

Report to Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

To: Chair and Members
Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

From: Cheryl Smith, Deputy City Manager, Neighbourhood and
Community-Wide Services

Subject: London Community Grants Program Innovation and Capital
Funding Allocations (2023)

Date: June 20, 2023

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Neighbourhood and Community-Wide Services, the report dated June 20, 2023, titled “London Community Grants Program Innovation and Capital Funding Allocations (2023)”, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Executive Summary

This report presents the 2023 allocations for the Innovation and Capital granting stream of the London Community Grants Program. It outlines the total number of applications received, promotional and awareness efforts, and an overview of the applications supported by the Community Review Panel for funding.

Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

The London Community Grants Program (LCGP) is aligned with the strategic area of focus Wellbeing and Safety, as presented in the City of London Strategic Plan 2023 - 2027.

- Outcome: London is an affordable and supportive community for individuals and families.
- Expected Result: Londoners have access to quality, affordable, and timely services.
- Strategy: Support community-led initiatives and partnerships through grants, collaboration and community plans that promote the wellbeing of Londoners.

Analysis

1.0 Background Information

1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

- [London Community Grants Program Innovation and Capital Funding Allocations \(2022\) \(July 27, 2022\)](#)
- [London Community Grants Program Innovation and Capital Funding Allocations \(2021\) \(June 23, 2021\)](#)
- [London Community Grants Program Policy Update \(January 26, 2021\)](#)
- [London Community Grants Program Allocations \(November 25, 2019\)](#)
- [London Community Grants Policy Update \(April 8, 2019\)](#)
- [London Community Grants Program: 2017 Annual Report & 2018 Innovation and Capital Stream Outcomes and Sustainability Plans \(March 26, 2018\)](#)
- [London Community Grants Program Innovation & Capital Funding Allocations \(2019\) \(September 17, 2018\)](#)
- [London Community Grants Program Innovation & Capital Funding Allocations \(2018\) \(September 18, 2017\)](#)

2.0 Discussion and Considerations

2.1 Background and Purpose

The London Community Grants Program (LCGP) provides funding for programs and initiatives that align with the City of London's Strategic Plan or through Council-directed emerging priorities.

The purpose of this report is to:

- provide Council with the 2023 allocations for the Innovation & Capital stream of the London Community Grants Program;
- recognize the contributions of the London Community Grants Program Community Review Panel members; and,
- outline next steps.

In March 2023, the application process for the annual Innovation and Capital Stream of the LCGP was launched. This stream provides \$495,954 to London based not-for-profit organizations and groups.

The open call for applications was promoted through community networks, media, and notifications to previous applicants. Civic Administration offered four information sessions and provided one-to-one support for organizations as needed.

A total of 60 applications (38 Innovation and 22 Capital) were received, with requests totalling more than \$4.3M. The Community Review Panel supported funding 13 of the applications received, 11 Innovation and two Capital. The Community Review Panel assessed these applications based on the 2019 – 2023 Strategic Plan strategic areas of focus as the application process opened prior to the approval of the City of London's new Strategic Plan (2023 – 2027).

Of the 13 projects supported by the Community Review Panel for 2023 Innovation and Capital stream funding:

- 95.6% of the total budget was allocated toward projects that the Community Review Panel agreed advance anti-Black racism, anti-Indigenous racism, anti-oppression, diversity, inclusion, and equity; and,
- Six of the 13 funded recipients had not been previously funded through the LCGP.

See [Appendix A](#) for allocation details.

The London Community Grants Program has been supported by local volunteers who have dedicated their time and expertise to review grant applications from organizations across the community. Through four funding cycles, one multi-year (2020 - 2023) cycle and four rounds of Innovation and Capital (annually), the members of the Community Review Panel have reviewed 229 grant applications totaling more than \$43 million in requests.

These Londoners have devoted a significant amount of their personal time to evaluate applications, assess the impact of each application on the community, and make funding decisions with the goal of advancing projects that align with the City of London's Strategic Plan. Through the Community Review Panel's collective decisions, each member has contributed to a lasting impact on our community and have allocated over \$11.2 million to not-for-profit organizations in London since 2020.

