

Community Grants Program Application Form

Criteria

1. Applications are due on May 1, 2024, by 4:00pm. Exemptions at the discretion of Council.
2. Applications must be submitted via email to communitygrants@thamescentre.on.ca or a hard copy dropped off at the front desk of the Municipal Office at: Municipality of Thames Centre, 4305 Hamilton Road, Dorchester, ON N0L 1G3.
3. Preference will be given to applications which meet one or more priorities set out in the Thames Centre Strategic Plan. In addition, applications should demonstrate community support, efficient use of resources and sound business practices.
4. To be eligible, applicants must provide products/services to the residents of Thames Centre.
5. Limit of one application per organization.
6. Individuals are not eligible to apply.
7. Each application must demonstrate that:
 - a. This grant is not the primary source of funding for the project
 - b. Financial assistance is needed as other sources lack adequate funding
8. The applicant organization must spend the grant funding on the sole purpose for which it was awarded within the fiscal year for which it is awarded.
9. Applicants will be deemed ineligible from future grants if they fail to provide written confirmation of how and where the grant funds awarded in previous years were expended.
10. Grants in one year or over several years don't guarantee future funding commitments
11. Payment – Successful applicants will be paid in full, however grant recipients will need to provide written confirmation of how and where the grant funds were expended by end of the year. Failure to do so may eliminate them from future grant funding consideration.
12. The maximum allowable grant is \$10,000.00,
13. Applications for “in kind” non-financial assistance will be forwarded to the respective department for review with a report to Council for consideration and approval.
14. Successful grant recipients agree to acknowledge the support of the Municipality of Thames Centre in all printed material and through other promotional means.
15. The Municipality of Thames Centre should be informed if the project is delayed or changed substantially for any reason. In the event that the project does not go forward, the application will return those funds granted for the proposed project.

Organizational Information

Name of Organization: The Dorchester Dream Park

Mailing Address: 2600 Dorchester Rd, Dorchester, N0L 1G2

Contact Name: Sally Taylor

Position: Volunteer

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Business Registration Number or Registered Charity Number if applicable: N/A

1. Provide a brief outline of your organization and indicate if it is incorporated as a non-profit organization:

With community support we have built an all-ages playground and community hub that is intentionally designed to be inclusive for all abilities. The 2nd phase, a Senior Fitness centre will be installed in May and will assist in rehabilitation and physical and mental development. To allow visitors to enjoy and extend their stay we need a shade feature to protect from the sun and allow comfort. We are a group of 5 volunteers, not incorporated.

2. What is the general objective/services of your organization:

We hope to create a fun, safe, inviting and completely inclusive and accessible space where families will meet and gather outdoors. We feel physical activity, collaboration and opportunities to use facilities with all ages will boost mental health, friendships and a sense of community. To date, The Dream park has been widely used by residents and visitors of all ages.

3. How many volunteers participate in your program:

We have 5 committed volunteers (Mums) who have been committed to this project for the past 4 years.

4. In what geographic area does your organization provide their products and/or services:

The Dorchester Dream park is located within the Community Park at the east end of the Flight Exec Centre. It features a rainbow cross walk, Disabled parking spots, access to an accessible washroom, drinking water and is in close proximity to the Tails and Trails installation by the library that runs along a paved path. With very young trees, a shade feature is necessary.

5. Does your organization provide a service to:

- a) All citizens
- b) A specific group If so, specify: _____
- c) A specific area If so, specify: _____

Categories for Funding

(indicate dollar amounts for appropriate lines)

CATEGORY	AMOUNT
Capital/Equipment	\$
Operating Costs (staffing, utilities, materials, etc.)	\$
Insurance	\$
Other (Specify):	\$ 3355.11
Other (Specify):	\$
Other (Specify):	\$
TOTAL REQUEST AMOUNT (not to exceed \$10,000)	\$ 3355.11

Include (attach) quotes wherever possible.

Details of Grant Request

1. For what specific purpose are the requested funds to be utilized?

We have received a generous donation of Sun Sails (donated by London Tarp Inc.) and a Concrete Pad (donated by John Aarts Group) required for installation. We are working on fundraising for the supporting posts which will cost \$38,000 from Royal Fence. This grant request will help us pay for the engineering costs required for

2. Does this application include any assistance other than financial? Explain. (ie. type and estimated hours of staff support, facilities to be used, dates, etc.)

This \$3355.11 is the direct quote given to us by Thames Centre Facilities Services for engineering of the slab of concrete.

3. Does your project meet one or more of the priorities set out in the Thames Centre Strategic Plan? Explain.

Yes. Active Living. The Dream Park "provides an expansion and improvement of recreational services, accessibility and programs, particularly targeting families and seniors." We are the only facility in Thames Centre that focuses on these goals so accurately.

