
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Report CDP-03-2020 Community Partnership Program – Caledonia LIONS Community Centre Audio Visual System Enhancements



For Consideration by Council in Committee on March 3, 2020

OBJECTIVE:

To approve a request from the Caledonia LIONS Community Centre Board of Directors to update the audiovisual capabilities at the Caledonia LIONS Community Centre as a means to enhance rental opportunities and related revenues.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Report CDP-03-2020 Community Partnership Program – Caledonia LIONS Community Centre Audio Visual System Enhancements be received;
2. AND THAT the request to undertake the proposed project on Haldimand County property be approved;
3. AND THAT capital funding to an upset amount of \$4,400 to support the installation of an enhanced A/V system at the Caledonia LIONS Community Centre, with related funding from the Community Partnership Capital Reserve, be approved;
4. AND THAT project and funding approval are conditional upon compliance with Policy 2011-01 and County installation standards, permits and processes;
5. AND THAT the revised budget, as outlined below, be approved.

Prepared by: Sheryl Sawyer, Community Partnership Liaison

Reviewed by: Katrina Schmitz, Manager, Community Development & Partnerships

Respectfully submitted: Mike Evers, MCIP, RPP, BES, General Manager of Community & Development Services

Approved: Craig Manley, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In 2016, the Caledonia LIONS Community Centre, which is operated by the Caledonia LIONS Community Centre Board of Directors on behalf of Haldimand County, opened its doors. The facility is located on the Haldimand County Caledonia Centre property and serves the County's largest urban area. At this time, the Board of Directors would like to enhance the existing audiovisual equipment to meet new technology needs and better serve users, including residents, groups and visitors.

The request was reviewed through the Community Partnership Program's Staff Review Team, which supported the enhancement and the related CPP funding of \$4,400, representing 35% of the anticipated total budget of \$12,500.

BACKGROUND:

Haldimand County's Community Partnership Program (CPP) is intended to encourage and enhance strategic partnerships to the benefit of community stakeholders and the municipality, offering a simple, streamlined and customer-focused approach. The Program is intended to balance the rigor of the review process—necessary to ensure legitimate public interest issues are addressed—with flexibility and respect for the volunteer commitment of the groups.

Since 2011, more than seventy (70) CPP projects have been completed, leveraging more than \$2 million in community-raised funds to construct more than \$3.7 million in County enhancements.

The request from the Caledonia LIONS Community Centre Board of Directors is for:

- (i) Approval to undertake this project on Haldimand County property; and
- (ii) Capital funding to support the installation of the enhanced A/V system with related upset funding in the amount of \$4,400 from the Community Partnership Capital Reserve, representing 35% of the total project budget.

ANALYSIS:

The Caledonia LIONS Community Centre (Attachment 1) was constructed in 2016 and has been very well-utilized by residents and visitors to the community given its suitability for large and small events such as weddings and other family occasions, fund-raising activities, tournaments, workshops, etc. The Hall's Board of Directors anticipates greater competition in the immediate future from other local venues which have recently opened including the Riverside Exhibition Centre at the Caledonia Fairgrounds and the MontHill Golf & Country Club.

In order to maximize its ability to attract renters, the Community Centre Board of Directors would like to install an enhanced audiovisual system that better meets current technology standards and is more user-friendly.

Project Details:

The existing audiovisual equipment in the Community Centre, while only four years old, requires upgrades to meet the technical needs of Hall users. The proposal from the Caledonia LIONS is to enhance the existing audiovisual system, including a new Creston control switchbox, new receiver and transmitter, new touchscreen and all associated cabling, connectors, programming, switches, controllers, security and setup. The new system will be better able to 'communicate' with commonly- and currently-available digital devices (e.g. Apple devices), simplifying the user experience for renters and event planners.

Need and Benefit:

The proposed audiovisual enhancements will address a challenge in service, as the existing system's limitations have impacted the group's ability to maximize income through facility rentals. Many renters have found the current equipment challenging to use, especially given the rise in popularity of certain types of technology (Apple devices) and the challenges related to connecting these devices to the existing system. The group believes the proposed technology enhancement will make the Caledonia LIONS Community Centre a more attractive option for both weekend and weekday rentals.

Project Review:

The details of the new system were reviewed and supported by staff from the Divisions of Facilities, Parks, Cemeteries & Forestry and Financial & Data Services.

Funding Plan:

The Caledonia LIONS Community Centre Board of Directors has indicated it has its financial contribution towards this project in hand and would like to begin the work as soon as possible.

Project Management:

The project will be managed by the group in collaboration with staff.

FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

Policy No. 2011-01 states that the Community Partnership Program (CPP) will encourage and actively support partnerships with not-for-profit community groups. Within the Community Capital Projects Grants Program, Council has the responsibility to approve community capital projects with an overall budget of greater than \$10,000.

Based upon approved/recommended projects to date requiring funding from the Community Partnership Capital Reserve, there are sufficient funds available in the Reserve. Should this initiative be approved, there remains approximately \$95,240 (including report CDP-04-2020 also being presented at this meeting) in the Community Partnership Capital Projects Reserve which is unallocated.

Proposed Budget:

	Current Approved Budget	Proposed Revised Budget
Expenditures:		
Caledonia LIONS Community Centre – A/V Enhancement	\$0	\$12,500
Total Expenditures:	\$0	\$12,500
Financing:		
Community Contribution (65%)	\$0	\$8,100
Community Partnership Capital Reserve (35%)	\$0	\$4,400
Total Financing:	\$0	\$12,500

The CPP policy (2011-01) requires that all community funding for Council-approved projects must be in place with the County or secured/confirmed with the applicable community group prior to the start of any construction.

In addition to the funding requested, the County is required, under Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) reporting standards, to record the fair market value of contributed assets. This enhancement will be amortized over the estimated life of the associated asset for accounting purposes. Capital repair of the new amenity will be the responsibility of the Caledonia LIONS Community Centre, in accordance with the CPP – Community Halls Capital Funding Policy (2003-01; revised through report PED-COM-01-2018). Future capital replacement of the enhancement may be assessed as a partnership between the Caledonia LIONS Community Centre Board and the County.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACTS:

This application was assessed by members of the Community Partnership Program's Staff Review Team, including: Community Development & Partnerships; Facilities, Parks, Cemeteries & Forestry Operations; and Financial & Data Services.

REPORT IMPACTS:

Agreement: No

By-law: No

Budget Amendment: Yes

Policy: No

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Project Location – Caledonia LIONS Community Centre.