

Report to Committee

☐ For Committee Direction

☒ For Committee Information



TOPIC:	Second Chance Animal Rescue Society (SCARS) – 2025 Support Grant Application Update	April 22, 2025
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PURPOSE:

This report provides Council with an update on the Second Chance Animal Rescue Society (SCARS) Support Grant application.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Committee accept the Second Chance Animal Rescue Society (SCARS) application for Support Grant as information.

In Business Arising from Committee of the Whole:

That Council direct Administration to provide an exemption for fundraising for the Second Chance Animal Rescue Society Support Grant application.

That Council directs Administration to approve the Second Chance Animal Rescue Society Support Grant application request of \$4,835.

RATIONALE:

The Second Chance Animal Rescue Society (SCARS) adoption event and fundraising silent auction provided an opportunity to introduce SCARS to Morinville residents while raising awareness of its rescue programs. The event successfully expanded SCARS' volunteer network by highlighting local volunteer opportunities and fostering stronger community involvement. Additionally, it played a direct role in rehoming animals, helping to reduce stray populations and enhance overall animal welfare—aligning with broader community well-being efforts.

REPORT INFORMATION:

At the March 11, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council, Administration presented Council with the Support Grant funding request of \$4,835 from the Second Chance Animal Rescue Society to cover costs for the adoption event and fundraising silent auction held at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre earlier this year. Council requested further clarification on how the Support Grant funds would be allocated if provided to SCARS.

In response, SCARS indicated that the funds raised during their recent event will support operational costs at their Morinville and Athabasca facilities. Due to their operating structure, the funds SCARS receives cannot be clearly separated between the two locations. SCARS noted that their expenses in Morinville exceed the funds raised at their event. The Support Grant request covers food, veterinary care, shelter, medical treatment, and community outreach programs. Additionally, SCARS highlighted its

support for community outreach initiatives in Morinville, such as the doghouse-building project, in collaboration with Morinville Community High School.

IMPACT:

Budget/Resource Implications:

2025 Support Grant funding total	\$10,000
Total SCARS Support Grant funding request	<u>\$ 4835</u>
2025 Support Grant funding balance remaining if fully allocated	\$ 5165

NEXT STEPS:

Administration will communicate Council's decision on the Support Grant to SCARS.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:

At the March 11, 2025, Regular Meeting of Council, Council referred the request from the Second Chance Animal Rescue Society (SCARS) to a future meeting of Council for consideration.

At the December 10, 2024, Regular Meeting of Council, Council approved the Community Grant and Support Policy.

ALIGNMENT:

Morinville 2022-2025 Strategic Plan:

Goal 1 - Community Building

1.2 Residents and businesses have opportunities to actively engage in and are informed of decision-making and planning for our future.

Goal 3 - Financial Stewardship

3.1 Operational spending and service levels reflect the principles of relevance, efficiency and effectiveness.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Allocate a different amount of Support Grant funding to SCARS.
2. Deny the SCARS Support Grant 2025 application.

PRESENTER:	J. Makara, Supervisor, Community Development	ATTACHMENTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2024-CP-343 Community Grant and Support Policy
PREPARED BY:	J. Makara, Supervisor, Community Development	
CLEARANCES:	M. Hay, Interim Chief Administrative Officer S. Edwards, General Manager, Community and Infrastructure Services J. Potocnik, Community Services Manager	