

Rural Municipality of Belfast

Community Grants Program Policy

It was moved by Councillor Vessey, seconded by Councillor Cooke, that the Council of the Rural Municipality of Belfast, approve a Grants to Organizations Policy, to be known as the '**Community Grants Program Policy**'; as per the Grants Bylaw # 2018-02 at the Council meeting on February 20, 2019.

This Community Grants Program Policy establishes the following:

- a) The name of the program is the: **Community Grants Program Policy**.
- b) The date the Community Grants Program was established is: February 20, 2019.
- c) The purpose of the Community Grants Program Policy is to: **provide financial and/or in-kind assistance to groups and individuals offering services, activities and programs in the interest of the Rural Municipality of Belfast**.
- d) The application deadline for submissions to the Community Grants Program Policy is: **March 7th of each fiscal year cycle; additional proposals can be considered, if there is any Community Grants Program Policy assistance remaining after the application cycle is completed**.
- e) The eligibility criteria for the Community Grants Program Policy are:
 - i. **Assistance will be awarded to groups or individuals offering services, products or activities in the best interests of the Rural Municipality of Belfast,**
 - ii. **Those eligible for assistance are not required to live within the boundaries of the Rural Municipality of Belfast, and**
 - iii. **All grants will be approved and awarded in accordance with Sections 142, 143 and 158 of the *Municipal Government Act***
- f) There are three categories of assistance available under the Community Grants Program Policy:
 - i. **Fire Protection Grant,**
 - ii. **Government Recreation Grant, and**
 - iii. **Community Grants.**
- g) The maximum amount of available assistance through the Community Grants Program Policy each fiscal year: **Assistance cannot exceed the approved Operational Budget for each fiscal year of application.**
- h) A Community Grants Program Committee will be established for the Community Grants Program Policy as follows:
 - i. **Membership will consist of three (3) Councillors, the Mayor (ex-officio), administration (non-voting),**
 - ii. **The Chair of the Committee will be selected from amongst the three (3) members of Council; and the Chair will only vote in the event of a tie,**
 - iii. **Administration will supply support to the Committee and take minutes,**
 - iv. **The Community Grants Program will be advertised annually through the Rural Municipality of Belfast Website,**
 - v. **Community Grants Program can submit assistance proposals through letters or emails, which can be mailed, emailed or presented to Council or Committee. Those submitting their proposals in advance need not attend a public presentation to be considered,**
 - vi. **Once all proposals have been received/presented; the Community Grants Program Committee will review and deliberate 'in-camera'; producing a recommendation to Council, and**
 - vii. **Council will consider the Community Grants Committee recommendation and make its decision 'in public'.**

Date: February 20, 2019

Original Signed and Sealed on file
Acting/Mayor - Garth Gillis

Original Signed and Sealed on file
CAO - Bob Brooks