



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: April 12, 2005  
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CC File No.: 2151  
Meeting Date: April 28, 2005

TO: Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets

FROM: Director of Social Planning

SUBJECT: Allocation of Addition to the Community Services Grants Budget

**RECOMMENDATION**

- A. THAT Council approve increases, totalling \$18,583, to 4 previously approved Organizational Capacity Building Grants, as listed in Appendix A. Source of funds is the 2005 Community Services Grants budget.
- B. THAT City Council approve increases, totalling \$40,000, to 3 previously approved Neighbourhood Organization Grants, as listed in Appendix A. Source of funds is the 2005 Community Services Grants budget.
- C. THAT Council approve increases, totalling \$115,066, to 26 previously approved Direct Social Service Grants, as listed in Appendix A. Source of funds is the 2005 Community Services Grants budget.
- D. THAT Council approve an additional \$10,000 to be set aside from the 2005 Community Services Grants budget for the Partners in Organizational Development program (for a total reserve of \$30,000). Specific allocation recommendations will be made at a later date.
- E. THAT Council approve the creation of a new Community Services Grants stream, called the Innovations Program, as described in Appendix B, and THAT \$100,000 be allocated from the 2005 Community Services Grants budget to this new grants program.

## **GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS**

The General Manager of Community Services RECOMMENDS A to E.

## **COUNCIL POLICY**

On July 20, 2004, City Council adopted, as policy, the amended Community Services Grants program, including three categories of Community Services Grants, eligibility criteria, priorities, and the list of ineligible services.

Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes.

## **PURPOSE**

In accordance with Council instructions, this report proposes how the \$500,000, which was added to the Community Services Grants budget, should be allocated.

## **BACKGROUND**

The 2005 Community Services Grants budget was initially established at \$3,444,700. Social Planning staff reviewed 118 applications for these grants, and recommended funding for 102 of them. In order to remain within the limits of the original grants budget, staff recommended terminating or no grants to seven organizations which had been previously funded.

Twelve applications were referred to the reconsideration process, at the request of the applicants, and were subsequently removed from the regular Community Services Grants allocations recommendations. These requests for reconsideration will be dealt with by Council on the same day as this report.

On March 17, 2005, City Council agreed to increase the Community Services Grants budget by \$500,000, with the condition that release of the funds would be subject to the City's grant approval process. Council also asked that staff report back on "how Council should prioritize the allocation of the \$500,000, by the end of April, together with the Reconsiderations Report".

On March 31, 2005, City Council approved nine Neighbourhood Organization Grants, totalling \$536,592, seven Organizational Capacity Building Grants totalling \$169,424 and eighty-one Direct Social Services Grants totalling \$2,519,560. Council also agreed to set aside \$20,000 for the Partners in Organizational Development program. The funding that had originally been recommended for the applicants that requested reconsideration remained unallocated.

## DISCUSSION

Staff are proposing the following allocation of the \$500,000 which was added by Council to the Community Services Grants budget:

|   |   |                  |
|---|---|------------------|
| 1 | Recommended additions to approved grants                                    | \$173,649        |
| 2 | Recommended additions arising from reconsiderations                         | 60,624           |
| 3 | New "Innovations" grant stream  | 100,000          |
| 4 | Approved 2 <sup>nd</sup> level grants made possible by budget increase (J2) | 74,600           |
| 5 | Increase to POD reserve   | 10,000           |
| 6 | Unallocated - available for future grants or grant increases                | 81,127           |
|   | <b>Total</b>  | <b>\$500,000</b> |

Notes explaining each line from the table above:

1. The recommended additions to grants that have already been approved are listed in APPENDIX A, and are reflected in RECOMMENDATIONS A,B, and C. These increases, for the most part, reflect the level of funding to high priority services and programs which would have been recommended initially had there been sufficient money available in the budget. The increases for the Neighbourhood Organization Grants are recommended to provide sufficient funding for these organizations to be able to carry on with, and expand, their community building work. For the others, the increases are intended to provide some equity among grants for similar types of services and in recognition of additional and/or improved services.

2. The additions arising from the reconsideration process are explained in further detail in the Reconsideration of community Services Grants Allocations report which accompanies this one. Note that this includes an increase of \$25,000 for Kiwassa Neighbourhood House, which is on a par with the recommended increases for three other Neighbourhood Houses.

3. Staff are recommending that \$100,000 be set aside for a new Innovations Grants program. Details on this proposed new grant program are included in APPENDIX B and are described, in summary, in the following section. RECOMMENDATION E, if approved will initiate the implementation of the new grants program.

4. Originally, staff had developed two recommendations for each of seven applications which were dependent on the amount of funding available in the grants budget. With Council's approval of the increase to the grants budget, the second, higher recommendations were the ones considered and approved. This resulted in \$74,600 being needed from the budget increase.

5. With approval of the recommendations in the Allocations Report on March 31, 2005, Council also agreed to set aside \$20,000 for the Partners in Organizational Development Program (POD). This is the same level of funding that has been provided by the City to this jointly-funded program for a number of years. However, the other funding partners have been contributing approximately \$50,000 each, even though the majority of POD grant recipients are based in Vancouver. Each year, the number of applications far exceeds the available funds. Increasing our POD contribution to \$30,000 (RECOMMENDATION D) still will not put us on a par with the other funders, but it will help to meet the community need.

