

## TOWN OF STETTLER

<u>Prepared by:</u>	Department Heads	<u>Number:</u>	VIII-4
<u>Adopted by:</u>	Town of Stettler Council	<u>Original Policy:</u>	1986 05 20
		<u>Previous Policy:</u>	N/A
		<u>Current Policy:</u>	2015 10 20

Title: **Miscellaneous Requests for Funds – Fundraising Initiatives**

Purpose: To establish a guideline for processing requests for Municipal funds from individuals or groups.

Policy Statement: In general, as a Municipal body, the Town of Stettler Council will not provide support to any individual or group requesting financial assistance, use of Town facilities, or the purchase of anything relating to an event, sponsorship, or recognition etc. scheme for the purpose of raising funds.

Council encourages promotion of the Town of Stettler, and upon request authorizes Administration to provide a reasonable supply of available promotional material such as pins, etc.

Guiding Principle Attendance by all or any members of Council at any local fundraising event certainly has some value, however Council as a Municipal Body must be mindful of the general taxpayers' perception of entitlement/waste, as well as municipal spending fairness and equity amongst all local groups fundraising initiatives.

Herein lies the challenge of determining which groups/events will get their fundraising initiative supported through Council provided funds, facilities, attendance fees or sponsorships etc.

Town Council is proud of the numerous individuals and groups voluntarily working to serve, support and enhance the high quality of life within our community. All groups represent a good cause and each has determined its own mechanism(s) to generate local funds to be used to support their goals. Town Council, as a Municipal Body, also recognizes and appreciates that it is sometimes a major benefactor of fundraising proceeds being generated to ultimately support Town owned infrastructure.

Under the Income Tax Act (c1, s82 (2)) all Elected Officials remuneration includes a 1/3 tax free allowance that at the discretion of each Member of Council may be used in support of local fundraising initiatives.

This policy has been established to encourage individual members of Council as citizens to support local community initiatives, the community development of the Town of Stettler and support local projects which demonstrate broad based benefit to the community.

Exception:

Where Council receives a request to purchase tickets or anything relating to a fundraising, recognition or other event, individual Council members planning to attend will pay personally for the ticket(s) he or she plans to use, with the exception of:

- The Town of Stettler shall pay directly or reimburse Council Members for tickets to attend such events where in the Mayor's discretion Council's attendance and/or representation is considered of a paramount nature, and Town Council absence would be politically inappropriate/sensitive under the circumstances.
- The Town of Stettler shall pay directly or reimburse Council Members for tickets to attend such events where the fundraisers cause/need is of major community significance, and it is considered to be very important for the Municipal Body's optics to have Council representation at the event, and is supported by at least a 5/7<sup>th</sup> strong majority of Council.

The payment of Councillor Per Diems shall generally not apply to attending a fundraising event, however the Mayor has the authority and discretion under the Council Remuneration Policy 11-3(b) to consider the applicability and appropriateness of Per Diems under the circumstances at that time.