



Lloyd Longfield

Member of Parliament for Guelph



October 13, 2020

City of Guelph
1 Carden Street
Guelph, ON

Dear Mayor Guthrie and Council Members,

I have received your copy of the letter dated October 7, 2020 to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau with respect to the resolution passed by Guelph Council on September 28, 2020. The City of Guelph has called upon the Federal government to help municipalities assist organizations with relief funds during COVID-19.

In April 2020, the \$350 million Emergency Community Support Fund was announced to help charities and non-profit organizations adapt their frontline services to better serve vulnerable Canadians who have been disproportionately impacted during this pandemic. Since its launch in May, over 7,000 charitable and non-profit projects across Canada have been supported.

On October 5, 2020, the national intermediaries delivering the fund—United Way Centraide Canada, Community Foundations of Canada and the Canadian Red Cross—announced the opening of their second application process for community organizations. This second round of funding will help ensure an equitable distribution of funds and provide additional services and supports for Canadians in need.

Locally during the initial funding call the Government of Canada distributed emergency funds to the United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin, Guelph Community Foundation and the Red Cross to provide direct assistance to communities. In Guelph, the United Way received over \$600,000 and the Guelph Community Foundation received more than \$345,000 and were able to help more than 50 local organizations working with our most vulnerable.

Last week the Government of Canada has again committed to providing community support to ensure we are not leaving anyone behind during this pandemic. This is in addition to funds under the Safe Restart Agreement, which the City of Guelph has seen \$6.9M on the operating side and \$5.1M for transit.

We have also provided additional assistance by creating programs for individuals and businesses to ensure no one is without the support they need. The CECRA, CEBA and CERB have made the difference between keeping the business afloat and closing the doors, or paying the family grocery bills and making difficult decisions.

I am proud to be part of a Government that has shown its commitment to Canadians and Guelphites during this difficult time

Sincerely,

Lloyd Longfield
M.P. Guelph

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