



Report n° PROG2024-004
Date: November 28, 2024
Submitted by: Martin Irwin
Subject: Recreation and Cultural Programs Financial Assistance Policy

Nature/Goal

The purpose of this report is to have Council approve the proposed Recreation and Cultural Programs Financial Assistance Policy.

Directive/Previous policy

N/A

Department's Recommendation

WHEREAS Community Development is committed to providing inclusive recreation and cultural programs; and

WHEREAS recreation and cultural programs financial assistance improves access to City-operated community programs for residents who are financially vulnerable;

BE IT RESOLVED that Municipal Council approve the Policy PROG2024-02 – Recreation and Cultural Programs Financial Assistance Policy, as recommended.

ATTENDU QUE le Développement communautaire est engagé à offrir des programmes récréatifs et culturels inclusifs ; et

ATTENDU QUE l'appui financier améliore l'accès aux programmes communautaires gérés par la Ville pour les résidents qui sont financièrement vulnérables ;

QU'IL SOIT RÉSOLU que le conseil municipal approuve la politique PROG2024-02 - Politique d'appui financier pour les programmes récréatifs et culturels, telle que recommandée.

Background

During the 2024 budget deliberations, Council approved a \$10,000 allocation to support financial assistance for recreation and cultural programs, aiming to improve access to City-operated community services for residents facing financial challenges.

Discussion

The purpose of the proposed policy is to define the eligibility criteria for applicants and the financial support available to participate in City-operated programs.

To streamline the application and approval process, and minimize administrative tasks and its associated financial impacts, Community Development proposes partnering with Their Opportunity, a national charity. If approved, the organization will manage the application and approval process, in a manner similar to what they are currently undertaking for other municipalities and organizations.

Their Opportunity has demonstrated its commitment to recreation in Clarence-Rockland. The organization funded and led the free 2024 Bruno Gendron Cycling Program, sponsored the 2024 municipal summer day camps, and has pledged to fund and lead the free C-R Hoops & Beyond 2025 Basketball program in collaboration with the municipality and the Clarence-Rockland YMCA. Their Opportunity has also provided financial assistance to Clarence-Rockland residents for City and private recreation programs, sports leagues and more. Their assistance will continue to be offered to residents and will complement the City's initiative, ensuring greater access and inclusion to recreational opportunities for residents.

Consultation

N/A

Recommendations or comments from committee/ other departments

N/A

Financial impact (expenses/material/etc.)

The proposed policy will not result in any additional financial impact on the municipality. Community Development will oversee the adherence to the annual assistance budget, ensuring that the approved contributions remain within the allocated funds.

Legal implications

If the policy is approved, a formal agreement will be established between the municipality and Their Opportunity, clearly outlining the responsibilities of both parties in relation to the City of Clarence-Rockland's Recreation and Cultural Financial Assistance Policy.

Risk management

N/A

Strategic implications

The proposed policy is in line with two strategic pillars:

1. High-quality services; and
2. Community cohesion.

Supporting documents

Attachment 1: PROG2024-02 – Recreation and Cultural Programs Financial Assistance Policy

Attachment 2: PROG2024-02 – Recreation and Cultural Programs Financial Assistance Policy FR