



**POLICY:**

County Council appreciates the positive contributions that community organizations make to the quality of life in the Beaver County region, and recognizes that municipal government support may be required to further the goals of these organizations.

**APPLICATION TO VISION STATEMENT:**

Community organizations are instrumental to the quality of life in Beaver County. Financial, in-kind and written support, as well as promotional prizing, provided in recognition of their programs, projects or other initiatives will help preserve our area as ‘a place to call home’.

**DEFINITIONS:**

Beaver County Region:	The County and all towns and villages within the geographic boundaries of the County.
Community Organizations:	Not-for-profit organizations that are registered (or incorporated) under the Province of Alberta’s <i>Societies Act</i> , as well as volunteer groups or clubs that are not registered under the <i>Act</i> .
Business Plan:	A sustainability plan containing demographic, financial and other information to support a request for capital funding.
Celebrity / Special Function:	Fundraising events organized by community organizations and attended by government officials and / or local celebrities.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

Community organizations encouraging the advancement of education and training, arts, culture, heritage, sports, recreation, economic development and environmental improvement in the Beaver County region.

**GUIDELINES:**

**Annual Donations/Grants/Sponsorships**

Council may establish a list of donations, grants, and/or sponsorships which do not require a new application annually. Council may have entered into an agreement with the community group or passed a resolution to allow the donation, grant, or sponsorship on an annual basis, subject to budget approval.

**Community Support Requests**

Community Support Requests may be divided into the following categories:

- Capital Grant Requests
- Operating Grant Requests
- Event Sponsorship Requests
- School Requests

Capital Grant Requests

- Council may establish a budget for Capital Grant Requests from Community Organizations in conjunction with the annual budget process.
- All applications must include information regarding the financial sustainability, membership status, and activities of the organization. Further information may be provided in a separate application form.
- Application deadlines are February 28 and September 30 of each year. Council will consider and decide upon the applications at a subsequent Council meeting.
- The maximum amount of Capital Grant funding available to any single community organization in a calendar year is \$2,500. Council may consider applications for higher amounts.

Operating Grant Requests

- Council may establish a budget for Operating Grant Requests from Community Organizations in conjunction with the annual budget process.
- All applications must include information regarding the financial sustainability, membership status, and activities of the organization. Further information may be provided in a separate application form.
- Application deadlines are February 28 and September 30 of each year. Council will consider and decide upon the applications at a subsequent Council meeting.
- The maximum amount of Operating Grant funding available to any single community organization in a calendar year is \$2,500. Council may consider applications for higher amounts.

Event Sponsorship Requests

- Council may establish a budget for Event Sponsorship Requests from Community Organizations in conjunction with the annual budget process.
- Event Sponsorship Requests in the form of door/raffle prizes and/or silent auction items to a maximum value of \$200 per organization per year will be considered and decided by Administration. Requests exceeding this amount must be considered by Council.
- Event Sponsorship Requests in the form of cash under \$500 may be considered by Administration. Requests exceeding this amount must be considered by Council.
- A group may submit more than one Event Sponsorship Request per year, however the maximum total value of support that any group may receive may not exceed \$500 per year, unless otherwise approved by Council.

School Requests

- Schools within the Beaver County region (including Hutterite Colony schools) may request promotional items with a total value of \$200 per school per calendar year. The items may be used for educational purposes, door prizes, student awards, etc. at the discretion of the school. Requests not meeting these criteria must be considered by Council.

Administration shall develop procedures to implement this Policy, which may be amended from time to time without compromising the intent of this Policy.

**Council Approval**

Date: April 15, 2015

Motion: 15-086

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Last Revision: November 21, 2012