



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: November 21, 2017
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Meeting Date: November 29, 2017

TO: Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities
FROM: General Manager of Community Services
SUBJECT: 2017 Social Policy and Other Grants for Neighbourhood Based Projects

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approve two Childcare Program Stabilization grants, four Childcare Research, Policy Development and Innovation grants and three Childcare Program Development grants, totalling \$73,432 to the organizations listed in Appendix A of this report. Source of funding is the *2017 Childcare Operating Grant* budget.
- B. THAT Council approve seven Hastings Legacy Fund grants, totalling \$120,000 to the organizations listed in Appendix B of this report. Source of funding is the Hastings Social Responsibility Reserve.
- C. THAT Council approve nine Social Policy Capital grants, totalling \$100,000, to the organizations listed in Appendix C of this report. Source of funding is the 2017 Social Policy Small Capital Grant budget.
- D. THAT Council approve one grant of \$80,000 to the Strathcona Community Centre Association's community breakfast program. Source of funding is the 2017 Community Services Operating Grants budget.
- E. THAT Council approve one Social Responsibility grant of \$50,000 to Eastside Movement for Business and Economic Renewal Society (EMBERS) to operate the low-barrier income generating hub - the Lux. Source of funding is the Edgewater Casino Social Responsibility Reserve.
- F. THAT Council authorize the General Manager of Community Services to negotiate and execute agreements to disperse the grants described in Recommendations A and B on the terms and conditions set out herein or such

other terms and conditions as are satisfactory to the General Manager of Community Services and Director of Legal Services.

- G. THAT no legal rights or obligations will arise or be created by Council's adoption of Recommendations A through B unless and until all legal documentation has been executed and delivered by the respective parties.

Recommendations A through E require 2/3 affirmative votes of all Council members per Vancouver Charter s. 206(1).

REPORT SUMMARY

This report recommends a total of 27 social grants to registered non-profit organizations in the amount of \$423,432 (Table 1) that will:

- Further the City's goals in supporting accessible, high quality childcare by supporting the creation of new licensed school age care spaces, fostering improved early childhood educator practice, and assisting childcare centres dealing with financial instability;
- Build community capacity in Hastings Sunrise by supporting neighbourhood-based initiatives that engage area residents, businesses, schools and non-profit organizations in a range of projects and initiatives;
- Improve the safety and function of facilities housing programs that serve children, people facing severe barriers to employment, youth aging out of care, homeless and those at risk of homelessness, women and urban Aboriginal people;
- Expand opportunities for meaningful supported employment for those with barriers; and
- Support access to healthy, affordable food in one of the city's lowest-income neighbourhoods.

Grants align with Healthy City Strategy goals and engage a wide range of community partners in enhancing a vibrant community services sector in Vancouver.

Table 1: Summary of Recommended Social Grants in this Report

Grant Stream	Council Strategies Addressed	Healthy City Strategy Goals	# of Grants	Total Recommended Funding
Childcare Grants (Rec. A)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civic Child Care Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Good Start in Life: Vancouver's children have the best chance of enjoying a healthy childhood • Healthy Human Services: Vancouverites have equitable access to high-quality social, community, and health services 	9	\$73,432

Grant Stream	Council Strategies Addressed	Healthy City Strategy Goals	# of Grants	Total Recommended Funding
Hastings Legacy Fund Grants (Rec. B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting Inclusion, Belonging and Connectedness • Community Safety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being and Feeling Safe and Included: Vancouver is a safe city in which residents feel secure • Cultivating Connections: Vancouverites are connected and engaged in the places and spaces that matter to us • Collaborative Leadership for a healthy city for all: Leaders from the public, private, and civil sectors in Vancouver work in integrated and collaborative ways towards the vision of a healthy Vancouver for all 	7	\$120,000
Social Policy Capital Grants (Rec. C)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving Service Access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Good Start • Healthy Human Services: Vancouverites have equitable access to high-quality social, community, and health services. • Being and Feeling Safe and Included 	9	\$100,000
School Food Program (Rec. D)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting Inclusion, Belonging and Connectedness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feeding Ourselves Well: Vancouver has a healthy, just, and sustainable food system. • Cultivating Connections 	1	\$80,000
Neighbourhood Based Grants - Social Responsibility Fund (Rec. E)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting Inclusion, Belonging and Connectedness • Improving Service Access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making Ends Meet: Vancouverites have adequate income to cover the costs of basic necessities, and have access to a broad range of healthy employment opportunities. • Healthy Human Services • Cultivating Connections • Collaborative Leadership for a healthy city for all 	1	\$50,000
TOTAL			27	\$423,432

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Low-barrier income generating hub (The Lux) - In April 2017 Council appointed the non-profit Eastside Movement for Business and Economic Renewal Society (EMBERS) to occupy and operate a City property located at 57 A and 57 B East Hastings Street, known as The Lux, as a low barrier employment and income generating hub in the Downtown Eastside. A total of \$150,000 in operating funds was approved, along with \$25,000 for program development and \$50,000 as a rent subsidy grant.

