

REPORT

REPORT TO: Chair and Members of the Planning, Public Works and Transportation Committee

REPORT FROM: Jennifer Spence, Sustainability Outreach Officer

DATE: May 15, 2018

REPORT NO.: PLS-2018-0046

RE: 2018 Community Sustainability Investment Fund

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. PDS-2018-0046, dated May 15, 2018, regarding requests for funding from the Community Sustainability Investment Fund, be received;

AND FURTHER THAT funding for the applications submitted to the Community Sustainability Investment Fund, as recommended by the Town Sustainability Implementation Committee (TSIC), be endorsed subject to the applicants providing any additional information that may be required.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval to provide funds to the organizations who have applied to the 2018 Community Sustainability Investment Fund. The various applications referenced in the report have been reviewed by TSIC.

The Community Sustainability Investment Fund provides seed-funding to enable local community groups and organizations to take on local community-based actions that contribute to the implementation of the Town of Halton Hills' Community Sustainability Strategy. It is designed to help applicants leverage funding from other sources, and to establish partnerships between the Town and the community. This is the fifth year for the Community Sustainability Investment Fund since the Community Sustainability Strategy was approved by Town Council in 2013. The Community Sustainability Investment Fund aligns with Council's Strategic Plan which has identified sustainability as one of its priorities.

COMMENTS:

Table 1 (below) displays a summary of the Community Sustainability Investment Funding requests between 2014 and 2018.

Year	Number of applications	Total funding requested	Total funding distributed	Total combined project value
2018	11	\$17,467.50	\$10,000.00	\$95,413.75
2017	9	\$14,021.49	\$15,940.00	\$95,691.84
2016	9	\$13,796.90	\$10,000.00	\$67,218.95
2015	15	\$25,500.00	\$10,000.00	\$209,372.62
2014	7	\$11,060.00	\$4,060.00	\$48,371.00
Total	51	\$81,845.89	\$50,000.00	\$516,068.16

A maximum of \$2,000.00 per project, per applicant, per intake period may be funded. A maximum of \$10,000.00 can be funded per intake period. In 2014, TSIC recommended Council approve a total of \$4060.00 instead of the maximum amount of \$10,000.00. In 2016, TSIC recommended Council to consider dispersing the remaining funds from 2014 in 2017 when the Community Sustainability Investment Fund expected an increase in funding requests for activities and events celebrating Canada's 150th anniversary. In 2017, Council approved TSIC's recommendations of distributing \$15,940.00 to applicants.

A total of 11 applications were received for the 2018 Community Sustainability Investment Fund intake period. Collectively, the projects recommended for funding should make a meaningful contribution to Halton Hills' cultural vibrancy, economic prosperity, environmental health and social well-being. They will help implement the Community Sustainability Strategy and ultimately raise our quality of life in Halton Hills.

TSIC reviewed the applications submitted during the 2018 Community Sustainability Investment Fund intake at their meeting on May 10, 2018. Based on TSIC's consensus they recommend \$10,000.00 be distributed to the 11 applicants noted in Table 2 below.

Name of Organization	Amount Requested	Total Value of Project	Amount Recommended
Acton Community Garden	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$500.00
Acton High School	\$100.00	\$150.00	\$100.00
Food for Thought	\$2,000.00	\$61,000.00	\$1,800.00
Halton Catholic Children's Education Foundation	\$2,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$1,000.00
Halton Hills Bruce Trail Club	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$500.00
Halton North Peel Naturalist Club	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,800.00

Katherine Lister	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$250.00
Michael Shultz & Madeleine Hague	\$1,367.50	\$1,367.50	\$250.00
Norval Community Association	\$2,000.00	\$7,300.00	\$1,800.00
Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources (P.O.W.E.R.) - EcoFilm Fest	\$500.00	\$5,296.25	\$500.00
Willow Park Ecology Centre	\$2,000.00	\$6,300.00	\$1,500.00

All funding recipients are required to submit a one-page report on their project's results within 14 months of receiving funding. These reports will include information on the results achieved, how any profits were reinvested into Halton Hills to support the implementation of the Community Sustainability Strategy, level of community engagement, lessons learned, final budget, next steps and measures to ensure that the project will be sustained without additional Town assistance.

Appendix 1 to this report provides a brief overview of the 2018 funding applications, staff comments and TSIC's recommendations. Additional information on all of the applications is available from the Planning and Sustainability Department.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

Sustainability is a key component of the Town's Strategic Plan and is one of Council's priorities. By supporting the implementation of the Community Sustainability Strategy, funding provided via the Community Sustainability Investment Fund will advance the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This is the fifth and final year of the approved funding for the Community Sustainability Investment Fund. Funding for the Community Sustainability Investment Fund will need to be determined in the 2019 Town of Halton Hills budget.

CONSULTATION:

Town staff are available to organizations interested in submitting applications to the Community Sustainability Investment Fund. Town staff are consulted to ensure applicants are not duplicating their funding requests from other Town departments.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

No public engagement is required for this report.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

The Town is committed to implementing our Community Sustainability Strategy, Imagine Halton Hills. Doing so will lead to a higher quality of life. The relationship between this report and the Strategy is summarized below:

Do the report's recommendations advance the Strategy's implementation? Yes.

Which pillar(s) of sustainability does this report support? Cultural Vibrancy, Environmental Health, Economic Prosperity, Social Well-being.

In Summary, the Sustainability Implications of this report are as follows:

The Community Sustainability Investment Fund supports community groups undertaking actions that implement the Community Sustainability Strategy, and raise quality of life in Halton Hills.

Overall, the alignment of this report with the Community Sustainability Strategy is: excellent.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Upon authorization, Town staff will notify all applicants in writing with the outcome of Council's decision. Staff will also guide applicants to complete their obligations with receiving grant money from the Community Sustainability Investment Fund.

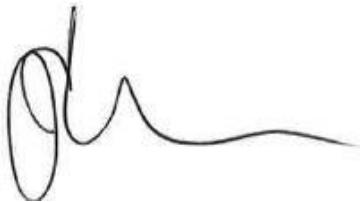
CONCLUSION:

The Town appreciates and recognizes the value and benefits of working in collaboration with community stakeholders to advance the implementation of the Community Sustainability Strategy, focusing on raising quality of life for Halton Hills' residents. The Town appreciates the quality and wide variety of projects submitted to the Community Sustainability Investment Fund. The Community Sustainability Investment Fund is an investment to support the community's participation in shaping the future of Halton Hills.

Reviewed and Approved by,



Gabriel Clarke, Manager of Sustainability and Climate Change



John Linhardt, Commissioner of Planning and Sustainability



Brent Marshall, CAO