4. Briefly describe how your project benefits the community?

We have created a community hub where families and individuals can gather safely, for enjoyment, recreation and exercise, encouraging acceptance of individual differences and allowing no one to be left behind. From Dementia, to Autism, to Physical or Mental limitations there is something for everyone to enjoy. Tables and a bench allow spectators

5. Explain how you will make efficient use of resources and follow sound business practices.

Every effort has been made to complete this project as efficiently as possible thanks to grants, sponsorships and donations. This particular request will assist us in "raising our sails". Receiving this grant is considered a privilege and will be spent as outlined.

6. Have you received funding from the Municipality in prior years? If so, please provide the amount per year.

Phase one of this project was made possible thanks to the Municipality of Thames Centre budgeting \$400,000 as part of their 2022 capital budget. In addition to this, the Municipality assisted our volunteer committee with applying for various grants. To date, 75

7. Has your organization requested financial assistance in the last 12 months from any other government organization or grant funding opportunity in the last 12 months? If so, please list amounts received/approved.

Our fundraising efforts are on going and involve appeals to local businesses and clubs as well as Grant requests. We have not received any grants in the last 12 months. After the initial \$400,000 budget in 2022, the Municipality has not budgeted any additional amount for 2023 or 2024. Phase 2 of this project is scheduled for completion this spring, solely

8. What other steps are being taken to cover your costs?

Grant writing continues whenever we hear of an opportunity. Currently we have sent an applications to Pfizer, Mercedes-Benz and SJ Johnson. We use social media to engage our personal and community contacts and businesses to consider donating funds or items (such as the Sails and Concrete pad).

9. Will this program ever be self-sufficient?

We will continue to fundraise for equipment such as a Wheelchair swing to keep the park current and inviting to all. We are providing a free "service" to the community, are run by volunteers and are not a business. Maintenance of the equipment is the responsibility of our Recreation and Facility services as all parks are.

Financial Information

1. Please attach a financial statement from your previous year for your organization. Financial statements are not required for requests under \$500. If your Organization is unable to provide financial statements, please contact the Director of Financial Services/Treasurer for more information (eschinbein@thamescentre.on.ca)

2. Please provide (attach) a letter of support from your Board or another donor/community partner to validate your company's financial stability.

Please see attached letter from Lisa Farquharson

Also, please see attached for itemized donations to this project.

Successful fundraising initiatives to date include our promotional posts on our Facebook

3. Please provide a project budget, including the following information.

a. Revenue Sources

ITEM	AMOUNT (\$)
Applicant Contribution	found 2 donations in kind
Grants	0
Donations	0
Sponsorships	0
Fundraising Efforts	0
Other Sources	0
Total Revenue	

b. Expenses

ITEM	AMOUNT (\$)
Advertising and Promotion	0
Program Supplies	0
Entertainment	0
Administration	0
Salaries and Wages	0
Facilities Rental	0
Prizes and Awards	0
Other	\$3355.11
Total Expenses	\$3355.11

Lisa Farquharson



April 16, 2024

Selection Committee
Community Grants Program
Municipality of Thames Centre
4305 Hamilton Road
Dorchester, ON
N0L 1G3

Dear Selection Committee:

Thank you for providing the opportunity to apply for funding. As Lead Volunteer for the Dorchester Dream Park, I can't express enough how proud I am of our volunteers. Despite our limited resources and small team, we remain committed to helping the Inclusive Park reach its fullest potential.

This letter is to confirm that our volunteer committee does not hold any debt, nor do we hold funds in trust for the park. Donors, third-party fundraisers and all grantmakers are directed to submit funds directly to the Municipality of Thames Centre.

