

Alberta's Industrial Heartland Land Trust Society – Funding Request Proposals**Report Purpose**

To provide Council with Administration's recommendations for Strathcona County's submissions to the Alberta's Industrial Heartland Land Trust Society for request for funding.

Recommendation

THAT the Mayor on behalf of Council write to Alberta's Industrial Heartland Land Trust Society to recommend consideration of the following projects in order of priority for allocation of surplus funds prior to dissolution:

- A. Josephburg Community Hall Repairs and Maintenance - \$164,500
- B. Ultra High-Speed Internet and Wi-Fi (Moyer Recreation Centre) - \$170,000
- C. Moyer Recreation Centre Community Hall Addition - \$700,000
- D. Bruderheim Memorial Community Hall Renovations - \$100,000
- E. Bruderheim Community Park - \$400,000

Council History

May 24, 2016 – Council discussed Alberta's Industrial Heartland Land Trust Society program and dissolution, and considered options for a submission to the board for the unallocated funds.

Strategic Plan Priority Areas

Economy: Strathcona County residents within Alberta's Industrial Heartland area will benefit from the services, facilities and programs that are intended with the improvements and enhancements outlined in the various projects, in one of the province's most economically productive regions.

Governance: Strathcona County continues to demonstrate its support for a strong collaborative and cooperative linkage to its partnership within Alberta's Industrial Heartland area.

Social: The various projects outlined will provide a variety of service and facility enhancements that will benefit the residents within Alberta's Industrial Heartland area.

Culture: Strathcona County's support for a variety of projects within the Heartland area demonstrates its collaborative culture.

Environment: n/a

Other Impacts

Policy:

Legislative/Legal:

Interdepartmental:

Summary

In the 1970's industry was encouraged to set up their facilities in what is now called the Alberta's Industrial Heartland by the Provincial and Federal governments. Industries such as Agrium (Esso Fertilizers) and Shell Scotford Refinery/Chemicals were established.

Through cooperative efforts between industry and local governments, Alberta's Industrial Heartland Association (AIHA) was formalized during 1999 and 2000. In order to maintain the AIHA's significant industrial and economic role, heavy industry areas were designated in Strathcona County, Sturgeon County, Lamont County and Fort Saskatchewan.

To assist in addressing cumulative impacts experienced by concerned residents in the Alberta's Industrial Heartland area, the "Industrial Heartland Collaboration of Address Residents Interests" (IHCARI) process was developed to review impacts to residents.

In 2004 the Alberta's Industrial Heartland Land Trust Society was established to purchase property from concerned area residents living in close proximity to industrial development who voluntarily wished to sell their property and relocate away from the heartland industrial area. A Voluntary Purchase Plan (VPP) was established and administered by the Land Trust Society to provide these residents with an alternative which allowed them to sell properties that were not being purchased by municipalities or industry.

The Land Trust Society has been operating over the years based on initial funding from key sponsorships that included industry and partner municipalities. This funding has allowed for the completion of five rounds of voluntary land purchases. Between 2006 and 2015, twelve properties have been purchased and re-sold. The last round of offerings under this program, to qualified resident owners, occurred in 2014. Since that time no further interest has been expressed, indicating a general satisfaction of most residents within the Alberta's Industrial Heartland area. Therefore, in June 2015, the Land Trust Society Board of Directors concluded that the objectives of the Land Trust Society and the VPP had been fulfilled and further, that the Land Trust Society be dissolved with any remaining program funds to be distributed to a non-profit organization, as selected by the Board.

The Board has agreed to consider funding requests (of approximately \$1M-\$1.5M), from each of the two sponsor municipalities, Strathcona County and Sturgeon County for "projects that would directly benefit the residents within the Heartland policy area". An application for funding outlining specific criteria for community investment in the heartland area is required to be provided to the Land Trust Society Program Manager by June 15th, 2016.

The following outlines the criteria for submissions to the Land Trust Society for requests for funding:

Allocation of End of Program Funds Criteria:

- Those organizations interested in receiving funds must submit an application form.
- No form of a profit, religious, or political organization shall be given funds from the Land Trust Society.
- The beneficiary of the funds must be consistent with the intent of the Heartland – it must be a benefit to the residents in the Heartland.
- The funds must be used above and beyond regular expenditures/budget item of an organization.
- On the application form there is to be a disclaimer stating that the decision to receive funds or not to receive funds will be made by the Land Trust Society Board.
- The Land Trust Board will try to balance in each region of the Heartland as to where the funds will be disbursed. (i.e. both sides of the river)
- Priority will be given to those organizations that can receive a matching grant.
- Organizations receiving funds must report back to AIHA to indicate how the money they received was spent.

Included are three projects that are specific to Strathcona County and, that would directly benefit the residents and our business partners within the Heartland area. Two community projects have been provided by the Town of Bruderheim as possible projects to be supported by Strathcona County. Given the relationship and the collaboration between our two municipalities and the fact that Bruderheim provides services and programs to residents in various surrounding communities, these projects would directly benefit residents within the Heartland area.

Attached (Enclosure 1), for Council's consideration is a prioritized list of projects that administration is recommending be submitted to the AIHA Land Trust Society for consideration for funding.

Communication Plan

Letter

Enclosures

- 1 List of Proposed Projects:
 - Schedule "A" – Josephsburg Community Hall – Repairs & Maintenance
 - Schedule "B" – Ultra-High Speed Internet and Wi-Fi (Moyer Recreation Centre)
 - Schedule "C" – Moyer Recreation Centre Community Hall Addition
 - Schedule "D" – Bruderheim Memorial Community Hall Renovations
 - Schedule "E" – Bruderheim Community Park