



Staff Report

Finance and IT Services

Report To: Grants and Donations Committee
Meeting Date: May 1, 2020
Report Number: FAF.20.049
Subject: 2020 Grants and Donations Program Applications
Prepared by: Ruth Prince, Director of Finance and IT Services

A. Recommendations

THAT the Grants and Donations Committee receive Staff Report FAF.20.049, entitled “2020 Grants and Donations Program Applications”;

AND THAT the Grants and Donations Committee make recommendations to Council to authorize the funding of these applications.

B. Overview

This report outlines the Annual Grants and Donations Program and summarizes the 2020 Applicants for the Grants and Donations Committee consideration.

C. Background

For the thirteenth year in a row, The Town of The Blue Mountains has administered a Grants and Donations Program for Community Groups and Organizations who make an application for financial or in-kind support for their operations, events, and activities.

This program aims at reducing duplications and streamlining the process for subsidies and donations given out by the Town.

In 2019, Council authorized the development of a formal Committee of Council being the Grants and Donations Committee that includes member of Council and members of the public to have oversight for the fundraising and the disbursement of the annual grants and donations program. Council also authorized staff to remove the grants and donations from the 2020 Budget and fundraising initiatives would be used to fund requests as determined by the Grants and Donations Committee.

As a result, the Grants and Donations Committee launched their first fundraising event (We Love Blue Gala) on February 14, 2020 at the Blue Mountains Resort and all proceeds from the Gala will fund the 2020 program. In addition, the Town is also selling “Swag” merchandise at various local retailers with proceeds of the sales going to the program.

Regular Contributions

There are 6 organizations that were given the opportunity to submit a written request for the 2020 Grants and Donations Program, as opposed to a full Application. Four of these organizations submitted a request, one submitted a full application and one did not submit an application.

Of the four submissions, the requested amount totals \$17,500 which includes \$6,000 cash and \$11,500 subsidy requests (Attachment 1).

Applications

Twenty-nine applications were submitted for the 2020 Grants and Donations Program (Attachment 2).

These 29 Applications total \$131,143 which includes \$104,805 cash and \$26,338 subsidy requests.

Guidelines and Criteria

Staff continually review the Guidelines and Criteria of the Grants and Donations Program to ensure the efficacy of the framework and to identify any potential improvements to the process. There were minor word/format revisions made to the Guidelines and Criteria for the 2020 program which were reviewed and approved by the Committee in staff report FAF.20.008.(Attachment 3).

Evaluation

Staff have reviewed all submissions and feel that most of the Applications meet the Guidelines and Criteria, although one application was submitted after the February 28, 2020 deadline and two applicants are requesting funds for capital projects. These applications are noted in the chart on the following page.

Staff have corrected some amounts on the Applications where the subsidy amounts were incorrect or absent. The chart on the following page reflects the corrected amounts.

Staff have also removed any attachments that may have been included with some Applications (i.e. pamphlets, letters of recommendation) to ensure that the same information is being presented to Council with each Application. It is important that each application be evaluated on its own merit and dealt with in as equitable and objective manner as possible. Signatures and personal information, such as home phone numbers and addresses, have also been removed.

D. Analysis

Applicants

The following chart summarizes all applicants to the 2020 Grants and Donations Program. There is a request for a total of \$148,643 in grants and subsidies.

Regular Contributions

Group/Organization	2020 Request	2019 Request	2019 Donation
Cultural Services:			
Golden Beavers	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,700
Thornbury Big Band Festival (formerly Jazzmania)	\$ 0	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,200
Music in the Park (formerly Jazz By the Bay)	\$ 3,525	\$ 4,094	\$ 3,094
Support Services:			
Beaver Valley Outreach (BVO) ¹	\$ 9,275	\$ 34,040	\$ 10,135
Health Services:			
Hospice Georgian Triangle Foundation	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,700	\$ 1,500
Regular Contributions Total:	\$ 17,500	\$ 44,534	\$ 17,629

Applications

Group/Organization	2020 Request	2019 Request	2019 Donation
Blue Mountains Curling Centre	\$ 2,392	\$ 0	\$ 0
Blue Mountains Toastmasters	\$ 600	\$ 1,000	\$ 0
Breaking Down Barriers	\$ 1,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 500
Blue Mountains Creator Space ²	\$ 21,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Collingwood General & Marine Hospital ³	\$ 10,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 0
Cycling Events Ontario ⁴	\$ 1,465	\$ 0	\$ 0
Diabetes Canada	\$ 1,250	\$ 0	\$ 0
Events for Life	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Georgian Bay Coyotes	\$ 1,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Georgian Triangle Anglers Association	\$ 1,200	\$ 0	\$ 0
Georgian Triangle Humane Society	\$ 1,500	\$ 0	\$ 0
Giant Blue Pumpkin (590872 Ontario Limited) ⁴	\$ 10,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Home Horizon Transitional Support Program	\$ 2,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 500
Hope Haven Therapeutic Riding Centre	\$ 2,880	\$ 2,000	\$ 0
Hundred Acre Wood Forest Preschool	\$ 3,500	\$ 0	\$ 0
Kids in the Meaford Hall Arts Society	\$ 2,550	\$ 0	\$ 0
Marsh Street Centre for Performing Arts	\$ 1,250	\$ 900	\$ 900
Meaford Hospital Foundation ³	\$ 30,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 0
My Friends House	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,700	\$ 1,500
Rotary Club of Thornbury Clarksburg	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,750
Royal Canadian Legion Beaver Valley Branch	\$ 1,098	\$ 373	\$ 373
Seniors Network	\$ 550	\$ 532	\$ 532
Special Olympics Thornbury	\$ 750	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
St. George's The Anglican Parish of The Blue Mountains	\$ 158	\$ 0	\$ 0
St. John Ambulance Grey Bruce Huron Branch	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 450
Theatre Collingwood Association Inc	\$ 4,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Thornbury/Beaver Valley Lions ⁴	\$ 5,000	\$ 0	\$ 0
Women's House Serving Bruce and Grey	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,500
Grant and Donation Program Applications Total:	\$ 131,143	\$ 51,005	\$ 21,505

¹ \$24,000 of the 2019 request is related to a capital project.

² Application received after the deadline of February 28, 2020.

³ This request is for a capital expense.

⁴ No financial statements included with application.

E. The Blue Mountains' Strategic Plan

Goal #4: Promote a Culture of Organizational and Operational Excellence
Objective #4: To Be a Financially Responsible Organization

F. Environmental Impacts

None.

G. Financial Impact

The Grants and Donations Committee successfully raised \$53,619 which will fund the cash requests for the 2020 Grants and Donations program.

The 2020 Draft Budget has approximately \$20,000 for subsidy request through the Grants and Donations requests. The subsidy amount is for those requests that are looking for the use of facilities and/or services from the Town. This amount is throughout the budget in various departments.

The 2020 Draft Budget does not include money for cash requests through the Grants and Donations Program.

H. In consultation with

Tracy Petrescu, Administrative Assistant

I. Public Engagement

The topic of this Staff Report has not been subject to a Public Meeting and/or a Public Information Centre as neither a Public Meeting nor a Public Information Centre are required. Comments regarding this report should be submitted to Ruth Prince at directorfit@thebluemountains.ca.

J. Attached

1. 2020 Regular Contributor Submissions
2. 2020 Grants and Donations Program Applications
3. Staff Report FAF.20.008 - 2020 Grants and Donations Guidelines and Criteria

Respectfully Submitted,

Ruth Prince
Director of Finance and IT Services

For more information, please contact:

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