



Municipality of the District of Argyle

Item: Food insecurity presentations

Date: June 23, 2025

Vision statement

Argyle is the community of choice to invest, live and play.

Mission statement

Argyle invests time & talent in growth opportunities in fishing, tourism, and renewable energy sectors.

Argyle provides affordable taxation while providing safe and healthy communities and strives to engage and inform our residents on decisions that affect them most.

Argyle provides high class, accessible recreational and cultural facilities and helps celebrate its unique heritage and culture and welcomes new residents to our region.

Suggested motions:

Move that staff create policy to expand funding options in support of food insecurity for our residents.

If the current social aid funding is sufficient, motion to deny funding requests from participating organizations.

Background:

Council received three presentations from three different organizations, all of which looking for assistance from the municipality to address food insecurity in our region. All three organizations are located outside the municipality but serve residents or schools in the municipality. Recently, Council approved the repeal of our emergency fund policy, in favor of social aid organizations in our community. The Council decision was to set aside \$4,000 per year. Transfers to non-profit organizations for charitable purposes is allowable under the MGA.

The food insecurity requests were twofold, to increase their outreach and to request assistance. Two of the requests did not go through grants to organizations process. We do not have a policy to support this type of funding outside of the grants to organizations, and a motion to support \$4,000 per year to Social Aid.

There is demand for this type of assistance, based on the presentations and discussions with local social aid organizations. Should the Council wish to do more, there is no shortage in ways that the municipality can assist in addressing food insecurity.

MGA considerations:

Eligible under section 65 AU of the Act, contributions would have to be published in local paper.

Financial considerations:

Additional support would require new policy development. A motion alone would be contrary to policy. The development of policy on funding food insecurity would take requests of this nature out of grants to organizations, and council could allocate an annual budget line.

Should council wish to increase funding in this area, this would be the recommended course of action. Within the policy, council could list the types of organisations that would qualify, amount and other details.

Should council wish to continue funding local social aid groups, a denial of funding is in order for this year. Organizations of this sort would compete for grant funding with other non-profit groups in the future.