

Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Chief Administrative Office

Corporate Initiatives

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Amy Wilcox, FCPA, FCMA, PMP
Manager, Corporate Initiatives & Communications

Date: February 10, 2023

Subject: Together CK Grant - 2023 Funding Recommendations

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that:

1. Seventeen applications, as endorsed by the Together CK Review Committee, be approved under the "Community Projects" component for a total of \$128,481 in funding against gross project costs of \$352,986 and that the remaining budgeted funds be used towards events.
2. Eight applications, as endorsed by the Together CK Review Committee, be approved under the "Significant Events" component for a total of \$197,250 in funding against gross project costs of \$785,950.
3. Twenty-eight applications, as endorsed by the Together CK Review Committee, be approved under the "Community Events" component for a total of \$99,050 in funding against gross project costs of \$327,851.

Background

The Community Partnership Fund (CPF) was established by Council in 2000. It is a grant program which uses matching funding to promote community development projects within Chatham-Kent. The name of the grant program was changed to Together CK in 2019. The annual grant program consists of two components – Community Projects and Festivals & Events. The funds distributed by this program has encouraged widespread civic engagement and community improvement.

Comments

The 2023 round of the Together CK Event Grant opened in early fall. The application deadline for events was October 13, 2022, and the deadline for community projects was December 1, 2022.

The Together CK Review Committee evaluated each application against the CK Plan 2035 Areas of Strategic Focus and the grant guidelines and priorities. The Review Committee proceeded on the assumption it had the following amounts for distribution.

- Significant events: \$100,000
- Community events: \$75,000
- Community projects: \$200,000

Events

Thirty-six applications for event funding were received.

Significant Events

Eight applications were submitted for “significant event” funding. The four significant event applications requested \$197,250 in funding towards total project costs of over \$785,950. All eight applications are eligible for funding.

Community Events

Twenty-eight applications were submitted and classified as “community events”. Three applications submitted are not eligible for funding as one was a fund-raising event and fund-raising events are not eligible per the grant guidelines. The other two were applications submitted by businesses, which are not eligible per the grant guidelines. The eligible community events applications requested a total of \$99,050 in funding towards project costs of over \$327,851.

Recommended applications can be found in appendix A and appendix B.

Community Projects

Twenty applications were received prior to the application deadline.

Of the 20 applications, 17 applications are eligible for funding. Three applications are not eligible per the Review Committee. The first application was received after the deadline. The second application was from a school, schools are not eligible under the grant guidelines. The third was a business, which is not eligible to submit an application per the grant guidelines.

The 17 applications requested a total of \$128,481 in funding towards project costs in excess of \$352,986.

Recommended applications can be found in appendix C.

Deliberations

The pandemic and social distancing guidelines resulted in a different format for reviewing the 2023 applications. The grant committee reviewed and scored the applications separately, then met virtually to discuss the scoring together. If a member of the committee had an issue with an application, they voiced it during the meeting and the committee discussed the issue as a group.

Areas of Strategic Focus

This report supports the following areas of strategic focus:

			
Economic Prosperity	Healthy & Safe Community	People & Culture	Environmental Sustainability
—	2.3/2.4	3.1/3.3	—

Consultation

These recommendations were reviewed and are supported by the Together CK Grant Review Committee. The Review Committee consists of citizen representatives and municipal staff members.

The staff members are:

1. Manager, Corporate Initiatives, Chief Administrative Office – Amy Wilcox
2. Manager, Data & Integration, Information Technology & Transformation – Erica Hoppe
3. Supervisor, Tourism – Shannon Paiva
4. Planner II, Planning Services, Community Development – Greg Houston
5. Accounts Processing Assistant – Kara Wenner

The citizen representatives are:

1. Fannie Vavoulis - Committee Chairperson
2. Janet Barnes
3. Susan Larabee
4. Libby Passmore
5. Marlee Robinson

Communication

Successful applicants will receive a letter in the mail explaining their application was recommended for funding and what the amount of funding will be. A grant agreement, created by Legal Services will accompany the letter, as well as next steps on how the group can access initial funds.

Information regarding the successful applicants will be shared on social media and the corporate website under grants.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (DEIJ)

This report does not have implications related to diversity, equity, inclusion or justice, however, a copy of this report has been shared with the DEIJ and CKLIP team as some of the events may support newcomers in the area.

Financial Implications

The financial implications of the recommendations made in this report are fully discussed in the comments section above.

Prepared by: Amy Wilcox, FCPA, FCMA, PMP / Manager, Corporate Initiatives & Communications

Reviewed by: Michael Duben, BA, LLB / Chief Administrative Officer

C: The Together CK Grant Review Committee

Attachments:

Appendix A: "Significant Events" Recommended for Funding

Appendix B: "Community Events" Recommended for Funding

Appendix C: "Community Projects" Recommended for Funding

Appendix A: "Significant Events" Recommended for Funding

Organization	Event Name	Requested	Event Cost	Grant Recommended
2023 Crowfest Committee	Crowfest 2023	\$25,000	\$125,000	\$25,000
Come Together Chatham-Kent Community Association	The Gift	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$10,000
Dresden Sidestreets Youth Centre	Dresden Night Market Series	\$22,250	\$50,450	\$11,125
Festival of Nations Chatham-Kent	Festival of Nations 2023	\$25,000	\$200,000	\$25,000
Historic Downtown Chatham BIA	RetroFest™ 2023	\$25,000	\$74,500	\$20,000
Prosperity RoundTable	Event Series: Joy, Pride-ness and Kindness	\$25,000	\$73,000	\$15,000
Thamesville Threshing Festival Inc.	Thamesville Threshing Festival	\$25,000	\$144,000	\$22,500
Wallaceburg Antique Motor and Boat Outing (WAMBO)	Wallaceburg Antique Motor and Boat Outing (WAMBO)	\$25,000	\$69,000	\$17,500
	Totals	\$197,250	\$785,950	\$146,125
			Budget	\$100,000
				-46,125
	½ Un-used Community Projects Funding 2023			\$47,469
	Roll over to 2024			\$1,344