Downtown Eastside Plan - In 2014, Council approved the DTES Plan, incorporating a broad range of goals and targets for the next 10 and 40 years.

Downtown Eastside Community Economic Development Strategy (Phase II) - In November 2016 Council approved the core ideas, directions and actions to support community economic development initiatives in the DTES.

Healthy City Strategy - In July 2014 Council adopted the Healthy City Strategy. In May 2015, the first four year action plan was adopted including an action to facilitate 1300 school breakfasts and food literacy development.

Vancouver Food Strategy - In January 2013, Council adopted the Vancouver Food Strategy with goals to: Improve access to healthy, affordable, and culturally diverse food for all residents; Advocate for a just and sustainable food system with partners and at all levels of government; Support food-friendly neighbourhoods.

Hastings Legacy Fund Grants: On October 4, 2005, as part of the rezoning conditions for Hastings Park, Council accepted a number of public benefits from Hastings Entertainment Inc. including establishment of a reserve fund to support the Hastings Legacy Fund grants program.

Neighbourhood Based Grants - Social Responsibility Fund (SRF): On July 20, 2004, as part of the rezoning conditions for the Plaza of Nations, Council accepted a public benefit offering from Edgewater Casino including a donation of \$200,000 annually, towards the Social Responsibility Fund. Council approved funding guidelines for the SRF in October 2006.

Childcare Research, Innovation and Stabilization Grants: Council approved the Civic Child Care Strategy in 1990 with goals that include supporting the quality, accessibility and affordability of Vancouver's childcare services.

Social Policy Capital (SPC) Grants: The City has offered a small Capital Grants program to Vancouver-based social and cultural organizations in non-City-owned properties since 1975.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager of Community Services RECOMMENDS approval of the foregoing.

REPORT

Background/Context

Healthy City Strategy grants are investments that build social capital by supporting non-profit community-based services that:

- respond to dynamic community needs;
- reduce the impact of systemic factors that create conditions of vulnerability;
- facilitate physical, spiritual, mental, and emotional well-being;
- facilitate partnerships between city and non-profits and networks of non-profits; and,
- inform and respond to Council priorities.

To apply for funding, organizations submit applications that are checked for basic eligibility and then reviewed in detail by staff review teams. Follow up is conducted with applicants where additional information or clarification is required.

The five grant streams addressed in this report are described below.

1. Childcare Program Development/Program Stabilization/Research, Policy Development & Innovation (Table 2): \$73,432

Program Development Grants are available to non-profit organizations that are developing new, or expanding existing, licensed group childcare or school-age care programs. Program Stabilization Grants are one-time allocations to non-profit childcare centres to support long term financial restructuring. Research, Policy Development and Innovation Grants support innovations that improve best practices or address key issues in the field of early learning and care. Staff received ten applications for funding this year, nine of which are being recommended for funding.

2. Hastings Legacy Fund (Table 3): \$120,000

The Hastings Legacy Fund (HLF) supports projects that build the capacity of the Hastings-Sunrise neighbourhood to address and respond to local social issues and build a strong, safe and inclusive community. Seven applications were received by the deadline date, all of which are being recommended for grants, and build on previous years' efforts to develop a resilient and inclusive neighbourhood.

3. Social Policy Capital Grants (Table 4): \$100,000

Social Policy Capital Grants improve the safety, accessibility and operational needs of nonprofit social service and childcare organizations. This report recommends nine projects each of which falls under one of three categories: health & safety upgrades; renovations or construction to improve or expand services; or, planning or feasibility studies. Staff received thirteen applications and nine are recommended for funding under the capital funding stream.

4. School Food Program - Strathcona Community Breakfast Program:\$80,000

In December 2014, City Council adopted a motion to identify \$400,000 to expand access to healthy food for school-aged children. In 2015 and 2016, Council recommended providing \$80,000 of these funds to Strathcona Community Centre Association for their community breakfast program. 55% of children in Strathcona live in poverty which greatly impacts their family's ability to access healthy food.

