

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

File Number: ACS2025-PDB-PS-0044

Report to Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee on 5 June 2025

**Submitted on May 27, 2025 by Derrick Moodie, Director, Planning Services,
Planning, Development and Building Services Department**

Contact Person: Ryan Thompson, Planner II, Rural Affairs

613-797-4521, Ryan.Thompson@ottawa.ca

**Ward: Orléans East-Cumberland (1) West Carleton-March (5) Orléans South-
Navan (19) Osgoode (20) Rideau-Jock (21)**

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

Dossier : ACS2025-PDB-PS-0044

Rapport au Comité de l'agriculture et des affaires rurales

le 5 juin 2025

**Soumis le 27 mai 2025 par Derrick Moodie, Directeur, Services de la planification,
Direction générale des services de la planification, de l'aménagement et du
bâtiment**

Personne ressource : Ryan Thompson, Urbaniste II, Affaires rurales

613-797-4521, Ryan.Thompson@ottawa.ca

**Quartier : Orléans-Est-Cumberland (1) West Carleton-March (5) Orléans-Sud-
Navan (19) Osgoode (20) Rideau-Jock (21)**

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 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 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 four applications have been submitted and assessed, as detailed in Document 1.

- The Cumberland Community Association is seeking \$10,000.00 to support improving accessibility on trails by trimming trees and installing new walkways and bridges on trails. Additionally, will acquire a new mower to assist in grooming the trails and maintaining them.
- The Cumberland Farmers' Market is seeking \$9,554.55 to support acquisition of tents, electrical cords, first aid kit, sign frames, audio equipment, tables and chairs, and various items for outfitting the farmers' market.
- Just Food is seeking \$19,990.00 to support an Agri-food tourism project that will showcase local farm businesses and provide opportunities for education about farms and farming.
- North Gower Recreation Association is seeking \$1,800.00 to support the acquisition and installation of 40 Canada flag banners on the main streets of North Gower for a show of national unity and patriotism.

Staff have reviewed these applications and are satisfied that they are eligible submissions under the Rural Community Building Program and recommend approval for the four projects listed above for a total of \$41,344.55. Should the Committee support the staff recommendation, the total 2025 RCBGP funding envelope of \$165,560.00, which includes \$5,560 that was rolled over from 2024, will be reduced to \$0. A further \$4,559.94 will be required to fully fund the projects. A one-time expenditure of \$4,559.94 will be required from the Rural Affairs Office general budget to cover this cost. The approval of these applications would mean that the funding envelope for 2025 is fully allocated.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Funds are available for the applications in the Rural Community-Building Grant Program account, with the additional overage of \$4,559.94 available within Rural Affairs budget.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal impediments to implementing the report recommendations.

COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLORS

Councillors have been made aware of these applications.

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.