

**Subject: Rural Community-Building Grant Program – Grant Applications Review**

**File Number: ACS2024-PDB-PS-0097**

**Report to Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee on 7 November 2024**

**and Council on November 13, 2024**

**Submitted on October 29, 2024 by Derrick Moodie, Director, Planning Services,  
Planning, Development, and Building Department**

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**Wards: Osgoode (20)**

**Objet : Programme de subvention pour le renforcement communautaire en milieu  
rural – Examen de la demande de subvention**

**Dossier : ACS2024-PDB-PS-0097**

**Rapport au Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales**

**le 7 novembre 2024 et au Conseil le 13 novembre 2024**

**Soumis le 29 octobre 2024 par Derrick Moodie, Directeur, Services de la  
planification, Direction générale des services de la planification, de  
l'aménagement et du bâtiment**

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**Quartiers: Osgoode (20)**

## **REPORT RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee approve the recommendations  
on the Rural Community-Building Grants Program applications as detailed in  
Document 1.**

## **RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT**

**Que le Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales approuve les recommandations concernant les demandes relative au Programme de subventions pour le renforcement communautaire en milieu rural, comme l'explique en détail le document 1.**

## **BACKGROUND**

The Rural Community-Building Grants Program (RCBGP), approved by Council on September 14, 2011, is designed to support rural-based community projects undertaken by non-profit organizations. Funding is project-based, with a defined beginning and end and measurable outcomes. Assessment is made based on the merit of the project, community impact and organizational effectiveness.

The program is administered by the Rural Affairs Office. Projects are reviewed and decisions are made by the members of the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee.

This report provides a summary of the applications received under this Program by the Rural Affairs Office on July 18, 2024 and September 25, 2024.

## **DISCUSSION**

Under the program guideline for the RCBGP the eligible applicant is limited to organizations that:

- Are non-profit organizations that are active in rural Ottawa and recognized as supporting local community and/or agricultural activities and programs.
- Operate in a non-discriminatory manner, as set out by the Ontario Human Rights Code.
- Are governed by a democratically elected Board of Directors
- Demonstrate efficiency, effectiveness and fiscal responsibility
- Remain in good financial standing with the City of Ottawa

The program guideline further states its limitation eligible activities. The following is a list of activities beyond the scope of the program:

- Retroactive costs – any costs incurred before a proposal is submitted
- Costs that are the responsibility of another level of government or funding program

- Costs for which an organization would reasonably be expected to make provisions for in the general daily administration of their organization, i.e. ongoing activity / business as usual

Two applications have been submitted and assessed as detailed in Document 1. The Osgoode Township Museum is seeking \$2,455.51 for the acquisition of two picnic tables, one accessible, and a garbage receptacle for the Osgoode Township Museum's sensory garden and gazebo. The application was originally denied upon staff review, as something that was the responsibility of another City department. Upon request by applicant, staff investigated further and was able to ascertain that the amenities requested by the Osgoode Township Museum could not be supplied by the City.

Additionally, the Metcalfe Community Association is seeking \$13,100 for the acquisition and installation of a double-sided digital changeable message sign at the Metcalfe fire station, Fire Station 91. This sign would be a resource to the community, similar to signs at other volunteer fire stations. The application was delayed in processing while Metcalfe Community Association closed their Metcalfe Loops project.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Funds are available for the applications in the Rural Community-Building Grant Program account.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal impediments to approving the report recommendation.

### **COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR**

The Ward Councillor has been made aware of the applications and staff recommendations.

### **CONSULTATION**

Public consultation is not required for this report.

### **ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS**

There are no accessibility impacts. As a standard requirement in the agreement, successful recipients shall warrant that it is in compliance with the requirement of the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disability Act, 2005*, S.O. 2005, C.11. and shall continue to comply throughout this agreement.

**ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no asset management implications associated with the report.

**ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS**

There are no economic implications.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications.

**RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no risk management implications.

**RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Rural Community-Building Grants Program is intended to support rural communities through funding for eligible community projects that are beneficial to rural Ottawa residents.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

Document 1 Applications summary and staff recommendations

**DISPOSITION**

As per the Council approved "Rural Community-Building Grants Program Policy", should the recommendations in this report be approved by Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, staff will proceed with administering these applications under the Rural Community-Building Grants Policy.

## **Document 1– Application Summary and Staff recommendation**

### **A – Osgoode Township Museum – Acquisition of two picnic tables, one accessible, and a garbage receptacle for sensory garden and gazebo in Vernon Park.**

#### Project Summary

The Osgoode Township Museum is seeking funds to acquire two picnic tables, one accessible, and a garbage receptacle for their sensory garden and gazebo in Vernon Park. This project would add a sense of community by places for people to gather and eat, including an accessible space. It would also allow the museum to keep the area cleaner.

#### Project Cost

The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$2,455.51 which includes the acquisition of both picnic tables and the garbage receptacle and delivery.

#### Staff Recommendation

The applicant, Osgoode Township Museum, is an eligible applicant under the RCBGP. It is staff's opinion that the proposed project meets the eligibility requirement under the program guidelines.

The Rural Affairs Office has reviewed the application and recommends approval of the full amount of \$2,455.51.

### **B – Metcalfe Community Association – Acquisition and installation of double sided digital changeable message sign.**

#### Project Summary

The Metcalfe Community Association is seeking funds to acquire and install a double-sided digital changeable message sign in front of Fire Station 91. This sign would be a resource to the community, providing information on local events, amber alerts, burn bans, and fire safety.

#### Project Cost

The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$13,100 which includes the both the acquisition and installation of the double-sided digital changeable message sign.

#### Staff Recommendation

The applicant, Metcalfe Community Association, is an eligible applicant under the RCBGP. It is staff's opinion that the proposed project meets the eligibility requirement under the program guidelines.

The Rural Affairs Office has reviewed the application and recommends approval of the full amount of \$13,100