

**EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2016**

## 9 ONTARIO 150 GRANT PROGRAMS

- 1) That the recommendation contained in the following report of the Chief Corporate Initiatives and Intergovernmental Relations and the Chief Financial Officer and City Treasurer, dated September 6, 2016, be approved; and
- 2) That the following be approved in accordance with Communication C1, Memorandum from the Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer, Chief Corporate Initiatives and Intergovernmental Relations and the Director of Financial Planning and Development Finance/Deputy City Treasurer, dated August 19, 2016:

- ## Recommendation

1. That staff be authorized to submit application packages in support of the Ontario 150 Grant Programs:
  - a. Community Celebration Program
  - b. Community Capital Program
  - c. Partnership Program
2. That upon notification of grant award(s), the City Clerk be authorized to execute any necessary agreements in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor;

Green Directions Vaughan embraces a Sustainability First principal and states that sustainability means we make decisions and take actions that ensure a healthy environment, vibrant communities and economic vitality for current and future generations. Under this definition, activities which promote community pride, heritage and diversity contributes to the sustainability of the City.

## Ontario 150 Community Celebration Program

Staff are proposing to submit an application with a total cost of up to \$93,500 with potential federal funding of up to \$70,000 under this stream. The City's portion of the project costs are expected to be included by the 2017 operating budget.

Staff are proposing to submit an application with a total cost up to \$1,000,000 with potential federal funding of up to \$500,000 under this stream. The City's portion of the project costs are expected to be included by the 2017 capital budget.

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##### **Ontario 150 Partnership Program**

Staff are proposing to submit an application with a total cost of up to \$133,500 with potential federal funding of up to \$100,000 under this stream. The City's portion of the project costs are expected to be covered by the 2017 operating budget.

It should be noted that the successful award of applications for projects may require staff to review and reprioritize departments' workloads.

##### **Communications Plan**

The communications plan which will include internet, social media, public relations and other forms of communications to generate participation and community support. Although a formal communication plan is not required, successful grant applications may have required communication standards such as inclusion of funding partner logos and multi- stakeholder news releases etc. If so, Staff will ensure that the City remains compliant.

##### **Purpose**

To inform Council of the funding available under the Ontario 150 Programs and to seek a Council resolution to execute any agreements upon notice of successful award of funding.

##### **Background - Analysis and Options**

At the beginning of July 2016, the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport announced three provincial grant funding programs under the banner of Ontario 150 ([www.ontario.ca/150](http://www.ontario.ca/150)). Ontario 150 is an opportunity to show the pride all Ontarians share. The guiding themes of all programs are:

- Celebrate - bringing Ontarians together, reflecting on 150 years of achievements and important lessons learned, and celebrating everything that makes this province the best place in the world to live.
- Participate - empowering Ontarians to express themselves artistically and creatively in the spirit of youth and to participate actively in their communities and in public life - creating vibrant, healthy and inclusive communities.
- Innovate - challenging Ontarians to be entrepreneurial, inspiring tomorrow's leaders and equipping them with the skills and the infrastructure necessary to succeed in the global economy of the future. Investing in the leaders of tomorrow means investing in renewed infrastructure today.

##### **Program Profiles**

###### **Ontario 150 Community Celebration Program – \$7.0 million available province wide**

The Community Celebration Program is a one-time, application-based program to support communities and community organizations across the province in commemorating and celebrating Ontario's 150th anniversary in 2017.

The Community Celebration Program's objective is to facilitate the creation and delivery of impactful, participatory and inclusive initiatives that celebrate and commemorate Canada and Ontario's 150th anniversary. This will be achieved by providing funding to communities and organizations across Ontario.

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Successful initiatives must align with one or more of the following Ontario150 priorities:

- Supporting Celebration - Build awareness, excitement and broad public participation in the 150th anniversary.
- Commemorating Success and Highlighting Talent - Celebrate and explore Ontario's proud history and the people; places and events that shaped it
- Supporting Equal Opportunity - Celebrate the spirit of diversity, accessibility and inclusion.
- Empowering People and Communities - Build civic engagement, community pride and confidence in the future.

This is a Provincial program with no relation to the Community Fund for Canada's 150th. Initiatives receiving funding from other government sources may apply if they meet all the eligibility requirements of the program.

Vaughan's annual cash operating expenses exceed \$1 million making Vaughan eligible for up to \$70,000 in funding. This funding is 75% of the eligible expenses, equating to an initiative of approximately \$93,300. The program is accepting up to two applications per organization.

A Community Celebration Program initiative is defined as a public engagement initiative that:

- Is organized as a single activity or series of activities in calendar year 2017 (January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017) that is in addition to the regular activities of an organization.
- Demonstrates a capacity and intention to connect to Ontario and Canada's 150th anniversary themes and historical significance, such as the culture and heritage successes of Ontario and Canada (e.g., food, music, film and television, sport, science, diversity/immigration, arts, etc.).
- Demonstrates a capacity and intention to engage the community and visitors alike.
- Is inclusive and diverse through the involvement of youth, Indigenous, Francophone LGBTQ, multicultural, older adults and seniors, persons with disabilities communities.

All Community Celebration Program applications must be submitted no later than September 2, 2016. Applicants will be notified of their funding status by December 2016.

