

STAFF REPORT: Financial and Information Services

REPORT TO: Finance and Administration Committee
MEETING DATE: August 18th, 2009
REPORT NO.: FIS.09.048
SUBJECT: Haldimand County Disaster Relief Committee
PREPARED BY: Elizabeth Thompson, Deputy Treasurer

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report FIS.09.048 “Haldimand County Disaster Relief Committee” request for municipal donation, for information purposes.

B. Background

A letter was received by Council dated July 14th, 2009, at the August 10th, 2009 meeting of Council from the Haldimand County Disaster Relief Committee and referred to Finance and Administration committee for consideration of the donation request of \$250.00.

The Haldimand County Disaster Relief Committee has circulated through AMO a request for donation towards their relief efforts in the amount of \$250.00. On February 13th of this year the banks of the Grand River flooded through the communities of Dunnville, Cayuga and between. The area was later declared a Disaster Area by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The Haldimand County Disaster Relief Committee has indicated the damage and financial loss to be estimated at more than \$1,800,000.00, and would appreciate your consideration of a donation.

C. The Blue Mountains’ Strategic Plan (Statement(s) identifying how actions further the goals of the Strategic Plan)

6. Providing a strong, well managed municipal government

D. Environmental Impacts (Focus on local impacts and comment on greenhouse gasses if appropriate)**E. Budget Impact** (cc: Treasury if required)

The 2009 Grants and Donations has been allocated through the budget process for 2009, with no extra funds available. If Council wishes to donate to this cause, funds are available in the working capital reserve.

F. Attached (Relevant documentation not personal information about an identifiable person)

1. Correspondence from the Haldimand County Disaster Relief Committee

Respectfully submitted,

Signature

For more information, please contact:

Elizabeth Thompson

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519-599-3131 ext 250

Haldimand County Disaster Relief Committee

111 Broad Street East
Dunnville, ON N1A 1E8

Memo

Date: July 14, 2009
To: Head of Council
Administrator/Clerk
Cc:
From: Bernie Corbett, Chair
RE: Donation Request – Grand River Flood 2009

On February 13, 2009 ice began to accumulate in the mouth of the Grand River. The ice created a natural dam and the river, which had been flowing into Lake Erie began to rise. As the river rose, the lives of families who lived along the river were drastically changed forever. Flood waters spilled over the banks of the Grand and flowed through the communities of Dunnville, Cayuga and points in between. Homes were destroyed, lives were devastated and families impacted beyond their ability to recover without help.

Estimates have pegged the financial loss at more than \$1,800,000! Haldimand County asked the province to view the chaos and as a result the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing declared the region a "Disaster Area". The Haldimand County Disaster Relief Committee was struck and the task before the committee is significant. Our committee can do little to help people rebuild lives but we can try to mitigate the financial hardships facing many families.

On behalf of that committee, I would ask that your municipality, consider contributing to our relief efforts. Respectfully, we are asking if your community could assist our community with a donation of \$250.00. Every dollar raised will be matched by the province on an up to 2:1 ratio.

Your consideration of our request would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Bernie Corbett
Chairman
Haldimand County Disaster Relief Committee
(905) 774-6717

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