



Staff Report

Report Title: Amendments to the EIES Program

Prepared By: Elyse Dewar, Project Coordinator

Department: CAO

Date: Nov. 2, 2020

Report Number: CAO-2020-11-41

File Number: NWMO-100

Attachments: 2020 Early Investment in Education and Skills Program Guidelines

Recommendation:

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby approves Report Number CAO-2020-11-41, prepared by Elyse Dewar, Project Coordinator, and in doing so approves the proposed amendments to the Early Investments in Education and Skills Program.

Background:

The Early Investment in Education and Skills (EIES) program was developed to build capacity and support education and skills training for Huron-Kinloss residents as well as provide funding for youth with an emphasis on learning initiatives that focus on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

Since 2018, this program will have invested \$85,000 back into the community through workplace training, continuing education and support for youth initiatives.

The Huron-Kinloss Nuclear Waste Community Advisory Committee approves the guidelines for the EIES program, however, the Committee has not met since February 2020, and we ask Huron-Kinloss Council to approve the amendments to the program. The current program is attached.

Discussion:

The EIES program supports registration for youth summer camps and group community training courses such as CPR/First Aid, WHMIS, etc. Due to COVID-19, both summer camps and group training were cancelled and we have a surplus of funds.

The EIES Approval Committee recommends amending the EIES Program to allocate the remaining funding to the following:

Student Care Packages: \$5,000 to purchase local items throughout the Township and create Student Care Packages to send to Huron-Kinloss students who are away from home, completing their post-secondary education. Packages would include comfort items from local retailers and gift cards from local business that could be used elsewhere such as gas cards. The Township would be able to create 50 care packages with this funding. To receive a care package, a family member or friend would complete a simple enrollment form.

Ripley-Huron Community School: \$2,500 to purchase microscopes and lab equipment such as beakers, scales and graduated cylinders for the intermediate science class.

Lucknow Central Public School: \$2,000 to purchase supplies for hands-on science experiments and a new coding program for students.

Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA): \$1,800 to support virtual mental health programs in both Lucknow and Ripley elementary schools as well as purchase Rainbow Kits for each school. Rainbow Kits are used by schools for students who have suffered a loss in their life. Teachers and students form groups and have weekly meetings, use journals and have group discussions to help cope with the loss.

Financial Impacts:

The Early Investment in Education and Skills Program (\$30,000 for 2020) is funded by the NWMO.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

The information provided in this report is consistent with and in keeping with the Municipality's Vision & Mission. The recommendations contribute to our goals in achieving a spirited community that takes pride in calling Huron-Kinloss home and by supporting a diversity of lifestyles, by maintaining a sense of connection and cohesion with each other and retaining our youth and engaging in our community. Projects in this report assist staff in achieving the following projects in the 2019-2023 Strategic Action Plan: P2.4 Continue to learn about the NWMO DGR Project.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Elyse Dewar, Project Coordinator

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer