

	Report Title	Tillsonburg Airport Advisory Committee – Available Grant Funding for the Tillsonburg Regional Airport
	Report No.	OPS 19-11
	Author	Staff on behalf of Mark Renaud, TAAC Chair
	Meeting Type	Council Meeting
	Council Date	May 13, 2019
	Attachments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAAC 2019-01 Available Grants for Airports in Ontario

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receive Report OPS 19-11 Tillsonburg Airport Advisory Committee - Available Grant Funding for the Tillsonburg Regional Airport;

AND THAT the recommendation of the Tillsonburg Airport Advisory Committee be referred to item OPS 19-17 for consideration.

BACKGROUND

At the March Tillsonburg Airport Advisory Committee (TAAC) meeting a request was tabled that staff explore available grant funding opportunities available for Airports in Ontario. A report was taken back to the TAAC in April (attached) outlining the various grant funding opportunities and identified that the Tillsonburg Regional Airport only satisfies the eligibility criteria of the Federal Gas Tax program.

At the April TAAC meeting, the committee discussed the unfunded Airport projects identified in the 2019 Operations Services Business Plan. These projects are the Risk Assessment of Public Access; Commercial Taxiway Rehabilitation; and Airport Hydro Load Capacity Testing. The committee recommends that these projects be completed in 2019 and be funded from the one-time 2019 Federal Gas Tax top-up funding recently provided by the government.

The Committee passed the following resolution:

“THAT the Tillsonburg Airport Advisory Committee recommend that Town Council allocate \$50,000 from the one-time 2019 Federal Gas Tax top-up for the completion of the three Airport projects currently unfunded in the 2019 Budget.”

FINANCIAL IMPACT/FUNDING SOURCE

The committee recommends that the three (3) unfunded Airport related projects identified in the 2019 Operations Services Business Plan totalling \$50,000, be funded by the one-time 2019 Federal Gas Tax top-up funding.

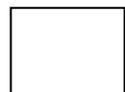
COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN (CSP) IMPACT

1. Excellence in Local Government

- Demonstrate strong leadership in Town initiatives

2. Economic Sustainability

- Support new and existing businesses and provide a variety of employment opportunities



	Report Title	Available Grants for Airports in Ontario
	Report No.	TAAC 2019-01
	Author	Annette Murray/Dan Locke
	Meeting Type	TAAC
	Committee Date	April 18, 2019
	Attachments	

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Tillsonburg Airport Advisory Committee (TAAC) receive this report, “Available Grants for Airport in Ontario”, as an information item.

BACKGROUND

As requested at the March 21, 2019 TAAC meeting, staff have explored all available government grants for Ontario Airports.

DISCUSSION

Below is a list of available grants for Airports in Ontario. Tillsonburg Regional Airport is only eligible for one grant as listed below “Federal Gas Tax Fund”.

1) **Airports Capital Assistance Program (ACAP)** -

<https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/programs-policies/programs/airports-capital-assistance-program.html>

Eligibility Requirements

- essential air services, including air ambulance, search and rescue, and forest fire response
- scheduled and charter air services that link communities to regional, national, and international markets for goods and services
- commercial air services (for example, aerial photography and flying schools)
- corporate aircraft and general aviation

Tillsonburg Regional Airport (TRA) does not have scheduled and charter air services. Therefore does not meet the eligibility requirements to qualify for this program.

2) **Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC)** – Northern Airports - <http://www.nohfc.ca/>

Eligibility Requirements

- For Northern Ontario Airports only.
Therefore, TRA does not meet the eligibility requirements to qualify.

3) **FedNor** - <http://fednor.gc.ca/eic/site/fednor-fednor.nsf/eng/home>

- Federal Program for economic development type projects in northern Ontario. Therefore, TRA does not meet the eligibility requirements to qualify.

4) **Eastern Ontario Development Fund** - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/eastern-ontario-development-fund>

Eligibility Requirements

- The eastern Ontario Development Fund gives money to businesses, municipalities and not for profit organizations in eastern Ontario. Therefore, TRA does not meet the eligibility requirements to qualify.

5) **Southwestern Ontario Development Fund** - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/eastern-ontario-development-fund>

Eligibility Requirements

The Southwestern Ontario Development Fund gives money to businesses, municipalities and not-for-profit organizations for economic development in southwestern Ontario.

To be eligible for the business stream, businesses need to:

- employ at least 10 people
- commit to creating at least 10 new jobs
- be able to provide 3 years of operations/financial statements
- be located in, or plan to locate in, a community in southwestern Ontario
- invest at least \$500,000 in their project

Eligible sectors

Projects in these sectors are eligible for funding:

- advanced manufacturing (automotive, aerospace, plastics, clean technologies)
- life sciences
- processing (primary and secondary)
- information and communication technology
- tourism
- cultural industries

TRA does not qualify for this grant as it does not fit into any Eligible Sectors category, nor would we be creating at least 10 new jobs.

6) **Federal Gas Tax Fund** - <https://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/plan/gtf-fte-eng.html>

Eligibility Requirements

- The federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF) is a permanent source of funding provided up front, twice-a-year, to provinces and territories, who in turn flow this funding to their municipalities to support local infrastructure priorities. Municipalities can pool, bank and borrow against this funding, providing significant financial flexibility.

- Unsure of any airports that have benefited from the gas tax program.

New Infrastructure Funding for Local Communities through a Municipal Top-Up Budget 2019 proposes a one-time transfer of \$2.2 billion through the federal Gas Tax Fund to address short-term priorities in municipalities and First Nation communities. This will double the federal government's commitment to municipalities in 2018–19, providing infrastructure funds for communities of all sizes across the country. The funding can be used for a range of infrastructure items, including several related to transportation:

- Local roads and bridges
- Highways, Short-sea shipping
- Short-line rail
- Regional and local airports
- Public transit

TRA does qualify for this grant as it covers Regional and Local airports.

7) **Rural and Northern Communities Funding** -

<http://www.grants.gov.on.ca/GrantsPortal/en/OntarioGrants/GrantOpportunities/PRDR019458>

Eligibility Requirements

- The Ontario government launched the Rural and Northern program through Grants Ontario. All program materials including program guidelines and technical schedules are available through this portal.
- Applicants have until May 14, 2019 to submit their applications for funding consideration.
- Air Infrastructure is considered eligible, see program guidelines, airports have to be certified by Transport Canada

TRA is a registered airport, therefore does not qualify for this grant as it applies to certified airports only.

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

Below is a list of projects that may be suitable to apply for funding through the Federal Gas Tax Fund. They are health and safety issues that we have been dealing with for a long time.

Potential Project list

1. Enlargement of main apron to accommodate larger staging area for aircraft
2. Aircraft turn around areas at the end of runway 08 and 26
3. Proper fencing with card lock gates
4. Ground side access roads near hangars to remove vehicular traffic airside
5. Rehabilitation of taxiway D to the east, including aprons in front of Harvard hangars
6. New above ground fuel tanks and containment.