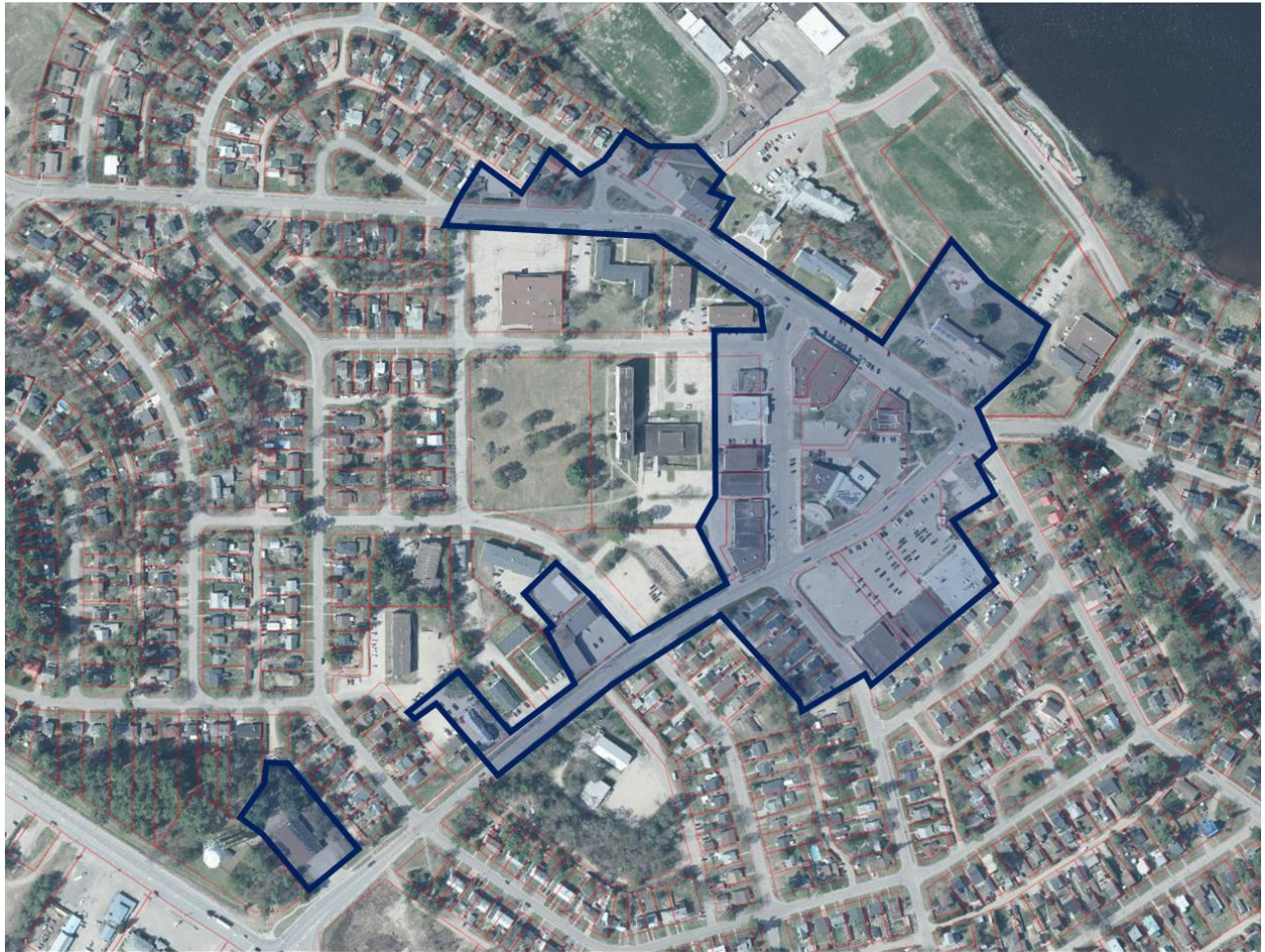




# Community Improvement Plan Grant Opportunities





*Map of the Community Improvement Plan Project Area (CIPA)*

**This package includes a one-page summary of all grants available through the Town of Deep River's Community Improvement Plan.**

**A Community Improvement Plan is a tool used by a municipality to assist in community revitalization and in achieving economic, community planning, and urban development goals through encouraging private-sector investment.**

