



News Release – For Immediate Release Monday, December 12, 2016

Council approves over \$3.5 million in grants for recreation, community and cultural groups

During 2017 Preliminary Budget Deliberations, Council announced that the County will provide \$3,504,464 in grants to various sports, recreation and cultural facilities and organizations.

Of this amount, approximately \$1,696,471 will go towards major capital community projects, \$1,381,425 for community assistance grants, \$451,677 towards capital assistance grants, and \$25,000 for 100th anniversary celebration projects.

“The County recognizes the value added to our communities and urban municipalities when we invest in recreation, sports and culture. These grants are integral to providing fun and rewarding experiences for our residents, and to ensuring the County is a great place to live,” says Leanne Beaupre, Reeve. “The County believes in helping fund the non-profit and community groups whose hard work and commitment enables residents to have opportunities for an active and engaged way of life.”

The Capital Assistance Grant Program provides financial assistance to non-profit organizations that own or operate facilities for recreational, sports and cultural opportunities. Major Capital Grants assist non-profit organizations who are undertaking improvements to their facilities, or who are building new facilities. The 100th Anniversary Celebration Grant provides funding to communities in the County turning 100 years old for their centennial anniversary celebrations. And Community Assistance Grants provide operating assistance to non-profit and volunteer groups that promote active, safe and sustainable communities.

Grants allotted in the 2017 preliminary budget include the following:

Major Capital Community Grant (50K+) recipients are as follows:

- \$600,000 over three years (2015-2017) for a total contribution of \$1.8 million for the Bezanson Community Centre, Phase 1
- \$418,437 to the Grande Prairie Agriculture Society (Evergreen Park) to waive loan installments
- \$150,000 over three years (2015-2017) for the Teepee Creek Ag Events Centre Phase 1 and an additional \$175,000 for Phase 2 of the AG Events Centre Project front area for a total contribution of \$1.075 million
- \$134,191 for the Nighthawk Year-Round Adventure Park to replace equipment for a total contribution of \$428,132
- \$80,834 to the South Peace Centennial Museum



- \$50,000 to the Valhalla Recreation Centre - to upgrade facility
- \$45,000 to the Wembley and District Agricultural Society- to replace the flooring in the Wembley Recreation Centre
- \$43,000 for the Crystal Creek Recreational Society – to complete Phase 2 of the Hall Restoration Project

Capital Assistance Grant (5K-50K) recipients are as follows:

- \$50,000 to the Clairmont & Area Seniors Club - to provide a new kitchen
- \$40,000 to the Friends of Hythe and Community Playground Society - to install a new playground base at Hythe Regional School
- \$35,000 to West Country Lighting - for the final installment of the lighting project
- \$31,000 to the Town of Beaverlodge - to install a de-humidifier for Beaverlodge Arena
- \$28,000 to the Rio Grande Sports Association - to purchase fencing panels
- \$25,000 to the Peace Area Riding for the Disabled Society (PARDS) - to complete construction of the new facility
- \$25,000 to Wembley Parks and Recreation - to install a new playground at Sunset Park
- \$25,000 to Whispering Ridge Participarent Society - to install a playground at Whispering Ridge School
- \$21,177 to the Clairmont Agricultural Society - to complete the roof replacement on the arena
- \$20,000 to the Beaverlodge Boys and Girls Camp Society - to complete the kitchen project
- \$20,000 to the Mountview Curling Rink - for Phase 2 of the building upgrade
- \$17,500 to the Wembley & District Arts, Culture and Historical Society - to move 2 additional buildings (Dray Barn and Gas Station) to the heritage village property
- \$17,500 to the Wembley & District Agricultural Society - to purchase a make-up air unit for the main lobby
- \$15,000 to the Saskatoon Lake Agricultural Society - to install a new playground and a new arsenic removal system
- \$11,000 to Sexsmith Sabres Football - to upgrade the irrigation system
- \$9,000 to West Smoky Legion #244 - to renovate Bezanson Legion Hut
- \$8,500 to Clairmont Community School - to install benches and picnic tables
- \$8,000 to the Beaverlodge & District Agricultural Society - to refurbish the outdoor arena
- \$7,500 to the Clairmont Agricultural Society - to provide new nets
- \$7,500 to the Hinton Trail Hall Association - to replace the kitchen floor
- \$7,500 to the Sexsmith Curling Club - to replace furnaces and renovate the upstairs lounge
- \$7,500 to the Sexsmith Football Club - to install a new scoreboard for the field
- \$5,000 to the Beaverlodge Area Cultural Society - to renovate the main art gallery



- \$5,000 to the Game Country Archers - to complete fencing around the northern boundary of the archery club
- \$5,000 to Peace Wapiti Titans Football - to purchase 28 concussion helmets

100th Anniversary Celebration Grant

- \$25,000 to the Rio Grande Sports Association – for commemorative tables

Community Assistance Grant recipients are as follows:

- \$400,000 to the Grande Prairie Agriculture & Exhibition Society for operations
- \$300,000 to the Philip J. Currie Dinosaur Museum for operations
- \$200,000 to S.T.A.R.S. for operating costs (2016-2018) for a total contribution of \$1.64 million
- \$50,000 to the 2018 AB Summer Games Committee for two years (2017-2018) for a total contribution of \$100,000
- \$65,000 to the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie – for four years (2015-2018)
- \$50,000 to the Nitehawk Year-Round Adventure Park over the next five years (2015-2019) for energy costs
- \$41,600 to the South Peace Regional Archives - for four years (2015-2018)
- \$37,398 per year over four years (2015-2018) to the Grande Prairie Museum for a total contribution of \$149,592
- \$25,000 to the Grande Prairie Sports Council – for operating costs (2014-2017) for a total contribution of \$100,000
- \$22,500 for Grande Prairie Technical Search and Rescue for two years (2016-2017) for a total contribution of \$25,000
- \$20,000 to Vital Signs Study (Community Foundation of Northwestern Alberta)
- \$10,000 to the Grade 3 Reading University
- \$10,000 to the Mighty Peace Day 2017
- \$9,000 to the County of Grande Prairie JDA Kings
- \$9,000 to the Peace Airshed Zone Association
- \$7,500 to the Community Foundation for the County of Grande Prairie Firefighters
- \$5,000 to Agricultural Fairs in the County- (five grants @ \$1000) (Valhalla, Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, Clairmont & Hythe)
- \$5,000 to the Bezanson Firemen's Ball
- \$3,300 to the Peace Draft Horse Club - Northern Spirit Light Show
- \$3,000 to the Grande Prairie Live Theatre - Reel Shorts Film Festival
- \$2,500 to the Big Hearts for Big Kids sponsorship
- \$2,500 to the City of Grande Prairie Pursuit of Excellence Program for three years (2016-2019) for a total contribution of \$10,000
- \$1,700 to the Grande Prairie Petroleum Association STARS Hanger Dance
- \$1,500 to the Friends of Saskatoon Island – for the Swan Festival
- \$1,200 to the Grande Prairie Regional EMS Golf Classic



- \$1,000 to Hospital Foundations - (2 grants @ \$500 for Beaverlodge and Hythe)
- \$1,000 to Kids Sport
- \$1,000 to the Ladies in Red - Heart and Stroke Foundation Sponsorship
- \$600 to Dry Grad Committees - (3 schools @ \$200 for Sexsmith, Beaverlodge, Peace Wapiti Academy)
- \$567 to the Grande Prairie & District Rural Crime Watch – for website

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