

<b>TO:</b>	<b>CHAIR AND MEMBERS CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF JUNE 20, 2016</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>CHERYL SMITH, ACTING DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY &amp; ECONOMIC INNOVATION</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>CANADA 150 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM INTAKE TWO</b>

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
-----------------------

That, on the recommendation of the Acting Director, Community & Economic Innovation, the *Celebrating our Heritage* project **BE SUPPORTED** for application for the second intake round of federal funding under the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program and that Civic Administration **BE DIRECTED** to take all necessary steps to submit the City of London's application for funding in advance of the program deadline.

<b>PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER</b>
--

- 150 Anniversary of Canada Celebration Funding Request (July 21, 2014)
- Canada 150 Funding Programs (May 25, 2015)
- Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program Contribution Agreement (April 26, 2016)

<b>BACKGROUND</b>
-------------------

In 2017, Canada will be celebrating 150 years since Confederation. This historic milestone will be celebrated in communities across the country, with an overarching Canada 150 theme of "Strong. Proud. Free". City Council's 2015-2019 Strategic Plan includes a specific strategy to "Fund and partner with the community to celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017."

Plans are well underway for celebrations in London supported by the Canada 150 (London) Programming Committee, which is overseen by our Canada 150 Steering Committee lead partners (City of London Culture Office, London Celebrates, and the London Heritage Council). For more information, contact our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Canada Coordinator for London, Ms. Lia Karidas ([lkaridas@london.ca](mailto:lkaridas@london.ca)) and/or visit our website at [www.londoncelebrates.ca](http://www.londoncelebrates.ca).

To support communities across Canada, the Government of Canada has committed \$150 million over two years to renovate, expand or improve existing community and cultural infrastructure. This funding which started in 2016-17, is in addition to the \$150 million already committed nationally under the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program over this same period.

The purpose of this report is to seek City Council's support for the second round of intake projects included in the *Celebrating our Heritage* project. Applications under this fund require support from City Council in advance of the application deadline of June 24, 2016.

**Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program Intake One**

In the first round of funding, the London community was successful in receiving funds for ten projects (see Appendix A for a complete list of funded projects). The City of London received a total of \$ 752,143 to support three projects endorsed by City Council in May, 2015. The applications approved through the first intake were:

1. Renovations to the 30 year-old pavilion stage area in Harris Park (\$495,000);
2. Restoration and enhancements to London's Cenotaph in Victoria Park (\$158,242); and,
3. Improvement of the main trail at Westminster Ponds (\$98,901).

## Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program Intake Two

FedDev Ontario is once again delivering the program in Southern Ontario with a total allocation of up to \$88.8 million over two years. Up to \$44.4 million is now available under Intake Two.

The program does not apply to new construction. Applications must be for the renovation, expansion, or rehabilitation of existing infrastructure. Expansions cannot result in an increase of more than 50% of an existing asset's footprint. The Government of Canada will contribute up to 50% (with a priority for projects seeking 33.3%) of project costs up to a maximum of \$1 million. Project costs incurred before April 1, 2016 are not eligible. Projects must be substantially completed by March 31, 2018.

### Celebrating our Heritage Proposed Projects

This report recommends that the City of London submit an application to the Canada 150 Infrastructure Program titled **Celebrating our Heritage**. This project envisions signature investments in London's community infrastructure – specifically, investing in the sites where Londoners gather to celebrate Canada's heritage. These are identified below:

- **Queens Park Enhancement** - Queens Park is one of London's oldest parks – named in honour of Queen Victoria. The park is in need of upgrades as identified in the Planners Action Report for Old East London and as per the subsequent Park Master Plan developed with the Old East Community and the Western Fair Association. The City is about to start Phase 2 of the park enhancements and federal funding would add the planned spray pad which will help us meet the needs of families in this rejuvenating neighbourhood.
- **Blackfriars Bridge Rehabilitation** - Blackfriars Bridge was constructed in 1875 when Canada was a new country. At the venerable age of 141, it is the oldest bridge in London and one of the oldest in Canada. The bridge is designated as a Heritage Structure under the Ontario Heritage Act. It is listed on the Ontario Heritage Bridge List, is included on the Canadian Register of Historic Places, and was recently designated a Historic Site by the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering. The project involves the complete rehabilitation of the bridge as described in the recent environmental assessment so it can continue to serve future generations of Canadians.
- **Improvement of Kiwanis Park Recreational Pathway System** - Completion of the last remaining gap in the Kiwanis Park recreational pathway system south of Trafalgar Street and over the Canadian National Railway Lands will connect neighbourhoods surrounding Kiwanis Park to London's Thames Valley Parkway and the Thames River which is a Canadian Heritage River. Implementation is being coordinated consistent with the project's 2015 environmental assessment and as per recommendations made in London's Bicycle Master Plan, Parks & Recreation Strategic Master Plan, London Strengthening Neighbourhoods Strategy, and the Age Friendly London Action Plan.
- **Improvement of Boardwalk Structures in three Parks** - Repairs and upgrades to eight existing boardwalk structures along the City's recreational pathway system in Highland Woods, St. Julien Park, and Lambeth Centennial Park. The boardwalk structures in these parks have deteriorated in advance of their anticipated life cycle due to high volume use and site conditions and need to be replaced and/or upgraded. This work ensures the continued safe, attractive and sustainable use of London's recreational pathway system, maintaining important connections between neighbourhoods, community centers, schools, and parks.
- **Victoria Park Band Shell Outdoor Performance Venue Enhancements** – Victoria Park is London's premier downtown park where showcase events are held throughout the year. The park also showcases London's cultural heritage and military tradition. The City of London would work on resurfacing the existing concrete stage deck and removing the existing based board electric heaters while replacing them with energy efficient gas fired units. A new control system will be integrated into all of the heating units. These enhancements will ensure that the Victoria Park Band Shell will be ready to host the 150 signature New Year's Eve events for the London community.
- **Covent Garden Market Outdoor Ice Rink Upgrades** – Canada 150 projects in London will take place throughout 2017 and it's important to host events at this premier outdoor free ice rink location across from Budweiser Gardens in the downtown. This project would see the 25

