

9. GRANT REQUEST
REDEEMER CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION AS AMENDED

That Council consider a grant request from Redeemer Christian High School as described in the joint report dated 8 Jan 98 from the Regional Clerk and Regional Solicitor.

DOCUMENTATION:

1. Regional Clerk and Regional Solicitor's report dated 8 Jan 98 is immediately attached.
2. Extract of Draft Minute, Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee meeting of 03 Feb 98 follows the report and includes a record of all votes.

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF OTTAWA CARLETON
MUNICIPALITÉ RÉGIONALE D'OTTAWA CARLETON

REPORT
RAPPORT

Our File/N/Réf. A.1.7.1.11
Your File/V/Réf.

DATE 8 January 1998

TO/DEST. Co-ordinator,
Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee

FROM/EXP. Regional Clerk
Regional Solicitor

SUBJECT/OBJET **GRANT REQUEST
REDEEMER CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL**

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION

That the Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee recommend Regional Council decline to make a grant to Redeemer Christian High School with respect to the Regional Development Charges applicable to the 1997 construction of a gym.

BACKGROUND

Redeemer Christian High School is a private school operated by The Community for Christian Learning Association of Ottawa, a charitable organisation. Originally operated out of leased facilities, the school purchased a site at 82 Colonnade Road in 1997. The school applied for and received a building permit to construct a 4,032 square foot extension for a gym. The applicable regional development charges for this extension were \$5,242.00. This amount has been paid. The school however is requesting a grant by the Region in the amount of the applicable Regional Development Charges.

REGIONAL COUNCIL POLICY

Attached as Annex "A" to this report is the documentation filed by the school with the Committee in support of its request for a grant. This grant request does not come within the established programs by Regional Council for the making of grants. In order to deal with such grant requests, Regional Council established through Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee Report 20, Item 2 a grant review process. A copy of the policy is attached as Annex "B" to this report. Grant requests are only to be considered in exceptional circumstances. The criteria for consideration for a grant request outside the budget process or granting programs are as follows:

The grant must:

- i) provide extraordinary benefits to Ottawa-Carleton;
- ii) be of a one-time nature;
- iii) have solid support from other funders; and
- iv) be a viable and clearly defined project.

In addition, in the covering report on all Regional grants, Council carried the following recommendation:

- 7a) That Grants and Purchase of Service agreements only be considered if they are for programs that a clearly defined Regional responsibility;

It is to be noted that meeting the criteria does not entitle the organisation making the request to a grant.

DISCUSSION

The grant request by Redeemer Christian High School has been reviewed by the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, and representatives of the Regional Clerk's and Legal Departments. It is the opinion of staff that the grant request fails to qualify under the Regional criteria.

Firstly, the provision of education is a role assigned to the province, the district school boards and private entities rather than the Regional Corporation. While all citizens and organisations in Ottawa-Carleton have an interest in education, the funding of this important responsibility does not fall within the ambit of Regional government.

Secondly, while the success of Redeemer Christian High School will be a benefit to Ottawa-Carleton, in order to meet the first criteria for grant requests outside of the normal process, the result of making the grant must be a benefit that is out of the ordinary for an expenditure of the amount requested. In this regard, staff note that Redeemer Christian High School is one of several private schools in the Ottawa-Carleton area. In addition, any other charitable or not-for-profit entity, other than a place of worship, is required to pay regional development charges. It is the opinion of staff that necessity to show an extraordinary benefit is also not met by this grant request. Staff therefore recommend that Council decline to grant the \$5,242.00 requested.

Approved by
M. J. Woollam

Approved by
J. Douglas Cameron

TCM/MJW/JDC



REDEEMER

Christian High School

Community for Christian Learning

2199 REGENCY TERRACE
OTTAWA, ONTARIO
K2C 1H2

TEL: (613) 721-7142
FAX: (613) 721-8233

Derek Maggs
Principal

ANNEX "A"

August 5, 1997

Corporate Services & Economic Development Committee
Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton
111 Lisgar Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K2P 2L7

Dear Committee Members:

I am writing to apply for a grant toward the cost of the Regional development charges that Redeemer Christian High School has paid for in the construction of an addition to our facilities.

