

Municipality of Murray River, PEI
A Bylaw to Establish Municipal Grants
Bylaw # 2023-08

BE IT ENACTED by the Council of the Rural Municipality of Murray River as follows:

1. Title

1.1. This bylaw shall be known and cited as the “Grants Bylaw.”

2. Purpose

2.1. The purpose of this bylaw is to establish rules and procedures to guide the Rural Municipality of Murray River’s investment in the work of community organizations and disposition of lands at below market value.

3. Authority

3.1. Subsection 158(1) of the *Municipal Government Act Municipal Government Act* R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. M-12.1., enables council to provide, by bylaw, for the issuing of grants, including grants for service charges and fees, for any purpose that the council considers to be in the interests of the municipality.

4. Application

4.1. This bylaw applies to Council, municipal staff and any person, group or body for which municipal grants may be established, application may be made, reviewed and awarded.

5. Definitions

5.1. “Act” means the Municipal Government Act.

5.2. “Chief Administrative Officer” or “CAO” means the administrative head of the Municipality.

5.3. “Council” means the Mayor and other members of the Council of the municipality.

5.4. “Councillor” means a member of Council other than the Mayor.

5.5. “Fees” means payments made to the Rural Municipality of Murray River in exchange for services received.

5.6. “Grant” means a sum of money given by the Municipality for a specified purpose.

5.7. “In Kind” means a grant provided by the Municipality in goods, commodities or services instead of money.

5.8. “Municipality” means the Rural Municipality of Murray River.

6. General

- 6.1. The Municipality establishes under this bylaw a grant program for groups and individuals who offer programs, activities and services in the interest of the municipality or for any purpose that the Council considers to be in the interests of the municipality.
- 6.2. Grant programs provided by Council must be identified and described in Schedule "A" of this bylaw.

7. Disposition of Lands at Below Market Value

- 7.1. Council may, by simple resolution, sell, grant, transfer or otherwise dispose of municipal land, or any interest in municipal land, for less than fair market value, subject to the provisions of the Act and the Regulations.

8. Principles

- 8.1. The principles governing grant programs include:
 - (a) Council recognizes that, through the provision of grants, Council is committed to providing financial and in-kind assistance to groups and individuals offering services, activities and programs in the interests of the municipality.
 - (b) Council is committed to treating requests for grants from these groups and individuals in a consistent, fair, and equitable manner, subject to established priorities and budget.
 - (c) Council promotes public awareness of the principles and guidelines by which Council is:
 - (i) providing an accessible, open, and transparent application and decision-making process for considering and responding to requests for grants; and
 - (ii) establishing a timeline for the submission and processing of such requests, so that Council can conduct a meaningful comparison and achieve an equitable distribution of support.
 - (d) Council may, by resolution, establish an application process and advertise the community grants policy and the application process through its website.
 - (e) Council recognizes that there may be worthy requests which may not fit within this statement of general principles and guidelines. Nothing in the policy prevents Council from making grants to entities at times and for purposes outside the scope of the policy.
 - (f) Council may, at the discretion of Council, provide grants in the form of in-kind services, or in exceptional circumstances a waiver of standard fees, where by doing so could benefit the quality of life for citizens in the community.

9. Criteria and Conditions

- 9.1. Funding will be awarded to groups or individuals offering services, products or activities in the best interests of the municipality.
- 9.2. Those eligible for funding are not required to live within the boundaries of the municipality.
- 9.3. All grants will be approved and awarded in accordance with sections 142, 143, and 158 of the Act.

10. Reporting

- 10.1. Council must ensure that adequate and accurate records of all grants awarded under this bylaw are kept on file and submitted each year during budget deliberations.
- 10.2. Council must publish the amounts awarded and the recipients of each grant on its website.

11. Restrictions

- 11.1. Actual amounts allocated for municipal grants will be based upon budget funds available in that particular year.
- 11.2. Grant monies allocated to an individual or organization will be used first to clear any debts owing to the municipality by the individual or organization. The balance of any remaining funds will then be forwarded to the individual or organization.
- 11.3. When grants "in kind" include the use of facilities, proof of insurance, normal security deposits and regular terms and conditions of the facility being used will apply.
- 11.4. Unless otherwise approved by Council, no grant monies will be paid until the annual budget has been approved.

12. Effective Date

- 12.1. This Grants Bylaw, Bylaw# 2023-08, shall be effective on the date of approval and adoption below.

First Reading:

This Grants Bylaw, Bylaw# 2023-08, was read a first time at the Council meeting held on the 12th day of September, 2023.

This Grants Bylaw, Bylaw# 2023-08, was approved by a majority of Council members present at the Council meeting held on the 12th day of September, 2023.

Second Reading:

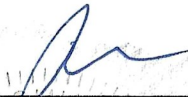
This Grants Bylaw, Bylaw# 2023-08, was read a second time at the Council meeting held on the 10th day of October, 2023.

This Grant Services Bylaw, Bylaw# 2023-08, was approved by a majority of Council members present at the Council meeting held on the 10th day of October, 2023.

Approval and Adoption by Council:

This Grants Bylaw, Bylaw# 2023-08, was adopted by a majority of Council members present at the Council meeting held on the 10th day of October, 2023.

13. Signatures



Official Trustee (signature sealed)

Chief Administrative Officer (signature sealed)

This Municipal Grants Bylaw adopted by the Council of the Rural Municipality of Murray River on the 10th day of October, 2023. is certified to be a true copy.



Chief Administrative Officer Signature

Date

Schedule A:

Rural Municipality of Murray River Grant Programs

Name	Purpose
Financial Grant Program	To provide discretionary financial support to individuals or groups
In-Kind Grant Program	To provide resources and support for community groups
Grants to Organizations	To facilitate programs and services that benefit the community