

Committee Report 2019-0245

Meeting: November 11, 2019

Subject: Recommendations for Allocation of Designated Heritage Property Grant Funding – Second Allocation in 2019

Submitted By: Douglas McGlynn, Heritage and Urban Design Planner, Community Services

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the recommended second allocation in 2019 for the Designated Heritage Property Grant Program recipients listed in Schedule A of Staff Report 2019-0245, be approved;

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- The Designated Heritage Property Grant program (DHPG) provides financial assistance to designated heritage property owners for the maintenance and restoration of their properties. There are two allocations in a calendar year, one in the Spring and one in Autumn.
- The DHPG provides grants of 50% of eligible costs to a maximum of \$4,000 per grant. A single property is eligible to receive two (2) grants in the calendar year.
- The Heritage Grant Program was expanded to include commercial and industrial properties designated under Part V of the Ontario Heritage Act (the “Act”) in the Bolton Heritage Conservation District.
- The Town received twenty (20) applications in the second application round, which were screened and evaluated by the Heritage and Urban Design Planner and the Heritage Review Group (members of Heritage Caledon) against the DHPG guidelines. All proposed work was deemed eligible for DHPG funding. Of the proposed projects, eight (8) properties were approved for the second annual 2019 Heritage Grant Program.
- The 2019 base operating budget for the DHPG is \$65,000 an increase of \$15,000 from the 2018 budget granted by Council based on the inclusion of the Bolton Heritage Conservation District.
- \$42,750 was allocated in the first allocation in the spring.
- The Heritage Review Group (Review Group) recommends allocation of the remaining \$22,250 to eight (8) applicants in the second allocation this fall.

DISCUSSION

The DHPG was established by By-law 2006-34 as a financial incentive program to promote and support stewardship of designated heritage properties. Originally administered for the Town by the Caledon Heritage Foundation, administration was returned to the Town in 2010 (Council resolution 2010-032).

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The program Guidelines and the Review Group were established by By-law 2010-065, which was repealed and replaced by By-law 2013-099 and subsequently amended by By-law 2017-70. In 2019, By-law 2017-70 was amended by By-law 2019-39 to enable commercial and industrial properties included in the HCD to have the ability to apply for the Heritage Grant Program.

The Review Group is a subcommittee of Heritage Caledon members and the Heritage and Urban Design Planner. In accordance with By-law 2013-099, the Review Group reports to Heritage Caledon Committee with its allocation recommendations for DHPG funds.

2019 Second Allocation - Applications

The Town has received twenty (20) heritage grant applications. All grant applications were reviewed by the Heritage and Urban Design Planner to ensure the completeness of the applications before being provided to the Review Group. Of the twenty applications the following list provides a breakdown of eligibility:

- two (2) properties did not meet the qualifying criteria for a Heritage Grant as they were not designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*;
- four (4) applicants had outstanding grants for the same proposed work from 2017 and 2018;
- two (2) applications were deferred to the Spring Heritage Grant Program 2020;
- three (3) applications did not meet the qualifying criteria of designated heritage attributes according to the Heritage Grant Guidelines; and
- one (1) property had outstanding taxes payable to the Town.

The Review Group evaluated the applications against the criteria for eligible work outlined in the program Guidelines, namely that the work:

- Has not yet been initiated at the time of application;
- Is compatible and consistent with the design or physical value, historical value and contextual value of the property;
- Serves to rehabilitate the building or property by stabilizing and protecting existing architectural heritage attributes and/or other character defining elements;
- Is consistent with good heritage conservation practices;
- If a restoration: serves to help restore the building or property by replicating lost or damaged architectural heritage attributes and/or other character defining elements that were once part of the building fabric or property;
- Is executed in such a manner as not to detract from or diminish the cultural heritage value of the property;
- Is consistent with the Town of Caledon by-laws and policies, along with relevant provincial and federal regulations and codes.

Eligible work includes the costs of professional fees, labour, materials and equipment.

- The DHPG provides grants of 50% of eligible costs for maintenance and restoration projects to a maximum of four thousand dollars (\$4,000) per grant.

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- A single property is eligible to receive two (2) grants in the calendar year at the discretion of Council and subject to available annual funding. In the event the second grant is approved, the applicant waives their right to apply for a grant under the Designated Heritage Property Grant Program in the following calendar year for the same Designated Heritage Property.

Community Services had \$65,000 approved in the 2019 base operating budget for the DHPG, of which \$42,750 was awarded in the first allocation this spring.

The total estimated project costs for the work associated with the applications in the second allocation is \$74,351. Of this amount, \$22,250 is eligible for grant funding based on 50% of eligible costs to a maximum of \$4,000 per grant.

The Review Group is recommending the allocation of all available funding, as shown on Schedule A to this report and summarized below:

- Allocation of maximum eligible grants to all eight (8) eligible applicants.

Upon completion of the work and confirmation of paid invoices, and in accordance with all requirements as set out in the appropriate Guidelines, the Review Group will undertake a site inspection to ensure the work is satisfactory prior to processing the grant claim.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

It is recommended that the eight (8) grants listed in Schedule A be approved, at a total cost of \$22,250 funded from the Designated Heritage Property Grant Program. The 2019 budget for the Designated Heritage Property Grant Program was \$65,000 under the Community Services operating budget account #: 01-02-405-44070-365-62319 of which the first allocation in the spring program was awarded \$42,750 and the remaining available funds for the second allocation this fall is \$22,250. The balance of \$22,250 therefore will be used to fund the second allocation of the Designated Heritage Grant Program 2019.

ATTACHMENTS

Schedule A: Autumn Designated Heritage Grant Program 2019