



## THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

### **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Peter Weeber, Chief Administrative Officer **FILE:** 5280-01

**PC:** Elma Hamming, Director, Financial Services **DATE:** January 14, 2025

**FROM:** Kevin McCarty, Specialist, Climate Action

**SUBJECT:** **2024 SUSTAINABILITY GRANT PROGRAM UPDATE & RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FALL 2024 APPLICATIONS**

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The purpose of this memorandum is to present a summary of the 2024 Sustainability Grant Program and to make recommendations to Council for the applications received during the fall 2024 intake period. This grant program provides up to \$2000 to Vernon residents and organizations to develop climate action and environmental sustainability community initiatives. Table 1 provides a breakdown of the 2024 program budget.

**Table 1: 2024 Sustainability Grant Program Budget**

Total 2024 budget allocation	\$25,500
Spring intake budget (11 grants)	\$20,161
Balance remaining for fall intake	\$5,339
Fall intake recommended budget (3 grants)	\$5,339
2024 ending balance	\$0.00

Overall in 2024, 26 applications were received (14 in the spring and 12 in the fall). The applications were reviewed against the program eligibility criteria (Attachment 1) to provide recommendations to Council. In the spring, 11 grants were awarded with a total budget of \$20,161, leaving \$5339 for the fall applications. The following three grants from the fall intake are being recommended to allocate the remaining funds.

Due to budget limitations, three applications were not approved in the spring and nine are not being recommended from the fall intake. Attachment 2 outlines the applications that were not recommended to receive a grant. There will be an opportunity for these applicants to reapply during the 2025 grant cycle. If the unsuccessful applications were fully funded in 2024, an additional \$23,750 would have been needed.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. THAT Council approve a 2024 fall-intake Sustainability Grant to the Okanagan Landing and District Community Association in the amount of \$1800 for the Paddlewheel Park Waterfront Sustainability Event, as outlined in the memorandum titled "2024 Sustainability Grant Program Update & Recommendations for the Fall 2024 Applications" dated January 14, 2025 and respectfully submitted by the Specialist, Climate Action.
2. THAT Council approve a 2024 fall-intake Sustainability Grant to the NexusBC Community Resource Centre in the amount of \$1800 for the Growing Green:

Sustainable Gardens Revitalization project, as outlined in the memorandum titled "2024 Sustainability Grant Program Update & Recommendations for the Fall 2024 Applications" dated January 14, 2025 and respectfully submitted by the Specialist, Climate Action.

3. THAT Council approve a 2024 fall-intake Sustainability Grant to Bowen O'Brien in the amount of \$1739 for the Green Futures: Vernon's Path to Sustainability video project, as outlined in the memorandum titled "2024 Sustainability Grant Program Update & Recommendations for the Fall 2024 Applications" dated January 14, 2025 and respectfully submitted by the Specialist, Climate Action.

Respectfully submitted:



Attachment 1 – Sustainability Grants Eligibility and Program Details

Attachment 2 – 2024 Sustainability Grant applications not recommended for approval

Approved for the Agenda by the CAO

