

Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund Provincial Stream

ISSUE

On March 10, 2025 the Province of Saskatchewan announced the signing of a 10-year agreement under the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund (CHIF). As a municipality approved for funding under the Housing Accelerator Fund, the City of Saskatoon (City) was invited to submit an application for the provincial-territorial Stream of CHIF. Administration is requesting City Council approval to submit an application for the project identified in this report.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That City Council approve and direct Administration to submit an Application to the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund, Provincial Stream, as outlined in this report;
2. That if the Application is successful, the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute the Agreement under the Corporate Seal; and
3. That if required, the Senior Financial Business Partner be granted delegated authority to sign and submit progress reports and financial claims related to the program.

BACKGROUND

On April 16, 2024, the Government of Canada announced \$6 billion in federal funding over 10 years to establish CHIF through two funding streams:

1. Direct Delivery Stream - \$1 billion over eight years directly to eligible recipients; and
2. Provincial and territorial agreement stream - \$5 billion over 10 years to provinces and territories to deliver funding to their communities.

The purpose of both funding streams is to accelerate the construction and upgrading of housing-enabling drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and solid waste infrastructure, directly supporting the creation of new homes and increasing densification.

At its Regular Business Meeting on [March 26, 2025](#), City Council resolved in part:

“That City Council approve and direct Administration to submit application(s) to the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund and the Deep Retrofit Accelerator Initiative;”

At its Regular Business Meeting on [December 18, 2024](#), City Council resolved in part:

“That City Council approve and direct Administration to submit application(s) to the Canada Housing Infrastructure Fund and the Youth Gang Prevention Fund;”

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

On March 10, 2025, the governments of Saskatchewan and Canada announced a 10 year agreement under CHIF. Saskatchewan is to receive \$187.9 million through the CHIF program to address house enabling infrastructure priorities and will also be contributing \$155.0 million to the program.

On April 22, 2025 a group of eligible Saskatchewan communities were invited to submit applications for funding through the Provincial Stream which included Saskatoon. The Communities selected must have been approved for the Housing Accelerator Fund or have at least 30,000 residents. During this initial intake, more than \$23 million will be allocated, which includes the Municipal, Provincial and Federal shares, through a competitive intake process.

Administration is requesting to submit an application for enhancements/expansion of the Material Recovery Centre (MRC) at the Saskatoon Regional Waste Management Facility in order to promote waste diversion and extend the life of the landfill particularly when considering past and future population growth. This includes program development for household hazardous waste, construction and demolition waste, bulky waste and yard waste drop-off. This project would include construction of a new House Hazardous Waste (HHW) building, market studies for additional waste streams and associated equipment (shredder, track hoe, roll-off truck, tandem truck, forklift). This includes further expansion of programs and acceptable materials such as construction and demolition waste, bulky waste programs materials, bulky waste such as mattresses, and organic waste. Service levels for HHW drop-off could be extended from a seasonal program to all year with a permanent building. The project, which is identified in the current 2026-2027 Work Plan for the [Solid Waste Reduction and Diversion Plan](#), will allow for efficiencies to be had between the Material Recovery Centre, the Organics Facility and landfill by transferring materials between sites as follows:

- Residential yard waste drop-off from the MRC to the Organics Process Facility;
- Size reduction (shredding) of bulky waste before landfilling;
- Clean fill as landfill cover on the landfill face;
- Transport compost from the organics processing facility to the Sort and Go; and
- The transport of acceptable materials to recycling (i.e. electronic products).

The Solid Waste Reduction and Diversion Plan projected that the MRC could divert between 4% and 12% of the waste handled by the City when fully operational and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 8,400 tonnes CO₂e per year. As waste diversion to extend the lifespan of landfills in growing communities is one of the allowable project types under CHIF and Administration considers this to be a good fit for funding. Expanding programming at the MRC such as bulky waste is estimated to save over 13,000 m³ of landfill airspace annually, adding additional landfill capacity for up to 23,500 households per year. Based on landfill tonnage data recorded at the scales, each household generates an average of 0.43 tonnes of waste, equivalent to 0.55 m³ of landfill space

The estimated cost of the project is \$4.9 million and if approved \$1.96 million would be funded by the Government of Canada, \$1.64 million by the Province of Saskatchewan and 1.3 million by the City. The project estimate is still being refined for the cost of the HHW building and will be updated for actual application submission.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Under the Provincial Stream of CHIF, the Government of Canada will provide up to 40% of eligible costs and the Province of Saskatchewan up to 33.33%. The City is required to contribute the remaining 26.67% of eligible costs and any ineligible costs which will be funded through reserves associated with the landfill.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no privacy, legal, social or environmental implications identified.

NEXT STEPS

If the recommendation is approved, Administration will move forward with the application process. If the application is approved, Administration will report back at the appropriate time to request creation of a capital project and that the appropriate budget adjustments be made, including to add the funding from the CHIF program to the project.

REPORT APPROVAL

Written by:	Jeremy Meinema, Senior Financial Business Partner
Reviewed by:	Brendan Lemke, Director of Water and Waste Operations Angela Gardiner, General Manager, Utilities and Environment
Approved by:	Clae Hack, Chief Financial Officer

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