6. These recommendations leave an unallocated balance of \$81,127 from the \$500,000 budget increase. Staff are anticipating a number of situations arising over the next year which may require access to this funding. For instance, once a review of the services available to the Cambodian community is completed, it's possible that funding beyond the six months grant that has been approved will be required. Similarly, a review of the need for street youth outreach workers may demonstrate a need for funding beyond that which has already been approved. In addition, situations can, and often do, arise during the year which require some grant funding. This unallocated funding in the grants budget would be the source for unforeseen grants. This unallocated amount will also be the source for any funding arising from the reconsideration process, beyond that already recommended, that Council may decide to approve.

### **New Innovation Grants Program**

For the past number of years, we have received grant applications for short-term, innovative projects, some of which were developing excellent solutions to social issues. However, by policy, these have been ineligible for funding from the Community Services Grants budget. This policy has remained unchanged over the years because the City's priority (supported by the community) has been to provide on-going funding to organizations providing continuous services, and there has usually been insufficient funding available in the budget to meet this objective. With the recently approved budget increase, staff are now able to recommend the creation of a special new grants program - Innovations Grants Program, specifically designed to support new, innovative projects that meet the City's social development and/or social sustainability objectives.

Details on this proposed new grant program are included in APPENDIX B. In summary, the key characteristics of this program are:

- one-time funding for projects that reinforce the City's social sustainability objectives
- provides support for the development of new and creative strategies
- maximum grant of \$15,000
- project must be completed within one year of the approval of the grant
- funding from other sources encouraged, but not mandatory

As this is a new program, all aspects of it will be reviewed after the 2005 application, review and approval process is completed. Any required changes (including the possibility of more than one application deadline each year) will be reported to Council prior to implementation of the 2006 program.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

On March 17, 2005, City Council approved a \$500,000 increase to the Community Services Grants budget. The recommendations contained herein, combined with the grants already approved by Council and the recommendations included in the Reconsideration Report, to be considered later this day, provide a full accounting of the entire Community Services Grants budget. The \$81,127 that remains unallocated will be the source of funding for any

additional grants or additions to grants that Council may wish to approve during the remainder of this year.

## CONCLUSION

The Community Services Grants budget now stands at \$3,944,700. The \$500,000 increase approved by Council on March 17 has allowed staff to recommend additional funding to more accurately reflect the needs for funding for social services and programs in Vancouver. It has also enabled the creation of a new grant stream that will support innovation and creativity in the social services realm.

\* \* \* \* \*

| GRANT TYPE | AGENCY<br>(reconsideration requests removed)                  | Recommended Increases | Original Recommendation | New Recommendation |
|------------|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| OCB        | BC Coalition of People with Disab. - Membership & Outreach    | 5,000                 | 30,000                  | 35,000             |
| OCB        | Self-Help Resource Assoc. of B.C. - Kinex                     | 8,000                 | 22,000                  | 30,000             |
| OCB        | South Van. Nbhd House - S. Van Srs' Council                   | 583                   | 20,604                  | 21,187             |
| OCB        | Van. Community Network  | 5,000                 | 15,600                  | 20,600             |
|            | <b>totals</b>   | <b>18,583</b>         |                         |                    |
| NO         | Cedar Cottage Nbhd House (ANH)                                | 15,000                | 69,000                  | 84,000             |
| NO         | Collingwood Nbhd House Soc.                                   | 15,000                | 69,000                  | 84,000             |
| NO         | Frog Hollow Nbhd House (ANH)                                  | 10,000                | 60,180                  | 70,180             |
|            | <b>totals</b>   | <b>40,000</b>         |                         |                    |
| DSS        | Aboriginal Mother Centre Society - Vol. coord.                | 7,500                 | 15,000                  | 22,500             |
| DSS        | Battered Women's Support Services                             | 9,852                 | 35,148                  | 45,000             |
| DSS        | Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Greater Van.                        | 1,736                 | 58,264                  | 60,000             |
| DSS        | Canadian National Institute for the Blind, BC-Yukon Division  | 5,000                 | 10,000                  | 15,000             |
| DSS        | Canadian Paraplegic Assoc.                                    | 9,300                 | 35,700                  | 45,000             |
| DSS        | Chinese Community Library Serv. Assoc., The                   | 5,000                 | 30,000                  | 35,000             |
| DSS        | Crisis Interven. & Suicide Prev. Ctr. Of BC                   | 3,936                 | 18,564                  | 22,500             |
| DSS        | Dugout - Central City Mission                                 | 1,550                 | 31,620                  | 33,170             |
| DSS        | Immigrant Svcs Soc of BC - MY Circle Program                  | 9,300                 | 35,700                  | 45,000             |
| DSS        | Kettle Friendship Soc., The                                   | 2,976                 | 42,024                  | 45,000             |
| DSS        | KidSafe Project Society, The                                  | 2,362                 | 17,848                  | 20,210             |
| DSS        | Kidstart - Pacific Legal Education Association (PLEA)         | 2,100                 | 20,400                  | 22,500             |
| DSS        | Learning Disabilities Assoc. of BC                            | 1,688                 | 20,812                  | 22,500             |
| DSS        | MOSAIC/Strathcona - Vietnamese Family Counselling Project     | 2,364                 | 42,636                  | 45,000             |
| DSS        | PACE - Prostitution Alternatives Counselling & Education Soc. | 7,000                 | 38,000                  | 45,000             |
| DSS        | Pacific Comm. Res. Society - Vietnamese Youth                 | 3,692                 | 41,308                  | 45,000             |
| DSS        | Pacific Community Resources Society - Broadway Youth Res.Ctre | 4,000                 | 20,000                  | 24,000             |
| DSS        | SUCCESS - Bridging the Gap Fam Serv Advocacy                  | 4,200                 | 40,800                  | 45,000             |
| DSS        | SUCCESS - Seniors QOL Prog.                                   | 1,142                 | 38,108                  | 39,250             |
| DSS        | SUCCESS - Youth At Risk Program                               | 6,692                 | 41,308                  | 48,000             |
| DSS        | Taiwanese Canadian Cultural Soc. - Golden Age Centre          | 2,760                 | 12,240                  | 15,000             |
| DSS        | Tenants' Rights Action Coalition - TRAC                       | 1,656                 | 38,344                  | 40,000             |
| DSS        | Urban Native Youth Assoc. - Outreach                          | 3,688                 | 41,312                  | 45,000             |
| DSS        | Van. Assoc. for Survivors of Torture - VAST                   | 692                   | 15,600                  | 16,292             |
| DSS        | Van. Rape Relief & Women's Shelter                            | 6,500                 | 25,500                  | 32,000             |
| DSS        | Women Against Violence Against Women                          | 8,380                 | 31,620                  | 40,000             |
|            | <b>totals</b>   | <b>115,066</b>        |                         |                    |
|            | <b>Total recommended additions</b>                            | <b>173,649</b>        |                         |                    |

