

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, Aug. 13, 2010				Report Date	Monday, August 9, 2010			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	x	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
REPORT TITLE									
Eastern Ontario Development Program Renewal Report 13/08/10/20									

Subject: Lobby the Federal government to continue funding the EODP Program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council adopt the following resolution committing to support for the Eastern Ontario Development Program Funding renewal.

**WHEREAS** in the past this municipality and the municipal library has been the recipient of and benefited from funding provided through the Eastern Ontario Development Program;

**AND WHEREAS** this program has allowed staff to take training which allow them to maintain and continuously update our municipal website without incurring costs from an outside service provider;

**AND WHEREAS** there is fear that the Federal government will not renew past March 31, 2011 its commitment to finance the EODP Program;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby support the EODP and respectfully request that the Federal government renew its commitment to continued funding;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of State for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario; the Executive Director of the Community Futures Development Corporation of Renfrew County; Ms. Cheryl Gallant, MP Renfrew, Nipissing, Pembroke; AMO and all county municipalities for support.

**BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** From Dana Jennings – CFDC, Renfrew County

*“August 9, 2010*

***RE: EODP Call to Action***

*Dear EODP Recipient,*

*The Community Futures Development Corporation of Renfrew County has been pleased to provide you with funding from the Government of Canada through the Eastern Ontario Development Program (EODP), a program that we have offered for the past six years.*

*There are real concerns among the 15 Eastern Ontario Community Futures Development Corporations who are the delivery agencies for the EODP that the Federal government will not renew the program beyond March of 2011.*

*Two years ago there was a similar concern regarding the government's commitment to the program and at that time they did renew for a two year period. However, no agreement was reached in order to extend the program to "A" based funding which is necessary for the program to have automatic renewal.*

*We are seeking your assistance to help build a case to the Government of Canada which represents the compelling effect that the EODP has had on the many Renfrew County businesses and organizations in which it has supported.*

*I am sure you would all agree that this is a worthwhile Program with beneficial results. We encourage you to send a letter of support to MP Cheryl Gallant, and forward copies to Minister of State for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario, Gary Goodyear and to our office."*

Our municipality has been in receipt of funding from RCCFDC:

1. in 2006 funding for webpage maintenance training (through local provider through Algonquin College) and purchase of software to allow us to maintain control and ability to update our page;
2. In 2009 we were not successful in receiving funding for creation of a tourism marketing strategy as the demand for funding was significantly higher than available funds.
3. Library – 2005 – History Project - \$6,094
4. Library – 2006 – Funding for 2 people to take Access program on-line via Algonquin College

Options/Discussion: support or not

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact: may lose opportunity for funding for future projects.

Policy Impact: None.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,

Municipal Clerk

*Melinda Reith*