



Terms of Reference:

Morinville Emergency Assistance Fund

July 2020

BACKGROUND

The Emergency Assistance Fund provides residents access to emergency funding when other sources of funding have been exhausted, not accessible or not timely in nature. Other municipalities within the region have successfully provided this funding to their residents for emergent needs like rent, utilities, transportation, medical and food.

OBJECTIVES AND TASKS

The objective of the Emergency Assistance funding is to support Morinville residents through accessing Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) to meet the pressing and emergent needs of clients. FCSS will manage these funds, identify wholistic approaches to providing unique crisis support, and monitor for trends.

FCSS will provide quarterly reports on funding usage as well as, track trends so that this information can be used to identify gaps in our community and areas that might benefit from increased service and enhanced collaborative efforts.

GOVERNANCE

The Emergency Assistance Fund will not be accessed until all other funding options have been exhausted. Programs that could be explored before accessing this fund include, but are not limited to:

- Midstream Support Society
- Morinville Food Bank
- Alberta Works
- Homeland Housing
- Salvation Army

The basic qualifying criteria to access the fund include:

- A demonstrated need that cannot be met with other (existing) sources of support or funding.
- Funding responds to immediate crisis or evidence that a crisis may be avoided.
- Clients must be a Morinville resident (at least 6 months) or temporary resident here due to circumstances of significant magnitude (relocated due to tragedy, refugee etc.).
- A working relationship with FCSS to ensure support plan is in place.

The support will be flexible to account for the most unlikely and unusual circumstances but shall not create dependency for on-going funding. Examples of a range of support might include:

- Immediate in the moment, transportation funding (bus pass, taxi fare)
- Support for emergency housing/shelter
- Support services for refugees, displaced individuals/families
- Supports for homeless or to prevent homelessness from occurring (rent, utilities etc.)
- Basic needs, health and mental health supports in moment of need

AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

FCSS Coordinator can disperse the funds as they do not exceed \$500/annually and is compliance of the purchasing policy.

ALLOCATIONS

Access to this fund designed for one-time only. However, it is recognized that certain situations might warrant flexibility and FCSS can decide on a case by case basis if funding is sought more than once. Under all circumstances, the maximum yearly allocation per family will be \$500.