




COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	August 27, 2025
SUBJECT:	2025 City Enrichment Fund Appeals (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Heather Anderson Director Communications and Engagement City Manager's Office
SIGNATURE:	

This communication update is to provide Council with the results of the 2025 City Enrichment Fund (CEF) appeals process. Approved by Council on May 28, 2025, the appeals process was open to the public from June 16 – July 11, 2025.

Background

The CEF program annually invests in local charities, not-for-profit and grassroots organizations that deliver programs and services to citizens in Hamilton across seven sector areas.

At the May 14, 2025, Grants Sub-Committee meeting staff presented the permanent appeals process that is designed to respond to the unique pressing needs of an applicant, and compassionately address the challenges faced by not-for-profit organizations during the application period. The appeals process provides CEF applicants with a one-time opportunity to appeal their application outcome when extenuating circumstances may exist requiring further review, or additional support.

The Director of Communications and Engagement received delegated authority to approve and enter into funding agreements with the Appeals applicants to ensure timely receipt of funding support ahead of the 2026 CEF funding cycle. Applicants were notified of the appeals funding opportunity by direct email, grant portal updates, and provided information through the creation of CEF Appeals dedicated webpage on hamilton.ca. Applicants were offered additional support through translation services, fillable forms, online video support, and one-on-one staff meetings.

<https://www.hamilton.ca/people-programs/community-funding-grant-programs/city-enrichment-fund/cef-appeals-process>

All appeals applications were reviewed by a panel of three CEF staff, including the Program Manager assigned to the applicant's specific program area. Each appeal was reviewed to determine the following criteria:

- a) the application is eligible for appeals; and
- b) the information contained therein is believed to rise to the level of extenuating circumstances.

To be considered a passing appeal, a score of 3/3 is required on criteria "a" and a score of 2/3 is required on criteria "b". A passing score does not guarantee funding.

Appeals Funding

The appeals process was open to 2025 CEF applicants that experienced unique extenuating circumstances that negatively impacted the success of the submitted application. User friendly applications were submitted during the four-week intake period, with staff assessments and approvals completed within four weeks following the July 11 applications deadline.

In total, 8 appeal applications were received, with 5 approved for funding, totalling \$32,445 in appeal support. The appeal funds are one-time with the intent of supporting applicants through their unique circumstance. All appeals applicants, successful and unsuccessful were notified of results on August 18, 2025.

Funding for the appeals process was supported through the City Enrichment Fund Reserve.

Should you require any further information, please contact Andrea Carvalho, Advisor – City Enrichment Fund and Community Outreach by email Andrea.Carvalh@hamilton.ca or by telephone 905-546-2424 ext. 6797.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" – Appeals Funding approved by Director August 2025

2025 City Enrichment Fund (CEF) – Appeals Process

REF #	CEF Program Area	Organization Name	Program Name	Total Program Budget	2025 CEF Funding	Appeal Funding Requested	Appeal Funding Approved	Total Funding
APPEALS - CCH - A47	CCH	Hamilton Sings! Community Choir	Hamilton Sings! Community Choir	\$34,200	\$1,938	\$1,812	\$1,812	\$3,750
APPEALS - ART - A27	ART	Aeris Körper Contemporary Dance	Operating	\$290,030	\$22,125	\$7,500	\$3,340	\$25,465
APPEALS - CCH - A62	CCH	Pride Hamilton	Pride at the Pier 2025	\$450,000	\$18,849	\$11,150	\$11,150	\$29,999
APPEALS - CCH - A44	CCH	Golden Youth	Eid Festival	\$46,200	\$5,371	\$3,000	\$1,143	\$6,514
APPEALS - CS - G8	CS	Shalem Mental Health Network	Mental Health Support for Marginalized Hamilton Residents	\$400,545	\$23,175	\$37,000	\$15,000	\$38,175
Total Appeal Funding							\$32,445	
Total 2025 CEF and Appeal Funding								\$103,903

CEF Program Areas	
AGR	Agriculture
ART	Arts
CCH	Communities, Culture & Heritage
CS	Community Services
DIG	Digital
ENV	Environment
SAL	Sport & Active Lifestyles