

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

1100 Patricia Blvd. | Prince George, BC, Canada V2L 3V9 | www.princegeorge.ca

DATE: November 6, 2020

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: WALTER BABICZ, ACTING CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: Receipt of COVID-19 Safe Restart Grant for Local Governments

ATTACHMENT(S): None

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated November 6, 2020 from the Acting City Manager titled "Receipt of COVID-19 Safe Restart for Local Governments."

PURPOSE:

For Council information.

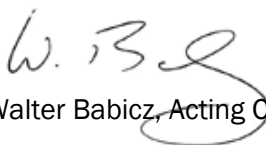
BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION:

In July 2020, the federal government announced an agreement with provinces and territories on a federal "safe economic restart" plan that would include targeted funding for municipalities. In September, the Province of BC announced nearly \$2 billion in joint federal/provincial spending to support local governments facing increased operating costs and revenue impacts due to COVID-19.

On November 5, 2020, the City received confirmation from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing that the City is the recipient of **\$6,110,000** in grant funding under the COVID-19 Safe Restart Grant for Local Governments. Eligible costs for the grant funding include addressing revenues shortfalls, facility reopening and operating costs, emergency planning and response costs, bylaw enforcement and protective services, computer and other electronic technology costs, services for vulnerable persons, and other related costs. As part of the grant funding program, the City will be required to report annually on the spending of grant funds until there are no funds remaining.

This funding announcement is timely, as the City enters into to the 2021 budget process. These funds will provide additional certainty as Council considers public engagement input and deliberates the 2021 draft budget in January.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Walter Babicz, Acting City Manager

Meeting Date: [2020/11/09]