Up Awareness Program	Yes	\$5,000 Cash	Yes 2011 \$2,000	Our Sustainable Path Signatory Our Sustainable Path: "Consider the needs of a growing retirement community"
Beaver Valley Open Door	Financial and shelter support for local Refugee Family	Yes	\$5,000 Cash	No	Our Sustainable Path Signatory (First Baptist Church) Our Sustainable Path: "Enhance local government current support for community agencies whose mandate includes supporting vulnerable populations"
Hospice Georgian Triangle	Operational support for programming and respite care suite	Yes	\$1,500 Cash	Yes 2011 \$1,000	Our Sustainable Path: "Ensure the long term health and prosperity of the Community"
Georgian Triangle Humane Society	Offset costs of spay/neuter program	Yes	\$5,000 Cash	Yes 2008 \$15,000	Our Sustainable Path: "Enhance local government current support for community agencies whose mandate includes supporting vulnerable populations"

Beaver Valley Curling Club	Capital campaign fundraiser	Yes	\$700  Rental Subsidization for one day at BVCC and one day at Tomahawk	No*	Red Hot and Blue: "Provide accessible and affordable family recreation"
My Friend's House	Operational support for facility	No Incurred deficit of \$5,754 last year	\$5,000 Cash	Yes 2011 \$2,500	Our Sustainable Path Signatory Our Sustainable Path: "Enhance local government current support for community agencies whose mandate includes supporting vulnerable populations"
Georgian Bay Sailing Association	Dockage of up to 50 boats for the Georgian Bay Regatta event	Yes	\$3,458 Slip fee subsidization	No**	Red Hot and Blue: "Provide accessible and affordable family recreation"
Georgian Triangle Housing Resource Centre	Offset operating costs for housing services provided to The Blue Mountains residents	Yes	\$1,500 Cash	Yes 2010 \$2,000	Our Sustainable Path Signatory Our Sustainable Path: "A caring society that provides for those in need and integrates them into the Community" "A place where young people can work and raise their families, an affordable lifestyle, housing for all, jobs for all, all supported by local education and health care systems"
Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary Club	40% to International Rotary projects, 60% to local community projects	No Incurred deficit this year	\$2,500 Cash	Yes 2011 \$2,500	Our Sustainable Path Signatory Our Sustainable Path: "Enhance local government current support for community agencies whose mandate includes supporting vulnerable populations"
Georgian Sound Presents	Offset costs for bands, musicians, venues and promotional material, youth music education and advancement	Yes	\$5,500 Cash and possible rental subsidization	Yes 2011 \$2,000	Our Sustainable Path: "Celebrate and support the development of the arts and culture sector in The Blue Mountains"

Beaver Valley Agricultural Society	Offset costs of facility rentals for Fall Fair events	Yes	\$3,000 Rental Subsidization of BVCC and Moreau Park	Yes 2011 \$3,000	Our Sustainable Path: "Continue to enhance the Beaver Valley Fall Fair..."
Elephant Thoughts	Elephant Thoughts Summer Science Camp- offset costs of facility rentals and subsidize camp for 8 TBM youth	Yes	\$2,800 \$800.00 Cash and \$2,000 Rental Subsidization	Yes 2010 \$1,350	Our Sustainable Path: "Engage youth to become ambassadors for the natural environment"
Environment Network	Offset costs to deliver a 12- session "Girlfriends" Program in The Blue Mountains	Yes	\$3,300	No	Our Sustainable Path Signatory Our Sustainable Path: "Engage youth to become ambassadors for the natural environment"
Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the Georgian Triangle	Offset operational costs of the program	Yes	\$2,000	No	Our Sustainable Path Signatory Our Sustainable Path: Encourage youth to remain in or return to our community"
TOTAL			\$61,468		

\*Note that the Town is providing land for the proposed facility.

\*\* Note that the Harbour has provided this space free of charge in the past but now the request is coming through the grants and donations program.