**The objective of the Façade Improvement Grant (FIG) program is to restore, sustain, and improve commercial properties located within the City of North Battleford.**

The proposed façade improvement must meet the specific property criteria outlined in the Façade Improvement Program Guidelines, and its purpose is to improve and enhance the 'cosmetic' appeal of the structure from a streetscape viewpoint.

The program is intended to: • Enhance the appearance and appeal of downtown buildings while creating a positive impact on surrounding businesses.

• Strengthen the public realm and make downtown streets more welcoming to increase foot traffic.

• Help building owners attract and retain tenants. Attractive, well-designed, and clean facades can increase the number of first-time customers.

• Leverage public funding to catalyze private investment. Improvements may include new cladding, architectural features, lighting, signage, weather protection and upgrades to improve accessibility.

Two options for façade improvements are available:

• Comprehensive Façade Improvement Grant. Comprehensive projects are intended to support significant improvements to the key façades. Projects must: Include four (4) or more elements from the list on page 10.

Improve the entirety of the key façade(s) (i.e., piecemeal improvements are not eligible). • Simple Façade Improvement Grant. Simple projects are intended to support less significant upgrades and/or improvements to only portions of key façades. For example, improvements to only a single storefront in a multitenant building. Projects must: Include one (1) or more elements from the list on page 10

**For façade projects, the following costs are also eligible**:

• Painting and new cladding.

• New or restored exterior architectural features.

• New or restored masonry and brickwork

• New windows.

• New doors.

• Creating new or reconfigured entrances or storefronts (excluding additions).

• New or replacement of awnings and canopies, including those that enhance the main entrance.

• New or replacement accessibility features, including ramps, handrails and automated doors.

• New or upgraded exterior lighting.

• New signage that enhances the main entrance (located on a facade and allowed by the Land Use Bylaw)

• Flowerpots, window boxes, hanging baskets and similar items.

• Façade cleaning or power washing.

**The following costs are not eligible:**

• Costs associated with time and/or labour performed directly by the applicant.

• Work considered to be routine maintenance.

• Incidental costs, such as gas, tools (purchases) or other consumables.

• Insurance and warranty.

• Non-specific costs, including profit and contingencies.

• Cost overruns or changes to the project scope that have not been pre-approved.

• Costs associated with window treatments, including tinted, mirrored or windows. Exceptions may be made for Restricted Commercial uses and others uses, at the discretion of the Municipality. A pre-application meeting is strongly recommended.

• Vinyl wraps, security bars and rolling shutters on windows or doors.

• Structural repairs.

• Roof repairs or replacements.

• Landscaping, paving or fencing (please see the Premises Improvement Grant)

• Interior improvements (please see the Interior Improvements Grant)

• Façades on new buildings, additions and accessory buildings

KEY DATES AND TIMELINE:

• Complete applications must be received on or before 4:30 PM on May 31st, 2023

• Projects must complete construction within 12 months of the date on the executed agreement