



AGENDA ITEM

Policy RC(9) County Support of Community Programs, Events & Activities - Applications February 27, 2020

BACKGROUND

The annual deadline for Policy RC(9) funding applications is January 31st of each year. This year's applications have been received for programs, events and activities in Lacombe County and all of the urban municipalities within the County, including the Summer Villages. The following is a summary of the applications.

Administration is seeking Council's consideration and approval of the applications at the recommended amounts.

ANALYSIS

The purpose of Policy RC(9) is to fund community programs, events and activities that strengthen the quality of life of its residents and foster civic pride.

Funding provided pursuant to Policy RC(9) is allocated on a municipality basis with both municipalities and community groups being eligible for funding. The amount of funding allocated for programs, events and activities held in each municipality was originally established at \$0.75 per capita based on the official population of each individual municipality. There is also a minimum level of funding allocated to each municipality as follows: 1) Towns and Villages - \$1,000, and 2) Summer Villages - \$500.

In late 2015, Council amended Policy RC(9) to include a clause to index the funding amounts annually for inflation. Based on indexing for 2020, the funding rates are as follows:

- Per Capita - \$0.807
- Towns and Villages - \$1,077
- Summer Villages - \$539

These rates combined with the 2019 population figures for the urban communities and summer villages results in the following maximum allocations by community:



Community	Annual Allocation
Alix	1,077
Bentley	1,077
Blackfalds	8,171
Clive	1,077
Eckville	1,077
Lacombe	11,286
Lacombe County	8,347
SV of Gull Lake	539
SV of Sunbreaker Cove	539
SV of Birchcliff	539
SV of Half Moon Bay	539
	34,268

The 2020 allocation is an increase of \$1,163 or 3.5% from 2019. This increase is due to the increase in population for the City of Lacombe, which completed an updated census in 2019 plus the Council approved 1.25% increase to rates.

The County received 26 applications for 2020, down slightly from 2019 when 27 applications were received.

The following is a summary of the applications received along with Administration's evaluation and recommendation.



Lacombe County RC(9) Grant Program						
2020						
Community	Applicant	Event	Amount Requested	Eligible	New	Recommended Amount
Alix	Village of Alix Recreation	Canada Day 2020	\$ 1,500	Yes	No	\$ 539
Alix	Village of Alix Recreation	Alix Days 2020	\$ 1,000	Yes	No	539
Bentley	Bentley & District Ag Society	Bentley Fair and Rodeo	\$ 2,500	Yes	No	359
Bentley	Bentley Canada Day Committee	July 1st Canada Day	\$ 1,000	Yes	No	359
Bentley	Bentley Museum Society	Family Day	\$ 725	Yes	Yes	359
Blackfalds	Town of Blackfalds	Blackfalds Day	\$ 7,594	Yes	No	8,171
Clive	Village of Clive	Clive Funfest	\$ 1,000	Yes	No	1,077
Eckville	Town of Eckville	Eckville Canada Day	\$ 1,000	Yes	No	1,077
Lacombe	Lacombe & District FCSS	50th Anniversary Lacombe FCSS	\$ 723	Yes	Yes	500
Lacombe	City of Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund	Art in the Park	\$ 2,000	Yes	No	500
Lacombe	Lacombe Days Association	Lacombe Days	\$ 9,650	Yes	No	9,786
Lacombe	Lacombe Regional Tourism	Canada Day Celebrations	\$ 3,000	Yes	No	500
Lacombe County	Forshee Ladies Community Club	100th Anniversary	\$ 2,000	Yes	Yes	900
Lacombe County	Mirror & District Community Develop Assoc.	May Day Event	\$ 1,500	Yes	No	910
Lacombe County	Mirror Recreation Society	Easter/Spring Celebration	\$ 920	Yes	No	910
Lacombe County	Mirror Recreation Society	Children's Halloween Party & Haunted House	\$ 680	Yes	No	640
Lacombe County	Mirror Recreation Society	Christmas Celebration (Santa Day)	\$ 1,010	Yes	No	1,020
Lacombe County	Mirror District Skating Rink Society	Family Day, Canada Day, New Years	\$ 4,500	Yes	No	1,010
Lacombe County	Joffre Community Association	Skate Party, Easter, Family BBQ, Earth Day, Horseshoe Tournament	\$ 2,750	Yes	No	1,310
Lacombe County	Tees Agricultural Society	Spring Chilli Cook-off and Bingo	\$ 275	Yes	No	275
Lacombe County	Tees Agricultural Society	Christmas Concert and Carol Festival	\$ 275	Yes	No	275
Lacombe County	Birch Bay Community Association	Family Day, July 1st fireworks, Beach Day BBQ	\$ 1,250	Yes	No	1,115
SV of Gull Lake	Gull Lake Community League	Family Day, Annual May Clean Up Day, Canada Day, Christmas Potluck	\$ 500	Yes	No	539
SV of Half Moon Bay	SV of Half Moon Bay	July 1st Fireworks	\$ 500	Yes	No	539
SV of Sunbreaker Cove	SV of Sunbreaker Cove	Sunbreaker Cove Regatta	\$ 500	Yes	No	539
SV of Birchcliff	SV of Birchcliff	Summer Celebration	\$ 500	Yes	No	539
			\$ 48,852			\$ 34,287

Several communities had multiple applications. To ensure all eligible projects received some level of funding while ensuring community allocations were not exceeded, eligible projects received only partial funding. Some municipalities also saw an increase in applications this year. This is the case for Bentley which had three applications compared to a typical year when the community submits two. Funding was adjusted accordingly.

