



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT


Report Date: April 4, 2005  
Author: Rick Gates  
Phone No.: 604.871.6036  
RTS No.: 4840  
CC File No.: 2151  
Meeting Date: April 28, 2005

TO: Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets  
FROM: Director of Social Planning  
SUBJECT: Reconsideration of Community Services Grants Allocations

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approve Community Services Grants, totalling \$334,348 including any conditions as noted in the attached appendixes to the following agencies:

Agency	Grant Recommended
Aboriginal Front Door Society (With Condition <sup>1</sup> )	\$30,000
Britannia Community Services Centre Society for Latin American Youth Outreach	\$45,000
Britannia Community Services Centre Society for Vietnamese Seniors Worker	\$45,000
Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society (With condition <sup>2</sup> )	\$67,500
Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Association	\$84,000
Philippine Women Centre	\$17,848
Theatre for Living (Headlines) (With Condition <sup>3</sup> )	\$10,000
Vancouver Women's Health Collective	\$35,000

 e: Source of funds for all of the recommended grants is the 2005 Community Services Grants budget.

- B. THAT Council NOT approve a Community Services Grant to the following Agencies:

End Legislated Poverty  
Self-Help Resources Association - On-line Project  
Vancouver Area NETWORK OF Drug Users (VANDU)  
West Coast Legal Education and Action Fund Association - Community  
Speakers Bureau Program

#### **GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS**

The General Manager of Community Services submits A and B for CONSIDERATION.

#### **COUNCIL POLICY**

On November 22, 1994, City Council established that reconsideration of grant recommendations can only occur if they are based on one or both of the following premises:

1. that eligibility criteria have not been properly applied; or
2. the financial situation of the applicant has not been properly assessed or understood.

Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes.

#### **PURPOSE**

This report contains the results of the reconsideration process which was initiated by eleven Community Services Grants applicants, and makes recommendations based on the outcome of this process.

#### **BACKGROUND**

In November, 1994, City Council approved a grants "reconsideration" process for those grant applicants who disagreed with the Social Planning Department's recommendation with regards to their applications. A key feature of the process is that there are only two grounds for requesting reconsideration: 1) that eligibility criteria have not been properly applied; or 2) the financial situation of the applicant has not been properly assessed or understood. This has all but eliminated requests based solely on the fact that the group does good work or that there is considerable community support for it or any of a number of other reasons.

On October 9, 2003, City Council approved some significant changes to the Community Services Grants program:

- the grants program structure - from one type of grant to three, called Direct Social Services, Neighbourhood Organization and Organizational Capacity Building Grants;
- new criteria for each of the three types of grants; and
- newly defined priorities which apply solely to the Direct Social Services category of grants, and a rating process using these priorities, to help determine recommendations for funding.

The criteria and priorities were further amended in 2004.

During the first six weeks of 2005, the Social Planning grant review team reviewed all grant applications, met with all applicants and, using the adopted criteria and priorities, developed recommendations for these grants.

All applicants for 2005 Community Services Grants were advised in late February of Social Planning's recommendations, along with our rationale for recommendations for terminating or no grants. They were also told of the reconsideration process which could be used if they disagreed with the recommendations.

Requests for reconsideration were submitted by the following organizations:

No.	AGENCY	Recommended	Request	Previous Year's Grant
1	Aboriginal Front Door Society	\$20,000	\$68,970	\$0
13	Britannia CSCS - Latin American Youth Outreach	\$41,308	\$46,778	\$40,500
14	Britannia CSCS - Vietnamese Seniors/Family Outreach	\$39,268	\$50,690	\$38,500
24	Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Soc. - DEYAS	\$41,300	\$165,509	\$40,500
27	End Legislated Poverty	\$0	\$44,900	\$33,996
46	Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Assoc	\$69,000	\$120,000	\$59,000
70	Philippine Women Centre of B.C.	\$17,848	\$45,000	\$17,500
76	Self-Help Resource Association of BC - On-Line Self Help	\$0	\$25,000	\$0
89	Theatre for Living Soc. (Headlines Theatre)*	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$16,160
98	Van. Area Network of Drug Users - VANDU	\$0	\$79,794	\$0
107	Van. Women's Health Collective Society *	\$35,000	\$49,421	\$49,421
109	West Coast Legal & Action Fund (LEAF). - Community Speakers	\$0	\$26,170	\$0
<b>Total 12</b>		<b>\$273,724</b>	<b>\$742,232</b>	<b>\$295,577</b>

\* Note: originally, there were two grant recommendations for Headlines and Women's Health Collective that were dependent on the availability of funds in the grant budget. Due to City Council's decision to increase the total funds available, the relevant grant recommendation is shown above.

