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Date: May 23, 2018

To: Mayor and Council

Author: Peggy Van Mierlo-West

RE: Municipal Funding Agreement – Ontario's Main Street Revitalization

Initiative

Report No.: CAO 04-2018

AIM

To provide Council with information pertaining to the Municipal Funding Agreement – Ontario's Main Street Revitalization Initiative.

BACKGROUND

The Ontario government announced a new funding program in January with a stated purpose of helping municipal governments undertake main street revitalization activities that support and benefit small businesses. There are two streams, one that funds initiatives through an existing Community Improvement Plan (façade or building rehab work) and a second regarding municipal physical infrastructure. Eligible costs incurred between April 1, 2018 and March 31, 2020 qualifies for up to 100% funding. The amount of funding for each municipality has been set according to a formula. The Town is eligible for up to \$56,711.58 under this program.

AMO is administering the program on behalf of the Province and has circulated their standard form agreement with provisions summarized as follows:

- Required acknowledgement of OMAFRA funding including notice of media
- events/announcements
- Scope of work eligible for funding is outlined in Schedule B
- Proper accounts to be maintained
- Annual report required as to the use of funds, and "Results Report" upon completion
- Funds transferred upon execution of the agreement
- Stacking of funds is permitted.

DISCUSSION

Kingsville currently has two defined main street districts, Cottam and Kingsville. As Council fully funds the Community Improvement Plan for Cottam through the reserve allocation and partially funds the Kingsville BIA Façade program, it is recommended the Town apply under the municipal physical infrastructure stream.

Currently the Cottam Revitalization Committee is nearing the completion of the Revitalization Plan, which will provide recommendations for beautification. It would be recommended that the presentation and adoption of this report occur prior to approving infrastructure projects for main streets within Kingsville.

This will allow for the fair and equitable disbursement of the funds through-out the Town. It is anticipated that the report will be presented to Council in July. A report will follow recommending projects for this stream.

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Promote the betterment, self-image and attitude of the community.

Support growth of the business community.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Province of Ontario requires a Transfer Payment Agreement to be signed to govern the use of the funds. In this case, the Ontario Ministry of Food andRural Affairs signed a Transfer Payment Agreement with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, (AMO) to administer the Main Street Revitalization Initiative funds. An agreement between the Municipality and The Association of Municipalities of Ontario is required in order to facilitate the transfer of funds.

The Town will recognize this grant as capital funding for the street scape improvement projects.

CONSULTATIONS

Director of Municipal Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the report titled Municipal Funding Agreement – Ontario's Main Street Revitalization Initiative dated May 23, 2018 regarding the Municipal Funding Agreement for the Ontario's Main Street Revitalization Initiative Program and that the Mayor and Clerk are directed to sign the agreement.

Peggy Van Mierlo-West
Peggy Van Mierlo-West, C.E.T.
Chief Administrative Officer