Like an application from Lacombe 4H East last year, the County received two funding requests for two separate anniversary celebrations. One is from Lacombe FCSS which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Funding for this application would come from the City of Lacombe's allocation. The other was the Forshee Ladies Community Club's 100th anniversary. These one-time milestone events are eligible under the program.

All applications received are being recommended for some form of funding for 2020, with the majority seeing some form of increase from 2019.



Based on Administration’s recommendation, the community allocations would be as follows:

Community	Annual Allocation	Amount Requested	Recommended
Alix	1,077	2,500	1,078
Bentley	1,077	4,225	1,077
Blackfalds	8,171	7,594	8,171
Clive	1,077	1,000	1,077
Eckville	1,077	1,000	1,077
Lacombe	11,286	15,373	11,286
Lacombe County	8,347	15,160	8,365
SV of Gull Lake	539	500	539
SV of Sunbreaker Cove	539	500	539
SV of Birchcliff	539	500	539
SV of Half Moon Bay	539	500	539
	34,268	48,852	34,287

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the applications as recommended by Administration.
2. Approve the applications as directed by Council.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The County’s 2020 operating budget includes provisions for the Policy RC(9) applications for each community.

LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Lacombe County Council Policy RC(9) – County Support of Community, Program, Events, Activities.
2. Municipal Government Act, RSA 2000, c M-26 (MGA)
 - Section 3 of the MGA states the purposes of a municipality are:*
 - (a) *to provide good government,*
 - (b) *to provide services, facilities or other things that, in the opinion of Council, are necessary or desirable for all or part of the municipality, and*
 - (c) *to develop and maintain safe and viable communities.*

Section 180(1) of the MGA states that Council may act only by resolution or bylaw.



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The County has taken several steps to inform the public of the RC(9) policy. First, the County advertised the 2020 grant intake in the County News in the November and December 2019, and January 2020 editions. Secondly, previous applicants are emailed several times during this period advising them of the deadline. All applicants are informed of Council's decision. Finally, events are often promoted in the County News in the months leading up to the day of the event.

STRATEGIC PLAN

The following elements of the County's Strategic Plan are relevant to this issue:

Our Vision: "An attractive, balanced and progressive community".

Our Mission: "To build a safe and vibrant community through leadership, innovation and the development of healthy relationships".

Key Principles: 1) "Fair and Objective in our decisions and in how we treat individuals", and 2) "Accountability for our decisions and for our actions".

Recreation Strategy: A. Pursue more recreational opportunities

Key Success Measures:

- Sustainability: "Current services are maintainable and provide benefits for the future, while minimizing negative impacts on the community",
- Stakeholder Satisfaction: "Healthy relationships with neighbouring municipalities, communities and our citizens."



RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the 2020 Policy RC(9) applications as follows:

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Alix	Village of Alix Recreation	Alix Days 2020	\$ 1,000	Yes	No	539
Bentley	Bentley & District Ag Society	Bentley Fair and Rodeo	\$ 2,500	Yes	No	359
Bentley	Bentley Canada Day Committee	July 1st Canada Day	\$ 1,000	Yes	No	359
Bentley	Bentley Museum Society	Family Day	\$ 725	Yes	Yes	359
Blackfalds	Town of Blackfalds	Blackfalds Day	\$ 7,594	Yes	No	8,171
Clive	Village of Clive	Clive Funfest	\$ 1,000	Yes	No	1,077
Eckville	Town of Eckville	Eckville Canada Day	\$ 1,000	Yes	No	1,077
Lacombe	Lacombe & District FCSS	50th Anniversary Lacombe FCSS	\$ 723	Yes	Yes	500
Lacombe	City of Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund	Art in the Park	\$ 2,000	Yes	No	500
Lacombe	Lacombe Days Association	Lacombe Days	\$ 9,850	Yes	No	9,788
Lacombe	Lacombe Regional Tourism	Canada Day Celebrations	\$ 3,000	Yes	No	500
Lacombe County	Forshee Ladies Community Club	100th Anniversary	\$ 2,000	Yes	Yes	900
Lacombe County	Mirror & District Community Develop Ass oc.	May Day Event	\$ 1,500	Yes	No	910
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SV of Half Moon Bay	SV of Half Moon Bay	July 1st Fireworks	\$ 500	Yes	No	539
SV of Sunbreaker Cove	SV of Sunbreaker Cove	Sunbreaker Cove Regatta	\$ 500	Yes	No	539
SV of Birchcliff	SV of Birchcliff	Summer Celebration	\$ 500	Yes	No	539
			\$ 48,852			\$ 34,287

PREPARED BY: Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services

REVIEWED BY: Tim Timmons, County Manager