



Staff Report

Report To: Council Meeting
From: Jeff McArthur, Fire Chief
Date: 2023-11-23
Report: 2023-14
Subject: Community Emergency Preparedness Grant

Recommendation:

That West Elgin Council approve staff applying for the Community Emergency Preparedness Grant (CEPG).

Purpose:

To provide Council with information on the CEPG, and to seek approval for application.

Background:

The CEPG will support Ontario's goal to help ensure Ontarians are safe, practiced and prepared before, during and after emergencies. It will help build capacity and enhance the resiliency of local governments, First Nations, and community groups in preparing for and responding to emergencies. The grant will provide funding to help community organizations purchase emergency supplies, equipment, and services.

The merit-based grant of \$5,000 to \$50,000 is targeted at small and medium communities. It is an application-based program with successful applicants demonstrating need (emergency and occurrence), capacity (ability to fulfill and manage resources gained through grant funding) and alignment with program objectives.

1. Portable radios

- a. This year funds were approved for new portable radios and a similar purchase will likely be presented for Council approval again. Staff were advised approximately 18 months ago that the current radio model we primarily have are being discontinued, therefore we have shifted to purchasing the replacement model. While the current radios continue to work properly, replacement batteries are becoming challenging to source. Applying for funding would assist in fast tracking our radio replacement and ensure we continue to have approximately one radio for each firefighter, which is critical for communications and firefighter safety.
- b. Staff's position are radios are eligible for funding, based on the importance of their use for response to many of the potential provincial emergency hazards/events, as listed in Appendix A.

The Municipality of West Elgin is listed as an eligible municipality in Appendix C, of which the document has been included as a part of this report.

Deadline to submit applications is November 30, 2023. Applicants notified of funding decisions in February 2024. Applicants must demonstrate they can complete the activity (i.e., procurement, training, plan development) by the program end date of July 31, 2024. Any funds not spent must be returned to the province.

Financial Implications:

None.

Respectfully submitted. Jeff McArthur, Fire Chief

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Community Emergency Preparedness Grant - 2023-14-Fire.docx
Attachments:	- cepg-funding-guide-en-final (1).pdf
Final Approval Date:	Nov 21, 2023

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Terri Towstiuc