



TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FRONTENAC

MEDIA RELEASE



For Immediate Release

June 30, 2021

South Frontenac Announces New Lake Ecosystem Grant Program

Council also approves second intake for Community & COVID-19 Relief Grants

Effective June 30, 2021, the Township is introducing a new Lake Ecosystem Grant Program that is designed to support projects focused on encouraging the preservation, restoration, monitoring and analysis of lake ecosystems within South Frontenac.

Open to not for profit community groups such as Lake or Lane Associations, the Lake Ecosystem Grant program looks for projects that will reduce or limit diffuse, point-source runoff caused by human disturbance of the land, create or increase shoreline buffer zones, protect or enhance wildlife habitat, or provide for lake environment monitoring and data collection. Other projects that can demonstrate benefits to lake ecosystems will also be considered.

"In support of the Township's goal to foster growth that meets the community's needs while maintaining the integrity of our natural environment, Council set out to engage lake users in a more effective way. This led to the creation of the South Frontenac Lake Ecosystem Advisory Committee in 2020," explained Mayor Ron Vandewal. "In addition to developing and overseeing the Lake Ecosystem Grant Program, the committee will also be tasked with providing input to Council on related policies, such as shoreline protection and certain climate change initiatives."

The Lake Ecosystem Grant Program will fund up to 75% of eligible projects, with a maximum project cost of \$10,000; however, larger requests will be considered on an exceptional basis and if funding permits. Priority will be given to projects that have the greatest positive impact on the health and welfare of lake ecosystems in South Frontenac. Project proposals may involve an entire lake, multiple water bodies, or other upstream and downstream components.

COVID-19 Relief Program and Community Grants Program Extended

In addition to the Lake Ecosystem Grant Program, Council has approved a second intake of the COVID-19 Relief Program and the annual Community Grant Program. The COVID-19 Relief program involved a one-time allocation of \$250,000 in the Township's 2021 budget to provide assistance to not-for-profit groups and community organizations that have been adversely impacted by the pandemic or to promote social recovery and other community programming. A dedicated stream of business funding is also being administered by [Frontenac Business Services](#).

"Not-for-profit and other community groups are part of the backbone of South Frontenac, so it's important that we see their services maintained despite the financial challenges posed by the pandemic" explained Mayor Vandewal. "As pandemic restrictions lift and our communities start to come out of lockdown, these programs and services will become more important than ever."

Residents and community groups interested in submitting applications for any of these grant programs can visit the Township's website at www.southfrontenac.net/grantprograms/. Applications for each of these programs will be accepted until **July 28, 2021 at 4:30 pm**.

For questions relating to the Lake Ecosystem Grant program, please contact Christine Woods, Senior Planner, at 613-376-3027 ext. 2221, or via email at cwoods@southfrontenac.net.

For questions relating to the Community Grants or COVID-19 relief grant program, please contact Emily Caird at 613-376-3027 ext. 2260 or by emailing communications@southfrontenac.net.

- 30 -

For more information on this release please contact:

Emily Caird
Executive Assistant & Communications Officer
613-376-3027 ext.2260
communications@southfrontenac.net

Natural, Vibrant and Growing – a Progressive Rural Leader