

*Request for Decision United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria Council*

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Thursday, September 27, 2013				Report Date	Thursday, September-19-13			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
<b>Culture Grant - Report #27/09/13/1101</b>									

**Subject:**

Concern with the requirements for funding from provincial ministries which do not lend themselves to application by small rural municipalities and/or library boards.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council support the following resolution showing their dissatisfaction with the opportunities available for small rural municipalities and library boards through recent calls for funding at the Provincial level.

**WHEREAS** recent calls for funding by the provincial government excluded small rural municipalities and library boards with their rigid criteria and priorities;

**AND WHEREAS** those same small and rural municipalities and library boards rely more heavily on public funding than larger institutions simply due to their size, availability of alternate resources and limited tax base;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby petition the province to loosen funding requirements or expand priorities to include smaller organizations and/or provide separate funding opportunities specifically targeted to these smaller entities thereby sharing more equitably the opportunities for public grant funding.

**BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

That Council approve the following resolution petitioning the province to consider small rural municipalities and library boards when detailing requirements for funding through various ministries.

For example..."The Culture Development Fund seeks to strengthen cultural organizations and their leadership, helping them to increase their knowledge and skills. This will help organizations become better at what they do and more successful in achieving their mandates. Increased performance through new and innovative projects will build the capacity of the sector, leading to a stronger and more stable culture sector."

Small rural municipalities and library boards simply do not have the type of organizations where these collaborations can exist. With limited staffing and the same volunteers taking

on many different roles often one person is responsible for what 4 or 5 are in other communities. Training for 1-2 people would not qualify in these grants. The project that we attempted to obtain support for including the Library Board and the Municipality however; digitizing collections was specifically excluded from this intake. Historical council document do not qualify for “culture” thereby excluding any project we would normally take on eliminating us from funding.

As a second example, this spring, the Summer Student placement grant position had to fit in specific target sectors of (voluntarism, citizenship, women, seniors, tourism, culture, or sport/recreation). As we do not have any of these types of departments any employment in these areas was simply out of the question.

**Options/Discussion:**

To approve or not. Change will not occur if there is no feedback provided.

**Financial Considerations/Budget Impact:**

There is no budget impact or financial consideration with this resolution. We can not guarantee that speaking up will have any effect, we can be sure that by not saying anything, there will be no change.

**Policy Impact:**

n/a

**Others Consulted:**

Discussion with Carmen Goold our Ministry of Culture representative who expressed that we would not qualify for the Culture grant with our project proposal.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,  
Municipal Clerk