



## AGENDA ITEM

### Policy RC(9) County Support of Community Programs, Events & Activities Update February 24, 2022

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#### **BACKGROUND**

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

The annual deadline for Policy RC(9) funding requests is January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. This year's applications have been received for programs, events, and activities in Lacombe County and several 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**

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 2022, the funding rates are as follows:

- Per Capita - \$0.829
- Towns and Villages - \$1,107
- Summer Villages - \$554

These rates combined with the 2021 population figures for the urban communities and summer villages results in the following maximum allocations by community:



Community	Annual Allocation
Alix	1,107
Bentley	1,107
Blackfalds	8,394
Clive	1,107
Eckville	1,107
Lacombe	11,594
Lacombe County	8,574
SV of Gull Lake	554
SV of Sunbreaker Cove	554
SV of Birchcliff	554
SV of Half Moon Bay	554
	35,206

The 2022 allocation was increased by 2.75% from the 2021 allocation.

The County received 10 applications for 2022 compared to 8 applications for 2021, and down from 2020 when 26 applications were received. Several community organizations still have funding from 2021 that they will use in 2022 while other groups are uncertain whether they will host events in 2022.

As was done in 2021, Administration is proposing that Council consider future requests as there may be more clarity on the hosting of public events in the coming months.

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

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. All groups received an increase in funding from 2021 based on the 2.75% increase.

The County only received one application from a County organization in 2022. Rather than approve the entire funding request, Administration has proposed an increase over the 2021 amount. Administration is proposing that the unused funding be held in the event requests come in later in the year. Alternatively, Council could approve funding for the full requested amount. However, this may not be sustainable in future years.



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

Lacombe County RC(9) Grant Program			
2022			
Community	Annual Allocation	Amount Requested	Recommended
Alix	1,107	-	-
Bentley	1,107	2,000	1,107
Blackfalds	8,394	8,261	8,394
Clive	1,107	-	-
Eckville	1,107	1,000	1,107
Lacombe	11,594	24,300	11,590
Lacombe County	8,574	2,500	1,150
SV of Gull Lake	554	-	-
SV of Sunbreaker Cove	554	500	554
SV of Birchcliff	554	-	-
SV of Half Moon Bay	554	500	554
	35,206	39,061	24,456

Alternatives

1. Approve the applications as presented (Administrative Recommendation)
2. Approve funding for County groups to the full requested amount.
3. Approve the applications as directed by Council.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

The County’s 2022 operating budget includes provisions for the Policy RC(9) applications for each community. The total budget for 2022 is 35,180.

**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.*

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council approve the 2022 Policy RC(9) applications as follows:

Lacombe County RC(9) Grant Program 2022			
Community	Applicant	Event	Recommended Amount
Alix	Village of Alix Recreation	July 1st Canada Day	
Bentley	Bentley Canada Day Committee	July 1st Canada Day	1,107
Blackfalds	Town of Blackfalds	Blackfalds Day	8,394
Eckville	Town of Eckville	Eckville Canada Day	1,107
Lacombe	City of Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund	Art in the Park	780
Lacombe	Lacombe Days Association	Lacombe Days	9,250
Lacombe	Lacombe Regional Tourism	Canada Day Celebrations	780
Lacombe	Echo Lacombe	Light up the Night	780
Lacombe County	Birch Bay Community Association	Family Day, July 1st fireworks, Beach Day BBQ	1,150
SV of Sunbreaker Cove	SV of Sunbreaker Cove	Sunbreaker Cove Regatta	554
SV of Half Moon Bay	SV of Half Moon Bay	July 1st Canada Day	554
			\$ 24,456

**PREPARED BY: Michael Minchin, Director of Corporate Services**



**REVIEWED BY: Bill Cade, Acting County Manager**





Lacombe County RC(9) Grant Program  
2022

Community	Applicant	Event	Amount Requested	Eligible	New	Recommended Amount	Previous Year	
Alix	Village of Alix Recreation	July 1st Canada Day		Y	N		\$ 539	No application in 2022
Alix	Village of Alix Recreation	Alix Days						No application in 2022
Bentley	Bentley & District Ag Society	Bentley Fair and Rodeo						No application in 2022
Bentley	Bentley Canada Day Committee	July 1st Canada Day	\$ 2,000	Y	N	1,107		Did not apply in 2021
Bentley	Bentley Museum Society	Family Day						No application in 2022
Blackfalds	Town of Blackfalds	Blackfalds Day	\$ 8,261	Y	N	8,394	\$ 8,171	
Clive	Village of Clive	Clive Funfest						No application in 2022
Eckville	Town of Eckville	Eckville Canada Day	\$ 1,000	Y	N	1,107	\$ 1,077	
Lacombe	Lacombe Performing Arts Centre Foundation	Music in the Park						No application in 2022
Lacombe	City of Lacombe Arts Endowment Fund	Art in the Park	\$ 2,300	Y	N	780	\$ 500	
Lacombe	Lacombe Days Association	Lacombe Days	\$ 15,000	Y	N	9,250	\$ 9,000	
Lacombe	Lacombe Regional Tourism	Canada Day Celebrations	\$ 2,000	Y	N	780		Did not apply in 2021
Lacombe	Lacombe Legion	Flags of Remembrance Day					\$ 1,700	No application in 2022
Lacombe	Echo Lacombe	Light up the Night	\$ 5,000	Y	Y	780		New Application
Lacombe County	Mirror & District Community Develop Assoc.	May Day Event						No application in 2022
Lacombe County	Mirror Recreation Society	Easter/Spring Celebration						Will use 2021 funding
Lacombe County	Mirror Recreation Society	Children's Halloween Party & Haunted House						Will use 2021 funding
Lacombe County	Mirror Recreation Society	Christmas Celebration (Santa						Will use 2021 funding
Lacombe County	Mirror District Skating Rink Society	Family Day, Canada Day , New Years						Will use 2021 funding
Lacombe County	Joffre Community Association	Skate Party, Easter, Family BBQ, Earth Day, Horseshoe Tournament						No application in 2022
Lacombe County	Tees Agricultural Society	Spring Chilli Cook-off and Bingo		Y	N		\$ 275	Will use 2021 funding
Lacombe County	Tees Agricultural Society	Christmas Concert and Carol		Y	N		\$ 275	Will use 2021 funding
Lacombe County	Birch Bay Community Association	Family Day, July 1st fireworks, Beach Day BBQ	\$ 2,500	Y	N	1,150	\$ 1,115	
SV of Sunbreaker Cove	SV of Sunbreaker Cove	Sunbreaker Cove Regatta	\$ 500	Y	N	554	\$ -	Did not apply in 2021
SV of Half Moon Bay	SV of Half Moon Bay	July 1st Canada Day	\$ 500	Y	N	554		Did not apply in 2021
			\$ 39,061			\$ 24,456	\$ 22,652	