year old outdoor rink's mechanical components replaced as they are coming to the end of their useful life and to meet the phase out requirements of R22 refrigerant.

- **Constitution Park Enhancement** - This is an existing park with a variety of recreational amenities. The addition of a spray pad and field house would provide low cost interactive family opportunities to recreate in an underserved aquatic area of the City. Spray pads are the number one most desired infrastructure in facility or park requests. The addition would engage the community for many years to come.
- **Southcrest Pool Inclusivity Renovation** – This project will see the existing 40 year old concrete diving tank and pool filtration system replaced while adding a pool heater for comfort. Inclusion of all people is an important principle for the Canada 150 celebrations, so it is important for the City of London to continue to meet AODA accessibility standards. The project will include having the change room washroom fixtures, finishes, and shower stalls replaced in accordance to AODA standards where possible.
- **South London Pool Upgrades** - The South London pool was built in 1998, and has had some mechanical upgrades. The addition of an UV system would improve the water quality providing a safer environment for swimmers, kill micro-organisms in the water to a higher degree than just a chlorine system, and also improve air quality. The reduction of chloramines provides for better quality pool air for staff and patrons and reduces wear and tear and deterioration of mechanical systems and the pool structure.
- **Canada Games Aquatic Centre Major Facility Upgrade** – This project would see the completion of a major upgrade to the City of London's flagship indoor pool facility located in North-West London off Wonderland Road . The parking lot will be increased in size and reworked in a way to create better access to this busy facility.
- **North London Optimist Community Centre Inclusivity Renovation** – This project will see the existing 40 year old parking area reworked to improve the safety of our visitors and vehicles and additional parking added. Inclusion of all people is an important principle for the Canada 150 celebrations, so it is important for the City of London to continue to meet AODA accessibility standards. A life cycle upgrade project would see the change room washroom fixtures, finishes, and shower stalls replaced in accordance to AODA standards where possible.

### Next Steps

The Culture Office will work with Service Areas and the Finance Division to complete the application forms, letters of support, and budgets for each application to meet the deadline date of June 24, 2016. Subsequently, we will seek City Council approval of a Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program Contribution Agreement for successful City of London applications.

<b>CONCLUSION</b>
-------------------

Canada's 150th anniversary is an important historic milestone, and London is well positioned to contribute to its celebration. The importance of the sesquicentennial is also specifically referenced in Council's 2015-2019 Strategic Plan.

The Government of Canada is investing in infrastructure and programming to mark the occasion. The City of London is seeking to partner with the Government of Canada on key infrastructure investments and programming to ensure that Londoners have every opportunity to recognize and celebrate Canada's heritage in 2017.

Acknowledgement with appreciation is extended to many city staff across the corporation who assisted in preparing this report.

<b>RECOMMENDED BY:</b>
<b>CHERYL SMITH</b> <b>ACTING DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY &amp; ECONOMIC INNOVATION</b>

**Backgrounder**

For Immediate Release

February 8, 2016

**Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program Investments in London**

The following projects are approved for funding through the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program in the City of London.

Recipient Name	Project Title	Funding Contribution (up to)	Total Project Costs
<a href="#">City of London</a>	Improvement of Main Trail at Westminster Ponds	\$98,901	\$297,000
<a href="#">City of London</a>	Renovation of Pavilion in Harris Park	\$495,000	\$990,000
<a href="#">City of London</a>	Repair of Victoria Park Cenotaph	\$158,242	\$475,200
<a href="#">Friends of the Coves Subwatershed Inc.</a>	Expansion of Trails within the Coves	\$41,690	\$83,380
<a href="#">German Canadian Club London</a>	Rehabilitation of Roof	\$26,650	\$53,300
<a href="#">German Canadian Club London</a>	Rehabilitation of Windows and Doors	\$29,700	\$59,400
<a href="#">London and Middlesex Heritage Museum – operating as Fanshawe Pioneer Village</a>	Rehabilitation of Heritage Storefronts	\$99,396	\$198,792
<a href="#">London Convention Centre</a>	Renovation of London Convention Centre First Floor	\$715,000	\$5,044,443
<a href="#">Naval Association of Canada</a>	Improvement of HMCS Prevost Naval Memorial	\$154,605	\$468,500
<a href="#">Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 533, Byron/Springbank</a>	Renovation of Clubroom	\$10,010	\$20,020
<b>Total number of projects: 10</b>		<b>Total investment: Up to \$1,829,194</b>	

All contributions are conditional upon the signing of contribution agreements with recipients.