Civic Administration would like to recognize the time and commitment of the individuals listed in the table below:

Community members	<p>Ahad Al Executive Leader – Grant Writer, PolyAnalytik Inc.</p> <p>Erika Juhasz Nursing Student, Western University</p> <p>Qurratulain (Annie) Malik Social Work Student, Western University</p>
Subject Matter Expert. Strategic Area of Focus or Council directed emerging priorities.	<p>Dr. Gaston Mabaya Retired, Not-for-Profit Executive Director, Author</p> <p>Andrea Jibb Director of Housing and Healing Services Atlosha Family Healing Services</p> <p>George McAuley London District Catholic School Board Anti-Racism Education, Inclusion and Diversity Co-Ordinator Vice Principal, Regina Mundi Catholic College</p> <p>James Chan Capital Advisory Services Lead, Social Venture Connexion</p>
Funder	<p>Sara Middleton National Director, Community Services Recovery Fund, United Way Centraide Canada</p>
Outcomes measurement expert	<p>Dr. Andrew Clark Professor, Fanshawe College, School of Design Owner/Operator Healthy Way Consulting</p>
Financial Expert	<p>Kelly Finn (2020 – 2021) Retired, Chartered Professional Accountant</p> <p>Gail Devito (2022 – 2023) Retired, Chartered Professional Accountant</p>
City Staff	<p>Cheryl Smith (2020) Manager, Neighbourhood Strategic Initiatives and Funding</p> <p>Trevor Fowler (2021) Manager, Neighbourhood Strategic Initiatives and Funding</p> <p>Kristen Pawelec (2022 -2023) Director, Community Development and Grants</p>

4.0 Next Steps

Civic Administration will work with all successful applicants to create and sign grant agreements for funding to be released as soon as agreements are signed by both parties. Through the formal grant agreement, financial and outcome reporting expectations are clearly outlined.

The 2024 - 2027 Multi-Year Granting Stream will launch in August of 2023. Prior to the launch, Civic Administration will place an open call for community members to join the

Community Review Panel for the next four year round of funding through the London Community Grants Program (2024 - 2027).

Finally, in response to Council's Direction at its meeting held on August 25, 2020, Civic Administration will bring forward recommendations for Council's consideration to remove any barriers that racialized and marginalized groups may face when applying to the London Community Grants Program to the July 19, 2023, Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee.

5.0 Financial Impact/Considerations

Annual funding to support the London Community Grants Program exists in the Neighbourhood and Community-Wide Services base budget. Through the 2020 - 2023 Multi-Year budget process, \$495,954 was allocated annually to the Innovation and Capital Stream.

Conclusion

The London Community Grants Program is an investment in community, providing not-for-profit organizations and groups with opportunities to strengthen neighbourhoods and build the health and well-being of local communities in alignment with the City of London's Strategic Plan and Council-directed emerging priorities.

Civic Administration is committed to ongoing action to reduce barriers and build a more inclusive, responsive, and impactful London Community Grants Program.

Prepared by: Janice Walter, Manager, Community Grants

Submitted by: Kristen Pawelec, Director, Community Development and Grants

Recommended by: Cheryl Smith, Deputy City Manager, Neighbourhood and Community-Wide Services

Appendix A

LONDON COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2023 INNOVATION AND CAPITAL FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

Legend

Building a Sustainable City (BSC)	Creating a Safe London for Women and Girls (CSL)
Strengthening Our Community (SOC)	Anti-Racism, Anti-Oppression, Equity, and Inclusion Projects (ARAO)
Growing Our Economy (GOE)	