Sincerely,



Lisa Farquharson

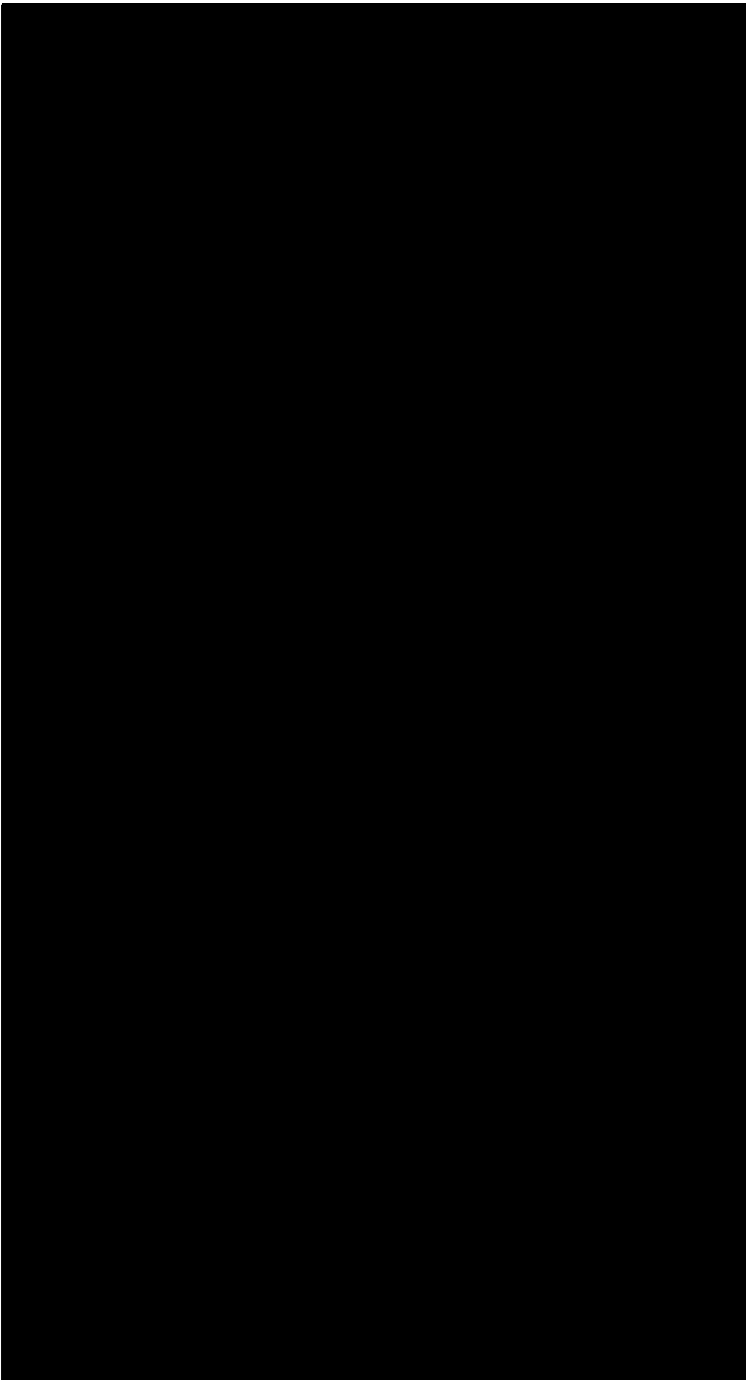


Dream Park Fundraising and Grants Received to Date

Amount	Date	Name	Notes
\$1,507.00			Rain Barrel Sales
\$100.00			
\$50.00			
\$500.00			
\$500.00			
\$500.00			
\$1,500.00			
\$1,000.00			
\$500.00			
\$250.00			
\$5,000.00			
\$1,000.00			
\$1,000.00			
\$250.00			
\$100.00			
\$570.00			
\$500.00			
\$100.00			
\$50.00			
\$472.50			Rain Barrel Sales
\$250.00			
\$1,000.00			
\$200.00			
\$1,000.00			
\$4,000.00			
\$18,000.00			Grant for Playground
\$100.00			
\$10.00			Yellow Bag Fundraiser
\$2,129.00			Money raised from silent auction

\$72.00
\$190.00
\$75.00
\$11,420.00

\$5,000.00
\$250.00
\$250.00
\$5,000.00
\$25,000.00
\$2,500.00
\$250.00
\$250.00
\$500.00
\$200.00
\$500.00
\$200.00
\$1,000.00
\$500.00
\$250.00
\$150.00
\$328.65
\$5,000.00
\$1,000.00
\$250.00
\$250.00
\$500.00
\$1,195.55
\$20.00
\$91.20
\$250.00
\$178.00
\$250.00

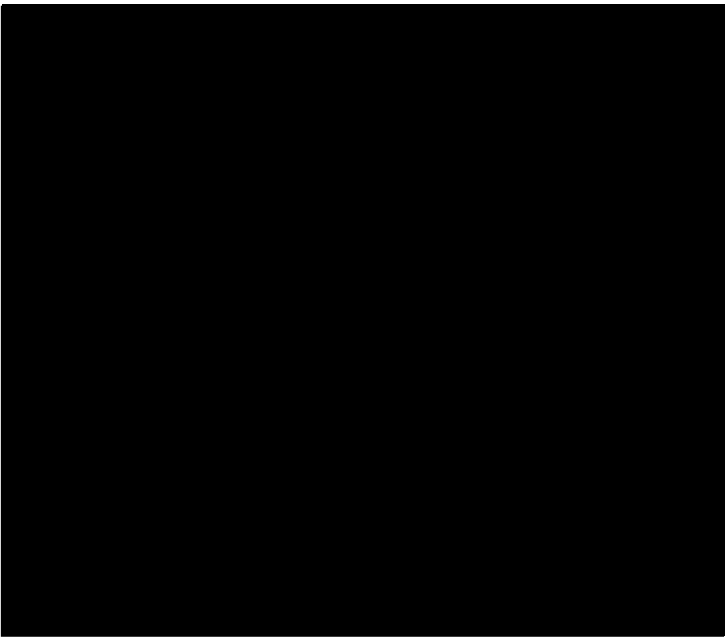


Grant - funds to be used towards the purchase of the Free Runner and Balance Board. Per donor

Grant

Bottle Drive

Bottle Drive



\$20,000.00	
\$20,000.00	Grant
\$1,000.00	
\$1,000.00	
\$500.00	
\$250.00	
\$32,100.00	
\$140.00	
\$250.00	
\$212.50	BridgeFest
\$40.00	
\$1,978.00	
\$500.00	
\$182,979.40	