On March 31, 2005, City Council approved Social Planning's recommendations for all Community Services Grant applications, except for those which were referred to the reconsideration process. A total of \$273,724, which was originally recommended for those that requested reconsideration, remained unallocated.

## RECONSIDERATION PROCESS

The applicants for reconsideration have submitted written material supporting their requests for changes to our recommendations.

Social Planning staff reviewed the original applications, supporting materials, interview notes and the new information that was submitted with the reconsideration requests. If there was still some confusion or lack of clarity, applicants were personally contacted to ensure that there was a clear and complete understanding of the situation.

Staff then developed recommendations based on this review of all the pertinent information and prepared written explanations for their decisions. These comments and the recommendations, along with the applicants' submission, are attached as APPENDICES A-K.

All applicants were advised that they could make presentations to Council if they were still in disagreement with the staff recommendations. Some of them may wish to appear as delegations when this report is dealt with by Council.

## RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

No.	AGENCY	Original Recommend.	Current Recommend.	Difference
1	Aboriginal Front Door Society	420,000	\$30,000	\$10,000
13	Britannia CSCS - Latin American Youth Outreach	\$41,308	\$45,000	\$3,692
14	Britannia CSCS - Vietnamese Seniors/Family Outreach	\$39,268	\$45,000	\$5,732
24	Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Soc. - DEYAS	\$41,300	\$67,500	\$26,200
27	End Legislated Poverty	\$0	\$0	\$0
46	Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Assoc	\$69,000	\$84,000	\$15,000
70	Philippine Women Centre of B.C.	\$17,848	\$17,848	\$0
76	Self-Help Resource Association of BC - On- Line Self Help	\$0	\$0	\$0
89	Theatre for Living Soc. (Headlines Theatre)*	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
98	Van. Area Network of Drug Users - VANDU	\$0	\$0	\$0
107	Van. Women's Health Collective Society *	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$0
109	West Coast Legal & Action Fund (LEAF). - Community Speakers	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$273,724</b>	<b>\$334,348</b>	<b>\$60,624</b>

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## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2005 Community Services Grants budget as amended by City Council on March 17, 2005, is \$3,944,700 to be allocated as follows:

Grants already approved by Council (March31,2005)	\$3,225,576
Reserve for P.O.D.	\$20,000
Recommended grants, held pending outcome of reconsideration	\$273,724
Recommended additions to grants	\$60,624
<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>\$3,579,924</b>
<b>Unallocated Balance</b>	<b>\$364,776</b>

Staff will be reporting on the recommended allocation of the remaining balance in the Community Services Grants budget (\$364,776) on the same date as this Reconsideration Report.

## CONCLUSION

As part of a package of recommended grant increases, made possible by the increase to the grants budget, staff are recommending increases, beyond the original recommendations, for five of the applications that were referred by the applicants to the reconsideration process.

For three of the applications, staff concluded that their original recommendations for grants should remain unchanged.

Finally, Social Planning staff concluded that their original recommendation of no grant should remain unchanged for the four that are ineligible for a grant.

\* \* \* \* \*

- A. Aboriginal Front Door Society
- B. Britannia CSCS - Latin American Youth Outreach
- B. Britannia CSCS - Vietnamese Seniors Outreach
- C. Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society (DEYAS)
- D. End Legislated Poverty
- E. Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Association
- F. Philippine Women Centre of BC
- G. Self-Help Resource Assoc - On-line Self Help
- H. Theatre for Living Society (Headline Theatre)
- I. Van. Area Network of Drug Users - VANDU
- J. Van. Women's Health Collective
- K. West Coast Legal & Action Fund (LEAF) - community speakers

## The Aboriginal Front Door Society (#1)

Request:	\$68,970
2004 Grant:	\$ 0
Social Planning Initial Recommendation:	\$20,000
Social Planning New Recommendation:	\$30,000

### Program Description (summarized from the application)

The Aboriginal Front Door Society provides traditional Aboriginal cultural and healing activities to help Aboriginal residents of the Downtown Eastside to recover from, or better cope with, alcohol and drug misuse or other personal trauma, including residential school trauma. Their weekly activities include traditional healing circles, Aboriginal arts and crafts programs, drumming workshops, sweatlodge ceremonies, Elders' capacity-building workshops, adult educational upgrading, and homelessness outreach work. They also provide advocacy and referral to other Aboriginal organizations.

The Community Services Grant has been requested to pay for a large portion of the Executive Director's salary.

### Social Planning's Initial Response

Staff determined that this grant meets all the eligibility criteria for a Direct Social Services Grant and recommended a grant for \$20,000. As this is a first time grant, a condition was recommended for the grant - "quarterly payments are contingent upon receipt of activity reports to the satisfaction of the Director of Social Planning, by June 1, September 1, and December 1, 2005".