5. Neighbourhood Based Grants - Social Responsibility Fund - The Lux:\$50,000

The Social Responsibility Fund supports projects located within neighbourhoods surrounding the Edgewater Casino, including the DTES/Strathcona, Mount Pleasant, and Downtown. The goals of the fund are:

- a) Build capacity on these targeted neighbourhoods to address and respond to issues affecting them;
- b) Enhance a sense of safety and security among residents; and
- c) Create local solutions to local problems.

Funding is recommended to support the start-up operations of The Lux. The project aligns with Council priorities and City strategies: Healthy City Strategy, the Downtown Eastside Plan the Community Economic Development Strategy, and the Poverty Reduction Framework (in process). The funds will help continue to leverage funding from various sources, including other levels of government, private and/or community foundations, while allowing the program to launch in early 2018.

Strategic Analysis

The social grants recommended in this report support a number of City priorities including: increasing access to childcare and early learning supports; strengthening the capacity of neighbourhoods to develop local responses to existing and emerging challenges; building the capacity of nonprofit organizations and facilities; supporting low income children and families to access healthy, affordable food; and, providing appropriate services and supports to support individuals facing multiple barriers to participate in the labour force.

1) Childcare Program Development/Program Stabilization/Research, Policy Development & Innovation: early care and learning \$73,472

Program Development (PD) Grants (\$20,432): three grants will contribute toward staff recruitment, training and equipment costs for a total of 40 new school age care spaces: 16 in the West End, 4 on the West Side and 20 in Mount Pleasant. Currently, demand for school age care spaces in each of these three neighbourhoods outstrips the number of actual spaces by more than 50%.

Program Stabilization (PS) Grants (\$7,500): two grants will support assessment and restructuring of program and financial management systems for two childcare centres currently experiencing ongoing deficits.

Research, Policy Development & Innovation (RD&I) Grants (\$45,500): four grants will support a community coalition of parents, nonprofit and business leaders, Indigenous

leaders, women’s rights and anti-poverty advocates to help address key policy questions related to implementation of the \$10aDay Childcare Plan; increase the capacity of early childhood educators to integrate arts-based curriculum into their work with children; increase the knowledge and capacity of childcare staff to serve children with serious medical conditions; and, address a current key data gap by compiling data on salaries in Vancouver’s childcare/early childhood education sectors.

Table 2: Childcare Grants Recommended

Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Request	Recommended	Comments
PD	Gordon Neighbourhood House	The grant will help cover staff recruitment and training as well as program costs associated with expanding their existing school age care program from 24 to 40 spaces.	\$5,000	\$5,000	
PD	Kitsilano Neighbourhood House	The grant will help cover staff recruitment and training as well as program costs associated with assuming management of an existing school age care program on the West Side, including adding four spaces.	\$5,000	\$5,000	
PD	Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House	The grant will help cover staff recruitment and training as well as program costs associated with creating a new 20 space after-school care spaces at the Neighbourhood House.	\$12,850	\$10,432	
PS	Aboriginal Mother Centre	The grant will support the development and implementation of a financial stability plan for their childcare program.	\$5,000	\$5,000	Funds to be released subject to revised project plan to satisfaction of Managing Director, Social Policy.
PS	Pre-Maternelle Pomme d’Api	The grant will support a three-part response to their current fiscal challenge, including development and implementation of a long-term financial management plan.	\$5,000	\$2,500	Grant will support needs assessment & financial management support.

Grant Type	Applicant	Project	Request	Recommended	Comments
RD&I	Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC	This project will support research and public engagement related to implementation of the \$10aday Plan for universal childcare.	\$80,000	\$14,000	
RD&I	Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House	The project will support Early Childhood Educators to learn and incorporate into practice the arts-based emergent curriculum of the internationally recognized Reggio Emilia approach.	\$5,000	\$5,000	
RD&I	Kiwassa Neighbourhood House	The project will develop tools for staff to enhance their ability to serve children with moderate to severe developmental disabilities who are enrolled in inclusive childcare settings.	\$7,000	\$5,000	
RD&I	Westcoast Child Care Resource and Referral	Project will address a critical information gap by conducting a comprehensive survey and analysis of childcare/Early Childhood Educator staff salaries in Vancouver.	\$21,500	\$21,500	
			\$146,350	\$73,432	

2) Hastings Legacy Fund: building neighbourhood capacity:\$120,000

The recommended Hastings Legacy Fund (HLF) grants support reflect and support the strong relationships between area non-profits, including the two neighbourhood houses (Kiwassa and Frog Hollow), the business improvement association and the community policing office, relationships that have allowed for an expanding network of community engagement and capacity building efforts in the neighbourhood. The HLF grant to support the Kidsafe program located at Thunderbird Elementary School further expands support to the southeastern quarter of the neighbourhood.

