

Report to Council



Date: February 5, 2023
To: Council
From: City Manager
Subject: 2023 Grants Summary
Department: Partnerships Office

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives, for information, the report from the Partnerships Office dated February 5, 2024, with respect to the 2023 Grants Summary.

Purpose

To provide Council a summary of the 2023 Grants Management Program.

Background:

The City of Kelowna actively pursues alternative revenue through grants. The City receives funds from external providers, with the majority of grants coming from the federal and provincial governments. Grants are aligned with Council, corporate, and community priorities, City master plans, and the 10-Year Capital Plan. This funding leverages City dollars to propel priority capital and operating projects.

Discussion:

The City is in a constant cycle of planning, securing, and managing grants. The Grant Management Policy, Grant Procedure Manual, Grants Database, and Grants Dashboard help to ensure the City has a robust and well managed Grant Management Program.

2023 Grant Summary

In 2023, the City was awarded 22 grants with a total value of \$68 million. Table 1 provides the 2023 Grant Summary and Appendix A includes a detailed overview of the 2023 grant activity.

Table 1: 2023 Grant Summary

Grant Status	Definition	Value of Grants
22 Grants Awarded	Refers to the grants that were approved in 2023.	\$68 million
50 Grant Contracts Managed	Refers to the grants that were awarded in 2023, as well as multi-year grants managed in 2023.	\$129 million

In addition to the above grants, the City was also awarded the following funding through direct one-time funding allocations from senior levels of government:

- **Growing Communities Fund:** the City was awarded \$26.2 million from the Province of BC to aid in the construction of infrastructure or community amenities to support our growing population.
- **Capacity Funding for Local Government Housing Initiatives:** the City was awarded \$846,430 from the Province of BC to support activities or projects to meet the new housing legislative requirements.

Direct funding allocations are supported by the Grants Team, however, are not included in the Grant Management Program totals as per the Grant Management Policy.

2023 Grant Highlights

In 2023, the City was awarded \$68 million in conditional grants. A few significant grants that were awarded in 2023 are highlighted below:

1. **Housing Accelerator Fund:** The City was successfully awarded \$31.5 million from the Government of Canada to implement system-changing actions to accelerate housing supply in Kelowna. This funding will allow for more infill housing, higher density development along rapid transit corridors, acquisition of lands for affordable housing development in partnership with non-profits, and expand the use of technology to streamline building permit applications. Kelowna was a leader in this funding program, being the first community announced in BC.
2. **ChildCare New Spaces Grants:** The City was successfully awarded \$25.1 million for three Childcare New Spaces Fund applications, funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of BC. This funding is to build 273 new childcare spaces with 91 new childcare spaces into each of the three new recreation facilities: Parkinson Recreation Centre Redevelopment, Mission Activity Centre, and Glenmore Activity Centre.

There were several multi-year grants in action in 2023 that supported new infrastructure in our community, a few which are highlighted below:

Newest Waterfront Park

This project was funded in part by two senior government grants including \$390,925 from the Provincial Community Economic Development Recovery Infrastructure and \$750,000 from the Federal Canada Community Revitalization Fund. The Provincial grant funded an elevated pier, architectural handrails, and paddle buoys. The Federal grant funded accessibility features including an accessible floating dock and kayak launch, accessible paddle and foot wash station, pedestrian lighting, wayfinding signage, and accessible picnic tables. Together, these grants enhanced accessibility and inclusivity at this new waterfront park and provided a unique opportunity for residents and visitors to access Okanagan Lake.

Strathcona Beach Play Structure

This project was funded in part by the Kiwanis Legacy Foundation, administered through the KGH Foundation. Through this \$150,000 grant and City partnership, a new play structure was constructed at Strathcona Beach Park to inspire play, create social interactions, and promote active living. This park is centrally located and is near important health services including Kelowna General Hospital, JoeAnna's House, and the Cancer Centre.

Sanitary Sewer Connection Project

This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada and the Province of BC through a \$9 million bi-lateral grant from the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. This project is underway and will

provide sanitary sewer infrastructure to approximately 600 properties in Rio/Rialto, Rutland and Hall Road, and provide a creek crossing for servicing of the Hall Rd connection area. The second phase of the sanitary sewer connection project in Rutland will be funded in part by the Growing Communities Fund and the Community Critical Infrastructure Fund (CCIF). Provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Honourable Anne Kang, visited Kelowna to announce the CCIF investment in June 2023.

Kelowna Airport YMCA Child Care Centre

This project was funded by the Province of British Columbia through an \$3.8 million grant from the ChildCare BC New Spaces Fund. The Kelowna Airport YMCA Child Care Centre was opened in 2023 and is a partnership between the City of Kelowna, Kelowna International Airport, KF Aerospace, and the YMCA of Southern BC. This child care centre, located on the YLW campus, provides 86 new licensed childcare to help families access quality, affordable, and inclusive child care. The Honourable. Grace Lore, BC’s previous Minister Responsible for Childcare, announced the opening of the centre in person at YLW in November 2023.

Annual Grant Summary

In 2023, the number and dollar value of grants awarded, and contracts managed increased significantly over previous years. Table 2 outlines the annual grant summary from 2020-2023.

Table 2: Annual Grant Summary (2020-2023)

Year	Grants Awarded	Contracts Managed
2020	\$1.8 million	\$36 million
2021	\$20 million	\$56 million
2022	\$27 million	\$67 million
2023	\$68 million	\$129 million

* Note: Table 2 includes conditional grants as per the Grant Management Policy and does not include grants / funding that was directly awarded or annually allocated.

It is important to note that grants are cyclical and competitive. Therefore, there will be years where the City may receive additional funding, and other years where the City receives less grant funding.

Conclusion:

Numerous City staff are involved in grants and through a one-team approach staff ensure that grants are managed appropriately. Dedication and hard work from many staff across the City has been instrumental in securing, managing and delivering grants for the City.

As a fiscally responsible municipality, external grant funding is an essential component of the City’s alternative revenue generation to support and enhance City capital and operating projects. This funding leverages municipal resources and aids in furthering Council, corporate and community priorities. The City will continue to actively pursue grant opportunities in 2024 that align with Council priorities and the 10-Year Capital Plan.

Internal Circulation:

- Partnerships & Investments
- Financial Services
- Infrastructure
- Airport
- Planning, Climate Action & Development Services

Communications

Considerations applicable to this report:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

The City also receives an annually allocated grant from the Government of Canada through the Canada Community Building Fund which provides predictable, long-term, and stable funding to local governments in BC. In 2023, the City received \$5.9 million for investment in infrastructure and capacity building projects.

Of note, the City also partnered with the Province of BC for the HEART & HEARTH program. The Province is providing \$9.3 million to fund the encampment response temporary housing projects to create 120 new supportive homes in Kelowna. The City also worked closely with BC Transit for the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Fund grants. \$21.5 million was awarded to BC Transit to fund five projects including the Hardy facility upgrades, the new Transit Operations Centre planning, and three transit hubs upgrades in Kelowna.

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Existing Policy:

Consultation and Engagement:

Communications Comments:

Submitted by:

M. Kam, Grants & Special Projects Manager

Approved for inclusion: B. Evans, Partnership Office Director

Attachments:

- Attachment A: 2023 Grant Summary