



TO: Committee of the Whole

FROM: Jennifer Taylor, Chief Administrative Officer
Lovely Magnaye, Manager of Finance

DATE: March 11, 2021

RE: **2021 Municipal Grant Allocation**

ISSUE:

Administration has prepared the recommendation of funding allocation to non-profit organizations or volunteer groups.

BACKGROUND:

FS-005 Municipal Grant Policy provides opportunity for non-profit organizations to apply for a grant funding for operating and capital projects.

The grant application was open from January 11, 2021 to February 28, 2021. Four (4) applications were received and were reviewed following the process and evaluation criteria provided by sections 4.1 and 4.2 of the policy.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1) Committee of the Whole can recommend approval of the funding allocation.
- 2) Committee of the Whole can provide direction to Administration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The municipal grant funding must be considered before approving the 2021 operating budget. If Council decided to provide 100% funding to all the requests, the cash required for this budget will be \$29,000 and in-kind donation amounting \$1,500.

ANALYSIS:

Here are the recommendations for the 2021 municipal grant:

- **Wadena School of Dance to receive \$8,000**
Wadena School of Dance requested \$10,000 for the instructor wages and facility rental. The financial statement provided in the application demonstrated the need for financial assistance in order to continue the service/program in our community. The online auction and other fundraisers as mentioned in the application have shown the strong support from volunteers and high level of community involvement, these are some of the core criteria in the policy.
 - **Wadena Curling Club to receive \$3,000**
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Wadena Curling Club requested \$5,000 for the utility bills, ice technician, ice plant and fire suppression. The application clearly defined the need for the funding. The club has established partnerships that may cost share and has the resource capacity to provide the service/program. Other sources of funding mentioned in the application such as Sask Lotteries through the Town (\$3,280), CurlSask Map Grant (\$1,158) and Re/max Blue Chip Realty (\$2,500) were considered in the recommendation.

- **Wadena Players Theatre to receive \$4,000 with free storage for one year**

Wadena Players Theatre requested \$5,000 for the purchase and installation of a Sea Can and free rental space at the storage compound. The application clearly illustrates the need for the funding. They have mentioned the challenges with the limited storage space at the Community Hall. They received financial support from the Wadena Arts Council (\$1,000) to complete the project.

- **Wadena and District Search and Rescue to deny the request this year**

Wadena and District Search and Rescue requested for \$9,000 cash and \$1,000 in-kind donation for a Command Post. The application said that the project will not go forward if they did not receive the funding. There were no other sources of funding to support the project. The budget provided in the application did not clearly show the financial plan and efficient use of the Town funds. Therefore, Administration would like to request additional information in the future.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION(S):

“That \$15,000 be approved for the 2021 Municipal Grant and allocated as follows:

- Wadena School of Dance - \$8,000
- Wadena Curling Club - \$3,000
- Wadena Players Theatre - \$4,000 with free storage for one year”