



**Subject:** *Not- For-Profit Insurance Grant Policy Update*  
**To:** Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee  
**Date Prepared:** Oct 30, 2023  
**Related Motions:** C23(51)  
**Prepared by:** Jo Swinemer, Community Development Coordinator  
**Approved by:** Alana Tapper, Director Parks, Recreation & Culture

---

### Summary

In February 2023, Council approved the Not-for-Profit Insurance Grant Policy for a stand-alone insurance grant program for not-for-profit organizations in East Hants, with the program beginning April 2023. Initial response has been positive and requests have exceeded the initial budget. This report summarizes the program to date and recommends additional funding be allocated for 2023/2024.

### Financial Impact Statement

The Not-For-Profit Insurance Grant is a first come, first funded program. Initial allocation for the grant program's first year was \$15,000 funded by reserves, which was added to General Government in the 2023/2024 budget. In the first 6 months of the program, over \$18,000 in requests were received and \$14,500 has been allocated so far, with some payments pending renewal forms.

Given the uptake in the program, the requests received, and those expected in the coming months, further funding is required to meet the demand and increased funding should be considered as part of 2024/2025 budget discussions. General Government Grant Reserve balance is approximately \$85,000.

### Recommendation

Staff recommend that Council allocate \$9500 from General Government Reserves to further fund insurance grants for balance of 2023/2024.

### Recommended Motion

*Move that the Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee recommend to Council that \$9500 from General Government Reserve be added to the Not-for-Profit Insurance Grant Program to meet the demand of this new grant program in 2023/2024.*

---

### Background

In December 2022, staff presented a report with updates and recommended policy changes to the Community Grant program. During the review, staff observed that at least 50% or more of the community grants issued over the past three (3) years were for insurance. Staff completed a jurisdictional scan and reviewed similar programs related to insurance funding.

In January 2023, staff presented details on a proposed insurance grant program, including eligibility, funding, deadlines, application requirements and reporting. Following the presentation Council moved Motion C23(16) that staff prepare a Not-For-Profit Insurance Grant policy that funds 100% of insurance costs up to a maximum of \$1500 and remove insurance funding from existing municipal grant programs and bring back the updated policies to council, and Policy was presented and approved in February.

To launch this new policy, staff prepared a program launch in March 2023 to start accepting applications as of April 1, 2023. Roll-out include program social media promotion, community development e-newsletter and direct communications with organizations that currently access insurance funding through other municipal grant programs.

### Discussion

This new grant program was well received by community groups. Insurance continues to be a large expense for many groups in East Hants.

In the first six months, 18 applications have been received, and 13 of those have been paid. Some grants are approved, but funding release is pending updated policy quote for renewal later this year. Other applications are not yet complete, but staff are working with groups for outstanding documents/information, and finally the latest applications haven't been processed due to funding limitations.

Below are the organizations funded to date through Not-for-Profit Insurance Grant.

Organization	Insurance Cost	Amount Funded
Mount Uniacke Mustangs Fastball Association	925	925
Lions Memorial Park Society	1513	1500
Enfield Heritage Centre Association	650	650
Nine Mile River Trail	685	685
Empire Trails	1600	1500
East Walton Community Club	499	499
Milford Rec Assoc	8345	1500
Off Leash East Hants	1542	1500
Bell Park Development Association	402	402
Minasville Community Centre	603	603
East Gore Community Hall	679	679
Tenecape Community Club	864	864
After Trauma Empowerment Network	1911	1500
Total Paid:		\$12,807

The chart below outlines other applications that are in process.

Organization	Insurance Cost	Amount Approved	Additional Information
Caring & Sharing Angel Tree Food	840	840	To be released in Feb, to align with renewal
Rising Tide New Horizons (Noel)	861	861*	Pending renewal notice, \$861 reserved
Mount Uniacke Community Improvement Cmt	866	866	Under \$500 remaining in fund
The CHArt Society	3766		Could receive up to \$1500, working on application & documentation
Shubenacadie Community Development Assoc	1575		Could receive up to \$1500, if funding is available

### STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

The Not-For-Profit Insurance Grant aligns with East Hants' strategic goal to provide services, programs and facilities, through direct service delivery and collaboration with others, that allow people and businesses to thrive.

## FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Not-For-Profit Insurance Grant is a first come, first funded program. Initial allocation for the grant program's first year was \$15,000 funded by reserves, which was added to General Government in the 2023/2024 budget. In the first 6 months of the program, over \$18,000 in requests were received and \$14,500 has been allocated so far, with some payments pending renewal forms.

Given the uptake in the program, the requests received, and those expected in the coming months, further funding is required to meet the demand and increased funding should be considered as part of 2024/2025 budget discussions. General Government Grant Reserve balance is approximately \$85,000.

---

## Alternatives

- 1) Council may consider alternate funding amount to support insurance grant from General Government reserve.
  - 2) Council could consider reallocating funds from 2023/2024 Community Grant Program budget as this program is under subscribed with around \$12,000 remaining for 2023/2024.
  - 3) Council may also consider recommending no further funds be added to the Not-for-profit Insurance Grant program for 2023/24, referring applicants to April 2024.
-