



**Meeting Date:** December 18, 2024

**Prepared By:** Sam Cormier, Recreation Coordinator

**Submitted by:** Scott Mairs, Director of Community Services

**Report No:** CMS-10-2024

**Subject:** Seniors Community Grant 2025-2026 – Letter of Support

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**Recommendation:**

THAT Report CMS-10-2024 Seniors Community Grant 2025-2026 Letter of Support be received;

AND THAT Council endorse staff to apply for the Government of Ontario's Seniors Community Grant 2025-2026.

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to request Council's endorsement for staff to apply for the Government of Ontario's Seniors Community Grant 2025-2026. This funding opportunity will allow the municipality to support and expand recreation programs and services for senior residents, enhancing their overall quality of life.

**Background:**

Middlesex Centre's Community Services Department is dedicated to developing and delivering recreation programs that meet the diverse needs of our residents. The Government of Ontario's Seniors Community Grant offers municipalities the chance to secure funding aimed at improving recreational and social activities for seniors, fostering inclusion, and promoting active living within this demographic.

The 2025-2026 program provides successful applicants with funding ranging from \$1,000 to \$25,000. This funding can be used for various initiatives designed to enhance seniors' programming and services. Staff are currently finalizing the specific equipment purchases and other resources that will be supported through this grant. These resources will focus on improving the accessibility, safety, and engagement of seniors in recreation programs.

## **Analysis:**

The Seniors Community Grant presents a valuable opportunity to enhance recreation offerings for seniors in Middlesex Centre. By applying for this funding, the municipality can acquire specialized equipment and materials that will directly benefit seniors, improving the quality of current programs or introducing new ones that better meet their needs. The grant will also support initiatives that encourage physical activity, social interaction, and overall well-being among seniors.

In addition to funding for equipment, the grant allows for investment in program delivery, including training, marketing, and other necessary resources to ensure the success of these programs.

Securing this funding will further Middlesex Centre's commitment to improving services for seniors, providing additional opportunities for engagement and connection within the community. Council's support for this application will demonstrate our collective commitment to addressing the needs of this important demographic and strengthening our municipality's offerings.

## **Financial Implications:**

The Seniors Community Grant provides funding ranging from \$1,000 to \$25,000 to successful applicants. This will cover the costs associated with purchasing specialized equipment and implementing new or expanded programming for seniors. There are no direct financial costs to the municipality beyond the time required by staff to prepare and submit the grant application.

## **Strategic Plan:**

This matter aligns with following strategic priorities:

- Engaged Community
- Responsive Municipal Government

## **Attachments:**

A1 – 2025-25 SCG Guidelines