

R.M of Pleasantdale #398

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The Rural Municipality of Pleasantdale is continuing to offer the “Capital Grant Program”; the funding budget for 2024 is \$20,000.00; grant amounts will range between \$500.00 to \$20,000.00. This grant is available to not-for-profit and/or Incorporated not-for-profit organizations.

The grant is intended to fund projects and programs specifically addressing the needs of the RM of Pleasantdale’s diverse community.

Applications are available online: rmofpleasantdale.ca or at the office; submit application to the office prior to May 15, 2024; applications will be reviewed at a future council meeting. We urge all organizations to participate in the grant program as it will benefit our community.

1. Introduction

The RM of Pleasantdale #398 is committed to developing and fostering partnerships with community groups and organizations that involve and benefit the RM of Pleasantdale #398 and surrounding communities. The RM of Pleasantdale #398 Capital Grant Program does this by allocating funding to local community groups and organizations to:

- Provide an opportunity for local community groups to access funds to help with maintenance, upkeep and improvements to local facilities
- Deliver a service needed by the community
- Provide an opportunity for local community groups to participate in civic life and/or socially connect with other members of the local community.

The RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program Guidelines outlines how Council provides funding for not-for-profit community organizations whose work in the RM of Pleasantdale #398 area enriches the municipality and aligns with the outcomes Council aims to achieve. The RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program and delivery structure provides the operating framework used by Council to fund and deliver a range of services and outcomes.

1.1 Funding Objective

The RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program provides funding to community organizations to improve people's quality of life and has a focus on local people. The Program aims to improve the quality of all people, priority is placed on proposals that aim to achieve the following objectives:

- Target sectors of the local community that experience barriers to participating in community life
- Focus on addressing disadvantage and/or vulnerable communities
- Provide a mechanism that allows Council to work with the community to support shared outcomes
- Provide the opportunity for the community to identify and respond to local issues, concerns and priorities that are determined by evidence and linked to Council priorities
- Build community capacity and empower the community to take an active role in improving their quality of life
- Foster community involvement and participation
- Encourage partnerships between community organizations/associations
- Assist to kick-start projects that provide sustainable and/or innovative responses to community needs
- Provide a measurable cost-effective means to deliver community outcomes

1.2 Funding Principals

The RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program has a focus on RM of Pleasantdale #398 resident. It is also underpinned by a number of guiding communities strengthening principals including:

- Building on strengths and skills that exist within the community
- Evidence based approaches that acknowledge the needs and aspirations of our community
- Collaboration and partnerships
- Valuing the social, economic and environmental sustainability of the RM of Pleasantdale #398 area
- Efficient and effective delivery of the program
- Transparency and accountability in decision making

2.2 RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program

2.2.1 RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program Objectives

The RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program enables communities to achieve short to medium term community development outcomes, having an impact on long-term outcomes. It is intended to fund projects and programs specifically addressing the needs of the RM of Pleasantdale's diverse community. These grants provide for the implantation for Council identified outcomes through projects and programs undertaken by community organizations. Specifically, core strategies and plans will be key informants of the objectives. Council is seeking applications for projects or programs which must address one or more of the following objectives:

- Support the participation of people from diverse backgrounds within the community
- Foster an inclusive and harmonious community that embraces diversity, draws strength from our differences and develops positive connections within the community and a sense of belonging
- Support and encourage the community to participate in healthy lifestyles
- Encourage social inclusion, participation and connection with a focus on vulnerable communities
- Support the capacity of the community to create cultural change in health and wellbeing and achieve positive community outcomes
- Enhance the mental wellbeing of people in the community
- Support a safer and more resilient community
- Encourage partnerships between community organizations and/or association and the business sector to work towards a shared vision

2.2.2 RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program

The RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program is competitive with one funding round per year and allocations being for one financial year only. The total funding available is subject to variation depending on the Council's annual budget allocation. Successful applicants are not guaranteed ongoing funding in subsequent financial years. Previously submitted unsuccessful applications for the RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program can be resubmitted in future rounds of funding. They will be reviewed against new applicants in every round for that particular year. Applicants must demonstrate that they will deliver programs, projects or events within the year. Applicants must demonstrate that they will deliver programs, projects or events within the geographical boundaries of the RM of Pleasantdale #398 and service a significant number of RM of Pleasantdale #398 residents. The success of an application and the amount of allocation will be determined by how the applications score against the assessment criteria. It is important that applicants seek to address all the criteria in their applications.

