

**TOWN OF MINTO**

MEETING DATE: February 10, 2022
REPORT TO: Economic Development & Planning Committee
SERVICE AREA: Economic Development
SUBJECT: Structural Grant –Harriston Legion, 53 Elora St. S.
Harriston

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT the Town of Minto Economic Development & Planning Committee receives the February 10, 2022, report from the Director of Economic & Community Development regarding Structural Grant H10 for 53 Elora St. S. Harriston (Harriston Legion) for \$20,000 and approves this grant.

BACKGROUND

The Structural Grant Program was initiated in 2015 to encourage significant investments in improving downtown buildings. A variety of elements are considered under this grant program including:

- Building Structural Integrity
- Life Safety/Emergency
- Usable & Efficient Floor Space (Accessibility)
- Brownfield Remediation
- Improving the Environment
- Upgrading/Improving Public Infrastructure
- Creating Housing
- Energy Efficiency
- Enhancing Urban Design

COMMENTS:

The Harriston Legion is in the heart of Harriston's downtown. The facility hosts many special events and activities, as well as hosts the annual Remembrance Day service. The Legion is a constant partner in Harriston Rising projects and on numerous occasions has donated to local groups and organizations.

The elevator at the Harriston Legion has reached its life expectancy of 36 years and in May 2021 they were informed that it is no longer safe to operate. This has created a significant accessibility hurdle for many of the seniors and those that are physically challenged to be able to access the upstairs hall which is used for many of the important functions that are held at the Legion.

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To bring the elevator back into operation many improvements and retrofits must be made. The doors and lift carriage must be widened to today's standards. The lift wall must also be cement block, which would replace the existing wooden support wall. The shaft for the lift must be totally fire proofed. Minor electrical upgrades are required to accommodate up-to-date equipment. The Legion has been working with Triton Engineering who has agreed to oversee the project.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

There is a lack of contractors in this area of work. A quote was secured from Davidson Hill Corp for \$107,871.35, however material costs may continue to increase if the project is delayed and there may be unknown expenses. The projected cost of the project is \$125,000 - \$150,000.

In October 2021, the Legion was granted \$20,000 towards the project from the Community Improvement Program, Structural Fund. They recently found out that their Trillium Grant was unsuccessful. They contacted Veterans Affairs and were told that there are no programs that their project aligns with. They have applied to the County of Wellington as well as another Government of Canada Grant. If successful those grants would total \$27,000. This would still leave the Legion having to raise \$97,960. The grant of \$20,000 in 2022 would go a long way to support this organization and the installation of the elevator.

If all of the grants presented at the February 10, 2022 EDPC meeting are approved, \$78,350.69 would remain in the 2022 CIP Budget for other projects.

STRATEGIC PLAN

- 9.1 Provide grants for businesses that improve the building facades, address structural improvements, and promote re-use and redevelopment of existing buildings where architectural and heritage features are maintained.

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