Appendix B: "Community Events" Recommended for Funding

Organization	Event Name	Requested	Event Cost	Grant Recommended
ARTspace	Thames Art Gallery and ARTspace ARTcrawls and Community Arts Initiatives	\$4,000	\$8,022	\$4,000
Blenheim & Community Senior Citizens Group	Blenheim Senior Fair/Expo	\$3,200	\$6,200	\$3,200
Buxton National Historic Site & Museum	100th Annual Buxton Homecoming	\$5,000	\$37,050	\$5,000
Chatham Kent & Lambton Childrens Water Festival	Chatham Kent & Lambton Childrens Water Festival 2023	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$5,000
Chatham Kent Nigerian Community	Official Launching of the CK Nigerian Community	\$1,625	\$2,925	\$1,625
Chatham-Kent Gay Pride Association	CK Proud	\$5,000	\$13,500	\$5,000
CK Arts and Culture Network	2023 Spring CK Crawl Studio Tour and 2023 Arts and Culture Heroes Event	\$5,000	\$13,000	\$5,000
Courage for Freedom	CK Blue Heart Festival	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$5,000
Dresden Kinsmen Club	Rock The Lot	\$5,000	\$23,604	\$5,000
East Kent Celebrates Committee	East Kent Celebrates Concert Series	\$5,000	\$11,250	\$5,000
Erieau Community Association	Boulevard of Dreams - Erieau Car Show	\$775	\$1,550	\$775
First Nights	First Night	\$1,000	\$2,200	\$1,000
FreeHelpCK	Chatham Easter Egg Hunt	\$5,000	\$11,000	\$5,000
Glad Tidings Community Church	Canada Day in Blenheim 2023	\$5,000	\$33,500	\$5,000
Junior Achievement (JA) South Western Ontario	World of Choices - Thriving Communities	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$5,000
Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority	Imagine McGregor: Pollinate Our Schools	\$5,000	\$15,140	\$5,000
Maple City Centre for Older Adults (Active Lifestyle Centre)	ALC Active Living Fair	\$1,250	\$2,500	\$1,250
Merlin Royal Canadian Legion	Merlin Family Fun Day	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$3,000
Tilbury BIA	Tilbury BIA Canada Day Fireworks	\$2,500	\$22,500	\$2,500
Tilbury Kinsmen	End of Summer Bash	\$5,000	\$11,500	\$5,000

Tilbury Light Festival	Tilbury Light Festival	\$5,000	\$14,250	\$5,000
United Way of Chatham-Kent	Decades of Caring – Celebrating 75 Years of a Giving Community	\$5,000	\$12,500	\$5,000
Wallaceburg Canada Day Committee	Celebrate Canada Day 2023	\$1,700	\$3,400	\$1,700
Wheatley Fish Fest	Fish Fest 2023	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$5,000
Wheatley Two Creeks Association	2023 Concert Series	\$5,000	\$21,260	\$5,000
	Totals	\$99,050	\$327,851	\$99,050
			Budget	\$75,000
				-\$24,050
	½ Un-used Community Projects Funding 2023			\$47,469
		Rollover to 2024		\$23,419

Appendix C: "Community Projects" Recommended for Funding

Organization	Project Name	Requested	Project Cost	Grant Recommended
Buxton National Historic Site & Museum	Artis Lane Honourary Garden Project	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$10,000
Chatham Minor Baseball Association	Baseball Fieldhouse Expansion	\$10,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Chatham-Kent Gay Pride Association	48 Centre Street - Accessibility Updates	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$10,000
Come Together CK	Anti-Bullying Murals Art Project	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$10,000
Dresden Legion Branch 113	Facility Upgrade - Community Room Improvement (Main Banquet Hall)	\$10,000	\$24,500	\$10,000
Erieau Community Association	Safe Protected Buoyed Swim Area on Erieau's Public Beach	\$4,000	\$8,075	\$4,000
Merlin Parks & Recreation	2023 Bathrooms, Meeting Room, and Hallway Floor coating surfaces	\$3,526	\$7,051	\$3,526
Merlin Senior Citizens Friendship Club	Upgrade billiard/furnace/janitorial supply room	\$6,000	\$13,000	\$6,000
No One Stands Alone	Chatham-Kent Expansion	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$10,000
Royal Canadian Legion Br. 206 Tilbury	Pool Table Upgrades	\$3,955	\$7,910	\$3,955
Sydenham Community Curling Club	Ice Plant updating Project	\$10,000	\$20,450	\$10,000
The Mental Health Network of Chatham-Kent	Hope Light	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$10,000
Tilbury & District Horticultural Society	Continued upgrades to Northside Park	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$3,000
Wallaceburg Senior Citizens Club Inc	Programmable Exterior Sign	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$10,000
Walter Coulter Memorial Garden	Accessible walkway into the Walter Coulter Memorial Garden	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$3,000
Wheatley Horticultural Society	Outdoor Exercise Equipment at Wheatley Arboretum and Learning Trail	\$10,000	\$30,000	\$10,000

Wheatley Two Creeks Association	Sidewalk and electric power to Wedding Gazebo	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$5,000
	Totals	\$128,481	\$352,986	\$128,481
			Budget:	\$200,000
		Remaining Balance:		\$71,519