

Report to Council

Date: 2/24/2025
From: Kirsten Rahm, Treasurer/Manager of Finance
Re: 2025 Community Grants

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Council of the Corporation of Merrickville-Wolford allocate funds in the amount of \$12,000 funds and In-Kind requests in an estimated amount of \$8,075 for the Community Grant Program;

AND FURTHER THAT the Public Works Department and Emergency Services Department provide an accounting of the approximate staff time allocated to the functions supported by the grant to determine the true cost of the support provided by the Municipality;

AND FURTHER THAT Staff provide a revised structure and allocations policy prior to undertaking the 2026 budget.

BACKGROUND

On April 23, 2019, Council passed By-law 23-2019, being a by-law to adopt a Community Grant Program Policy in order to set rules and eligibility requirements for applicants and to guide the decision-making process with respect to the allocation of the community grants each year. The Village of Merrickville-Wolford Community Grants Program provides limited financial support to community groups and organizations for projects or events that benefit and contribute toward the quality of life of local residents.

ANALYSIS

At the Committee of the Whole meeting on February 10th, 2025, staff presented Council with the 2025 community grant applications. Council approved all In Kind requests, and allocated funding to the following community groups:

Summary Sheet Community Grants 2025	In Kind	Monetary
Alphabetical listing		
Agricultural Society	(\$75)	(\$4,375)
Chamber - Snowflake Festival	(\$200)	
Christmas in Merrickville	(\$200)	
Christmas Hamper Program (Lions)	(\$600)	
Classic Car Show	(\$525)	
Echo Champions Lions	(\$200)	

Festival of the Arts	(\$25)	(\$5,125)
Girls Incorporated of Upper Canada	(\$200)	(\$1,000)
Porchfest		(\$1,500)
Public School Holiday Feast	(\$50)	
Run Merrickville	(\$200)	
Scout Group	(\$500)	
Seniors Exercise Classes	(\$3,000)	
Theatre Night in Merrickville	(\$1,500)	
	(\$7,275)	(12,000)

Council also approved funding for Beth Donovan Hospice of \$4125, to be funded through the hospital reserve.

The Soccer Club sent in an application for In Kind requests after the January 31st deadline, for Council's consideration. The value of the In-Kind request is \$800. This brings the total of In-Kind requests to \$8075.

If applicable, the community groups must fill out the appropriate sections of the Event By-Law prior to their event.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Kirsten Rahm,
 Manager of Finance - Treasurer

Darlene Plumley, CAO