

STAFF REPORT: Financial Services



REPORT TO: Council
MEETING DATE: September 22, 2008
REPORT NO.: FS.08.45
SUBJECT: Investing in Ontario Funding
PREPARED BY: Ruth Prince, Manager of Revenue

A. Recommendations

THAT Council does receive Staff Report FS.08.45, "Investing in Ontario Funding" for information purposes.

B. Background

In May 2008, the Provincial government passed the Investing in Ontario Act. The Act allows the Ontario government to use a portion of any unanticipated year-end surplus to address priority public needs. In August 2008, the Province announced that the 2007-08 funding surplus would be designated to municipalities to support capital infrastructure needs. Town of The Blue Mountains' allocation of this funding is \$492,798.

The funds are to be used for municipal capital infrastructure only. The municipality has the flexibility to spend its allocation on its own capital priorities. Although the reporting process has not been determined, the Town will have to report back to the Province as to how the funds were used.

The allocation of the \$1.1 billion is shared among all Ontario municipalities, primarily on a per capita basis using the 2006 census population. The upper tier municipality receives its share of funding based on its share of the total municipal capital investments for the period of 2001 to 2005 using the Financial Information Return data base. The remaining amount is allocated to the lower tier municipalities on a per-capita basis. Based on this funding formula, the total amount allocated to all municipalities in the County of Grey was \$8,792,747. The County of Grey received \$2,120,225 or 24.11%. The remaining funding of \$6,672,522 was allocated to the lower tier municipalities on a per-capita basis.

The Province has not announced the timing of the disbursements of funds but it is anticipated by the end of September.

C. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

Providing a strong, well managed municipal government

D. Environmental Impacts

Supporting Environmentally sound decisions

E. Budget Impact

\$492, 798 is not included in the 2008 budget. Town staff is considering budgeted capital project(s) for this funding.

F. Attached

1. Schedule of Funding for Grey County

Respectfully submitted,

Signature

For more information, please contact:

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Municipality	Population from 2006 FIR	Funding Received	% of Provincial Funding
County of Grey	92,411	\$2,120,225	24.11%
Blue Mountains	6,825	\$492,798	7.39%
Meaford	10,948	\$790,499	11.85%
Chatsworth	6,392	\$461,533	6.92%
Georgian Bluff	10,506	\$758,584	11.37%
Grey Highlands	9,480	\$684,502	10.26%
West Grey	12,193	\$880,394	13.19%
Southgate	7,167	\$517,492	7.76%
Hanover	7,147	\$516,048	7.73%
Owen Sound	21,753	\$1,570,672	23.54%
Total Funding for all of Grey County		\$8,792,747	
County of Grey's Share (based on Capital Investments)		\$2,120,225	
Lower Tier's Share (based on Population)		\$6,672,522	