



Social Services and Housing Committee Agenda

Thursday, February 2, 2017
Council Chambers
County Administration Centre, Walkerton

1. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

2. Action Items

- A. Bruce County Community Services Fund Program Revised Program Guidelines and Name Change to Child Activity Assistance Program (attached)
- B. Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative 2017-2018 Investment Plan (attached)
- C. Rescind By-law 2017-006

3. Information Items

- A. Social Housing Improvement Program Funding Re-allocation (attached)
- B. “The Journey Together” - Early Years Capacity Funding Allocation & Transfer Payment Agreement (attached)

4. Next Meeting

March 2, 2017

5. Adjournment



Committee Report

To: Warden Mitch Twolan
Members of the Social Services and Housing Committee

From: Christine MacDonald
Director of Social Services and Housing

Date: February 2, 2017

Re: Bruce County Community Services Fund Program Revised Program Guidelines and Name Change to Child Activity Assistance Program

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Bruce County Community Services Fund Program be renamed to Child Activity Assistance Program; and

That the revised Guidelines for the Child Activity Assistance Program be approved effective February 2, 2017.

BACKGROUND:

The Bruce County Community Services Fund has, for a number of years, assisted low-income families with subsidy for the cost of program fees. The programs can include but are not limited to the following; sporting programs, summer camp, extra-curricular costs through school, music lessons and other arts and cultural programming. Subsidy is available to families with a gross income of less than \$30,000.00. Children up to the age of 18 qualify for subsidy of a maximum of \$3000.00 per year.

In 2016, approximately \$41,000.00 was distributed to families that met the eligibility criteria for the various types of programs listed above. This included approximately \$19,000.00 for non-sporting activities and \$22,000.00 for sporting activities. This program has been funded through the use of a specialized reserve for this purpose. The reserve was depleted in 2016. Therefore, during the 2017 budget process, it was apparent that staff needed to put forth new solutions to leverage resources and continue to provide quality core services to residents within the mandate of the Department and the limitations of the available revenue. The funding available to this program has been reduced from \$50,000 to \$20,000 annually.

Staff researched the opportunity that the Canadian Tire Corporation funded, Jumpstart Program provides to families subsidy for registration and equipment cost for sport activities. Staff found that, Jumpstart provides funding up to \$500 per child, per year for recreation programs, which is a deeper subsidy than has been provided through Bruce County Community Services Fund previously. The Jumpstart program is a national charity with a commitment to local communities.

To transition families that have been using the Bruce County Community Services Fund to the use of the Jumpstart program staff will assist families with accessing the online login and have hardcopy applications available. Staff in each of the sites can assist families with access to the material and provide instruction.



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All recreation departments in Bruce County will be notified of the change to the Bruce County Community Services Fund criteria and will be provided with information on the Jumpstart program in order that they too can provide direct referral to Jumpstart. It is suggested, as per the recommendation that the revised Program Guidelines be made effective immediately upon Committee approval. Given the change in the parameters of the program, it is recommended that the name of the program be revised to the Child Activity Assistance Program (CAAP), to reflect the specific purpose of the program. The revised Program Guidelines are attached.

FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL/IT CONSIDERATIONS:

There is no staffing, legal or IT considerations with this report. Staff will approve expenditures for the program up to the approved expenditure of \$20,000.00 in the 2017 budget.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CONSULTATION:

There is no interdepartmental consultation associated with this report.

LINK TO STRATEGIC GOALS AND ELEMENTS:

Goal #5 Eliminate our own red tape

E. Focus on the internal and the external customer/client's needs first.

Written by: Nancy Reinhart, Income Maintenance Manager

Approved by:

Kelley Coulter
Chief Administrative Officer



Bruce County Social Services and Housing

Child Activity Assistance Fund

What is the Child Activity Assistance Fund

Subsidy is available for fees related to non-sporting programs such as; summer camp fees, Scouts, music lessons, school field trips etc.

Who is Eligible to Apply:

- Must be a resident of Bruce County
- Have a gross family income of less than \$30,000.00
- Subsidy is available for dependent children, living at home, under the age of 18

Maximum subsidy available is:

- \$300.00 per child per calendar year for families with a gross income less than \$25,000.00 per year
- \$200.00 per child per calendar year for families with a gross income between \$25,000 and \$30,000.00
- Applicants must contribute at least 10%, but not less than \$10.00 for each child's fee

HOW TO APPLY

The application can be downloaded from www.brucecounty.on.ca or can be picked up in person at any of the following Social Services and Housing offices or at your local school.

