

Community grants policy

by Jim Morrow

Victoria County Municipal Council has undertaken the task of setting guidelines and policies for some fiduciary responsibilities it has identified.

Chief Administrative Officer Sandy Hudson, presented Councillors with a draft of guidelines for Community Grant Applications at a sitting of Council on August 9th.

The aim of the community grant program is to provide a modest level of support and assistance to community non-profit organizations, charities and recreational organizations within the Municipality. The support is in recognition of the value that these groups provide to the well being and growth of the community and in helping the municipality retain a strong community focus.

Mr. Hudson pointed out that the municipality receives more grant applications than it can fund.

This year the municipality spent \$196,000 on community grants.

If council accepts the recommendation that the community grant program does not exceed one percent of the general tax revenue of the municipality it would reduce the annual expenditure to close to \$56,000 a year. Two percent of the general tax revenue of the municipality would be close to \$112,000 a year.

The intent of the policy is to ensure that all sections of the Municipality have an equal opportunity to participate in the funding available and to establish predetermined standards that are clear to all applicants.

Mr. Hudson suggested too that funding is not intended to support general operating costs of an organization. He would also like to see applications accompanied with financial statements as well as a budget for the year in which the funds are to be allocated.

Another aspect of the proposed guidelines suggest that funding applications cannot exceed 50% of the total project costs.

Councillors felt the policy suggestions were a good starting point but believed further discussion was needed. Mr. Hudson took their comments and promised an update at a future council meeting.

MammoWarriors take to the water at the annual Dragon Boat Festival



Pictured is the Boularderie MammoWarriors team: Kneeling (l-r) are Michelle Stewart, Janice Morrison, Dianne Grant, Diane Bradbury, Sandra Kay, Captain Michelle Symes and Debbi Dinnan. Standing (l-r) are Trish Aker, Sharon MacIntyre, Alina Crompton, Judith MacDonald, Linda Lettice, Margie Dunlavy, Marie Frosst, Elaine Jessome, Debbie Dalton (not quite visible), Mary Osyany, Marilyn MacKenna, Meg Horne, Heather Pero, Charlene Wadden, Mandy Amey and Brenda MacLeod.

Boularderie

The Boularderie MammoWarriors dragon boat team recently participated in the Cape Breton Dragon Boat Festival in Sydney.

The event is held to generate funds to support the Cape Bretoners Dragon Boat Team, Special Olympics, and the Cape Breton Regional Hospital Cancer Care Centre. The Boularderie MammoWarriors took home two awards.

The Team won the award for Most Pledges Raised, raising \$6392 of the \$21,000 worth of total pledges raised for the festival. The team works year round to raise pledges, hosting soup luncheons, yard sales, draws for prizes, turkey salad luncheons, and other events. and would like to send a big thank you to all who helped support the team throughout the

year.

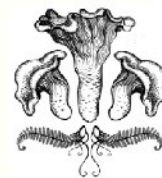
Most of the teams participating in the Sydney Harbour races on July 24 had corporate sponsors, so the MammoWarriors were thrilled (and amazed!) to receive the award for having raised the most money -- all from individual donations and their fund-raising activities.

Personal contributions ranged from \$2 to \$250. In-kind support was also generous: the East Coast Credit Union, Silver Dart Lodge, Fitzgerald's Restaurant, Cedar House Restaurant, Hank's Farm Market, Eykings Farms, and even the

Boularderie School students held a walk-a-thon and raised \$300 in seed money for the group last year!

The MammoWarriors team members are from Englishtown to all of Boularderie Island and each team member paddled with someone fighting cancer in mind. (or, sorry to say, more than one person).

The team was over the moon when it was announced at the closing ceremonies that, in addition to raising the most money of any of the 25 teams, they had also won the Most Spirited Team award!!



Chanterelle Country Inn Two Special Programs

The Chanterelle Inn is hosting Two Special Programs and is inviting all interested parties to participate in either the weekend events or associated day programs

- The First is a Plein-Air Watercolour Weekend with Award-Winning Artist, Bill Rogers August 27th, 28th, 29th

The Weekend Program includes demonstrations & instruction with Bill Rogers, accommodations, meals and evening entertainment.

The Day Program is on August 28th and includes the instruction, hands-on painting and lunch.

- The Second event is the 8th Annual Fall Fungi Foray & Feast on September 3rd, 4th & 5th

The Weekend Event includes accommodations, all meals with entertainment, prep and cooking the wild "shrooms" and the "feast".

The Day Program is on September 4th and includes the foray, lunch & species identification. The culinary component is also an option on the 4th which includes the "Fungi Feast".

For more information on the programs, please call the Chanterelle Inn at 929-2263



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