



Staff Report

Corporate & Financial Services – Finance

Report To: COW- Admin, Corp and Finance, SI, Comm. Services
Meeting Date: August 25, 2025
Report Number: CFS.25.041
Title: Municipal Ice Storm Assistance Program
Prepared by: Brenna Agnew, Accounting Analyst

A. Recommendations

THAT Council receive Staff Report CFS.25.041, entitled “Municipal Ice Storm Assistance Program”;

AND THAT Council direct staff to request assistance through the Municipal Ice Storm Assistance (MISA) program for the ice storm that started on March 28, 2025, for the incremental costs directly linked to the ice storm;

AND THAT Council delegates authority to Monica Quinlan, Treasurer and Director of Corporate & Financial Services to verify and attest to the accuracy of the claim.

B. Overview

The Municipal Ice Storm Assistance (MISA) program is an application-based program that provides one-time support to eligible municipalities for incremental costs arising from the ice storm that started on March 28, 2025.

The application requires the submission of a Council Resolution endorsing staff to request assistance through the program.

C. Background

The Town is eligible to apply for the program and submitted an Expression of Interest survey before the due date of July 28, 2025.

The completed application package must be submitted by October 31, 2025.

D. Analysis

Staff has determined that the expenses directly linked to the 2025 ice storm, and which will be considered under the program, totals \$64,574.58 (net expense plus the non-recoverable HST portion).

These incremental costs include:

Operating Costs/Goods and Services \$39,567.13 (tree removal, generator fuel, generator service, sewage haulage).

Employee Costs \$12,071.57 (paid overtime of regular municipal employees tasked with ice storm related work).

Equipment Costs \$12,935.89 (equipment owned by the Town and used for ice storm related work, claimed at 40% of the province's current rental rate for heavy equipment for all hours of emergency operation).

If an application is approved, the province will reimburse 75% of eligible expenses. The Town may receive up to \$48,430.94 by requesting assistance through the MISA program.

E. Strategic Priorities

1. Communication and Engagement

We will enhance communications and engagement between Town Staff, Town residents and stakeholders

3. Community

We will protect and enhance the community feel and the character of the Town, while ensuring the responsible use of resources and restoration of nature.

F. Environmental Impacts

N/A

G. Financial Impacts

The Town may benefit from MISA program assistance which could alleviate the burden of the 2025 ice storm related expenses on the 2025 budget by up to \$48,430.94.

H. In Consultation With

Diana Livingston, Fire Administrative Assistant and CEMC

Allison Kershaw, Manager of Water and Wastewater Services

Jenn Whyte, Compensation & Benefits Administrator

I. Public Engagement

The topic of this Staff Report has not been the subject of a Public Meeting and/or a Public Information Centre as neither a Public Meeting nor a Public Information Centre are required. However, any comments regarding this report should be submitted to Michael Switzer, Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Budgets and Accounting budgetteam@thebluemountains.ca.

J. Attached

N/A

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Switzer,
Deputy Treasurer/Manager of Budgets and Accounting

Monica Quinlan,
Director of Corporate & Financial Services

For more information, please contact:
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