



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: June 1, 2017
Contact: Margeret Specht
Contact No.: 604.871.6842
RTS No.: 12034
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: June 13, 2017

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: Vancouver Commemorates Canada 150+ Grant Allocations

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approve two Canada 150+ Grants totaling \$40,000 as outlined in the body of this report; the source of funds is the Cultural Tourism Reserve Fund (CTRF).
- B. THAT the grants be subject to each grant recipient agreeing to the terms and conditions as generally outlined in this report and on grant agreement terms satisfactory to the Director of Special Projects and the City Solicitor.
- C. THAT no legal rights or obligations are created by the approval of the Recommendations A and B above unless and until grant agreement letters are executed and delivered by the grant recipients: International Dragon Boat Festival Society and the Pulling Together Canoe Society.

Approval of Recommendation A constitutes a grant and therefore requires an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all of Council pursuant to Section 206(1) of the Vancouver Charter.

REPORT SUMMARY

This report recommends two grants totalling \$40,000 to two not-for-profit organizations that are overseeing significant canoe projects that are part of the Canada 150+ Signature Events: Gathering of Canoes and the Drum is Calling Festival.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

On January 24, 2017 Council received informational updates about Canada 150+ finances, operations, project milestones, and programming highlights.

On March 8, 2016, Council approved the Strengthening our Relations: Vancouver Commemorates Canada 150+ framework which authorized staff to draw from the Cultural Tourism Reserve Fund to engage necessary personnel, partners and contractors.

On January 19, 2016, Council directed staff work planning to use the opportunity of Canada's 150 anniversary as a time for Indigenous recognition and celebration with all Vancouverites.

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager recommends approval of recommendations A to C to implement two canoe projects that are part of Canada 150+ Signature Events and support the City of Reconciliation Work Program and Cultural Tourism Strategy.

REPORT

Background/Context

Strengthening our Relations: Vancouver Commemorates Canada 150+ is a year-long cultural project of Vancouver's City of Reconciliation work program. Canada 150+ is focused in particular on building cultural competency, strengthening relations with the Host Nations and Urban Aboriginal community, and promoting Aboriginal Peoples, arts, culture, awareness, and understanding. It is doing so by programming three Canada 150+ Signature Events, supporting city-wide Affiliated events, and promoting Indigenous Associated community events.

To achieve key outcomes in our Canada 150+ measures—strengthened relations—all Canada 150+ activities are enriched with extensive Indigenous and non-Indigenous community partnerships. The two recommended grantees noted in this report share the Canada 150+ values of mutual respect and trust, and are working on individual but compatible canoe projects that strengthen Indigenous and non-Indigenous participation, cooperation and cultural reconciliation.

The volunteer-run **Pulling Together Canoe Society** evolved out of the 1997 Vision Quest Canoe Journey that journeyed down BC's West Coast. Envisioned as an opportunity for both healing and reconciliation, the Vision Quest journey brought together RCMP officers and First Nation peoples. Now held annually since 2001 under the leadership of the Pulling Together Canoe Society, the journey travels different waterways each year and cooperates with different BC First Nations. In this way, the journey builds reconciliation from a grass roots level and strengthens future relations. In 2017, the City of Vancouver, the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh (Host Nations) First Nations and the Pulling Together Canoe Society are collaborating on a Canada 150+ Signature Event on July 14th at Vancouver's Vanier and Hadden Parks. The

Gathering of Canoes will see up to 30 canoes—with First Nations, Public Service Agencies and youth paddlers—will request permission to land on the traditional Homelands of the Host Nations.

Funding will allow the pullers and their supporters safely to participate in the Vancouver-based ceremony and celebration activities; it will support journey administration expenses, engagement and planning with the three Host Nations, offset registration fees, and provide healthy food for youth participants.

The **Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society** has engaged Musqueam Master Carver Dickie Louis to lead Aboriginal and at-risk youth to build a dugout canoe at the Musqueam Nation. The canoe carving is part of a larger **C-15 Canoe Project** takes place from January to July 2017. Project goals are to build practical skills and enhance cultural learning for First Nations youth and other participants. Together, participants are boat-making and paddle carving as part of a work experience project that will see the creation of three new C-15 Canoes, which will be a legacy for the Dragon Boat Festival. In July 2017, carvers, youth and the in-process dugout canoe will move from the Musqueam Nation to the Drum is Calling Festival site to demonstrate their work to festival guests.

Funding will support the Master Carver's compensation, materials for paddle carving and cedar hat weaving, fees to schedule and manage the on-site youth carvers, and the expenses to transport the canoe(s) to and from the festival venue.

Strategic Analysis

In keeping with standard presenting arrangements, the grants to both the Pulling Together Canoe Society and the Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society will be set out terms that are approved by the Director of Special Projects in the grant agreement that is reviewed and approved on behalf of the City by the Director of Legal Services.

Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)

Financial

This report recommends one-time grants of \$20,000 each to the Pulling Together Canoe Society and the Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society—both for significant canoe projects that are part of two Canada 150+ Signature Events. The source of funds is the Cultural Tourism Reserve Fund (CTRF).

Organization	Project Title	Recomm. Amt
Pulling Together Canoe Society	Gathering of Canoes	\$20,000
Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society	C-15 Canoe Project	\$20,000
Total Allocation from CTRF		\$40,000

On March 8, 2016 (RTS 11325), Council granted authorization to staff to draw from the Cultural Tourism Reserve Fund to engage necessary personnel, partners and contractors to execute Canada 150+ operations and programming.

The recommended grants are aligned with the Canada 150+ financial directives to seek cost sharing opportunities with sponsors and partners in order to meet our cash and in-kind budget targets.

Final accounting of the draw of Canada 150+ expenses from the Cultural Tourism Reserve Fund will be presented to Council as part of a January 2018 report back on the 2016-2017 City of Reconciliation work.

Legal

As set out in Recommendations A to C, the legal terms and conditions of the grant will be set out in grant agreement letters, to be signed by the City and the grant recipients.

CONCLUSION

As a City situated on the unceded Homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations, and as a City of Reconciliation, the City of Vancouver has taken significant action to advance its commitment to use Canada's 150th year to build a stronger relationship among Indigenous peoples and all Canadians and forge a common future between all Vancouverites. Support for these grantees will be a critical step towards this long-term goal of strengthened Indigenous and non-Indigenous relations.

* * * * *