

## THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAMBTON SHORES

**Report DCS 08-2025**

**Council Meeting Date: February 25, 2025**

**TO:** Mayor Cook and Members of Council  
**FROM:** Ashley Farr, Director of Community Services  
**RE:** Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant Application

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT** Report DCS 08-2025 regarding the “Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant Application” be received; and

**THAT** staff be directed to apply for up to \$200,000 to support upgrades to the parkette and adjacent lots in downtown Forest.

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### **SUMMARY**

This report presents Council with information on the Ontario Trillium Foundation and seeks direction to apply for the funding to revitalize the downtown Forest parkette and adjacent municipal lots.

### **BACKGROUND**

Staff have identified a grant opportunity through the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), which offers non-repayable contributions of up to \$200,000 to improve physical spaces for community use. The Trillium Foundation capital grant program specifically targets initiatives that enhance programs and services that are delivered locally in a range of community buildings and physical spaces. These places provide opportunities for activity, recreation, and connection and play an important role in creating healthy and vibrant communities where everyone feels a sense of belonging.

In the Capital grant stream, OTF funds projects that update buildings, enhance physical spaces, and purchase fixed and non-fixed equipment so people and communities can thrive.

In November 2024 staff met with local stakeholders to discuss potential uses and a vision for the downtown parkette and newly acquired vacant lots adjacent to the parkette. In general, ideas included a gathering space that could be both programmed (e.g., concerts, markets, special events, etc.), or not programmed (e.g., picnic space, seating areas). Public washrooms in the downtown area were also seen as a priority. Staff will continue to meet with the stakeholders to help better define and prioritize the vision for the property.



Council has budgeted \$200,000 in 2025 to begin upgrades to the area. An additional \$200,000 from OTF would help to advance the project and meet the desired objectives of the community.

### **ALTERNATIVES TO CONSIDER**

There are no alternatives presented.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

The recommendation is to direct staff to apply for up to \$200,000 through the Ontario Trillium Foundation to support upgrades to the parkette and adjacent municipal lots in downtown Forest.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The 2025 budget includes \$200,000 to complete upgrades to the parkette and adjacent lots in downtown Forest. The recommendation is to apply for an additional \$200,000 as matching funds through the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

### **CONSULTATION**

Steve McAuley, CAO  
Natalie Core, Economic Development Coordinator