Background

Redeemer Christian High School is operated by The Community for Christian Learning Association of Ottawa. Over the past twenty-three years Redeemer has served the Christian community in the region and has enrolled students from many different denominations. More detailed information on the school can be found in the enclosed profile.

Until now, the school has operated out of leased facilities. In March 1997, a property at 82 Colonnade Road was purchased and Redeemer applied for a permit to build a 4,032 sq. ft. extension for a gym. Initially we were led to believe, since we are a charitable, not for profit organization, exempt from paying property taxes, we would be exempt from paying the development charge. We were subsequently advised that the Regional development charge will be \$5,242.00 and have paid this amount.

Mr. Gordon Hunter, Regional Councillor, on our behalf, checked with the Regional Finance Department and was advised that as a private school there is no provision under the regional by-law for an exemption from the development charges. However, Council could assist the school with a grant toward the cost of the development charges and an application for this grant would have to be made to your Committee.

Basis for support

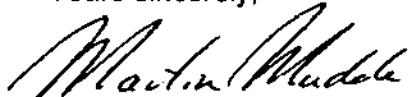
1. Redeemer Christian High School is a not for profit, charitable organization that does not receive any public funding to carry out its program. Therefore, every student enrolled at Redeemer and not in a public high school actually saves property taxes for regional tax payers by reducing the cost of public schools.

Redeemer over the past twenty-three years has served a broad cross section of the regional community.

- Geographically students come in from all parts of the region.
 - Over 12 different denominations are represented in Redeemer's student body, teachers and membership.
 - Redeemer's objective is to serve members in our community at all income levels. For this reason tuition is based on the family's income (11% of total family income) and families pay the same amount for one or more children.
3. The school's academic program is recognized by the Ministry of Education & Training and many Colleges and Universities. Our co-op program is also well received by the business community.

We appreciate your consideration of our application and would be pleased to meet with you to discuss this request. I can be reached at 722-2222 (work) or 728-0154 (home).

Yours sincerely,



Martin Mudde
Building Committee

c.c. Mr. Peter Clark, Regional Chair
 Mr. Gord Hunter, Regional Councillor

PROFILE

Cooperating to Educate in Ottawa

When Christian parents banded together in Canada's capital to form a Christian high school in 1975, they named their organization and school the Community for Christian Learning. The school is now called Redeemer Christian High School, but the emphasis on community and Christian learning continues.

The staff and student body come from several denominations and various rural and urban locations. The principal works closely with the 10 other secondary schools that are members of the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools in order to discuss the mission of these schools and to set goals for improvement.

A cooperative attitude carries over into the student body. Several students serve as peer counselors to help solve problems arising between students and to provide tutoring. Two students serve as nonvoting members of the education committee and are valued for their input. The school makes its entire computer network available for student use during lunch hours and after school. And the student body is supporting a disadvantaged child through World Vision.

"Redeemer School nurtures students to think critically, to respond ethically, and to love compassionately," says principal Derek Maggs. "Teachers work hard at integrating a Christian worldview in their teaching and in encouraging students to think and act in a manner that reflects Christ." In addition to a traditional curriculum, students take a

Bible course that includes a service project. A majority of the students study French for four years. A full range of interscholastic and intramural sports, educational trips, and drama and interest clubs are offered. This is a singing school; nearly 70 percent of the students participate in the school choir.

Although the school has a distinctly Christian foundation for its teaching, it submits its curriculum annually to the Ontario Ministry of Education for review. In return the school can present to graduating seniors both its own diploma and that of the province.

The school seeks to promote the lordship of Christ in all areas of life, including the society around it. Two students prepared and presented a brief to the Ontario Royal Commission on Education regarding funding for private schools. Tenth graders are involved each year in a community project of their choice. The school's liturgical dance team participated along with thousands of other Christians in the Ottawa March for Jesus. And the boys' volleyball team won



Redeemer's liturgical dancers march for Jesus in Ottawa.

Redeemer Christian High School

Ottawa, Ontario

School opened: 1975

Students: 100

Teachers: 7 full-time, 2 part-time

Tuition charge: 12 percent of gross income (\$4,000 min., \$8,500 max.)

