



**City of Kingston
Report to Council
Report Number 15-178**

To:	Mayor and Members of Council
From:	Cynthia Beach, Commissioner, Corporate & Strategic Initiatives
Resource Staff:	Colin Wiginton, Cultural Director
Date of Meeting:	February 17, 2015
Subject:	Canadian Heritage Contribution Agreement through the Commemorate Canada Program: Sir John A. Macdonald Bicentennial

Executive Summary:

The purpose of this report is to obtain approval by Council to enter into an agreement with Canadian Heritage to receive up to \$170,000 in funding commencing in 2014 and ending September 30, 2015. The purpose of this funding is to support various initiatives organized by the City of Kingston to mark the Bicentennial of Sir John A. Macdonald's birth in 1815.

Currently, the Cultural Services Department has the delegated approval and signing authority to authorize the Mayor to approve and sign Grant Applications that enable the Department to access funding from higher levels of government. Council approval is still required should these Grant Applications prove to be successful, as in this case.

This report is time sensitive as the City has been asked to sign and return the Contribution Agreement as soon as possible so the initial funding can be released to support expenses incurred in 2014.

Recommendation:

That Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign a Contribution Agreement issued by the Minister of Canadian Heritage, satisfactory to the Legal Services Department, in the amount of up to \$170,000 through the Commemorate Canada Program.

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Authorizing Signatures:

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER
Cynthia Beach, Commissioner,
Corporate & Strategic Initiatives

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer

Consultation with the following Members of the Corporate Management Team:

Lanie Hurdle, Community Services	Not required
Denis Leger, Transportation, Facilities & Emergency Services	Not required
Jim Keech, President and CEO, Utilities Kingston	Not required
Desiree Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer	

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Options/Discussion:

In November 2013, Council approved a total of \$329,000 in funding to support the development and delivery of a program to mark the occasion of the Sir John A. Macdonald Bicentennial in 2015. At the same time, staff were directed to pursue a combination of partnerships and other funding opportunities that may exist to allow some the initiatives to go ahead without municipal funding.

To date, staff have been successful in securing funding from the public and private sectors in the form of sponsorship dollars. Local tourism organizations have also supported the City's programs and staff received notification from the Minister of Canadian Heritage in late December 2014 that a grant application submitted through the Commemorate Canada Program had been approved.

Through this program, the City is eligible to receive up to \$170,000 in support of the Bicentennial programming that has already started to be delivered. Costs incurred as far back as September 25, 2014 have been deemed eligible so it is critical that Council approval be provided so that the Contribution Agreement forwarded by the Minister of Canadian Heritage can be executed.

Existing Policy/By-Law:

Not applicable

Notice Provisions:

Not applicable

Accessibility Considerations:

Not applicable

Financial Considerations:

In November 2013, Council approved \$329,000 in funding to support programs planned to mark the Bicentennial of Sir John A. Macdonald's birth in 2015. Staff were also directed to pursue other funding opportunities to reduce the total contribution. The funding approved by Canadian Heritage could total as much as \$170,000 therefore reducing the City's contribution to approximately \$160,000.

Contacts:

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Colin Wiginton, Cultural Director, 613-546-4291, extension 1357

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Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

Alan McLeod, Senior Legal Council

Exhibits Attached:

None