

Lake Stewardship Grant Program - 2022

Presented To:	City Council
Meeting Date:	April 26, 2022
Type:	Correspondence for Information Only
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Recommended by:	General Manager of Growth and Infrastructure

Report Summary

This report provides information regarding the Lake Stewardship Grant Program – 2022.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan, Health Impact Assessment and Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP)

This report refers to supporting ecological sustainability, creating a healthier community (promote Greater Sudbury as a great northern lifestyle alternative) and strengthening community vibrancy (encourage the active engagement of formal and informal neighborhood groups) as identified in the Strategic Plan. The report also refers to increasing reforestation efforts as identified in the Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP).

Financial Implications

In total, eleven applications are being recommended for funding with the total amount allocated being \$4999.50 by way of cash grants and \$500 by way of provision of native shoreline plants purchased by the City of Greater Sudbury. The funding for these grants is provided for in the 2022 operating budget and will be approved through this by-law.

Background

In 2022, the City's Lake Stewardship Grant program received twelve applications for funding from local lake stewardship groups. The Watershed Advisory Panel reviewed the applications and recommends that eleven of the applicants be awarded funds through the Lake Stewardship Grant program with a total funding allocation of \$4,999.50 by way of cash grants and \$500 by way of provision of native shoreline plants purchased by CGS. A By-Law, presented at this meeting, must be approved for funding to be provided. The funding for these grants is provided for in the 2022 operating budget.

The Lake Stewardship Grant program was initiated in 2005 to support and encourage lake stewardship groups by providing them with additional resources. This is the 17th year of the Lake Stewardship Grant Program. Funding criteria and the application form were drafted by the past Watershed Advisory Panel. Projects must benefit the water quality of the lake and/or watershed and demonstrate support and involvement of lake stewardship members, other lake residents or community members.

2022 Summary Report of Lake Stewardship Groups Recommended to Receive Funding Support

Clearwater Lake Stewardship

Project Name: Getting to Know the Lake Named Clearwater Lake

Project Details: Stewardship is planning to host an on-water event with multiple stations for paddlers to stop and participate in talks on various lake subjects. Materials will include new and old material from similar events hosted in 2018. This event is aimed at encouraging new residents who have moved to Clearwater Lake in recent years to participate in the Lake Stewardship Group. The event will conclude with a community BBQ.

Use of Funds: Funds will be used to host community BBQ and prizes for on-water community event.

Amount Being Awarded: \$454.50 by way of a cash grant.

Four Lakes Community Association

Project Name: Four Lakes Shoreline Cleanup Event

Project Details: Stewardship is planning a shoreline cleanup event on Joe Lake, Dixon Lake, Hanmer Lake and Frenchman Lakes. The goal is to clean up debris on the four lakes that has been accumulating over the last few years. Estimating approximately 20 volunteers to join in on the cleanup efforts with the goal of encouraging high school students to participate in the event. Event will end with a community BBQ.

Use of Funds: Funds will be used for a shoreline cleanup event and a community BBQ.

Amount Being Awarded: \$454.50 by way of a cash grant.

Ironside Lake Stewardship

Project Name: Shoreline & Boat Launch Cleanup

Project Details: Stewardship is planning to host an annual cleanup of shorelines around Ironside Lake including the community boat launch area. Event will conclude with a community BBQ.

Use of Funds: Funds will be used for a shoreline cleanup event and a community BBQ.

Amount Being Awarded: \$454.50 by way of a cash grant.

Long Lake Stewardship

Project Name: Boost Your Buffer

Project Details: The Long Lake Stewardship Committee (LLSC) would like to continue to promote its “Boost Your Buffer” program that is aimed at helping residents naturalize their shoreline buffers. The 2017/2018 Love Your Lake shoreline assessment conducted by the City of Greater Sudbury indicated that out of approximately 500 properties on Long Lake, only 112 were deemed to have a healthy buffer. Additionally, a high number of properties had all or most of the natural vegetation removed, and a significant number of properties were semi-natural. The “Boost Your Buffer” program will help provide native shoreline plant species to be planted along the buffer area to help promote the capture and filtering of runoff and to prevent erosion.

Use of Funds: Funds will be used to purchase native shoreline/riparian plants.

Amount Being Awarded: \$500 by way of provision of native shoreline plants purchased by CGS.

Lake Wahnapiitae Home & Campers Association

Project Name: Septic Pump-Out Rebate Program

Project Details: The Lake Wahnapiitae Home & Campers Association (LWHCA) represents approximately 180 permanent or seasonal residents on Lake Wahnapiitae. A key stewardship initiative is supporting and promoting the maintenance of septic systems through regularly scheduled septic tank pump-outs, typically on a 3-year cycle. LWHCA plans to continue with their septic tank pump-out rebate to achieve 30 submissions per year by 2023. LWHCA has seen an increase in participation in the program from 16 submissions per year in 2020 to 24 submissions in 2021. To achieve the goal of 30 submissions per year, the LWHCA Board has approved a budget for the 2022 Pump-Out Rebate Program that will allow 30 x \$100 rebates available to members, with \$500 coming from the City's Lake Stewardship Grant program. Rebates are subject to proof of septic tank pump-out given to the LWHCA.

Use of Funds: Funds will be used to partially cover the cost of offering the septic tank pump-out incentives.

