



## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: April 26, 2016  
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Meeting Date: June 1, 2016

TO: Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities  
FROM: Chief License Inspector  
SUBJECT: Animal Welfare Grant 2016

### **RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council approve a total of \$10,600 in Animal Welfare Grants to three organizations as listed below. Source of funds is the 2016 Operating budget for Animal Welfare Grants.

1. Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary for \$4550
2. Small Animal Rescue Society of British Columbia for \$4550
3. TnT Sharpei Rescue for \$1500

### **REPORT SUMMARY**

The animal welfare grant provides financial aid to registered non-profit organizations that support Animal Services in delivering specialized care for animals that are unable to be housed in the City's Animal Shelter. The City has allocated \$10,600 per year to help support not profit rescues and societies. It is recommended that grant funds totalling \$10,600 be dispersed to the three organizations listed above. The City received a total of 5 grant applications requesting funds in the amount of \$30,000 to \$35,000 which is consistent with previous years.

### **COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS**

The approval of the Animal Welfare Grant requires eight affirmative votes of Council

## ***CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS***

The City Manager and General Manager of Community Services recommend approval of the foregoing recommendation.

## ***REPORT***

### ***Background/Context***

On June 28, 2007, Council approved the Application Process and Form for animal-related grant applications for 2008 and future years for animal-related grant applications. The amount of funds dedicated to animal-related applications for 2016 total \$10,600

### ***Eligibility and Review Criteria***

To be eligible for the Animal Welfare Grant, the successful applicant must be a registered non-profit society that serves the City of Vancouver. The organization must extend its services to the general public in the City of Vancouver, and may not exclude anyone by reason of religion, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, language, disability or income. Societies must be in good standing with the Registrar of Companies, financially stable with sound administration, and have a proven track record of public service. Further, the organization must meet the minimum standard of care as set out by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) Companion Animal Welfare Position Statement.

<http://www.sPCA.bc.ca/assets/documents/welfare/position-statements/companion-animal-welfare.pdf>)

The organization that receives an Animal Welfare Grant must agree to certain conditions. Specifically, these are to allow occasional visits from City staff to ensure compliance with standards of care and accountability. All of these rescues have been inspected by Vancouver Animal Services Staff who support the issuance of the grant funding. In addition, the successful applicant must agree to submit a brief report at the end of the grant's term identifying direct and indirect outcomes from the Animal Welfare Grant.

Upon meeting the eligibility criteria the organizations application will be assessed considering financial need and the degree to which the organization supports the operation and objectives of Animal Services.

### ***Strategic Analysis***

Staff contacted and informed several organizations that were eligible for animal-related grants to submit applications to City by February 29, 2016. Five applications were received with total funding request of \$30,680 74 as summarized in Table 1.0. Additional information on each applicant's request can be found in Appendix A.

Table 1.0

Organization	Purpose	Requested Amount	Recommended Amount
Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Purchase wireless security system for premises</li> <li>▪ Purchase security window coverings for premises and install full spectrum lighting</li> <li>▪ Replace and upgrade current plumbing in premises</li> </ul>	\$10,381	\$4550
Small Animal Rescue Society of BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spay &amp; neuter 33 rabbits and 6 small animals</li> <li>▪ Community Outreach funding specifically for the DTES hoarding issues</li> </ul>	\$10,000	\$4550
TnT Sharpei Rescue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cover medical costs of VAS's dog as well as other dogs in need of medical treatment</li> <li>▪ Attend community outreach to promote Canadian Rescue</li> </ul>	\$3000	\$1500
HugABull Advocacy & Rescue Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fund outreach events including staff time, equipment purchases, facility rentals and spay/neuter vouchers</li> </ul>	\$3300	\$0
Vancouver Orphan Kitten Rescue Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Construct "out of cage" space in Operation Centre that can be reconfigured as needed for socialization and working with cats with behavioural issues</li> </ul>	\$4000	\$0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,681</b>	<b>\$10,600</b>

***Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)***

***Financial***

Source of funds for the recommended grants is the 2016 Operating Budget for Animal Welfare Grants.

**CONCLUSION**

Each of the organizations applying for grant funding is of value to the City of Vancouver as they provide services and assistance at times when the City's Animal Services may be unable to care or shelter for certain animals. While we are unable to provide grants to all the applicants we do recognize the important and extremely beneficial work they do. Although, the amount of funding available for animal-related applications is not sufficient to cover the total amount of grant requests from each organization, staff recommend that Council allocate grants totalling \$10,600 to the three organizations outlined in the Recommendation of this administrative report.

