

Subject: Rural Community-Building Grant Program – Grant Application Review

File Number: ACS2025-PDB-PS-0038

Report to Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee on 1 May 2025

**Submitted on April 22, 2025 by Derrick Moodie, Director, Planning Services,
Planning, Development and Building Services Department**

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Ward: Orléans South-Navan (19) Osgoode (20)

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

Dossier : ACS2025-PDB-PS-0038

Rapport au Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales

le 1er mai 2025

**Soumis le 22 avril 2025 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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REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

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

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

Que le Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales approuve les recommandations concernant les demandes relatives 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 prior to the March 25, 2025, deadline.

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

The following three applications have been submitted and assessed, as detailed in Document 1.

- The Navan Fair/Cumberland Township Agricultural Society is seeking \$19,138.62 to develop and support a new website, identify a technical outfit upgrade, upgrade their A/V capabilities, and to install Wi-Fi capabilities in the area. The application is also seeking funding support for a survey during the 2025 Navan Fair, to better understand participants' identities and the fair's contribution to regional tourism.
- The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 589 (Osgoode) is seeking \$44,070.00 to support building retrofit, particularly to demolish, dispose of, and rebuild the front ramp and entry to the building.
- The Metcalfe Community Association is seeking \$2,330 to support the installation of a changeable message sign at the Metcalfe Fire Station.

Staff have reviewed these applications and are satisfied that they are eligible submissions under the Rural Community Building Program and recommend approval for the three projects listed above for a total of \$65,538.62. Should the Committee support the staff recommendation, the total 2025 RCBGP funding envelope of \$160,000 will be reduced to \$31,224.61. Applications will be accepted for the rest of the calendar year, until the program funding envelope is fully allocated.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal impediments to implementing the report recommendation.

COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)

Councillors have been made aware of these 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.