2.2.4 RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program Criteria

Council seeks applications for the RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program that:

- Give effect to one or more of the objectives listed above
- Demonstrate clear community need validated by evidence
- Embrace the principles of belonging, inclusion, access, sustainability, partnership and diversity
- Includes a clear understanding of project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation
- Align with one or more of Council's core strategies and plans
- Encourage partnerships with other community organizations and/or the corporate sector in the RM of Pleasantdale #398 to improve delivery
- Demonstrate innovation and/or best practice
- Are delivered in the RM of Pleasantdale #398 for people who live, work or recreate in the RM of Pleasantdale #398
- Are deliverables in 12 months and demonstrate consideration of project sustainability beyond one year

All eligible applications will be scored against the following weighted assessment criteria:

- Relevance to Council's strategic plans and priorities
- Potential for project to be sustainable beyond Council funding
- Clearly identified and demonstrated (evidence based) RM of Pleasantdale #398 community needs
- Demonstrated project plan including deliverables, timeframes, budget and Evaluation Framework

- Innovation and/or new initiative based on evidence and best practice
- Demonstrated ability to deliver the funded service
- Partnership with other community organizations to deliver the project
- Amount of in-kind or financial contribution made by the applicant

3. Eligibility – Who can apply

3.1 General Criteria to be eligible, application must:

- Align with the Assessment Criteria relevant to the grant being applied for
- Provide a Project Plan and Evaluation Framework with the application. In addition to the criteria above and specified under each grant category, organizations must meet the following general eligibility criteria,
- Organizations must be:
 - Not-for-profit association, and/or an incorporated not-for-profit
- Organizations are encouraged to discuss their proposal with a council member to undertake a preliminary assessment before lodgment. Failure to do so may result in the proposal being deemed ineligible.
- Organizations must be located within, or deliver a project within, the RM of Pleasantdale municipality and must have evidence of direct benefit to people who live, recreate or work in the RM of Pleasantdale #398.
- Organizations must have fully acquitted previous completed grant funding and have no outstanding debts to the RM of Pleasantdale # 398 Council
- Organizations must have previously shown satisfactory performance with all conditions associated with their grant e.g. permit requirements such as building permits, etc.
- Successful applicants are required to maintain full records of receipts expenditure and performance outputs/outcomes for the relevant period. These records need to be made available to Council upon request.
- Organizations must have appropriate insurance and other legislative requirements relating to their funding activity.
- Council reserves the right to reject any application that does not meet the relevant assessment criteria.

6. Assessment Process

The assessment process used by the Council applies to all grant funds. After the closing date and receipt of applications:

- The applicant will receive a letter or email confirming receipt of the application.
- The submitted application is confidential. Only relevant Council staff and independent assessors will have access to the application. Its contents will not be disclosed to any other person.

- Council officers review all applications for eligibility. Ineligible applicants will be notified that their application is ineligible.
- For all grants an assessment panel comprising applications. If deemed necessary, applicants may be required to discuss or clarify their application with council members.
- Applicants will receive a letter notifying them of the outcome of their application after assessments and/or Council decision.
- Information about grant decisions will not be released over the phone.
- The list of successful applicants will be published on the RM of Pleasantdale #398 Council's website approximately one month after all applicants have been notified of the outcome of their application. It will be available at <http://www.rmofpleasantdale.ca>

What Will NOT be Funded

- An individual;
- Commercial activities and organizations, unless they partner with a community organization;
- Activities, projects, programs or services that are inconsistent with Council's objectives;
- Funding responsibilities of other tiers of government;
- Projects that commences prior to the application date (projects will not be funded retrospectively)
- Applications that:
 - Have a sole religious or political purpose;
 - Duplicate existing services/projects unless evidenced otherwise;
 - Have already commenced or where the organization has committed expenditures prior to notification date;
 - Have already been funded through other RM of Pleasantdale #398 programs or activities, another grant and sponsorship program, or through an existing Council grants;
- Council owned or run activities, projects, programs and events;
- Catering, unless it can be demonstrated that it is part of the delivery of the core project;
- Conference sponsorship;
- Debt payment;
- Organization social outings and gatherings, unless it can be demonstrate it is a core part of the project delivery;
- Per Diem/Day Money

Each community organization receiving a grant must submit a Project:

The RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program Project Report must include the following:

- A completed RM of Pleasantdale Capital Grant Program Form; and
- Receipts or an audited financial statement to verify expenditures

SUMMISSION DATE WILL BE MAY 15, 2024

FUND STATEMENT MUST BE SUBMITTED by October 31, 2024

RM of PLEASANDALE CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM 2024

FUNDING REQUEST/APPLICATION

Name of Community Organization

Contact Name	Contact Phone & Email
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Project Description

Project Start Date

Proposed Expenditures

Dollar Amount

_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

Total Project Costs

\$ _____

Grant Amount Requested

\$ _____

Signature of Contact person _____

Please return the completed form to the RM of Pleasantdale office before May 15, 2024.