
For Information

REPORT TITLE: Community Investment Program 2019 Update

FROM: Janice Sheehy, Commissioner of Human Services

OBJECTIVE

To provide Regional Council with an update on the 2019 Community Investment Program allocations.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The Community Investment Program is the only source of funding that invests exclusively in not-for-profit agencies' core operations to strengthen organizational capacity and achieve greater impact on Peel's overall social services system.
 - In 2019, the Community Investment Program included the following funds: Sustainability, Organizational Effectiveness, Collaboration, Small Capital, and Agricultural.
 - As of December 31, 2019, \$6.9 million has been flowed through 107 contracts that provided 843 programs reaching 735,440 (non-unique) residents in Peel.
 - To improve people's lives in their time of need, 2019 Community Investments provided supports to ten essential social service sectors; the top three being Children, Youth, and Families (20 per cent); Food Security (17 per cent); and Multiservice and Community Programs (14 per cent).
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DISCUSSION

1. Background

In a report titled "Community Investment Program Update" presented to Regional Council on May 9, 2019 (Resolution 2019-418), it was noted that a detailed review of the program had been completed in late 2018. Recommendations highlighted opportunities to align funding streams to a regional priority setting framework, streamline the funding application process and implement agency agreements that strengthen accountability for performance and outcome measures. It was further outlined that these measures would be implemented for the 2020 Community Investment funding streams. Additional information is provided in the companion report on today's agenda titled "Aligning 2020 Community Investment Program to COVID-19 Post Recovery Efforts".

The Community Investment Program provides funding investments to support a strong and sustainable Peel not-for-profit sector that meets the needs of residents and advances community impact. Established in 2013, the Community Investment Program provided \$6.9 million of funding in 2019 to the not-for-profit sector in Peel to support core infrastructure, improved business practices, organizational development, and collaborative partnerships. These investments provide essential funding to Peel not-for-profits that are building community by; providing programs to the most vulnerable; supporting capacity and

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resources for marginalized and equity-seeking populations; and enabling upstream systems change that addresses complex social challenges.

The 2019 Community Investment Program is comprised of the following funds:

- a) **Sustainability Fund:** Increases the organization's ability to develop, maintain, and improve service delivery over the long term by stabilizing core operational costs. The fund application cycle opens once every two years.
- b) **Collaboration Fund:** Addresses complex social problems by supporting agencies to work collaboratively to achieve collective impact. The fund application cycle opens once per year.
- c) **Organizational Effectiveness Fund:** Strengthens internal business practices of the organization in the areas of governance and leadership, performance measurement, financial management, and organizational planning. The fund application cycle opens once per year.
- d) **Small Capital Fund:** Strengthens an organization's ability to better meet service needs through small capital purchases.
- e) **Agricultural Fund:** Focuses on increased awareness and education of Peel's agricultural community.

Funding allocations are assessed against a scoring matrix by a review committee. For the Sustainability Fund, the review committee is comprised of staff from the Human Services and Health Services departments. For the Organizational Effectiveness and Collaboration Funds, the review committee is comprised of provincial, municipal, and sectorial funding partners.

2. 2019 Final Community Investment Program Allocations

In 2019, the Community Investment Program received 187 applications with a total request for funding of \$15,234,882. As of December 31, 2019, the Community Investment Program has invested \$6.9 million in 107 grant investments.

A breakdown of the allocations from each fund can be found in the chart below.

Table 1: 2019 Community Investment Program Funding Streams

Fund	Total Requested Funding 2019	Total Funding Allocated 2019	Number of Investments 2019
Sustainability	\$10,761,393	\$5,296,096	57
Collaboration	\$ 2,133,305	\$ 913,008	12
Organizational Effectiveness	\$ 1,448,616	\$ 466,154	18
Small Capital	\$ 875,568	\$ 298,634	14
Agriculture	\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000	6
Total	\$15,234,882	\$6,989,892	107

Please refer to Appendix I for the 2019 Community Investment Program Allocations.

Community Investment funding comprises only a small percentage of each organization's overall program revenue. Each grant represents up to 20 per cent of the total revenue of a Community Investment Program funded not-for-profit agency. Organizations leverage the

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Regions funding allocation to obtain other funding sources from different levels of government, foundations, and private sector funders.

3. 2019 Community Investment Funding Impact

Peel's not-for-profit sector is an integral part of our human services systems continuum and is vital in supporting the needs of Peel residents. The Community Investment Program does not directly fund agency programs or client services, rather it invests exclusively in not-for-profit agencies' core operations. This funding model enables Peel's not-for-profit sector to focus on improving their organizational capacity, which ultimately strengthens and improves an agency's ability to operate and deliver quality programming.

The Community Investment Program aligns with the 2015-2035 Community for Life Region's Strategic Plan "Living" pillar. To improve people's lives in their time of need, 2019 Community Investments provided supports to the following sectors:

- Children, Youth and Families (20 per cent);
- Food Security (17 per cent);
- Multiservice and Community Programs (14 per cent);
- Employment and Income Supports (10 per cent);
- Domestic Violence and Crisis Supports (10 per cent);
- Disabilities (9 per cent);
- Mental Health and Addictions (8 per cent);
- Housing and Homelessness (4 per cent);
- Older Adults (4 per cent); and
- Newcomers/Settlement (4 per cent).

All agencies funded through the Community Investment Program are required to provide verification of expenditures through annual reporting. Progress reports also include program outcomes which enable tracking and measurement of the impact of investments. Data from agency progress reports consistently demonstrate increased organizational capacity and overall positive impacts on the not-for-profit sector.

Please refer to Appendix II, 2019 Community Investment Program Overview, that highlights a few outcomes from the 2019 investments made through the current funding streams: Sustainability Fund, the Organizational Effectiveness Fund, Collaboration Fund, Small Capital Fund, and the Agriculture Fund.

CONCLUSION

The 2019 allocation of Community Investment Program grants in this report represent important investments in supporting the delivery of programs and services, and strengthening organizational infrastructure and capacity in Peel's not-for-profit sector. The core infrastructure, projects, and programs funded are part of a network of Peel's not-for-profits and community agencies working to build vibrant communities.

APPENDICES

Appendix I – 2019 Community Investment Program Allocations
Appendix II – 2019 Community Investment Program Overview

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For further information regarding this report, please contact Sonia Pace, Director Community Partnerships, Sonia.pace@peelregion.ca

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Reviewed and/or approved in workflow by:

Department Commissioner and Division Director.

Final approval is by the Chief Administrative Officer.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy Polsinelli". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N' and a distinct 'P'.

N. Polsinelli, Interim Chief Administrative Officer