Table 3: Hastings Legacy Fund Grants Recommended

Applicant	Project	Request	Recommended	Comments
Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House	<i>Generating Connections</i> will connect area residents via sharing their formal and informal artisan skills, traditions, stories and	\$33,627	\$16,000	

Applicant	Project	Request	Recommended	Comments
	creativity.			
Hastings North Area Planning Association	<i>Community Clean-Up Program</i> identifies and restores unsafe and problematic areas through active citizen involvement, including paint-outs, garbage and hazardous materials removal	\$10,000	\$9,000	
Hastings North Business Improvement Association	<i>Business Safety Service Patrol Team</i> improves neighbourhood safety and promotes a positive atmosphere for residents, customers, visitors and businesses in the HNBIA district.	\$20,000	\$10,000	Grant is reduced by \$4,000 from previous year due to funding constraints.
Kidsafe	<i>KidSafe's Break Programs at Thunderbird Elementary</i> provide free, quality programming when school is closed for breaks.	\$20,000	\$10,000	New this year to the HLF grant stream.
Kiwassa Neighbourhood House	<i>Community Small Grants Projects</i> support local projects and events in the Hastings Sunrise community through the Community Small Grants Projects. 13 projects were funded in 2017.	\$25,400	\$23,000	
Kiwassa Neighbourhood House	<i>Community Building Partnership Initiative</i> brings together six community partners to plan and promote community-based events and activities that foster belonging and community ownership.	\$40,000	\$29,000	Grant is reduced by \$6,000 from previous year due to funding constraints.
Kiwassa Neighbourhood House	<i>The BELONG Project</i> will train and support a core group of youth and adult allies to increase youth/adult connections, inform priorities for area youth programming and strengthen collaboration between area youth serving organizations.	\$30,000	\$23,000	
		\$179,027	\$120,000	

One of the ten applications received is not being recommended for funding under this stream (Appendix A).

3) Social Policy Capital Grants: supporting non-profit infrastructure: \$100,000

The nine recommended Social Policy Capital Grants will support non-profit organizations with renovations and upgrades of their physical space to improve or expand services, and improve the safety of individuals and families who access their programs and services. These grants support organizations serving vulnerable groups: women, youth, children,

urban aboriginal, low-income and homeless, who are listed as priority groups under the Healthy City Strategy.

Table 4: Social Policy Capital Grants Recommended

Applicant	Project	Requested	Recommended
Association of Neighbourhood Houses of BC dba Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House	Playground renovations to meet Licensing requirements and improve safety of children	\$25,000	\$18,000
Aunt Leah's Independent Lifeskills Society	Renovations to add two counselling units to better serve youth confidentially	\$5,000	\$5,000
Downtown Eastside Women's Centre Association	Drop-in Centre renovations to maintain a safe environment for women accessing programs and services at the Centre	\$45,813	\$29,765
Eastside Movement for Business and Economic Renewal Society (EMBERS)	Tenant improvements for a low-barrier income generating hub - The Lux in the DTES	\$15,000	\$10,000
First United Church Community Ministry Society	Floor repair/replacement to improve safety of clients and staff	\$24,805	\$9,035
Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Association	Kiwassa Longhouse - Out of School Care facilities upgrades (washrooms, entrance and outdoor storage shed) to improve hygiene and safety to outdoor area	\$2,965	\$2,965
Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Association	The grant will install a separate handwashing sink in order to meet health and safety standards. The Kiwassa kitchen was identified as a priority in the City's 2016 assessment of condition, usage and needs for publicly accessible community kitchen facilities.	\$6,000	\$5,235
Pacific Community Resources Society	Tenant improvements for their new Pathways to Education office location at the BC Artscape hub	\$20,000	\$10,000
St. James Daycare Centre	Playground renovations to meet licensing requirements and improve safety of children	\$18,000	\$10,000
		\$162,583	\$100,000

Four of the thirteen applications received are not recommended for funding under this capital funding stream (Appendix B).

4) Community Services Operating Grant - Strathcona Community Breakfast Program: access to healthy food: \$80,000

The Strathcona neighbourhood has poverty rates nearly three times the city average, and the Strathcona Elementary school remains in high need for food supports. Operated by the Strathcona Community Centre Association (CCA) and located in Strathcona Elementary School, the Community Breakfast Program saw an increase in attendance this past year, with the program now serving 150-170 people each morning. The program facilitates children’s engagement in the community, builds food skills, and improves attitudes towards healthy foods. The city grant is augmented by almost 900 hours of volunteer time, 20% of which are contributed by Grade 6 & 7 students who develop leadership and food skills through volunteering.