Annual budget: \$459,600

Principal: Derek Maggs



the city championship in May.

This year the school is offering co-operative education for students looking for on-the-job experience. Students receive two credits for training and working in any of a large number of work opportunities outside the school. The program provides in-class preparation for the work site, and students analyze their work experiences with their teachers and peers as the year progresses.

Redeemer School faces financial challenges. Tuition is a set percentage of the parents' income, so tuition income drops when the economy is down (as does financial support from the business community). The school is using all of the facilities that it rents from the local school board and is looking for a larger building. Given its history, this community for Christian learning will find solutions cooperatively.

RMOC GRANTS REVIEW

Grant Requests Received Outside the Budget Process or Granting Programs

Grant requests received by Regional staff, committees and elected representatives outside the budget review process or an approved grants program are not encouraged. However, in exceptional circumstances requests will be considered if the grant:

- i) will provide extraordinary benefits to Ottawa-Carleton
- ii) is of a one-time nature
- iii) has solid support from other funders
- iv) is a viable and clearly defined project.

Applications are to be submitted to the Regional Clerk's Office for initial eligibility review using the following checklist:

- Finance Department can identify an appropriate funding source
- meets the Region's Grant Criteria
- is a new project, as applications which have been submitted previously to a Regional Grant Program will not be considered
- is a project grant not a request for Purchase of service funds
- only projects that fall outside of the formal Regional Grants Program are eligible; others will be redirected to the next funding application deadline.

If deemed eligible the request will be forwarded to a recommendation panel made up of the following members:

- CAO (or designate)
- Staff representative, of the grant related Department
- A representative from one other Regional Department as appointed by the CAO.

Applications will be forwarded to the appropriate Standing Committee for consideration.

The Regional Clerk will notify applicants of the final decision within one month.

Applicants may submit a Right of Reconsideration to the recommendation panel.

Extract of Draft Minute
Corporate Services and
Economic Development Committee
03 February 1998

GRANT REQUEST
REDEEMER CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

- Regional Clerk and Regional Solicitor's report dated 8 Jan 98

The Committee heard from Mr. M. Mudde, a representative of the Redeemer Christian High School. He submitted that the request for a grant to cover the Regional Development Charges paid by the school for the construction of a gymnasium meets the criteria of the Region's policy regarding Grant Requests Received Outside the Budget Process or Granting Programs in the following manner:

- every student enrolled at the school is not in the public system, therefore the cost of public schools is reduced;
- other groups benefit from the facility: the Nepean Soccer Club, senior citizens' groups;
- the request is of a one-time nature;
- the request has the support of the community and of church members.

Mr. Mudde said he felt that, while education is not a regional responsibility, the grant request was worthy of consideration.

Councillor G. Hunter put forward a Motion calling for the amount of RDCs paid to be reimbursed to Redeemer Christian High School through a grant. He said the case had been made that the project meets the criteria of the aforementioned grants process . He added that a project such as this falls between the cracks of the RDC by-law as it had not been a consideration that private schools would be affected by development charges.

Councillor M. Meilleur asked for clarification about tuition costs. Mr. Mudde replied that tuition is based on 11% of the total family income; families in the lower income bracket can receive assistance. In reply to a question from Chair R. Chiarelli, Mr. Mudde indicated over 100 students are currently enrolled in the school.

Moved by G. Hunter

That a grant of \$5,242, equal to the Regional Development Charges paid for the gymnasium expansion be paid to the Redeemer Christian High School.

LOST

YEAS: G. Hunter, A. Loney, R. van den Ham, R. Chiarelli
NAYS: D. Beamish, R. Cantin, P. Hume, M. Meilleur

Extract of Draft Minute
Corporate Services and
Economic Development Committee
03 February 1998

Moved by P. Hume

That the Corporate Services and Economic Development Committee recommend Regional Council decline to make a grant to Redeemer Christian High School with respect to the Regional Development Charges applicable to the 1997 construction of a gym.

LOST

YEAS: D. Beamish, R. Cantin, P. Hume, M. Meilleur
NAYS: G. Hunter, A. Loney, R. van den Ham, R. Chiarelli