**There are a variety of grants available for businesses located in the CIP Project Area (CIPA). Grants are open to property owners and businesses. If you are interested in learning more about these grants, please contact the Town to discuss your application.**

**Have questions?**

**Contact Christian Kaiser**

**613-584-2000**

**[townmail@deeperiver.ca](mailto:townmail@deeperiver.ca)**



# Summary of General Program Requirements

While each of the available grants has its own requirements, all grants in the CIP have common requirements. They are as follows:

1. The subject property must be located in the CIP Project Area (CIPA).
2. Applicants or building owners must not be in tax arrears or have any orders against the property from the Town's Fire or Building Department.
3. If the applicant is not the property owner the applicant must have written consent from the owner to apply.
4. Work being applied for must **not** begin until after the grant has been approved.
5. As a condition of application approval, the applicant is required to enter into an agreement with the Town.
6. A site visit may be required as part of the application and approval process.
7. Grants will only be paid out when the work has been completed and paid invoices are submitted to the Town.
8. All expenses must be paid in full and receipts submitted prior to applicants being reimbursed.

**Contact us for a full list of program requirements**



# Façade Improvement Grant

## Purpose

To incentivize private investment into the façades of the existing downtown commercial buildings within the CIPA.

## Grant Program

Matching grant of up to a maximum of 50% of eligible costs up to a maximum grant of \$10,000, whichever is less, per commercial unit.

## Eligible Costs

The following list of eligible costs only apply to the front or exterior façades that front on a public street, or a façade which has the primary entry of a commercial business:

- Repair, replacement, or restoration of façade masonry, brickwork, and/or cladding, including exterior painting;
- Repair, replacement, or restoration of windows, doors, eaves, and/or other significant architectural detailing;
- Repair, replacement, or installation of awnings and canopies;
- Repair, replacement, or installation of exterior lighting;
- Street furniture related to the façade;
- Painting or installation of murals or similar wall art (side facades only);
- Modifications to the entrance way;
- Any other improvement works as approved by the Town; or
- Any combination of the above.

## Additional Details

All General Eligibility requirements outlined in Section 2.1 of the Application Package apply. Applicants must submit design drawings, architectural/engineering plans, a work plan indicating proposed timelines, and a cost estimate for the improvement works. The grant will be paid based on the actual cost of the improvement works, up to the amount approved in the application.

# Signage Improvement Grant

## Purpose

To promote the improvement of the signage within the downtown community improvement project area.

## Grant Program

Matching grant of up to a maximum of 50% of eligible costs up to a total maximum grant of \$2,500, whichever is less, per commercial unit.

## Eligible Costs

Improvements to, or new, building signage including:

- Graphic design of signage;
- Sign materials and/or construction;
- Sign lighting;
- Any other signage-related improvement works as approved by the Town; or
- Any combination of the above.

## Additional Details

All General Eligibility requirements outlined in Section 2.1 of the Application Package apply. May apply to multiple signs, with a sum of up to the maximum eligible grant value. Applicants must submit design drawings indicating the proposed signage improvement works and include a cost estimate for the improvement works. The grant will be paid based on the actual cost of the improvement works, up to the amount approved in the application.

# Building Improvement/Energy Efficiency Grant

## Purpose

To assist with improving the existing buildings within the downtown CIP project area and improve energy efficiency.

## Grant Program

**Energy Efficiency Grant:** up to 50% of eligible costs up to a maximum grant of \$5,000, whichever is less, per commercial unit.

**Building Improvement Grant:** up to 50% of eligible costs up to a maximum grant of \$5,000, whichever is less, per commercial unit.

## Eligible costs for the Energy Efficiency Grant

- Replacement of existing heating systems, central air conditioning systems, and/or hot water systems with recognized energy efficient systems (i.e., ENERGY STAR® systems);
- Insulation upgrades to attics, exterior walls, exposed floors, basements, and crawl spaces;
- Replacement of doors, windows, and/or skylights with ENERGY STAR® models;
- Installation of small-scale renewable energy generation systems which are not subject to approval under the Green Energy Act, as determined by the Ministry of Energy;
- Any other related improvement works as approved by the Town; or
- Any combination of the above.

