Council Priority Funds – Application

(PAGE 2 OF 2)

PRIORIT Y FUND INFORMATION – Completed by Applicant

Organization Name: Colchester Community League

Address: 23219 Township Road 520

City or town: Sherwood Park Province: AB Postal code: T8B1G1

Contact person: Mark Ackerman

Telephone: 780-916-2231

Email address (optional): Colchester.Community@gmail.com

Project Type: [ ] Event [X] Project [ ] Expense

Amount Requested: $5000.00

Brief description of request:

Colchester Hall is a community meeting place used by both local residents and people from Sherwood Park and the surrounding areas for meetings, reunions, weddings and community based events. There are two ball diamonds, a children's playground and a fire pit in addition to the community hall. Currently there is no shelter from either sun or inclement weather on site. We have applied to CFEP to construct a gazebo on site to give residents and other users of the hall and grounds a shaded/protected location with picnic tables. The CFEP application was successful but due to Covid we are short of funds (there have been no hall rentals for more than six months) for our contribution to the project. We are asking the councillors to help us with the project by contributing an amount from priority funds.

Mark Ackerman

Print name

[Signature]

August 1, 2020

Date

Please remember to attach a proposed budget and request letter to this request.

Number of attached pages: 4

Collection and use of personal information

Personal information is collected under the authority of section 33(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to manage and administer Council Priority Funds. Please be aware that information provided may be made public. If you have questions regarding the collection, use or disclosure of this information, contact Vicky Cushman at 780-464-8098.

EO 3513-C 2018-08-30
August 6, 2020

Councillor Linton Delainey
Strathcona County
2001 Sherwood Drive
Sherwood Park, Alberta T8A 3W7

Dear Linton,

Colchester Community League is a vibrant community league located in rural Strathcona. The League holds a number of events each year (Family Fun Days, Fall Fair and Show and Shine, Xmas in the County) in addition to operating the hall as a venue for family reunions, weddings etc. We run regular programming at the hall (exercise classes, crib league, first aid training, dance and out of school care camps). We strive to hold events that are family friendly and low cost so that there are no economic barriers to attending.

About a year ago we submitted an application to the Community Facility Enhancement Program for partial funding of a shade structure (gazebo) at Colchester Hall. The application was successful and we recently received this funding. Unfortunately, the pandemic has meant that the community hall has been closed since January and there has been no revenue from rentals. We also had to return a significant number of rental deposits since these event cancellations were beyond anyone’s control. Our expenses have continued, albeit at a lower rate since no one has been in the community hall, but this has resulted in a real stress in our finances.

We would really like to see the project continue and are looking for alternative funding. We have attached a proposal to the Council Priority fund for $5000 and hope that you and the council see value in the project and will support it.

Sincerely,

Mark Ackerman – Treasurer, Colchester Community League
Proposal for a Sun Shelter for Colchester Hall

to

Strathcona Council Priority Fund

Mark Ackerman
Sarah Patterson

Colchester Community League
23219 Township Road 520
Sherwood Park, Alberta T8B 1G1

August 2020
Background

Colchester Hall is a rural community hall located approximately 6 km south of Sherwood Park. The community league that operates the hall runs programs throughout the year and local residents use the ball diamonds and playground throughout the summer. The site is open and there is no shade available during the hot summer months nor is there any cover for inclement weather. The community league would like to install a gazebo (sun shade) on the site for use by anyone who uses either the ball diamonds or community playground.

The shade shelter will enhance the park area and create a space that will allow the community to gather for concerts in the park, community BBQ’s and sports tournaments in addition to the usual community programming.

![Figure 1: Proposed Location for Sun Shelter](image)

The sun shelter will be a metal structure, approximately 8 m in diameter on a concrete pad approximately 9 m in diameter. It will contain several picnic tables for use by the general public and community groups using the facilities. The shelter will provide shade during the summer months as well as provide shelter during inclement weather. There is currently nothing on the site that provides shelter for users.
Budget and Time Line

We would like to start construction of the shade structure as soon as possible and would hope to complete the project in the fall of 2020. The estimated costs, approximately $77,560 are itemized in Table 1. Estimates were provided by Strathcona County Parks and Recreation.

Table 1 Cost Estimates for Shade Structure at Colchester Hall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Structure and Concrete Pad</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permits</td>
<td>$360.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Design and Drawings</td>
<td>$3500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geotechnical Investigation</td>
<td>$6600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape Repairs</td>
<td>$6000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$77,560.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Funding

Funding for the project will come from Colchester Community League resources and contributions from Strathcona County. The project has received half its funding ($38,780) from the Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) small funding stream. Currently commitments have been made by Strathcona County Parks and Recreation ($20,000) and Colchester Community League ($18,780). These amounts, when totaled ($38,780) meet the requirements of CFEP for matching. The challenge that Colchester Community League is facing is that due to Covid-19 the hall has been closed to rentals and events for more than six months. As a result, there have been no rental revenues for more than six months and deposits paid for rentals during this period were returned. The halls operating expenses (heat, light) have continued in spite of the lack of rental income. The sharp reduction of income leaves the community league in an unanticipated financial situation. We are seeking additional funds to help cover the cost of the gazebo, as proceeding with the project will provide a space for rural residents to safely gather and enjoy the outdoor space.

To keep the project alive we are looking for alternative sources of funding. We are asking Strathcona Council to be part of the project by contributing $5,000 in funding.

If funding requests are successful, the breakdown of sponsorships will be:

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CFEP</td>
<td>$38,780</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strathcona Parks and Recreation</td>
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<td>Colchester Community League</td>
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<tr>
<td>Council Priority Funds</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$77,560</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion

Colchester Community League really believes this to be a worthwhile project that will benefit the immediate local community and the greater Strathcona community. The project should start in the fall of 2020 and be ready for use in the spring of 2021. At that time, we will host a grand opening in concert with a Colchester Community League family event and acknowledge all of the sponsors of the project. We really hope that the Strathcona County Council sees value in the project and will join with us in making this a reality.