

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 (2022)

Date: July 27, 2022

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Neighbourhood and Community-Wide Services, the report dated July 27, 2022, titled “London Community Grants Program Innovation and Capital Funding Allocations (2022)”, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Executive Summary

This report presents the 2022 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 is aligned with two strategic areas of focus, as presented in the City of London Strategic Plan 2019-2023.

- Strengthening Our Community under the outcome Londoners are engaged and have a sense of belonging in their neighbourhoods and community.
- Creating a Safe London for Women and Girls under the outcome London has enhanced the potential for women and girls to live safe lives.

Analysis

1.0 Background Information

1.1 Previous Reports Related to this Matter

- [London Community Grants Program Innovation and Capital Funding Allocations](#) (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](#) (September 17, 2018)
- [London Community Grants Program Innovation & Capital Funding Allocations](#) (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.

In March of 2022, 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 three virtual information sessions and provided one-to-one support for organizations as needed.

A total of 21 applications (11 Innovation and 10 Capital) were received, with requests totalling more than \$4M. The Community Review Panel (CRP) supported funding 10 of the applications received, three Innovation and seven Capital. One of the CRP's supported Capital applications will be referred to the 2023 Annual Budget Update for consideration by Council.

Of the nine projects supported by the CRP for 2022 Innovation and Capital stream funding:

- 57.2% 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,
- Five of the nine funded recipients had not been previously funded through the LCGP.

See Appendix A attached for allocation details.

The CRP referred one 2022 Capital project request in excess of the available budget to the budget process as per the London Community Grants Policy. London Humane Society submitted an application in the amount of \$3M to support the development a new comprehensive Animal Campus. The request would contribute to an overall estimated capital cost of \$21M.

As per the London Community Grants Policy, section 4.5 c) i, on the recommendation of the Community Review Panel, a business case will be submitted to the 2023 Annual Budget Update for consideration by Council.

Members of the Community Review Panel will remain anonymous until all funding decisions have been made at the end of the 2023 application review process, prior to the next Multi-Year Grant funding cycle.

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.

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 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: Elizabeth Gough, Specialist II, Municipal Policy
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

- c. Anna Lisa Barbon, Deputy City Manager, Finance Supports
Kyle Murray, Director, Financial Planning and Business Supports

LONDON COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2022 INNOVATION & CAPITAL FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

APPENDIX A

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
John Howard Society of London and District (Enhancing Productivity and Confidentiality Project) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support the installation of soundproof ceiling tiles and drywall in offices and meeting areas to provide greater access to confidential environments for clients and increasing volunteer and community engagement opportunities. 	✓					\$14,411
ReForest London (Opening New Doors: Expanding Capacity at Westminster Ponds Centre) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support renovations to the Bruce and Peth Pavilions, increasing program and accessible space for additional community workshops, presentations, and volunteer training. The project will also set the foundation for a new dedicated space for urban forestry programming and ReForest London operations at the Westminster Ponds Centre. 	✓					\$99,000
Siku Hall Arts Centre (Capacity Growth Project) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support the installation of exterior steel framed doors, security cameras, and upgraded accessible washrooms. 		✓			✓	\$90,000
The Reimagine Institute for Community Sustainability (Program Space Renovation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support renovations to the community hub and education space at Reimagine Co. which houses the Thing Library, environmental education, and Food Equity London programs adjacent to the Reimagine Co. package-free grocery store. 	✓					\$24,500

CAPITAL						
Organization / Project Description	BSC	SOC	GOE	CSL	ARAO	Total
Urban Roots London (Processing and Storage Infrastructure) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support the purchase and retrofitting of a shipping container for a new processing facility with distinct cold storage sections and upgrades to the urban farm utility infrastructure (hydro and water). 		✓				\$34,600
YMCA of Southwestern Ontario (Centre Branch Gymnasium Refurbishment) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support renovations to the gym floor providing a safe and accessible program space for numerous sport and recreational programs and expanded availability to other organizations. 		✓				\$40,000
INNOVATION						
Across Languages Translation and Interpretation Service (InterSight: Reinventing our Multilingual Community) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support the development of an application that connects local InterSight interpreters virtually to clients engaging with emergency doctors, police officers, shelter and outreach workers, and mental health professionals. 		✓			✓	\$75,400
CENTRE COMMUNAUTAIRE REGIONAL DE LONDON (City of London Francophone Ethnocultural Activities) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support Francophone Ethnocultural programs and access to community activities and services to assist local newcomers integrate into the London community. 		✓			✓	\$68,043
The London Coordinating Committee to End Woman Abuse , hosted by Anova (The Safe Haven Project) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding will support a trauma and violence-informed training and support program for existing and non-traditional landlords, building awareness of the unique barriers faced by women escaping violence. The funding will also aim to increase safe and quality housing for women through relationship building with traditional and non-traditional landlords. 				✓	✓	\$50,000