

Original signed by: Byron Johnson, CAO

City Staff Report

Report Date: March 20, 2018**Meeting Date:** March 27, 2018**To:** City Manager**From:** Council Projects Initiatives Coordinator/Grant Writer**Subject:** Northern Development Initiative Trust Strategic Initiatives – Hosting Precinct

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council approval of an application to Northern Development Initiative Trust's (NDIT) Strategic Initiatives grant towards the Quesnel Hosting Precinct project.

Summary

The City of Quesnel has partnered with the Quesnel Curling Club on a major placemaking initiative aimed specifically at creating a new "hosting space" at our Arena Precinct (which consists of the new West Fraser Centre, Arena 2, the Curling Rink, and the plaza and parking lot surrounding these three buildings). The objective will be to integrate the three main buildings both aesthetically and technologically and enable year round use of the facilities. Additionally, when visitors attend events at these facilities, there is no signage to help them to make their way around the community so wayfinding is a major piece of this project.

Major aspects of this project will include upgrades to the curling rink façade and lounge, integrating the plaza and parking lot with the Reid St. redevelopment design, murals on the curling rink and Arena 2, closed caption TV's between the three buildings, adding a dry floor and stage to the West Fraser Centre, and installing wayfinding signage throughout the community.

Strategic Initiatives Fund Summary:

- Up to \$900,000 available in 2018 from the Pine Beetle Recovery Account.
- Eligible projects must be strategic in nature, support economic development and transformation, and not qualify for any other NDIT grant.
- Applicant must contribute 20% towards the project.
- Requires a resolution of support from local government.

Recommendation

THAT Quesnel City Council supports the grant application, for the Quesnel Hosting Precinct project, to the Northern Development Initiative Trust for a Strategic Initiatives grant of up to \$849,990 from the Pine Beetle Recovery Account.

THAT Quesnel City Council allocates up to \$50,000 towards the wayfinding portion of the Quesnel Hosting Precinct project from the 2018 Council Initiatives Account.



Strategic Objective

The application for funding maximizes access to NDIT grant funds and this project ties in to the Downtown Redevelopment project by integrating the Hosting Precinct area with the Reid Street design.

Financial Implications

The project total is \$1,062,488 and the funding request is \$849,990. The applicant is required to contribute a minimum of 20% of the total project budget. The applicant contribution is \$212,498 from the following funds:

Curling Club: \$23,200 and \$8,500 In-Kind

Donations: \$32,400 and \$25,000 In-Kind

NRCP: \$64,398 (previously allocated towards this project)

City of Quesnel: \$50,000 and \$9,000 In-Kind