

2008 Economic Development Sector Investment Program (EDSIP) Appeals

Date:	June 9, 2008
To:	Economic Development Committee
From:	Ian Cameron, Acting Director, Business Development & Retention, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The Community Partnership and Investment Program Appeals Sub-Committee at its meeting of June 3, 2008 referred appeals regarding the 2008 Economic Development Sectors Investment Program (EDSIP) and the Economic Sponsorship Initiatives (ESI) to the Acting Director, Business Development and Retention, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism for reconsideration and report back to the Economic Development Committee for its meeting on June 12, 2008.

This report presents an assessment and makes recommendations on the EDSIP appeals that were made to the Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Acting Director, Business Development and Retention, Economic Development, Culture and Tourism recommends that:

1. The Learning Enrichment Foundation (LEF) receive \$10,000 through the EDSIP appeals reserve,
and;
2. the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts arising from this report.

DECISION HISTORY

The Community Partnership Investment Program (CPIP) Appeals Sub-Committee considered a report from the Economic Development, Culture and Tourism Division at its meeting on June 3, 2008 recommending allocations totalling \$210,470 for 12 applicants under EDSIP. Total EDSIP funding is \$220,470 with \$10,000 set aside for appeals. The Sub-Committee heard a deputation from The Learning Enrichment Foundation (LEF) regarding the 2008 recommendations and referred staff to reconsider the application.

This EDSIP Appeals report will be considered by the Economic Development Committee in conjunction with the 2008 Economic Development Sectors Investment Program (EDSIP) and Economic Sponsorship Initiatives (ESI) Report.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Staff contacted the deputant and reviewed the Learning Enrichment Foundation application. A Summary Sheet for the applicant is included as Attachment 1.

COMMENTS

The LEF is a thirty-year old non-profit organization that delivers multiple services in the Weston Mount-Dennis community, a community identified as a priority neighbourhood. The organization received an EDSIP grant of \$15,992 in 2007 to engage employers in the furniture manufacturing sector in identifying training needs and designing a sector-specific curriculum. The organization conducted project work in 2007 and completed a Use of Funds report in compliance with the EDSIP guidelines.

In 2008, LEF wanted to build out on the findings they had captured in the 2007 employer evaluation. The goals in 2008 are to alert employers to the advantages and positive impact of employee training; introduce concepts and practices that have proven effective in allowing small and medium-sized manufacturers in other areas to compete globally, including: flexible manufacturing networks, co-location of services, and cluster development. Many employers indicated a high degree of interest in learning about these approaches and pursuing these strategies.

The LEF submitted an EDSIP application for \$15,992 in 2008. Unfortunately, due to an oversight the organization neglected to include all of the data in Part B of the Project Budget Summary and therefore, the initial application did not meet eligibility criteria and was not recommended.

The LEF has subsequently had time to review its 2008 EDSIP application with specific focus on the 2008 budget summary. It has revised its submission to reflect the revenues and contributions that will be made to conducting the project in 2008. In particular, the organization will devote \$45,000 of “In-Kind” contributions as well as \$20,000 in funding through the Province of Ontario. The revised Project Budget Summary has been reviewed and evaluated by staff and the 2008 EDSIP Learning Enrichment Foundation application is now being recommended for \$10,000.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No. 1 – EDSIP Application Summary Sheet

ATTACHMENT NO. 1

2008 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAM APPLICATION SUMMARY SHEET

Agency # 7

Agency Name: Learning Enrichment Foundation

Address: 116 Industry St, Toronto, ON M6M 4L8

Ward: 12 (main address) Service Area: Toronto

Project Name: Sector Development Strategies for Furniture Manufacturing

Funding Year: 2

Project Description: The project will build on the findings from the LEF's 2007-08 EDSIP initiative which engaged 234 companies involved in the furniture manufacturing sector in the identification of training practices and needs and developing sector-specific training. The survey-driven project collected and analyzed the data from employers to develop draft training curriculum. Through the employer outreach and engagement, the project identified training gaps.

Total Project Budget	Other City Funding	Other Government Funding
\$80,000	\$0	\$20,000
Corporate Sector Contributions	Revenue Generated By Activity	Value of In-Kind Contributions
\$0	\$0	\$45,000
2007 Project Grant	2008 Amount Requested	2008 Amount Recommended
\$15,992	\$15,992	\$10,000

Comments:

The project has merit and the organization has revised its Project Budget Summary to include the "In-Kind" contributions as well as other partner funding which had been omitted in its initial application.

Recommendation: Recommend \$10,000