

**TOWN OF MINTO**

DATE: August 30, 2017
REPORT TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Gordon Duff, Treasurer
SUBJECT: Connecting Link – Intake #2 – Contribution Agreement

STRATEGIC PLAN:

5.1 Actively seek out Federal and Provincial grants and revenue-sharing programs, and promote sustainable and equitable funding programs that require a minimal amount of reporting and promote local autonomy.

5.3 Ensure financial plans to include a blend of capital financing methods including long term debt, user fees, grants, internal reserves and taxation, and maintain reserves to the point where Minto reduces reliance on borrowing or tax increases to finance major capital expenditures.

BACKGROUND:

The Ontario government restored the Connecting Link program in 2015. The Town of Minto was successful in obtaining a grant in the amount of \$967,903 in the first round to assist with funding work on Elora Street in Clifford from James Street to the southern urban limits. The first section of this work was completed from Grein's Lumber to Park Street was finished this summer at a cost of \$314,293.

The Town submitted an application under Intake #2 to complete the Connecting Link project north from James Street to the urban limits. The Town received successful notification of funding under this round on March 29, 2017 in the amount of \$987,665. This work is in final design stage with a public meeting proposed in November to review the design and servicing aspects of the work.

COMMENTS:

As per usual practice, the Province of Ontario requires a Contribution Agreement to be signed between the Municipality and Her Majesty's government in order to facilitate the transfer of funds. This Agreement is attached and requires the document to be signed on behalf of the Town of Minto by its representatives, normally the Mayor and CAO/Clerk.

The two intakes provide for road reconstruction on Elora from one end of Clifford to the other with most of the work planned for 2018. Connecting Link does not cover water and sewer work which will be entirely the Town's share. Regarding servicing extension from

James Street northwest on Elora Street the landowners proposing to develop their lands should be making a fair contribution to the work.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The Town will include these funds in the capital or operating budgets as appropriate. External borrowing, reserve funds, current taxes and user fees will be used to fund the Town's share per approved capital budgets. For all phases, the total cost of the project including elements covered by Intakes #1 and #2 and recognizing ineligible costs such as waterworks, sanitary sewers and streetscapes is forecast to be approximately \$4,050,000.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives the report from the Treasurer dated August 30, 2017 regarding the Contribution Agreement for the Ontario Connecting Links Program Intake 2 – 2017-18 and considers a by-law in open session authorizing the Mayor and CAO Clerk to sign the agreement.

Gordon Duff, CPA, CGA
Treasurer