CAPITAL						
Organization / Project Description	BSC	SOC	GOE	CSL	ARAO	Total
Humana Community Services (Access to Education for Vulnerable Youth) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support renovations to provide learning space on site at the treatment home. This space will provide access to education as an integral part of treatment plans for children and youth who cannot attend traditional school for a variety of reasons. The classroom will also serve as a meeting and training space and provide opportunities for quiet, one-to-one sessions with workers, families, and youth outside of school hours. 		✓			✓	\$60,794
St. John The Baptist Melkite Catholic Church (Community Facility Improvement) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support renovations to increase space for cultural events, activities and program delivery with community partners serving low income and newcomer residents. 		✓			✓	\$38,246
INNOVATION						
Canadian Hearing Services (First Aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Training in American Sign Language (ASL)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support the delivery of First Aid and CPR training to individuals who use ASL as their first language. Training will be delivered by specially trained ASL Deaf certified First Aid instructors. This London program will be the first of its kind in Canada. 		✓			✓	\$8,209

CAPITAL						
Organization / Project Description	BSC	SOC	GOE	CSL	ARAO	Total
Gan-Gani Nursery School of London (Intergenerational Art Program for Seniors) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support an intergenerational art program bringing together seniors and pre-school age children from the Gan-Gani daycare. The program will create a sense of community, build relationships and allow the sharing of life experiences through storytelling. 		✓			✓	\$15,000
London Children's Museum (The Limberlost Road Outreach Initiative) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support a new partnership with the London Community Chaplaincy and address access barriers for low-income, underserved families through neighbourhood-based delivery. Monthly programs will include hands-on STEAM activities, as well as private visits to the museum location. 		✓			✓	\$27,800
London Community Chaplaincy (Boys Community Connecting and Mentoring Program) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support a new partnership with Camp Kee Mo Kee to deliver a youth leadership and mentoring program at both Chaplaincy locations (Southdale and Limberlost). The program will provide activities, mentorship and new opportunities for tween boys who are struggling behaviourally in school and in the communities. 		✓			✓	\$14,500
London Environmental Network (Sustainable Affordable Housing Feasibility and Design) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support a feasibility study and design for a carbon-sequestering, sustainable and affordable 4 - 8 unit multi-plex. Working with community partners and education institutions the study and design project will provide a meaningful, leading green building template to be used for affordable student housing and community sustainability initiatives in the future. 	✓					\$21,750
Nokee Kwe (First Employ for Business Reconciliation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support a collaboration with local business and the London Chamber of Commerce to assess the current state of businesses' reconciliation efforts and develop tools and resources to attract and retain Indigenous talent as a means of engaging in community reconciliation. The objective is to increase cultural safety for the Indigenous workforce through improved hiring and workplace practices with the lens of employment services providers. 			✓		✓	\$44,000
Muslim Resource Centre for Social Support & Integration (MRCSSI) (Reclaiming Our Safety: Combating Gendered Islamophobia) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support the development a group healing program for Muslim women/girls responding to harms of gendered Islamophobia including creating a space for personal and collective healing, as 				✓	✓	\$80,998

CAPITAL						
Organization / Project Description	BSC	SOC	GOE	CSL	ARAO	Total
well as bystander intervention training specifically addressing Gendered Islamophobia for individuals who are not Muslim women/girls.						
Muslim Wellness Network (Mentorship Program) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support the implementation of a mentorship program providing a safe and nurturing environment to access supports and resources for Muslim youth experiencing social, economic and mental health challenges, often faced due to stigma, cultural barriers, and systemic discrimination. 		✓			✓	\$60,000
Now for Tomorrow; A South Sudanese Wellness Network (Youth Programs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support the implementation of a music and dance program for South Sudanese youth providing a positive environment for participants to express themselves, engage in productive activities, celebrate culture, build confidence, and develop a sense of identity through belonging and community. 		✓			✓	\$66,657
Participation House Support Services (London and Area PHSS Social 2.0) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support a program for young adults with developmental, medical and complex physical needs to participate in a variety of community activities with support staff based on individual interests and abilities allowing them the opportunity to reach their full potential, build confidence, make friends and foster a sense of community. 		✓			✓	\$30,000
Webridge Community Services (Black Senior's Day Program) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support a weekly free adult day program for Black seniors providing supports from Black professionals from various areas of practice including social work, personal support, and nursing allowing seniors to participate in social, health and wellness activities. 		✓			✓	\$28,000