



Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Memo No.
2024-M-XXX

Memorandum to Council

Subject:	Economic Development Report
Agenda Date:	April 11, 2024
Attachments:	Bylaw of TREDCO v3 as of April 2, 2024 - final draft TREDCO Financial Agreement with Municipality draft v4 April 2 Proposed Temagami Community Literacy Empowerment Program Community-Enhancement-Program-EN

RECOMMENDATION

For Council Information

INFORMATION

Bank Closing:

In my last report, I stated that a number of interested parties to replace the leaving Scotiabank branch in town had reached out to us and that we had introduced them to the owner of the building and have helped facilitate discussions with major employers in the area.

We have received the following response from one party:

“We studied the information provided by Mr. Shymko following our meeting and we have concluded that the costs and risks associated with the project do not fit into our strategic directions. With the offering of online services combined with the loyalty of customers towards their financial institution make the profitability of such a branch in a community of less than a thousand regular inhabitants very difficult. We currently operate branches of this type in several communities, giving us a good understanding.

We also discussed the possibility of counter services on a trial basis to evaluate the community’s reaction before considering opening a branch. Furthermore, complications in transporting cash and protecting our members' personal information make it difficult to establish such an office and adequately meet the daily needs of your community.

We may, however, be able to help you in other ways. ... With the opening of an account at xxxxxxxx, residents of Temagami can be served at any branch throughout our territory. If this possibility interests you, we can organize information sessions and even facilitate the opening of accounts on site.”

The owner of the Scotiabank building has informed us that there has been credible interest by two other credit unions who continue to do research. We have provided them with demographics.

Tredcorp:

The Temagami Region Economic Development Corporation has a final draft of their incorporation bylaw and financial agreement with the municipality and are awaiting council approval to complete the legal incorporation progress. Both documents are attached to this report.

Temagami Dry

Final terms have been negotiated and agreed to for the production of Temagami Dry. The agreement is being drafted via lawyers at the time of writing this report and will involve a continuing shareholding of the company, a trademark return/dormancy clause and continued royalties on the product.

Chamber of Commerce

I met with the Chamber of Commerce to begin a series of free workshops on topics ranging from social media marketing to accounting practices. Our first workshop will be on guerrilla marketing... ie small budget and social media.

Adult Literacy Network

The Temagami Public Library has assigned a board member to work with myself on an **adult literacy program**. In a nutshell, this will be a small network of volunteers that will be available on a "as per specific need" basis ie – job interview coaching, resume help, finding and working through continuing education, and finding and navigating through various government programs.

I am asking council to keep and administrate the database of volunteers and handle phone calls and coordination through municipal staff.

Grants Approval

1) Grant request – NOHFC Arena Improvements

As the Temagami Recreation Master Plan states: "financial support for capital project often come(s) from provincial or federal onetime grants.", it would seem appropriate to investigate opportunities when they are presented.

The Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) was established in 1988 with a mandate to promote and stimulate economic development initiatives in Northern Ontario by providing financial assistance to projects that stabilize, diversify and foster economic growth in the region.

We are no longer applying for a Zamboni, as we are doing that through the Trillium Fund. We are now looking to update the arena as a whole... kitchen hood upgrades, dehumidifiers, lighting, etc.

The Rural Enhancement Funding Stream allows for "incremental improvements, repairs, and/or renovations to improve and extend the useful life of capital assets including; social and recreational facilities, municipal assets and community halls, that contribute to a healthy and vibrant community."

The intended funding stream would require a minimum 10% financial commitment from the municipality.

Evaluation Criteria

Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria:

Identification and alignment with a planning process such as community or organizational plan
How the project builds on and optimizes the capacity and efficiency of existing infrastructure
Strength of project plan that identifies the technical, managerial and financial capacity for implementing the project and sustaining the facility
Applicant should demonstrate how an NOHFC investment is necessary to make the project viable

Funding

Funding is in the form of a conditional contribution, and will not exceed: For communities under 1,500 and Indigenous communities, up to 90% of total eligible costs to a maximum of \$200,000.00;

We are proposing an application to this stream comprising the following improvements to our arena:

Hood Vent Upgrade – 5000.00
Lighting Upgrade – 4000.00
Dishwasher Replacement – 7000.00
Sport Supplies – 5000.00
Ice Divider – 5000.00
Dehumidifier – 55000.00
Tables and Chairs for rink non ice surface - 28000.00

Total: 109000.00

Municipality Contribution: 10,900.00

2) Asset Management Coordinator / GIS Intern

An Asset Management Coordinator Intern would aid in the implementation of the Town's Strategic Asset Management Policy and completion of the Town's updated asset management plan for all assets. The intern would coordinate and catalog assets, lifecycle activities/maintenance, data entry for the enhancement of the asset management program.

The intern will help to finalize condition assessment protocols, guidelines, and manuals.

They will assist in the implementation of the Town's GIS system to provide work orders, identify maintenance priorities, and track the status of work orders relating to facility maintenance activities.

Working under the direction of Public Works, the intern intern would play a strong role in supporting the municipal team with GIS assistance and in the GIS cataloging of infrastructure.

NOHFC Workforce Development Stream

Salaries/wages and employer's portion of Mandatory Employment Related Costs (MERCs) (e.g.: Canada Pension Plan, Employment Insurance, mandatory minimum vacation pay, as per Employment Standards Act) for a limited-term internship position of 52 weeks (with at least 35 hours of work per week) for candidates that:

Are new entrants into the work force, are transitioning to a new career, or the unemployed or underemployed who are entering a new field;
Have not previously participated in a NOHFC-funded internship;
Are at least 18 years of age; and
Reside, and be legally entitled to work, in Canada.

For eligible municipalities, Indigenous communities and not-for-profit organizations, funding is in the form of a conditional contribution of up to 90% of an intern's salary and employer's portion of MERCs to a maximum of \$35,000 per year.

Municipal Contribution: 3500.00

3) Tourism Intern

A tourism intern can bring a multitude of benefits to our municipality, particularly in bolstering its tourism sector and economic development efforts.

With a keen focus on creating a comprehensive tourism business inventory, the intern would systematically catalogue and categorize local businesses, attractions, accommodations, and services pertinent to tourism.

By doing so, we would gain a clear understanding of our tourism assets, facilitating targeted marketing campaigns, strategic planning, and resource allocation.

Moreover, the intern's efforts would enhance collaboration between local businesses and stakeholders, fostering a stronger sense of community engagement and cohesion. Ultimately, the tourism intern's contributions would empower the municipality to showcase its unique offerings, attract visitors, stimulate economic growth, and cultivate a vibrant tourism industry that benefits residents and visitors alike.

Fednor's Tourism Growth Program (TGP) provides \$108 million over 3 years to support Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities, small and medium-sized businesses and not-for-profit organizations in developing local tourism products and experiences. The program also complements supports for the tourism industry provided through other federal, provincial and territorial programs.

For youth internships, FedNor will contribute up to 90 per cent to a maximum of \$35,000 per year for the eligible costs of salary and employee benefit expenses in a full-time position for the internship period of up to 18 months. FedNor will contribute up to 90 per cent to a maximum of \$5,000 towards eligible equipment costs and/or training activities to support the intern.

Municipal Contribution: 3500.00

Respectfully submitted by
John Shymko
Economic Development Officer