30 Park Street
Walkerton, Ontario
N0G 2V0
519-881-0431

910 Queen Street
Kincardine, Ontario
N2Z 2Y2
519-396-2116

268 Berford Street
Warton, Ontario
NOH 1P0
519-534-1286

605 Mill Street
Port Elgin, Ontario
NOH 2C0
519-389-5580

What information is needed

- Copy of birth verification for each child
- Verification of income

How is payment process

- Direct payments can be issued to the service provider
- Direct reimbursement – paid receipt must be included

Applications must be submitted to:

Bruce County Social Services and Housing
30 Park Street
PO BOX 399
WALKERTON ON N0G 2V0
1-800-265-3005 or 519-881-0431
Fax: 519-881-4324

Where to Access Subsidy for Recreational or Sport Programs

To apply for subsidy for recreational programs such as hockey, soccer, baseball, swimming, etc, an application can be submitted to the Jumpstart program.

Applications can be completed online at: <http://jumpstart.canadiantire.ca/en.html> or hardcopy applications can be picked up at the locations listed above.

Be ensure that you allow enough time for Jumpstart to process the application as processing time can be 4-6 weeks.

If you need assistance to complete the Jumpstart application, please contact 1-800-265-3005 or 519-881-0431.



Committee Report

To: Warden Mitch Twolan
Members of the Social Services and Housing Committee

From: Christine MacDonald
Director of Social Services and Housing

Date: February 2, 2017

Re: Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative 2017/2018 Investment Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) 2017/2018 Investment Plan be approved.

BACKGROUND:

CHPI aims to prevent, address and reduce homelessness by improving access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing that is linked to flexible support services based on people's needs.

CHPIs two main objectives are:

- 1) To assist people experiencing homelessness obtain and retain housing; and
- 2) To assist people at risk of homelessness to remain housed

Each year, Service Manager are required to develop and submit an Investment Plan that will outline how their funding allocations will be used.

Total Planned CHPI Allocation for 2017-2018	
Service Categories	Allocation
Emergency Shelter Solutions	\$20,000
Services and Supports	\$101,396
Homelessness Prevention	\$321,505
Program Administration	\$78,159
Total	\$521,060

Total Planned CHPI Allocation for January - December 2017	
Service Categories	Allocation
Emergency Shelter Solutions	\$17,000
Services and Supports	\$98,896
Homelessness Prevention	\$309,446
Program Administration	\$69,028
Total	\$494,370



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Service categories include:

- 1) Emergency shelter solutions include services and supports that provide relief or protect households/people who are homeless or are in imminent risk of homelessness.
- 2) Services and supports include various services and supports provided to assist vulnerable or at risk clients with immediate relief or support in obtaining housing.
- 3) Homelessness prevention includes services that assist households at risk of homelessness to retain their housing.

As the Service Manager, Bruce County has developed a partnership with the YMCA to provide housing and emergency services to residents who are homelessness. Assistance is also of provided to residents at risk of becoming homeless through the Housing Stability Fund and the Community Support Program.

FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LLEGAL/IT CONSIDERATIONS:

The CHPI Program is funded by provincial dollars flowed to the County from the Ministry of Housing. We are eligible to use fifteen percent of the total funding received towards administrative costs. The investment plan submitted is reflective of the 2017 approved budget. There are no staffing or IT considerations associated with this report. The County is responsible for adhering to the CHPI program guidelines.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CONSULTATION:

The Corporate Services Department has been consulted to review previous expenditure trends and confirm consistency with our internal budget processes

LINK TO STRATEGIC GOALS AND ELEMENTS:

Goal #3. Find creative new ways to engage our public

Element #5. E - Focus on the internal and external customer/client first needs first.

Written by: Tania Dickson, Housing Services Manager

Approved by:

Kelley Coulter
Chief Administrative Officer



Committee Report

To: Warden Mitch Twolan
Members of the Social Services and Housing Committee

From: Christine MacDonald
Director of Social Services and Housing

Date: February 2, 2017

Re: Rescind By-law 2017-006

RECOMMENDATION:

That By-law 2017-006 introduced on January 6, 2017 be rescinded.

BACKGROUND:

By-law 2017-006 was introduced authorizing the Warden and Clerk to execute a Contribution Agreement between Golden Dawn and the County of Bruce for the Social Housing Improvement Program. The Board of Directors at Golden Dawn have since decided they will not use the \$12,676 for capital projects.

FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL/IT CONSIDERATIONS:

Housing Services has contacted the Ministry of Housing and will re-allocate the funds to Bruce County Housing Corporation, Formosa Seniors Non-Profit and Russell Meadows Non-Profit Accommodations.

There are no IT or Staffing considerations associated with this report.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CONSULTATION:

Housing Services consulted with the County Clerk in regards to this report.

LINK TO STRATEGIC GOALS AND ELEMENTS:

There is no direct link to Bruce County's strategic goals or elements.