## Eligible costs for the Building Improvement Grant

- Structural repairs to walls, ceilings, floors and/or foundations;
- Repair, or replacement of roof or roofline;
- Installation/upgrading of fire protection systems;
- Other similar improvement works related to health and safety issues, as approved by the Town

## Additional Details

All General Eligibility requirements outlined in Section 2.1 of the Application Package apply. Applicants must submit design drawings, architectural/engineering plans, a work plan indicating proposed timelines, and a cost estimate for the improvement works. The grant will be paid based on the actual cost of the improvement works, up to the amount approved in the application. Improvements to doors and windows which are shown by the Applicant to improve energy efficiency will not be eligible for this grant if the applicant has also applied for a façade improvement grant for the replacement of doors and windows. With regard to an application for a grant for energy efficiency improvements, the Applicant will be required to demonstrate that the improvement results in a significant improvement (at least 15%) to the energy efficiency of the building or unit.

# Accessibility Improvement Grant

## Purpose

To promote the undertaking of accessibility improvements within the downtown core.

## Grant Program

Matching grant of up to a maximum of 50% of eligible costs up to a maximum grant of \$2,500, whichever is less, per commercial unit.

## Eligible Costs

Accessibility improvements including:

- Installation of wheelchair and mobility device ramps;
- Installation of automatic doors;
- Widening of entryways;
- Installation of accessibility improvements external to the building;
- Levelling or repair of pathways, accesses, and/or stairs;
- Any other accessibility-related improvement works as approved by the Town; or
- Any combination of the above.

## Additional Details

All General Eligibility requirements outlined in Section 2.1 of the Application Package apply. Applicants must submit design drawings, architectural/engineering plans, a work plan indicating proposed timelines, and a cost estimate for the improvement works. The grant will be paid based on the actual cost of the improvement works, up to the amount approved in the application. Accessibility improvements shall be above and beyond the requirements of the Ontario Building Code, as applicable to the property.



# Municipal Application/Permit Fees Grant

## Purpose

To stimulate private investment into the private lands by helping to cover the costs of the municipal fees related to projects undertaken under the CIP.

## Grant Program

Building Permit Fee: up to 50% of building permit fees, up to a maximum grant of \$1,500.  
Planning Approvals Fee: up to 100% of planning approval fees, up to a maximum grant of \$1,500.

## Eligible Costs

This grant applies to:

- Building permit fees for improvements related to a CIP improvement; and
- Planning approval fees for improvements related to CIP improvement works (i.e., minor variance).

## Additional Details

All General Eligibility requirements outlined in Section 2.1 of the Application Package apply.

# Tax Increase Grant

## Purpose

To stimulate private investment into the downtown CIPA and promote the undertaking of building improvements to properties, commercial units, and/or buildings in the CIP project area which meet the goals and objectives of the CIP.

## Grant Program

**Please note that this grant cannot be combined with any other grants in the CIP Grant Program.**

This grant covers a portion of the increase in municipal property taxes that result from an increased assessment value after building improvements are made.

The Town will collect the full amount of the property taxes owed in each of the years of the program's applicability. The grant will be issued to the approved applicant after the final tax bill for each year has been collected. If the tax bill is not paid in full, the Town will cancel all future grants and collect past grants made as part of this program.

## Eligible Costs

There must be a minimum increase in assessment of \$25,000, directly related to a building permit for CIP improvements. The total amount of the grant provided will not exceed the value of the work that resulted in the reassessment.

This grant excludes the education and County portions of the tax bill. The Town is only able to rebate the municipal portion of the tax bill.

The Grant will cover up to 50% of the municipal portion of the tax increase up to \$4,000 per year, for a period of up to five (5) years.

## Additional Details

All General Eligibility requirements outlined in Section 2.1 of the Application Package. Applicants must provide a project description showing how the project will meet the goals and objectives of the CIP, proof of reassessment, and the latest tax receipt.

# Grant Program Application Process

The application process for the Community Improvement Plan Grant Program is as follows:

1. Meet with Town Staff to discuss your application (**highly recommended**).
2. Have a site visit regarding improvements, if required.
3. Submit application electronically or at Town Hall and include all required supporting documentation.
4. Your application will be brought to Council by Town Staff.
5. The Town Staff will notify you if your application received final approval. If it did then you can commence work.
6. Apply for any building permits, if required.
7. Submit all receipts and have a final inspection once all work is complete.
8. The Town processes a cheque for the grant amount.
9. You receive the grant funding.

**Contact us if you have any questions!**

**Christian Kaiser**

**613-584-2000**

**[townmail@deeperiver.ca](mailto:townmail@deeperiver.ca)**

