



**City of Kingston
Report to Council
Report Number 19-235**

To: Mayor and Council
From: Desirée Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer and City Treasurer
Resource Staff: Holly Wilson, Manager of Intergovernmental Relations
Date of Meeting: September 3, 2019
Subject: Provincial Audit and Accountability Fund – Transfer Payment Agreement

Executive Summary:

This report is before Council to recommend entering into the required Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement under the Provincial Audit and Accountability Fund in order to receive funding of up to \$175,000. The funding will be used towards an administrative processes review with the objective of identifying opportunities for efficiencies and modernization of services with a provincial/municipal regulatory component.

In order to meet provincial timelines, it is recommended that execution of the funding agreement be expedited. As such, the recommendation in this report requests that the draft by-law presented to Council be given three readings.

Recommendation:

That a by-law be presented to Council and given three readings at the same meeting to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement, in a form satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services, with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for a grant in the amount of up to \$175,000 under the Provincial Audit and Accountability Fund, attached as Exhibit A to Report Number 19-235.

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Authorizing Signatures:

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
AND CITY TREASURER

**Desirée Kennedy, Chief Financial
Officer and City Treasurer**

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

**Lanie Hurdle, Acting Chief
Administrative Officer**

Consultation with the following Members of the Corporate Management Team:

Deanne Roberge, Acting Commissioner, Corporate Services	<i>10/2</i>
Peter Huigenbos, Acting Commissioner, Community Services	Not Required
Jim Keech, President & CEO, Utilities Kingston	Not Required
Sheila Kidd, Commissioner, Transportation & Public Works	Not Required

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Options/Discussion:

On May 21, 2019 the Premier announced the creation of the \$7.35 million Audit and Accountability Fund for large urban municipalities and school boards in Ontario. The Audit and Accountability Fund (Fund) is a conditional grant program available to 39 large urban municipalities and 10 school boards across the province. The program was announced as part of the 2019 Ontario Budget and is a component of the government's plan to achieve 4% administrative savings as part of its commitment to more sustainable government. The program provided for three different review streams. As previously approved by Council through [Report Number 19-182](#) "Provincial Audit and Accountability Fund", the City of Kingston submitted an Expression of Interest to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Eastern Region by the June 14th deadline under 'a review of administrative processes to reduce costs' stream.

With a focus on housing, social services, long term care and child care services, the review will explore legislative processes and administrative and reporting requirements with the objective of providing a series of recommendations to reduce costs and to identify unnecessary provincial/municipal administrative regulations and reporting requirements.

The City was notified by letter on 8 August 2019 confirming approval of provincial funding of up to \$175,000 towards the cost of an independent third-party review that will include the delivery of a final report with specific and actionable recommendations by November 30, 2019.

In order to access funds, the City must enter into a transfer payment agreement. The agreement has been reviewed by Legal Services and the City Treasurer and is in the form of standard upper level government funding agreements which have been entered into by the City in the past.

Existing Policy/By-Law:

Not applicable

Notice Provisions:

Not applicable

Accessibility Considerations:

Not applicable

Financial Considerations:

Not applicable

Contacts:

Holly Wilson, Manager of Intergovernmental Relations, 613-546-4291 extension 1402

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Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

Alan McLeod, Acting Director Legal Services and City Solicitor

Exhibits Attached:

Exhibit A: Draft by-law entitled "A By-Law to Authorize the Execution of the Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement under the Provincial Audit and Accountability Fund".

By-Law Number. 2019-XX

A By-Law to Authorize the Execution of the Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement under the Provincial Audit and Accountability Fund

Passed: September 3, 2019

Whereas The Corporation of the City of Kingston wishes to enter into an Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement in order to receive funds under the Provincial Audit and Accountability Fund;

Therefore be it resolved that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Kingston hereby enacts as follows:

1. The Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to execute the Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement for the Provincial Audit and Accountability Fund between Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario as represented by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and The Corporation of the City of Kingston.
2. This By-Law shall come into force and take effect on the date of its passing.

Given all Three Readings and Passed: September 3, 2019

John Bolognone
City Clerk

Bryan Paterson
Mayor