



Town of Vegreville
Economic Development & Tourism
780-632-3891
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Business Revitalization Program – (C1) Small Commercial

Overview

The purpose of this program is to encourage and provide (C1 zoned) business the opportunity to improve and/or update the appearance of their business. Applicants can apply for a rebate of 20% up to a maximum of \$2,000 per business location for improvements to their commercial building. A minimum 20% of the work being completed must be devoted to the building frontage.

Examples (1) \$10,000 of Improvements excluding G.S.T. Rebate 20% = \$2,000
(2) \$ 8,000 of Improvements excluding G.S.T. Rebate 20% = \$1,600

- A. The funds for this program are intended to improve the **physical appearance** of existing commercially zoned buildings in Vegreville. All applicants must review the eligibility criteria on the funding application to confirm if they qualify for the revitalization program. Applications for new projects will be accepted from April 1 to October 31, 2017 with all work to be completed and submitted by December 1, 2017. This program does not apply to new commercial construction or home-based businesses.
- B. **Applications will be reviewed by a committee** of the Vegreville Economic Development & Tourism Advisory Board (VEDTAB). Businesses within the downtown core (zoned C1) are considered to be the priority. However; if there are sufficient dollars remaining by September 30, 2017 applications may be accepted for commercially zoned businesses outside the downtown core.
- C. One application annually per business.
- D. As an option, once applications are approved by the committee, the applicant has the opportunity to apply for a Community Futures loan to cover costs of the improvements.

Eligible improvements to a business in Vegreville must comply with the current Vegreville Land Use By-law 02-2013.

Eligible Improvements include, but not limited to the following:

- Painting
- Flooring (carpet, laminate, tile, hardwood)
- Shelving/cabinetry
- Light fixtures
- Permanent signage on the front/exterior locations (in accordance with the Land-use bylaw) i.e. blade signs/canopy signs
- Exterior windows / door replacement

- Building frontage including trim, fascia, siding, brickwork, etc.
- Eligible areas must be for public use (example not staff rooms)

Improvements and/or repairs NOT eligible for this program include:

- Furnace or hot water
- Heater/utility upgrades/replacement
- Sidewalk upgrades
- Replacement of structural wall
- Plumbing or electrical upgrades (anything behind the walls)
- Appliances
- Development permits
- Inspection fees

Responsibilities

APPLICANT

- 1) Upon receipt of an application the following must be submitted prior to approval; full project description, at least two estimates on work to be completed, proof of proper permits and other verifications, total estimate of costs for Community Futures Elk Island Region loan application applicable rebate amount.
- 2) Applicant must provide copies of all invoices – as proof of completed work at the end of the contract to receive the 20% cash back. Total determination will be based on actual costs, not initial estimates and will not exceed 20% of the total project, to a maximum of \$2000.00.
- 3) All permit based work must be approved by the Development Authority before the project is classified as complete.
- 4) If any work is to be done without a contractor, then itemized cost details, must be provided. (Example: Owner painting)
- 5) If applicant is a tenant (lessee) written approval from the landlord/owner must be received granting permission for any and all work to be completed.
- 6) As per development permits, any work requiring inspection, must be approved upon completion as per Development Permit requirements.
- 7) Applications are not considered approved confirmation/rejection is received.

BUSINESS REVIATLIZATION COMMITTEE

Committee comprises of:

- 1) Three (3) VEDTAB members
- 2) One (1) Vegreville and District Chamber of Commerce board member
- 3) One (1) Community Futures Elk Island Region board member

Committee will:

- 1) Will review all applications
- 2) Will refer any appropriate loan applications to Community Futures Elk Island Region
- 3) Will notify all applications in writing of rebate status

Thank you for your submission.

For questions or clarifications of this program, please contact:

Economic Development & Tourism at 780-632-3891 or ecdev@vegreville.com