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### **Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary**

Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary was founded in 1998 as a safe haven for parrots that are injured orphaned, abused, neglected and abandoned in Metro Vancouver. Its mission is to enhance the quality of life for parrots in Metro Vancouver by offering a refuge for abandoned, abused and unwanted birds; providing medical treatments and professional avian veterinary services; placing birds into permanent loving homes and educating current and potential bird owners of the special needs that parrots require to live a long healthy and happy life. Over the past 15 years, Greyhaven has taken in and found new adoptive homes for more than 2,700 parrots. In 2015 Greyhaven took in approximately 42 exotic birds from the Animal Services Shelter.

Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary is seeking a \$10,380.74 grant to support on-going care and rehabilitation efforts. Funds will be used to improve sheltering in the large bird area, which includes plumbing repairs and upgrades, Full Spectrum Lighting, a wireless security system and security shades for the windows on the back half of the premises.

### **Small Animal Rescue Society of BC (SARS)**

SARS BC was established in 2004 and is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and re-homing of homeless or unwanted small animals throughout the province. SARS BC works with the SPCA locations and all municipal animal shelters across the province to provide assistance and education to shelters, their staff and their volunteers. SARS BC houses animals that traditional shelters are not able to care for, which include rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, gerbils, mice, rats, degus, chinchillas and hedgehogs. SARS BC also has a community outreach program that provides food or vet care for those who are unable to provide for their animals but do provide a loving home. Other programs include adoption and fostering programs, advocacy and humane education and educational opportunities for elementary schools and colleges. In 2015 SARS took in an approximate 70 small animals from the Animal Services Shelter. Without these placements these animals would either linger in the shelter for adoption or would have to be euthanized since the shelter is not adequately set up to house and care for animals other than dogs.

SARS BC is requesting a grant of \$10,000 to provide funding for their community outreach program, specifically in the DTES with hoarding situations and the spaying and neutering of 33 rabbits and 6 small animals that are currently waiting for surgery.

### **TnT Sharpei Rescue**

TnT Sharpei Rescue was founded in 1999 as a breed specific rescue targeting Sharpei dogs in shelters and in situations of cruelty and neglect. Sharpei Dogs are known to have skin as well as other medical issues that can progress very quickly if not given the correct care. TnT Sharpei Rescues these dogs and provides them with the medical and dietary care needed. Once the dogs are in good health they are placed into adoptive homes. All of TnT Sharpei Rescues dogs are housed in foster homes while receiving treatment. In 2015 TnT Sharpei Rescue took a dog from the Vancouver Animal Services that came in as a stray dog. This animal had extensive skin issues as well as other health concerns. TnT Sharpei Rescue was aware of this when they took the dog and made every effort to help him heal. Unfortunately,

after several months in TnT Sharpei Rescue's care the dog passed away due to the extent of his medical issues.

TnT Sharpei Rescue is requesting a \$3000 grant to help cover the costs of the medical care provided to VAS's dog as well as to continue helping other Sharpei dogs with medical needs as well as to continue attending community events promoting Canadian Rescue.

### **HugABull Advocacy & Rescue Society**

HugABull Advocacy & rescue Society is a volunteer-run organization that is based in Vancouver and serves the province of BC. They work with local shelters to take bull breed dogs out of the shelter system and into foster care. They work to educate the public about responsible dog ownership of all breeds. This includes education, training support, community events and outreach to low-income or high-risk communities. In 2015 HugABull cross-posted a couple of Vancouver Animal Services dogs to help give more exposure to them for adoption options. HugABull wants to focus on outreach events in Vancouver communities where residents may be in particular need of education around humane dog training and care. Topics include humane equipment and training methods, spay/neuter and basic vet care, tutorials on common training considerations like loose leash walking, dog and child interactions and other identified area where simple interventions can greatly improve the quality of life for dog and guardian.

HugABull Advocacy & Rescue Society is requesting grant of \$3300 to help fund outreach events including staff time, purchasing supplies, facility rentals and spay/neuter vouchers.

### **Vancouver Orphan Kitten Rescue Association (VOKRA)**

VOKRA's mission is to end cat overpopulation and homelessness. They rescue cats, heal and care for them in their network of foster homes and operation centre, ultimately matching them to loving homes. VOKRA was formed in 2000 and has made huge strides in the feral cat populations in Vancouver with their trap, neuter, release (TNR) program. They also help with a spay/neuter assistance program, public education program, feral cat program and Pre-natal, natal and orphan program. In 2015 VOKRA was able to help Vancouver Animal Services by taking in an elderly diabetic cat that was left homeless after its owner passed away.

VOKRA is requesting grant of \$4000 to help fund the construction of some "out of cage" space in the Operation Centre for cats to be socialized and work with cats that have behavioural issues. This wall needs to be movable to allow reconfiguration of space as needed.