



## Municipality of the District of Argyle

Item: Argyle Emergency Fund

Date: May 11, 2023

### VISION

We see Argyle as home to a healthy and thriving rural population. Our municipality promotes and supports economic and social opportunities for the region and engages in the active expression of our unique Acadian heritage. We are a place of choice for rural living and are widely recognized for our warm hospitality and joie de vivre. Surrounded by fresh air and cool ocean breezes, we work and play in the great outdoors. People choose to live in Argyle because of our commitment to each other, to our community and to our neighbors. Argyle is a place we are proud to call home.

### **Background:**

Since 2014, The Municipality of Argyle has hosted the Experience of Argyle event in the fall of each year as a fundraiser to assist residents of the municipality who may be going through difficult times.

Below is a 4-year comparison, for your information, of funds used.

2019-2020	\$3,057.77	7 residents/households
2020-2021	\$1,672.74	5 residents/households
2021-2022	\$4,154.41	9 residents/households
2022-2023	\$3,548.75	8 residents/households

This program has been very successful, however, is becoming very difficult to manage. The increased demand is met with a policy that falls short of guiding decisions effectively. Through our experience we note various issues with how the money is requested and approved. Thoughts are that the funding would be better executed from a different source, rather than the municipality itself.

### **Department of Finance Recommendation:**

Based on the Department of Finance's research and preliminary discussions with Council, it is recommended to:

- Provide 7 day notice to repeal the Argyle Emergency Fund Policy
- Provide an annual financial contribution to various social aid organizations in the municipality.
- Through discussion with Council, the recommended amount to contribute is \$4,000 over 5 years, for a total of \$20,000.

**Suggested motion:**

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Move that:

- Council start the process of repealing Article C40 – Emergency Fund
- Council provide various social aid organizations in the Municipality of Argyle with a financial contribution of \$4,000 over 5 years for a total amount of \$20,000.