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FUNDING AND GRANTS PROGRAM REVIEW

The Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendation contained in the following report dated May 12, 2011 from the Commissioner of Planning and Development Services.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

1. Council receive the Funding and Grants Program Review report for information.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to bring the Committee up to date on the activities and success of the new Funding and Grants Program within the Economic Strategy and Tourism Branch.

3. BACKGROUND

In 2010 a new Funding and Grants Coordinator position dedicated to researching and securing project funding was added to the Economic Strategy and Tourism Branch. The intent of the position and associated program is to leverage funding for internal projects and external partners for projects that will expand community capacity and lead to economic vitality.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Funding program leverages over one million dollars in its first year

Table 1 identifies the funding opportunities that have been leveraged for the Regional Municipality of York and its stakeholders over the past twelve months by the direct participation and support of the Funding and Grants Coordinator.

The role of the Funding and Grants Coordinator in each project ranged from identifying funding programs, to assisting applicants with researching and understanding how to make successful proposals to working with the applicants and funders to align needs to writing, submitting and managing the applications and processes.

Table 1
Funding Program Results 2010/2011

Funding Program	Partner	Project Name	Received
Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities	Economic Strategy and Tourism	Innovation in Manufacturing	250,000
Ministry of Tourism	Economic Strategy and Tourism	Industry Partnership Program	28,000
Federation of Canadian Municipalities	Environmental Services	Corporate Energy Improvements	150,000
Ministry of Culture Development Investment Fund	Long Range Planning	Archaeology Management Plan	50,000
Ministry of Culture Development Investment Fund	Markham and East York Agriculture Society	Agri-Food Tent	44,000
Ministry of Culture Development Investment Fund	Town of East Gwillimbury	Cultural Plan	55,000
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs	Town of Whitchurch - Stouffville	Rural Connections	
Ministry of Culture Development Investment Fund		Broadband	262,967
Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities	Ladies of the Lake	Water Centre	28,000
Ontario Trillium Foundation	Georgina Training and Trades Institute	Labour Market Research	150,000
	Ladies of the Lake	SPLASH	200,000
TOTAL			\$1,227,967

The figures in Table 1 represent the net dollars received towards these ten projects. Specific information regarding the above mentioned opportunities is available upon request.

The Funding Program continues to develop partnership opportunities

In addition to the funding already secured there are a number of opportunities currently awaiting approval. Stakeholder feedback has been positive and well received. Future opportunities continue to be explored both internally and externally.

Table 2 reflects some of the activities of the Funding and Grants Coordinator is currently working on. Several of the projects listed involve more than one partner and leverage funding from various sources including the federal and provincial governments.

Table 2
Funding Program 2011/2012

Lead Partner	Project Name	Activity
VentureLab	Sponsorship Opportunities Package	Facilitation and Development of Package
York Regional Police	Critical Incident and Stress Management Team Gala	Proposal Development Support, Committee Facilitation
Ladies of the Lake	Water Centre	Proposal Development and Committee Support
Employment Ontario	Youth in Manufacturing	Facilitate the funding application and development of partnerships associated.

Township of Georgina	Ontario Market Investment Fund Application	Facilitate the partnership of the Town/Sutton Agricultural Society and
Red Scarf Equestrian	Ministry of Economic Development and Trade	Access to Funding for Small Business Export
Markham and East York Agriculture Society	Agri-Food Tent for the 2011 Fair	Funding Application Development
Environmental Services	Maple Pumping Station New Roof	Funding Opportunities Exploration
Environmental Services	Upper York Sewage Solutions Project	Grant application development
Environmental Services	Source Separated Waste Project	Funding Opportunities Facilitation
Community and Health Services	Public Health Nurse Education	Grant application development seminar-Food for Learning
Forestry Services	Forestry Centre Replacement	Funding Opportunities and Grant Application Support
Community and Health Services	Immigration Partnership	Exploration of Funding Opportunities for new conference

Relationship to Vision 2026

This report addresses several goal areas in Vision 2026, including “Enhanced Environment, Heritage and Culture”, “A Vibrant Economy, through supporting businesses” and “Engaged Communities and a Responsive Region”.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The program costs for the Funding and Grants Coordinator position are part of the Economic Strategy and Tourism Branch approved budget. Funding secured versus program costs exceed industry standards for dedicated fundraising programs.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

Regional projects supported by secured funding supports research and activities that build capacity within all York Region communities. In addition, support for local community funding applications results in direct local economic benefit.

7. CONCLUSION

The Funding and Grants Program has successfully secured over \$1.2 Million to support community capacity building which will support economic growth. The Economic Strategy Branch will continue to identify and support funding opportunities and build the relationships necessary to succeed.

For more information on this report, please contact Kathy Little, Funding and Grants Coordinator, (905) 830-4444, ext. 1583 or Doug Lindeblom, Director Economic Strategy and Tourism Branch, Ext. 1503.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.