Table 4: Recommendation for Strathcona Community Breakfast Program

Applicant	Project	Requested	Recommended
Strathcona Community Centre Association	Strathcona Community Breakfast Program serves students of Lord Strathcona Elementary School every weekday morning before school and summer programs. The program focuses on providing a healthy, balanced and varied meal in a friendly and social setting.	\$80,000	\$80,000

5) Neighbourhood Based Grants -Social Responsibility Funds: The Lux \$50,000

The DTES is home to a high number of people with vulnerabilities, including residents living with low income, housing affordability challenges, mental health and addictions, and other related barriers. In April 2017, City Council approved Eastside Movement for Business and Economic Renewal Society (EMBERS) to operate the low-barrier income generating hub in the DTES, which expands employment opportunities in the DTES and supports a continuum of economic strategies that provide a sustainable livelihood and improved incomes for DTES residents.

This grant will bring the City’s contribution to a total of \$200,000 in operating funds, the equivalent of one third of total funds needed to operate the hub, and will help leverage financial contributions from EMBERS and program partners, as well as other sources, including the Provincial and Federal governments.

This is one of the City’s key initiatives to help reduce poverty included in the Community Economic Development Strategy (2016), the DTES Plan (2014) and the Healthy City Strategy (2014). It will allow the City to work collaboratively with community partners in addressing a key gap in current employment services and job development programs that target individuals with barriers to employment while creating pathways for them in the local economy through partnership driven programming. The Lux is complementary to other Community Economic Development (CED) and poverty reduction initiatives in the neighbourhood (i.e. 501 Powell Street, 62 East Hastings, 312 Main Street).

Table 5: Recommendation for Social Responsibility Fund Grant

Applicant	Project	Requested	Recommended
Eastside Movement for Business and Economic Renewal Society (EMBERS)	Low-barrier income generating hub - The Lux - in the DTES to ensure that opportunities for economic livelihood are accessible and close-to-home for vulnerable residents and those with barriers to employment.	\$50,000	\$50,000

Implications/Related Issues/Risk

Financial

This report recommends a total of 27 social grants to registered non-profit organizations in the amount of \$423,432, per the table below:

Recommendation	Source	2017 Budget	Previously Approved	Approved this Report	Balance
A	Childcare Operating Budget	1,507,538	1,434,106	73,432	0
B	Hastings Legacy Fund	155,200	0	120,000	35,200
C	Social Policy Capital Grants	100,000	0	100,000	0
D	Community Services Operating Budget	5,944,748	5,765,148	80,000	99,600
E	Edgewater Casino Social Responsibility Reserve	\$514,980	\$172,000	\$50,000	\$292,980
	TOTAL	\$8,222,466	\$7,371,254	\$423,432	\$427,780

Upon approval of this report, a 2017 balance of \$134,800 remains for social policy grants and a balance of \$292,980 in the Edgewater Social Responsibility Reserve Fund.

CONCLUSION

Healthy City Strategy grants are investments that build social capital by supporting non-profit community-based services that:

- respond to dynamic community needs;
- reduce the impact of systemic factors that create conditions of vulnerability;
- facilitate physical, spiritual, mental, and emotional well-being;
- facilitate partnerships between city and non-profits and networks non-profits; and,
- inform and respond to Council priorities.

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2017 CHILDCARE RESEARCH, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION GRANTS and
PROGRAM STABILIZATION GRANTS

NOT RECOMMENDED

No.	Grant Type	Applicant	Request	Description	Reason for not Recommending
1	Research, Policy Development & Innovation	Vancouver Society of Child Care Operating Centres	\$5,000	Development of tools for Early Childhood Educators to use as companions to the BC Early Learning Framework.	Funding is limited and other applications ranked higher in priority

SOCIAL POLICY CAPITAL GRANTS
NOT RECOMMENDED

No.	Applicant	Description	Request	Reason for not Recommending
1	Atira Women's Resource Society	Renovations to facility to create a drop-in at their 101 East Cordova St	\$29,467	Funding is limited and other applications rated higher on evaluation. A drop-in for women already exists in the immediate area.
2	Mount Pleasant Family Centre Society	Refurnish adult-baby area	\$15,000	The project is ineligible under the grants guidelines and criteria.
3	Pacific Association of First Nations Women	Funding to cover 50% of the lease cost of a space currently used by the organization to provide cultural activities and other programs	\$99,412	The project is ineligible under the grants guidelines and criteria.
4	Pacific Treatment Centre Society	Install new blinds	\$3,750	Funding is limited and other applications rated higher on evaluation.
TOTAL			\$147,629	