Municipality of East Ferris

Report to Council

Report No.: COMM-2026-10 Date: September 8, 2026

Originator: Greg Kirton, Director of Community Services

Subject: Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) Grant Playground RFP

RECOMMENDATION

That Council awards the contract for the supply and installation of two new playground structures at MacPherson Park and Hillside Park to Blue Imp in the amount of $195,297.00+HST as per their submission to the municipality's RFP process.

BACKGROUND

The development of pocket parks in smaller park locations around the municipality was identified as a priority through the Municipality of East Ferris Strategic Plan. The Municipality applied for funding through the Ontario Trillium Foundation and was successful and received $195,300.00. The new playground structures will meet all current CSA standards.

Staff issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the supply and installation of two new playground structures on Friday, July 24, 2026. The Municipality received two (2) submissions in response to the RFP, with both submissions meeting all requirements for complete submissions. The submissions were reviewed and graded on 6 criteria by the Director of Community Services and the Chief Administrative Officer. The criteria that were used to evaluate the submissions were price; experience and qualifications; play value and inclusive play; layout and circulation; durability; and work plan and schedule. The final scores of each submission were as follows:

Company	Score (out of 100)
Blue Imp	92
CRCS Recreation	88

Based on the evaluation of the RFP process, staff concluded that Blue Imp offers the best value to the municipality. The submission stood out through the varied play structures for multiple age groups and the general design and layout characteristics. The submission was within the allocated budget for the project.

OPTIONS

1. That Council awards the contract for the supply and installation of two new playground structures for MacPherson Park and Hillside Park to Blue Imp in the amount of $195,297.00+HST as per their submission to the municipality's RFP process.

2. That Council not award the contract for the supply and installation of park equipment at this time and issue a new RFP process seeking additional submissions.

3. That Council not award a contract for the new playgrounds and leave the existing sites as they are. This option is not recommended because it will result in the loss of the OTF funding that was allocated to this project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Municipality of East Ferris received funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation in the amount of $195,300.00. Through the application to OTF, the municipality estimated a total project cost of $238,470.73, which would require a municipal contribution of $43,170.73. Our application to OTF provided a breakdown using the $195,300.00 towards playground acquisition and installation costs with the additional municipal contribution being required to additional site work for access and parking, seating, garbage cans and other ancillary costs.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council awards the contract for the supply and installation of two new playground structures at MacPherson Park and Hillside Park to Blue Imp in the amount of $195,297.00+HST, as per their submission to the municipality's RFP process.

Respectfully Submitted,



Greg Kirton, RPP, MCIP
Director of Community Services

I concur with this report,
and recommendation



Jason H. Trottier, HBBA, MPA, CPA, CMA
CAO/Treasurer