



Subject: *General Government Grants 2021/2022*
To: Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee
Date Prepared: November 9, 2021
Related Motions: N/A
Prepared by: Catherine Jobin, Community Development Coordinator
 Scott Preston, Manager of Recreation and Aquatics
Approved by: Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture

Summary

This report provides an overview of the current status of the General Government Grant program.

Financial Impact Statement

Organization	2021/2022 Budget	Note
Remembering Canada’s Heroes	\$1,000	No request being brought forward this year
Hants County Exhibition	\$500	Requested and disbursed \$500
East Hants Crime Prevention	\$825	For insurance costs C19(301)
Hants County Christmas Angels Society	\$1,000	Requested annually
East Hants Foodbanks	\$2,500	\$500 per registered foodbank in East Hants
Contingency Available	\$2,000	

The “Grants to Organizations” line item in the 2021/2022 Operating Budget includes a \$2,000 contingency to fund new General Government Grants requests that are approved by Council.

Recommendation

The General Government Grant’s identified in the budget and discussed in this report are approved as presented.

Recommended Motion

Move that the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee recommends to Council that Council approve the following General Government Grants for the 2021/2022 fiscal year:

- Hants County Exhibition \$500
- East Hants Crime Prevention \$825
- Hants County Christmas Angels Society \$1,000
- East Hants Foodbanks \$2,500

Background

In April 2009, Council approved the General Government Grants Policy with a subsequent amendment being approved in May 2012. The purpose of the Policy is to provide guidelines for the awarding of grants to non-profit organizations who apply to the Municipality for financial assistance.

The Eligibility Criteria from the General Government Grants Policy guides the review of applications and is as follows:

1. Program/Service Obligation ~ supports a service delivered by the Municipality.
2. Public Need/Benefit ~ service or program is broad based and all residents will derive a benefit versus special interest group needs and benefit to specific residents.
3. Financial Need ~ application demonstrates financial need and identifies all other grants and fundraising activities. Copies of most recent Financial Statements and the current year's budget should accompany the request.
4. Quality of Life ~ service or program enhances the quality of life of residents.

Council's policy identifies that applications received prior to March 31st in any given year will be given priority. Applications received after March 31st will be considered only if there are funds available.

As per the Municipal Grant Program Policy, the General Government Grant requires a Motion of Council to approve the budgeted General Government Grant recipients. Before the monies are released each organization has to send a letter of request to the CAO and their financial statements. The General Government Grant Policy is due to be reviewed and updated.

Discussion

REMEMBERING CANADA'S HEROES

Remembering Canada's Heroes applies for funding annually to support their educational outreach program, where they visit Grade 8 and Grade 11 classrooms. Since the COVID-19 Pandemic began, the group has not been able to perform their presentations. They are hopeful that they will be able to return to the schools during this school year to continue with their presentations.

A budgeted amount of \$1,000 for this organization was in the 2021/2022 operating budget under General Government, but there is no request for a General Government Grant this year.

HANTS COUNTY EXHIBITION

Hants County Exhibition had received a General Government grant of \$300 for 10 years, with the exception of an expanded sponsorship in 2015 for their 250th anniversary. In July 2020, Council received and approved an increase to their funding from \$300 to \$500 (C20(209)). The request for an increase was due to the new expenses associated with an online event and the absence of gate revenue. This year they held the 256th Hants County Exhibition virtually as well.

The budgeted amount for 2021/2022 of \$500 was released to the organization in May for their 256th Hants County Exhibition.

EAST HANTS CRIME PREVENTION

East Hants Crime Prevention received a General Government Grant in 2019, as per C19(301). The motion indicated that future years' grants to cover the cost of insurance be included in the budget process. East Hants Crime Prevention received \$825 in December of 2019 and 2020, and the same amount is budgeted for 2021/2022.

At this time no request for the funds have been received, but it is anticipated the Municipality will receive it soon.

HANTS COUNTY CHRISTMAS ANGELS

The Hants County Christmas Angels Society's mandate is to "confidentially support and assist Hants County families and children at Christmastime to participate in the shared enjoyment of buying Christmas gifts and participating in their family traditions of celebrating the Christmas holidays."

The group has received funding from the General Government Grant seven times in the last ten years. Since 2016/2017 they have received \$1,000 annually. At this time no request for the funds have been received, but it is anticipated the Municipality will receive it prior to the holiday season.

EAST HANTS FOOD BANKS

In October 2020, Council made a motion to provide all established food banks in East Hants with \$500 to help replenish stock after receiving a request from the Caring and Sharing Food Bank. There are five established food banks in East Hants:

1. Caring and Sharing Foodbank (Enfield)
2. Hants North Food Bank
3. Indian Brook Food Bank
4. Shumilacke Food Bank Society
5. Uniacke Wish Givers (Uniacke and District Jr. Fire Department Emergency Fund)

There is \$2,500 in the 2021-22 budget for this grant to provide \$500 to each established food bank again. At this time no request for the funds have been received, but it is anticipated the Municipality will receive it soon.

Future consideration will be given to realigning the General Government Grants process in accordance to the Municipal Grants Policy to be brought to Council for further discussion and approval.

Alternatives

That alternative funding amounts be identified for the General Government Grant applicants.

Conclusion

This report provided a status update on the General Government Grant Program.

Recommendation

Move that the Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee recommends to Council that Council approve the following General Government Grants for the 2021/2022 fiscal year:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------|---------|
| • Hants County Exhibition | \$500 |
| • East Hants Crime Prevention | \$825 |
| • Hants County Christmas Angels Society | \$1,000 |
| • East Hants Foodbanks | \$2,500 |