



Town of Newmarket
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Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund Information Report to Council

Report Number: 2019-30

Department(s): Financial Services

Author(s): Mike Mayes, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer

Date: December 18, 2019

In accordance with the Procedure By-law, any member of Council may make a request to the Town Clerk that this Report be placed on an upcoming Committee of the Whole agenda for discussion.

Executive Summary

The Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund (OCLIF) was created by the Ontario government to provide funds to municipalities “to help with the implementation costs of recreational cannabis legalization.” The Town received an initial payment of \$37,608 and a second payment of \$5,000. The second payment was reduced to the minimum amount that municipalities were eligible to receive as the Town had decided to not allow retail cannabis stores in Newmarket.

The \$42,608 may be used for increases in directly related costs, such as:

1. Development of by-laws and policies – workplace safety
2. Enforcement – by-laws, litigation
3. Response to public inquiries
4. Fire services

The costs must be “increases” which means that they are incremental and not amounts that are already being spent. This could be overtime, additional staff, consulting etc. – things which would otherwise impact our bottom line.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information related to the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund (OCLIF).

Background

Although municipalities are not required to report on their use of OCLIF unless specifically asked, Town staff are doing so to be transparent about the way in which the funds were used. The reporting requires detailing the use and *impact* of the funding.

Discussion

An Internal Staff Working Group was created to coordinate activities. As reported at its meeting on October 23, 2019, the following eligible expenses have been made:

Activity	Net cost	Impact of the funding
Public Information Ambassadors	\$ 14,402.99	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 906.5 hours of time spent developing and distributing educational material, attending events, presenting & training staff, York Regional Police conducting site visits in Town parks and trails.• Information Report 2019-03 highlights public education campaign.
Public Education Paraphernalia	\$ 480.80	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tattoos, treats and prizes purchased to entice individuals to learn more about the Town's new smoking regulations.
Informational Cards	\$ 271.20	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cards contained quick facts about smoking or vaping in Newmarket.• Used at various events & available at customer service kiosks as well as other departments' counters.
Telephone survey of public	\$ 11,283.05	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MDB conducted survey of the public to understand the community's interest in regulating tobacco,

		<p>cannabis and other products in Newmarket.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey results informed decision-making for Smoking By-law regulations.
Legal opinions	\$ 6,216.02	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in joint legal reviews with other York Regional municipalities to understand the Town's ability to regulate smoking and vaping on public and private property.
Additional Signage & waste containers (Designated Smoking Areas)	\$ 2,146.26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated Smoking Areas were established to provide a place for individuals to consume tobacco while on Town property.
Total	\$ 34,800.22	
Unspent funding	\$ 7,807.68	
OCLIF grant	\$ 42,608.00	

Conclusion

A further update will be provided when the full amount has been spent.

Business Plan and Strategic Plan Linkages

This report aligns with Council's strategic priority of Long-term Financial Sustainability by utilizing ongoing community engagement to help inform program, services and financial planning.

Consultation

Not applicable.

Human Resource Considerations

None.

Budget Impact

The budget impact is a reduction in expenses for 2019 of \$42,608.00.

Attachments

None.

Contact

For more information on this report, contact Mike Mayes, Director of Financial Services/Treasurer at 905-953-5300, ext. 2102 or via e-mail at mmayes@newmarket.ca

Approval



per Mike Mayes, CPA, CGA, DPA
Director, Financial Services/Treasurer



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