

REPORT

Office of the Chief Administrative Officer

To: Mayor Johnstone, Members of Council **Date:** November 28, 2022

From: Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer **File:** 05.1035.10

Item #: 2022-715

Subject: Community Grant Program: 2022 Highlights and 2023 Program Adjustments

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receive a summary of the 2022 Program Highlights for information; and,

THAT Council approve staff's recommended adjustments to the grant policy for 2023 to reduce the number of intakes to two from three as outlined in this report.

PURPOSE

To inform Council about the 2022 grant program and seek Council's approval to adjust the grant policy for 2023, to reduce the number of annual intakes from three (3) to two (2).

BACKGROUND

2022 Program Highlights

This report provides a summary of the grants awarded and, though the accompanying *Snapshots of Success (Attachment 1)*, serves to illustrate the impact of the grant program through the lens of the grant recipients.

Grant Cycle Adjustments

The Grant Policy currently supports three (3) intakes:

1. Annual and Multi-Year (October)

2. One-Time Spring (April)
3. One-Time Summer (July)

The annual and multi-year intake is for projects and programs for the following calendar year. The spring and summer intakes are intended to support emergent needs within the current calendar year.

DISCUSSION

2022 Program Highlights

A total of one hundred and five (105) grants were awarded in 2022 through three (3) grant intake cycles. Please see "Attachment 2" for a full list of grant recipients.

The City awarded \$834,370 in cash awards and \$194,080 in City services.

As part of their post-project reporting requirements, grant recipients were asked to submit *Snapshots of Success*. The intention of the snapshot is to document the impacts resulting from the grants program through the lens of the grant recipients. This report includes the *Snapshots of Success* that have been received to date.

Grant Cycle Adjustments

Staff recommend that the Grant Program be reduced to two (2) intakes annually. This would maintain the Annual and Multi-Year intake in October and reduce the One-Time intake from two (2) to one (1).

The rationale for this recommended change is in direct response to timing challenges related to the summer intake:

- Given that summer intake funding decisions are not awarded until the September, organizations are challenged to complete their projects within the calendar year; and,
- Summer has proven a difficult time for the Council-appointed Grants Committee in terms of scheduling meetings and achieving required quorum for grant adjudication.

By reducing the one-time grant intake to a single intake in late spring, organizations will have more realistic lead times to successfully plan and implement their projects.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be no financial implications. The funding currently allocated for the summer intake would be redirected to the fall, Annual and Multiyear intake.

OPTIONS

Council is asked to consider the following options:

1. That Council receive a summary of the 2022 Program Highlights for information ;
2. That Council approve staff's recommended adjustments to the grant policy for 2023 to reduce the number of intakes to two from three as outlined in this report;
3. That Council provide staff with other direction.

Staff recommend Options 1 and 2.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – List of 2022 Grant Recipients

Attachment 2 – Snapshots of Success

APPROVALS

This report was prepared by:

Jacqueline Killawee, City Clerk

Renee Chadwick, Manager, Special Projects and Community Partnerships

Todd Ayotte, Manager, Community Arts and Theatre

This report was approved by:

Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer