

# City Staff Report

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Original signed by: City Manager Johnson

**Report Date:** April 25, 2018

**Meeting Date:** May 1, 2018

**To:** City Manager

**From:** Director of Development Services

**Subject:** Façade Improvement Grant Program – 2018 Update on Project Uptake

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## Purpose

Summarize the façade improvement projects submitted to date and remind eligible applicants that only one more month remains to submit an application.

## Summary

- For 2018, the City of Quesnel has been provided with \$20,000 in available funding from Northern Development Initiative Trust's (NDIT) Façade Improvement Program.
- The deadline for the City to receive façade applications by is **May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018**.
- In total, two applications have been received that are collectively eligible for \$8,507.43 (\$5,000 for one and \$3,507.43 for the other).

## Recommendation

THAT Council receives for information this update on the progress of the 2018 Façade Improvement Grant Program.

## Statutory Requirements

N/A

## Council Policy

Official Community Plan: Development Permit Areas

## Strategic Objective

N/A

## Financial Implications

A reimbursement cheque for up to \$20,000 in eligible funds will be issued to the City upon NDIT reviewing the City's financial reporting on the program.

## Background

The purpose of the Façade Improvement Program is to support economic development through private sector investment in local façade improvements for businesses and non-profit organizations. Key eligibility requirements of the program are provided in the attachments (Façade Improvement Guidelines).

- So far, Staff has received and approved two eligible project applications for the Downtown Core.
- The eligibility and selection of businesses and non-profit organizations for these grants was based on program guidelines developed and approved by Council and NDIT.
- Staff has had several additional inquiries and expressed interest in the grant program this year and are anticipating additional applicants, but no other applications have been received as of the report date.



- Eligible businesses and non-profit organizations are highly encouraged to apply before the May 31<sup>st</sup> deadline and are reminded the applications are reviewed and approved on a first come/first serve basis.
- Businesses are encouraged to contact the City Planner to discuss their project prior to submitting an application.
- All façade program information can be found at the City's website here:  
<https://www.quesnel.ca/business-services/incentives/city-incentives>

## **Attachments**

Map of Eligible Properties

2018 Façade Improvement Guidelines

2018 Façade Improvement Marketing Poster

Façade Grant Application

## **Report Prepared by**

City Planner