

**CITY OF HAMILTON**

***CORPORATE SERVICES  
Finance & Administration***

<b>Report to:</b> Chairman and Members Grants Sub-Committee	<b>Submitted by:</b> J. Rinaldo General Manager Finance & Corporate Services
<b>Date:</b> September 9, 2003	<b>Prepared by:</b> C. Bian A. Bradford C. Felker J. Kirkpatrick G. Makins R. Melatti M. Worne

**SUBJECT: NEW APPLICATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP  
PROGRAM (SEED PROGRAM) (GRA03007)(CITY WIDE)**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

- a) That subject to approval by the Technical Team, requests received by the Community Partnership Program from 1<sup>st</sup> time applicants, within each of the categories excluding Sports and Social & Public Health organizations be funded to a maximum of \$5,000 per project with the exception of proposals that yield a positive net impact to the City of Hamilton.

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Joseph L. Rinaldo, General Manager  
Finance & Corporate Services

## **NEW APPLICATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (GRA03007) - (CITY WIDE)**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Community Partnership Program (CPP) evaluates applications on Merit (30%), Organizational Competence (30%) and Community Impact (40%). A large number of applications are received each year, however, due to an overall limited CPP budget of \$2.7 million, not all applicants receive funding. Many applications are for new programs and have difficulty obtaining funding under the current structure.

The City of Hamilton is committed to encouraging and supporting new programs that enhance our community. As such, staff recommends that if a new program application is qualified and within the capacity of program funding, then the new program receives a maximum of \$5000 in SEED funding. Applicants may apply for further funding in the next grant cycle as a one year grant history and event history will have been established.

The funding will also meet the following objectives of the CPP:

- To provide limited financial assistance to community groups and organizations who are engaged in programs and activities within the City of Hamilton designed to achieve the self-fulfillment of individuals and the general well-being of the community
- To promote the self-sufficiency of community groups and programs by encouraging those in receipt of funding from the City to become self-supporting

### **BACKGROUND:**

As previously mentioned, the CPP budget is approximately \$2.7 million. The limited funding amount cannot support the number of funding requests received through the CPP program. This situation makes it difficult for new applicants to secure funding through the CPP. Staff believe that this will allow more new programs to obtain city funds to assist them.

The logic for not including the sport section as part of this new program is that all sport groups that use city facilities (e.g. ice, fields, gymnasiums, pools etc) already receive a subsidy as these facilities are not operating on a full cost recovery basis at times of usage. Therefore, if they were to get funding under Community Partnership Program they would technically be getting two sources of funding (one through the grant and the second one by paying a reduced rental fee for the facilities),

New applicants from the social and public health services stream are often applying for core funding for a program on an annual basis and not often for “project” based funds. Even when funding is being sought for a “pilot” project, the project is likely to operate over a fiscal year. Capping initial applicants to \$5,000 (except when consistent with the 30% maximum per program policy) will severely impact the ability of many new programs to be launched from this sector within the Community Partnership Program. Keeping in

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mind the maximum percentage per program that can be funded through the Community Partnership Program is 30%, a cap of \$5,000 would mean that the maximum total program budget for organizations would have to be around \$16,000. This seed funding cap of \$5,000 combined with the 30% maximum per program guideline would not provide adequate investment opportunities to social and public health programs applying to the Community Partnership Program that may be addressing priority emerging needs.

**ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES:**

N/A

**FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

There are no direct financial, staffing or legal implications in this report. If approved, the recommendations contained in this report would reallocate, the CPP budget not change the overall budget. Ordinarily the CPP budget is set before funds are recommended or approved. However, the increasing number of applicants applying to the CPP each year puts pressure on the city budget of \$2.7 million.

**POLICIES AFFECTING PROPOSAL:**

N/A

**CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT  
DEPARTMENTS/AGENCIES:**

**CITY STRATEGIC COMMITMENT:**

The Community Grant Program provides funding to community social and health services agencies, art/cultural groups, and special events to enhance both the quality of life and the local economy for citizens in the City of Hamilton.