






Subject: "New" Rural Community Hall Capital Grant  
 Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 28, 2023  
 Prepared By: Carolyn Van der Kuil, Legislative Services Coordinator  
 Presented By: Carolyn Van der Kuil, Legislative Services Coordinator

### RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That Council approve Policy #15-4, Rural Community Hall Capital Grant

### STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT: (Check all that apply)

	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
High Quality Infrastructure		Economic Resilience		Quality of Life		Effective Leadership		Level of Service	

### RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Provincial (cite)- N/A

Council Bylaw/Policy (cite)- Policy #15-4, Rural Community Hall Capital Grant

### BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL:

As part of Council's four-year Policy Review Schedule, Administration presented a review of the existing grant policies at the June 20th Committee of the Whole Meeting. During that meeting, Council expressed interest in exploring a Rural Community Hall Capital Grant to provide capital funding for rural halls. It's important to note that these halls already have access to Policy #15-13, Rural Community Halls, which covers operating grants.

Council discussions during the meeting revolved around several key points:

- They sought to utilize existing funds for the new grant program.
- They emphasized the need for active use of funds from both the original Community Grant Program and the proposed Rural Community Hall Capital Grant program, rather than having unused funds in one program while eligible applications might exist in the other.
- Council emphasized their reluctance to allocate funding to halls that aren't effectively utilized and expressed a desire to see a stronger commitment to usage.
- They also expressed an interest in encouraging community participation by requiring matching funds from applicants.

In response to these discussions, Administration prepared an initial draft of the policy, which was presented to Council for review during the September 19th, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting. At that time, Council made the following requests:

- They suggested making it mandatory to present projects to Council for approval if the grant amount falls within the range of \$2,000 to \$5,000. Administration used the \$5,000 threshold in the policy, as this amount represents a more substantial project, avoiding frequent Council delegations for smaller \$2,000 requests.



## REQUEST FOR DECISION

- Council requested a review of volunteer hours to align with current wage standards in Alberta.
- They expressed a desire for increased recognition for the County when providing grant funding, including the possibility of photo opportunities.

### DISCUSSION/OPTIONS/BENEFITS/DISADVANTAGES/OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

The attached document contains a draft version of the new Policy #15-4, Rural Community Hall Capital Grant Policy. This policy has been developed based on the feedback and input provided by Council.

### FINANCIAL & STAFFING IMPLICATIONS:

Funding for this program will be sourced from the Community Grants for Non-Profit Organizations Program. As a result, the funding for that program will be reduced to \$30,000, with \$20,000 allocated to support this new Rural Community Hall Capital Grant program.

### RECOMMENDED ENGAGEMENT:

Directive Decision (Information Sharing, One-Way Communication)

Tools:	Individual Notification	Other:	
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### ATTACHMENTS:

Proposed Policy #15-4, Rural Community Hall Capital Grant

### COUNCIL OPTIONS:

1. Council approve as presented.
2. Council amend the policy.
3. Council receive for information.

### FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

Administration will print the policy, get signed, and post internally and on our website.

### APPROVAL(S):

Mike Haugen, Chief Administrative Officer

Approved-

