

Report CCR-PCD-11-15

To: Chair Wright and Members of the Planning & Community Development Committee
From: Petal Furness, Interim Manager Grey Roots Museum & Archives
Meeting Date: April 21, 2015
Subject: **World War Commemorations Community Fund Grant:**
Status: Recommendation adopted by Committee as presented per Resolution PCD65-15; Endorsed by County Council as presented May 5, 2015 per Resolution CC72-15;

Recommendation(s)

WHEREAS information was received from the Federal Secretariat, World War Commemorations, Department of Canadian Heritage, announcing a World War Commemorations Grant Program;

AND WHEREAS Grey Roots Museum & Archives, Moreston Heritage Village meets the application criteria;

AND WHEREAS a memorial commemorating the Lost Battalions of Grey would be an appropriate addition to Moreston Heritage Village;

AND WHEREAS an application for the grant, endorsed by the Planning and Community Development Committee, must be submitted by April 21, 2015;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report CCR-PCD-11-15 be received;

AND THAT the grant application submission by Grey Roots Museum & Archives to build a “Memorial Monument to the Great War” in Moreston to commemorate the sacrifices made by the citizens of Grey County during World War I, including the 147th and 248th Battalions, be endorsed.

Background

It was suggested during a Moreston future planning session to also have a World War I monument or memorial in the village to commemorate the Lost Battalions of Grey. Research ensued with quick success in that a suitable grant was available to pay the total costs of raising such a monument. Organizations may be eligible for amounts up to \$50,000 to support activities that make communities honour the contributions of their community during the Great

War and other major conflicts of the 20th Century. Projects must begin after June 15, 2015 with an ideal completion by November 11, 2015.

Municipalities and community organizations, who meet specific criteria, are eligible to apply for funding. A resolution by Council demonstrating support for Memorial Monument to the Great War is required as one of the basic prerequisites of the application.

Financial / Staffing / Legal / Information Technology Considerations

World War Commemorations Community Fund provides a one-time grant opportunity with no commitment for any matching municipal contribution to successful applicants. Grey Roots Museum & Archives meet the eligibility criteria as outlined in the grant application document and have received support from the Department of National Defence, Grey & Simcoe Foresters, Commanding Officer Lieutenant-Colonel S.R.A McArthur and the Royal Canadian legion, Branch #6 – Owen Sound, Legion President Anne McCallum.

In accordance with Policy MS-GR-001-001, the Planning and Community Development Committee is considered the governing body for Grey Roots Museum and Archives.

Link to Strategic Goals / Priorities

Goal 3: Champion arts, culture, and heritage initiatives that promote and enhance Grey County's rich creativity and history

Goal 4: Making connections. Improve the physical, operational, and virtual connections between Grey County's communities and areas beyond.

Attachments

Letter of Support – Grey Roots Museum and Archives

Letter from Royal Canadian Legion Branch 6

Respectfully submitted by,

Petal Furness
Interim Manager, Grey Roots Museum & Archives

Director Sign off: *Heather Morrison*



National Defence

Défense nationale

The Grey and Simcoe Foresters
Regimental Headquarters

The Grey and Simcoe Foresters
Quartier Général régimentaire

Commanding Officer

commandant

1325-1 (Regtl Maj)

26 March 2015

World War Commemorations Community Fund
c/o Federal Secretariat, World War Commemorations
Department of Canadian Heritage
25 Eddy Street, 11th Floor
Mailstop 25-11-R
Gatineau, PQ K1A 0M5

**LETTER OF SUPPORT – GREY ROOTS
MUSEUM & ARCHIVES**

This letter is to outline our support for Grey Roots Museum and Archives in Owen Sound in their plan to build a monument to the veterans of World War I and the local regiments, including the forbearers of the Grey and Simcoe Foresters.

The Grey and Simcoe Foresters are proud of what we have given in defence of our country and this important monument and memorial, displayed in historical context, will publicize and commemorate part of our regiment's history and the individuals who served in World War I. With the monument centrally located in their period village, visitors from around the world will have a significant opportunity throughout the operating season to engage with the stories of local members of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, and reflect on what their efforts meant for the development of this country.

The Grey Roots Museum has been a strong supporter of recognizing the long military and regimental history of Grey County since their inception. I have no hesitation and will be strongly supporting this most worthwhile project.

S.R.A. McArthur
Lieutenant-Colonel
Commanding Officer

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Royal Canadian Legion, Br. #6 – Owen Sound

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March 25, 2015

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is with great pleasure that I endorse Grey Roots Museum and Archives' proposal to mount a memorial monument to local World War I veterans and regiments in the heart of Moreston Heritage Village. This worthy project will allow visitors to better understand the human side of that conflict, and appreciate that the legacy of the war changed Canadian society forever after.

First opening a club house for soldiers returning from the war in early 1919, the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 6 has long developed and supported efforts to recognize Canadian veterans and engage the general public in educational and appreciative activities in support of veterans' service. We are fortunate in Canada to have spent many long years in relative peace. In 2015, the courage and sacrifices required in times of war from our friends, neighbours and families are far removed from most Canadian's daily lives. Yet the dedication and efforts of our soldiers and their families, stretching back to World War I, were real, deep and emotional and deserve to be honoured today as they were in times past. Their lives shaped our world, and we must remember them. This project represents a wonderful opportunity to allow thousands of people each year to think about World War I, to think of its veterans, and to realize that the impact of that conflict and those individuals continued to affect daily life and communities well into the 1920s and beyond. The veterans' memorial monument displayed in context in Moreston Heritage Village, will help Canadians to realize that the war happened to people just like them, from an earlier generation, and understand that those same people had to adapt their communities and their lives as a result of the war. The monument will be integrated into the interpretative programming in the surrounding buildings, bringing the war out of the historical isolation with which most people regard it.

Grey Roots has a long and rich history of presenting local and regional history in a responsible, professional and respectful manner. In particular, their recent exhibits on local Grey County military history reached new audiences and helped them to understand and appreciated local citizens' commitment to Canada's war efforts. We at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 6 deeply appreciate and support Grey Roots' efforts to bring ongoing public education and involvement in commemorating Grey County's sacrifices in World War I.

Sincerely,

Anne McCallum, Legion President

"They served till death! Why not we?"