Amount Being Awarded: \$454.50 by way of a cash grant.

McFarlane Lake Stewardship Committee

Project Name: Summer Water Quality Sampling Program

Project Details: McFarlane Lake Stewardship is planning to conduct ice-free total phosphorus sampling to help further understand nutrient dynamics within the lake. The stewardship will conduct monthly samples, from June to October, at two sampling locations along with dissolved oxygen measurements. Total phosphorus samples would be taken 1m off bottom during periods of anoxia (oxygen levels <1mg/L) with samples being sent to a local laboratory for analysis.

Use of Funds: Funds will be used to cover laboratory analysis costs of water samples.

Amount Being Awarded: \$454.50 by way of a cash grant.

Nepahwin Lake Watershed Stewardship Group

Project Name: Measuring Conductivity as a Proxy for Chloride

Project Details: The Nepahwin Lake Watershed Stewardship Group (NLWSG) is planning to measure conductivity as a proxy for chloride at outlets into Nepahwin Lake to gauge the contribution of chloride from the catchment areas to the lake. Six NLWSG volunteer citizen scientists will use conductivity meters to sample the effluent from the six outlets that are conveyances to the lake from the ten oil grit separators. Results will help inform further discussions with watershed stakeholders as to what further initiatives and/or potential interventions will be needed to enhance the lakes water quality. The stewardship will also continue its Yellow Fish Road initiative in 2022 with RL Beattie students and extending this initiative to new neighborhoods throughout the watershed.

Use of Funds: Funds will be used to cover the cost of five conductivity meters and associated sampling equipment along with Yellow Fish Road information pamphlets.

Amount Being Awarded: \$454.50 by way of a cash grant.

Onwatin Lake Stewardship

Project Name: Onwatin Lake Community Event

Project Details: The stewardship is planning to host its annual community building event, where neighbors gather for food, games and to discuss local lake concerns. The event will also include a community cleanup with rewards and prizes for attendees and volunteers who maintain groomed trails and community ice-skating paths. The stewardship also plans to create a "no littering" sign to be displayed at the mouth of the rapids on the lake which is traditionally used by hundreds of canoers/tubers.

Use of Funds: Funds will be used to purchase and install no littering lake signage as well as refreshments, prizes, and associated purchases for the community event.

Amount Being Awarded: \$454.50 by way of a cash grant.

Richard Lake Stewardship

Project Name: Richard Lake Calendar/Septic Pump Out Contest

Project Details: The Richard Lake Stewardship would like to create a calendar with environmental messaging on how to preserve the natural environment on and around the lake. This calendar is proposed to be distributed to all residents who live on or near Richard Lake. As part of providing the calendar to residents, the stewardship will ask residents for their email addresses to increase the reach of the stewardship's digital newsletter. The stewardship also plans to create a septic pump-out incentive for residents who live in the Richard Lake sub-watershed.

Septic tank rebates are subject to proof of septic tank pump-outs given to the Richard Lake Stewardship. The stewardship will provide matching funds for the rebate initiative.

Use of Funds: Funds will be used to partially fund environmental calendar and septic tank pump-out incentives.

Amount Being Awarded: \$454.50 by way of a cash grant.

Lake Panache Campers Association

Project Name: State of the Lake Brochure & Hazardous Waste Collection

Project Details: The Lake Panache Campers Association (LPCA) has been conducting water samples on Lake Panache for several years and would like to promote a whole lake approach in conjunction with the West Panache Camper Association (WPCA). The funds will be used to help generate a state of the lake brochure; followed by a stewardship manual, which will provide guidelines to help maintain lake water quality. In addition, the LPCA is continuing to promote the safe removal of household hazardous and waste metals from around the lake. 2022 will be the 8th year in which the LPCA accepts waste from the lake residents and working with the Toxic Taxi to help dispose of the hazardous waste in a safe and appropriate manner while educating lake residents about other environmental issues on the lake.

Use of Funds: Will be used to create a State of the Lake stewardship brochure and for promotion materials for the yearly household hazardous waste/metal collection day.

Funds Being Awarded: \$454.50 by way of a cash grant.

Skill Lake Stewardship

Project Name: Community Shoreline Cleanup and Loon Signage Installation

Project Details: Funds for this project will be used for the purpose of educating lake users and residents about loon nesting habitats around Skill Lake. The Skill Lake Stewardship will also encourage residents to reduce the size and amount of wake in certain areas of the lake where loons inhabit. Four loon education signs from Birds Canada will be installed by volunteers. Residents will also participate in a community shoreline cleanup which will conclude with a community BBQ.

Use of Funds: Funds will be used to host a community BBQ and to purchase signposts and associated fasteners for loon signage installation.

Amount Being Awarded: \$454.50 by way of a cash grant.

Fairbank Lake Camp Owners' Association

Project Name: Community Building Event

Project Details: The association is planning a community gathering at the Provincial Park on Fairbank Lake to network and exchange ideas for stewardship initiatives as well as to discuss and share information about new shoreline development provisions, report any invasive species sighting and discuss any lake issues. The community building event will help to build further relationships between the Fairbank Lake Camp Owners' Association leadership, members, and residents.

Use of Funds: Funds will be used to host a community BBQ to discuss lake concerns and future stewardship initiatives.

Amount Being Awarded: \$454.50 by way of a cash grant.