

## **COMMUNICATION UPDATE**

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	July 31, 2023
SUBJECT:	City Enrichment Fund (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Morgan Stahl Director, Government Relations & Community Engagement City Manager's Office
SIGNATURE:	MAL

This Communication Update is to advise Council that the City Enrichment Fund will be changing the 2024 intake period to November 1 – December 15, 2023, to scope a community consultation plan in response to Council direction and applicant feedback.

## **Background**

The City Enrichment Fund program invests in local charities, non-profit and grassroots organizations across seven sector areas within the city annually. At the May 16, 2023, Grants-Sub Committee meeting, staff were directed to consult and engage with the community in advance of the 2024 application intake, which typically runs from September 1 – November 2.

The City Enrichment Fund team will be presenting an engagement plan to the Grants-Sub Committee on September 14, 2023. The twelve-month plan will include preliminary steps to consult community stakeholders with a focus on best practices, incorporating an equitable approach, evaluation process, and efficiencies to the overall program delivery. Delaying the 2024 intake to November 1, 2023, will allow operational requirements for staff to work with the community in September and October with the expectation that initial feedback will inform a funding framework and provide recommendations that can be applied during the 2024 funding cycle.

## **Public Communication**

The public will be notified of changes to the 2024 intake via direct Program Manager email, updates to the City Enrichment Fund webpage, and through the City's social

media platforms. Applicants will be supported to meet the new deadline through staff led information sessions, grant workshops, and pre-recorded online guides.

## **Recommended Community Communication**

Please note changes to the 2024 City Enrichment Fund (CEF) application intake period, which typically takes place from September to November. This year applications will open on November 1, 2023 with a December 15, 2023 4:00pm deadline. City staff will be available in the lead up to the application intake to answer any grant specific questions and provide support to applicants.

Staff will be taking this opportunity to engage with the community for CEF program feedback in advance of the annual deadline. Please reach out to your program rep or <a href="mailton.ca">Grant.Coordinator@hamilton.ca</a> for any inquiries.

City Enrichment Fund updates, additional contact information, and upcoming Information Sessions can be found on our webpage: <u>City Enrichment Fund</u>

If you require any further information, please contact Andrea Carvalho, Advisor, City Enrichment Fund & Community Outreach by e-mail <a href="mailto:Andrea.Carvalho@hamilton.ca">Andrea.Carvalho@hamilton.ca</a> or 905-546-2424 ext.1947.