## 2005 COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANTS - INNOVATIONS PROGRAM

The Innovations Grants Program is intended to provide one-time funding for projects that reinforce the City's social sustainability objectives, particularly with regards to community capacity building and community development. This program is designed to provide support for the development of new and creative strategies for addressing social problems and bringing about positive social change. Funded projects will build on the visions of inclusiveness, partnership and equity of opportunity and access which are so essential to the development of a fair and just society.

### General Eligibility Criteria

- The organization must be a registered non-profit society, in good standing with the Registrar of Companies for at least a year. It must have an independent, active governing body composed of volunteers.
- The organization must extend its services to the general public, and shall not exclude anyone by reason of religion, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, language, disability or income; except in instances where it can be proven that exclusion of some group is required for effective targeting of another group to occur.
- The organization must have the demonstrated functional capacity and access to sufficient resources to be able to complete the project for which funding is being sought.
- The organization must be based and active in Vancouver. The project must be primarily carried out in Vancouver, and of benefit primarily to Vancouver residents and/or community groups.
- Applicants should seek revenue from sources other than the City of Vancouver (e.g. United Way, Vancouver Foundation, Vancity Community Project Grants).

### Innovation Grants are NOT for:

- projects which are clearly within the mandates of other governments or departments. This includes projects which are eligible for funding from any other City grant programs, such as Cultural Grants, Childcare Grants, Environmental Grants;
- on-going programs or services that are eligible for Community Services Grants;
- projects related to the provision or enhancement of health services;
- processing legal or human rights cases;
- payment of City property taxes; capital expenses; operating or capital deficits;
- attendance at or fees for conferences, workshops or other forms of training.

### Grant Amount - Limitations

The maximum grant provided under this program is \$15,000.

The Innovations Grants budget is established each year by City Council. In 2005, it is \$100,000. All recommendations are contingent on the available funds; consequently, not all organizations meeting the criteria above will receive a grant.

In deciding which applications to recommend, and for how much, Social Planning staff will take into consideration:

- how well the project meets the Grants Program's social sustainability objectives;
- the number of residents and/or organizations that will benefit from the project;
- the beneficial impact on residents and/or organizations.

## Grant Term

The project must be completed, and the City funding spent on the project within one year of City Council's approval of the grant.

## Process

In 2005, the Innovations Grant deadline will be in September. Social Planning Department staff will review the grant applications, and conduct interviews with applicants as appropriate. Following the review process, recommendations are made by a staff committee. Written notice of these recommendations is sent to all applicants, together with notice of the City Council meeting at which the grants will be considered. Under normal circumstances, successful applicants generally receive grant payment within two and a half weeks of Council's approval.

## How To Apply

Application forms are available from the Social Planning Department or the City's web site one month prior to the deadline. All applicants should discuss their proposal with Social Planning staff before submitting an application.

City of Vancouver  
Social Planning Department  
#100 – 515 West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
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(604) 871-6036 fax: (604) 871-6048

This information is also available on the City's website at  
<http://vancouver.ca/commsvcs/socialplanning/grants/commgrants.htm>

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS ....**