



Municipality of North Grenville

To: **Council**

Meeting Date: October 1, 2024

Subject: Approval of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Fund Awards

Report No: CS-2024-004

Prepared by: Ashley Cuthbert, Acting Strategic Initiatives Coordinator

Recommendation(s)

THAT Council approve funding for the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Fund in the amount of \$14,083.00 for the following applications as recommended by the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee:

- Accessible Garden - \$3,000
- Prayer Events for Muslim Community - \$2,083
- Inclusive Choir - \$3,000
- Reading for All - \$3,000; AND
- 2SLGBTQIA+ Youth Programming and Benches - \$3,000

Executive Summary

Purpose

- To seek Council's approval of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee's (EDIAC) recommendations for awarding the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Funds to applicants based on the established evaluation criteria.

Key Findings

- Nine (9) applications were submitted during the application period, with some duplicates identified.
- Two (2) applications were duplicates and therefore rejected. One (1) application was deemed ineligible under the fund criteria and was disqualified.

- The EDIAC reviewed all remaining applications and provided recommendations on funding allocations based on the established policy.

Financial Implications

- The total EDI Fund budget is \$15,000, with grants of up to \$3,000 per application or more based on merit. The recommended awards are within the current budget allocation.

Background/Analysis

The EDIAC recommended establishing the EDI Fund to support initiatives that promote EDI values within the community. The EDI Fund Policy, created to guide the evaluation and award process, includes specific criteria and stipulations, such as the general ineligibility of businesses (section 2.4).

Applications for the fund opened on July 15, 2024, and closed on August 30, 2024. A total of nine (9) applications were received with some duplicates noted and applications from businesses, which were deemed ineligible based on established criteria. The EDIAC reviewed all applications, scored them using the agreed-upon criteria, and recommend awarding the following:

- Accessible Garden - \$3,000
- Prayer Events for Muslim Community - \$2,083
- Inclusive Choir - \$3,000
- Reading for All - \$3,000
- 2SLGBTQIA+ Youth Programming and Benches - \$3,000

Relevance to Strategic Priorities

Strategic Pillar	5	A Caring Community
Goal	5.3	Continue to Improve Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, and Reconciliation
Key Action	5.3.3	Enhance engagement with equity-deserving groups, including but not limited to people with disabilities, Francophones, Indigenous peoples, newcomers, older adults, racialized community members, rural residents, 2SLGBTQIA+, those facing socioeconomic challenges, women, minority faith-based and spiritual groups, and youth.

Options and Discussion

1. Approve the recommendation to fund the selected applications.

2. Do not approve the recommendation

Financial Impact

This item has been identified in the current budget: Yes, this item is included in the current budget.

This item is within the budgeted amount: Yes, funding amounts total \$14,083.00 which is within the allotted budget of \$15,000.

Staffing implications are minimal and can be managed within existing staff resources and current administrative policies approved by Council.

Internal/External Consultation

The EDIAC met on September 12, 2024, to review and evaluate all applications. Staff were present to provide guidance and support throughout the process.

Communications

A press release and social media announcements will be used to communicate the recipients of the EDI Fund.

Attachments

- EDI Fund Policy
- EDI Fund Applications and Consolidated Scorecard