#### **Ontario 150 Community Capital Program – \$25.0 million available Province wide**

The Ontario150 Community Capital Program provides one-time funding in 2016/17 to support the repair, renovation or retrofit of existing community facilities – the public places and spaces where Ontarians come together to celebrate, create, play, explore, learn and support one another.

Projects must achieve a measured impact in their community, included:

- Extending the life and maximizing use of existing community facilities
- Increasing access to community facilities and programs
- Improving health and safety, accessibility and environmental standards
- Improving the capacity of community organizations to support the economic, physical and social well-being of Ontarians

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All projects must be 'shovel-ready' and can begin no earlier than January 1, 2017. Supported projects should occur within 1 year of grant approval and be completed by March 31st, 2018.

Vaughan's annual cash operating expenses exceed \$1 million making Vaughan eligible for up to \$500,000 in funding. This funding is 50% of the eligible expenses, equating to an initiative of approximately \$1,000,000. The program is accepting one application per organization.

All Ontario150 Community Capital Program applications must be completed and submitted no later than September 14, 2016.

#### **Ontario 150 Partnership Program – \$5.0 million available Province wide**

The Ontario150 Partnership Program will provide funding to applicants whose projects are collaborative, engage youth and demonstrate alignment with one of the Priority Areas as outlined below:

- Supporting Young Artists – Encourages partnerships with and among arts-based organizations to give youth more opportunities for learning and development in the arts and creative sector
- Promoting Diversity and Inclusion – Encourages collaborations with and among organizations serving diverse populations in order to better engage youth from all backgrounds, including rural, ethno-cultural, Francophone, Indigenous, and LGBTQ groups in their programming
- Environmental Stewardship – Encourages partnerships with and among environmental-based organizations to support projects centering around environmental preservation
- Supporting Youth Entrepreneurship – Encourages organizations to partner with businesses to support youth entrepreneurship opportunities
- Promoting Active and Healthy Living – Encourages organizations to collaborate on projects that support youth in making healthy lifestyle choices
- Youth Civic Engagement – Encourage organizations to collaborate and offer young people the skills and networks to take active roles in the community-building process, including through inter-generational mentoring

#### **Partnerships:**

Preference will be given to applicants whose projects demonstrate a high level of collaboration with a new partnering organization. These partnerships within and across sectors should aim to promote knowledge sharing within one Priority Area and encourage innovative ways to engage youth. Cash contributions in themselves would not be an indication of a significant partnership.

Businesses are encouraged to forge partnerships with other eligible applicants including not-for-profits, municipalities or Indigenous communities.

#### **Youth:**

Projects must be for youth, by youth or offer youth benefits. Projects should seek to engage youth as learners and leaders within one Priority Area. Recognizing that 'youth' can be a loose demographic description, applicants will be asked to specify the age range their project is targeting.

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The Ontario150 Partnership Program would support up to 75% of eligible project costs up to a maximum funding amount of up to \$100,000. The program is accepting one application per organization.

All Ontario150 Partnership Program applications must be completed and submitted no later than September 30, 2016.

#### **Project Proposals Developed over the Summer**

Over the summer months, staff have worked on developing program proposals that align with the requirements of the program. Once the proposed applications have been finalized by staff they will be incorporated in to a Communication to this report that details the projects to be submitted under each program.

It should be noted that the deadline for the Community Celebration Program submission is before the date of the September Finance, Administration and Audit Committee. Staff will submit a proposal for this program that aligns with both the criteria of the program and the priorities of the City and report to Council regarding the submission through the above noted Communication.

#### **Relationship to Term of Council Service Excellence Strategy Map (2014-2018)**

The City of Vaughan is committed to investing in our community's future and building on the citizen experience to provide the most value to residents. Priorities for this term of Council include improving the municipal road network, facilitating the development of the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre, Supporting the development of the hospital, re-establishing the urban tree canopy, creating affordable housing options, establishing a lobbyist registry, attracting investment and creating jobs, and supporting and promoting the arts, culture, heritage and sports in the Community.

The grant applications described in this report directly assist in fulfilling the 2014-2018 Term of Council priorities to support and promote arts, culture, heritage and sports in the community.

#### **Regional Implications**

If it is determined that there are regional implications as more information becomes available during the planning phase of the proposed projects staff will consult with the region.

#### **Conclusion**

The tremendous growth that Vaughan has experienced has brought both challenges and opportunities, as City Council strives to manage the fiscal, economic, social, institutional, recreational and cultural requirements of the city's increasingly diverse population.

With a population of more than 320,000 residents, the City of Vaughan has been one of the fastest growing communities in Canada and will continue to be over the next 15 years as it becomes home to more than 416,600 people and 266,100 jobs.

The Ontario 150 Programs provide an opportunity to celebrate and promote Canadian values, culture and history, generate national pride and bring citizens together to celebrate Ontario 150. Under the eligibility criteria, Vaughan has an opportunity to fund projects, activities and events which contributes to place making and community building. Utilizing funding from the Ontario 150 Programs would augment current resources, and allow organizers to improve the quality and caliber of existing events; as well as contribute to community building on a city-wide basis.

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It should be noted that the successful award of applications for projects may require staff to review and reprioritize departments' workloads.

**Attachments**

None

**Report prepared by:**

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