Ministry of Infrastructure

Infrastructure Policy Division

777 Bay Street, 4th Floor, Suite 425 Toronto, Ontario M5G 2E5

March 14, 2019

Dear CAO/Clerk/Treasurer:

Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Rural Programs Branch



1 Stone Road West, 4th Floor NW Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2

We are writing to provide you with an update on the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) and new opportunities to access federal and provincial infrastructure funding under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP).

Firstly, we are pleased to confirm your municipality's eligibility for the OCIF 2019 Formula-Based Component and provide you with the enclosed Revised Allocation Notice. The notice confirms the previously-proposed 2019 allocation for your community.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of the steps required to close-out your 2018 Formula Funding. A 2018 Annual Financial Overview will be provided to you shortly, along with an Annual Financial Report (AFR) template for you to complete. In the AFR you will be required to confirm details of projects in progress or recently completed, report on any transfers (in or out) for joint projects with other eligible OCIF recipients, indicate the amount of interest earned on formula funds, and confirm any amounts that will be carried forward to 2019. Detailed instructions will be provided when the forms are sent to you.

As your Revised Allocation Notice is being sent out later than normal, the timing of reports as noted in the Contribution Agreement (CA) under Section I2.1 will be revised for this year. The 2018 AFR should be provided by May 31, 2019 and the Project Information Reports required to substantiate the 2019 allocation should be provided by June 30, 2019. Any questions regarding this timing should be sent to <u>OCIF@ontario.ca.</u>

Failure to complete these reporting requirements and any other requirements included in your CA by the noted deadlines could impact your ability to receive formula payments in 2019 and beyond.

As you know, the government is making every effort to restore fiscal balance to the Province. We are using the Province's recent line-by-line review to make all government spending more effective and reduce Ontario's fiscal burden.

Based on this review, the province will be updating the design of OCIF, including the formula and application streams, to make sure funding is targeted to where it is needed most. In the meantime, proposed formulabased allocations for 2020 and 2021 cannot be confirmed. This means that the previously-proposed allocations for 2020 are subject to change pending the outcome of the program update. In addition, we are cancelling the top-up application intake that closed in August of 2018 as well as the 2019 top-up application intake.

We will work with our municipal partners to ensure that the refined OCIF program supports efficiency and value-for-money while helping to address municipal critical infrastructure needs.

Although the government will not be proceeding with the 2018 Top-Up Application Component, road and bridge projects were still reviewed and evaluated based on the criteria outlined in the OCIF program guidelines. Our multi-ministry assessment team identified that your project would have been successful under the program.

As you may know, the Province is launching the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) in Ontario on March 18, 2019. ICIP is a ten-year program, which will commit up to \$30 billion in combined federal and provincial funding to support public transit, green infrastructure, community, culture and recreation, and rural and northern infrastructure investments. We are pleased to provide you with an opportunity to submit an accelerated application for federal and provincial funding under the Rural and Northern stream of the ICIP based on your proposal under the 2018 OCIF application intake.

While we are offering you this opportunity based on the details of your OCIF application, your proposal may need to be re-scoped to meet federal program requirements, as the program has a different submission, assessment and approvals process. Note that if contracts have already been awarded for components of your project, those components would no longer be eligible for funding. Additionally, projects costs that are ineligible under the federal guidelines for ICIP will need to be removed, and under the Rural and Northern program guidelines total project costs are capped at \$5 million.

Per federal requirements under the Rural and Northern stream, projects will be cost shared for a community of your size at a ratio of 50% federal contribution, 33.33% provincial contribution, and 16.67% municipal contribution. Applications for the Rural and Northern stream will open on March 18, 2019. In order to be eligible for accelerated nomination under this stream, we require that you submit your application by April 15, 2019, 11:59 pm EST. Should you fail to submit your application by this date, your application will be moved from the accelerated pool to the broader Rural and Northern intake. Should your municipality provide the necessary information to move this project forward for nomination to the federal government, it is anticipated that projects previously planned for the 2019 construction season may continue to proceed on this timeline.

More information about ICIP, can be can be found at: <u>http://www.grants.gov.on.ca/GrantsPortal/en</u>, by clicking on Grant Opportunities. Details on ICIP will be available starting on March 18, 2019. Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact your OCIF Project Analyst at <u>OCIF@ontario.ca</u> or by calling 1-877-424-1300.

We look forward to working with you to help address the infrastructure needs of your municipality, while maximizing federal infrastructure funding available to Ontario and its municipalities.

Sincerely,

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Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Formula-Based Component

Revised Allocation Notice

Ministry of Infrastructure Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Town of Tillsonburg

March 2019

Disponible en français

Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) Formula-Based Component- Revised Allocation Notice

Town of Tillsonburg

This revised allocation notice is to inform you of your 2019 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund formula allocation.

Formula-Based Funding Allocation

Your community's formula-based allocation of funding under the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund for 2019 is as follows:

2019 formula allocation	\$222,386
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Terms and Conditions

Receipt of formula allocations are conditional upon compliance with all of the terms and conditions of your existing OCIF formula-based funding agreement.

The Province reserves the right to adjust or terminate any allocations contained in this notice, without consent or notice, to account for changes in a municipality's situation, the OCIF program guidelines, or other parameters or administrative procedures.

Payment Schedule

The Province proposes to make payments in accordance with the following schedule:

- Allocations of \$150,000 or less will be provided in one payment
- Allocations greater than \$150,000 but less than \$1 million will be provided through up to 6 payments; and
- Allocations greater than \$1 million will be provided through up to 12 payments.

As 2019 allocations were confirmed in March, payments which would have normally been made in January through to April will be made in May and then will return to the regular payment schedule.