Written by: Tania Dickson, Housing Services Manager

Approved by:

Kelley Coulter
Chief Administrative Officer



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Committee Report

To: Warden Mitch Twolan
Members of the Social Services and Housing Committee

From: Christine MacDonald
Director of Social Services and Housing

Date: February 2, 2017

Re: Social Housing Improvement Program Funding Re-allocation

RECOMMENDATION:

That the report Social Housing Improvement Program (SHIP) Funding Re-allocation is for information.

BACKGROUND:

The Board of Directors for Golden Dawn Non-Profit have made the decision to not use their SHIP funding allocation of \$12,676. This money will be re-allocated the other housing providers in Bruce County.

The re-allocation of funds will result in an increase in funding of \$11,662.54 for Bruce County Housing Corporation, \$601.20 for Russell Meadows and \$412.26 for Formosa Seniors Non-Profit.

FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL/IT CONSIDERATIONS:

Housing Services will work with Corporate Services and the housing providers to ensure the full allocation is spent within the SHIP guidelines.

There are no staffing or IT considerations associated with this report.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CONSULTATION:

There was no interdepartmental consultation associated with this report.

LINK TO STRATEGIC GOALS AND ELEMENTS:

There are no direct links to Bruce County's Goals and Elements associated with this report.

Written by: Tania Dickson, Housing Services Manager

Approved by:

Kelley Coulter
Chief Administrative Officer



Committee Report

To: Warden Mitch Twolan
Members of the Social Services and Housing Committee

From: Christine MacDonald
Director of Social Services and Housing

Date: January 5, 2017

Re: "The Journey Together"- One-time Off-Reserve Early Years Capacity Funding

RECOMMENDATION:

"The Journey Together" - One-time Off-Reserve Early Years Capacity Funding report is for information.

BACKGROUND:

As part of the government-wide action plan announced on May 30, 2016, in "The Journey Together: Ontario's Commitment to Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples", the Province has committed to working with their partners to increase the number of culturally relevant child care spaces and expand access to child and family programs for indigenous children and families off-reserve. The commitment is that these programs will be delivered by Indigenous-led organizations, working with CMSMs as the service system managers.

The Province is exploring avenues to facilitate meaningful connections at the local level to support Indigenous service providers and CMSMs to collaboratively build on opportunities which have been identified through preliminary needs assessments. Through a local planning process, Indigenous organizations and CMSMs will work together to bring forward proposals to the ministry of expanding access to culturally-relevant child care and child and family programs at the local level.

In November the Ministry of Education released a call for interest in one-time capacity funding. To facilitate this planning process, each CMSM can apply to the Ministry of Education for up to \$50,000. Given that the local Indigenous organizations and stakeholder patterns are more regional in nature, staff have submitted an application that would involve Grey and Bruce CMSMs working jointly on the initiative. The period in which the Ministry was receiving applications was brief and as such staff have submitted although there is no obligation at this time. If the application is approved, a service agreement and standard reporting requirements and therefore committee and or council approvals will apply. The timelines in which to expend the capacity dollars and submit the local proposals are also brief with a March 31st deadline, although there has been discussion that will be extended to May 30, 2017.

Bruce County and Grey County have jointly submitted an application to the Ministry of Education requesting a total of \$36,825, with each County receiving \$18,413. Included in the proposal costs is review of literature and relevant data; a facilitated engagement and identification of local needs and goals. The funding would support the obtaining the services of a Consultant with knowledge and experience in facilitation and engaging Indigenous Peoples. There will be engagement sessions attended by on-reserve Indigenous partners, Saugeen First Nation and Chippewas of Nawash First



Nation, off-reserve Indigenous partner, M'Wikwedong Native Cultural Resource Centre, the County of Bruce, the County of Grey and other key stakeholders. These sessions will build relationships between those in attendance and serve as a venue for collaborative discussions to occur. A summary document will follow each engagement session resulting in goals that have been identified by the group and the actions to be taken to achieve the goals. Through this planning process, the Indigenous organizations and CMSMs will work together to bring forward a proposal(s) to the Ministry of Education to expand access to off-reserve culturally-relevant child care and child and family programs in the identified Bruce County and Grey County communities.

FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL/IT CONSIDERATIONS:

Staff will bring forth an additional report to committee if the application is approved with the details of the service agreement and any other considerations would be identified at that time. There are no staffing, legal or IT considerations associated with this report

INTERDEPARTMENTAL CONSULTATION:

There have not been any specific interdepartmental consultations that have occurred related to this information report.

LINK TO STRATEGIC GOALS AND ELEMENTS:

Goal #5 - The Elimination of Red Tape.

Element # E - Focus on the internal and external customer/client needs first through providing community based services.

Goal #6 - Explore alternate options to improve efficiency, service

Element # D - Coordinate working with other agencies

Written by Brenda Wilton, Manager of Children's Services

Approved by:

Kelley Coulter
Chief Administrative Officer