### Basis for Reconsideration

The Aboriginal Front Door Society has requested reconsideration on the basis that their financial situation has not been properly assessed or understood.

In their request for consideration letter (attached), the Society indicates that they would like to receive the amount of \$62,644 to support the Executive Director's position. This is a smaller amount than their original request. The letter states that while they have applied for funding from other organizations, the funding does not provide the stability needed for long-term planning and operations and that Social Planning is one of the few organizations that will fund a core position. The Society also points out that without stable funding it will be impossible to 'maintain and expand the services provided to Aboriginal residents of the Downtown Eastside and build the partnerships and programs needed to assist marginalised Aboriginal people move to healthier and more stable lifestyles'.

The latest funding plan for the Society shows a budget requirement of \$56,703 from the CS Grants for the Executive Director position.

### **Social Planning Comments**

The programs offered by the Aboriginal Front Door Society are important for the people of the Downtown Eastside and a priority for the Vancouver Agreement. The Vancouver Agreement has supported this organization because of its grassroots representation and provided \$78,000 in bridge funding in 2004. Without support from the Vancouver Agreement and other funding organizations, in addition to any approved City funding, the Society will not be able to operate.

There are no circumstances where CS Grants pay for the full costs of the senior staff of multi-purpose organizations. To provide full costs in this instance would be unfair and inequitable to other non-profits. A significant number of the programs provided are not eligible for CS grants funding, specifically, rehabilitation programs and those related to the preservation of cultural heritage. For the Executive Director position which oversees these programs, the maximum amount of funding eligible for a CS grant would be about half the requested amount, i.e. \$30,000.

A grant of \$30,000 would be equal to or greater than funds being sought from the Vancouver Foundation, Vancouver Coastal Health, and Heritage Canada. A grant in this amount can be used to show a strong commitment to funding of the program and help leverage funding from other organizations.

Originally, we had considered recommending up to a \$30,000 grant for the Aboriginal Front Door Society, but could not make this recommendation due to CS grant budget limitations. With the recent addition to the grants program, we can now recommend this amount of funding.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommend a grant for \$30,000. This is an increase of \$10,000 from the original recommendation. This recommendation comes with the following condition and comment:

**CONDITION: QUARTERLY PAYMENTS ARE CONTINGENT UPON RECEIPT OF ACTIVITY REPORTS TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL PLANNING, BY JUNE 1, SEPTEMBER 1 AND DECEMBER 1, 2005.**

**COMMENT: To ensure its future viability, the Society needs to secure additional funding from other organizations.**





## The Aboriginal Front Door Society

Mr. Rick Gates  
Social Planning Department  
City of Vancouver  
Ste. 100-515 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Vancouver, BC  
V5Z 4A8

Monday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Dear Mr. Gates:

**Re: Reconsideration of Aboriginal Front Door Society 2005-06 Social Planning Grant Application.**

I am writing to request a reconsideration of the award made to the Aboriginal Front Door Society (AFD) for 2005-06. I ask that the award be reconsidered on the grounds that the financial situation of AFD has not been properly assessed or understood.

AFD requested support in the amount of \$62,644.00 to support the Executive Director's position. The ED is a key figure at AFD, responsible for the long-term stability and strategic direction for the organisation. While we have applied for program funding to many other federal, provincial and private organisations, such funding does not provide the stability needed for long-term planning and operations. Social Planning is one of the few grant-giving bodies who will consider core funding for such a position. Without such stable funding, AFD will find it impossible to maintain and expand the services we provide to the Aboriginal residents of the Downtown Eastside and to build the partnerships and programs required to assist marginalised Aboriginal people move to healthier and more stable lifestyles.

We would like to request that you reconsider and award AFD the \$62,644.00 originally requested.

Thank you for taking the time to reconsider this application. Should you have further questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

All My Relations.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Aline LaFlamme". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Aline LaFlamme  
Executive Director  
Direct Line: 604 697 5660  
Email: [aline\\_afd@telus.net](mailto:aline_afd@telus.net)

## Britannia Community Services Centre Society Latin American Youth Outreach (#13)

Request:	\$46,778
2004 Grant:	\$40,500
Social Planning Initial Recommendation:	\$41,308
Social Planning New Recommendation:	\$45,000

### Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

The Latin-American Youth Worker provides a broad range of recreation, social, leadership, life-skills and integration programs to at-risk Latin-American youth and their families.

### Social Planning's Initial Response:

Staff recommended a grant of \$41,308 which is equal to last year's grant, plus an inflation adjustment.

### Basis for Reconsideration

In the letter requesting reconsideration (attached), Britannia asserts that their financial situation has not been properly assessed or understood. They note that this youth worker is an employee who is covered under the Collective Agreement which is negotiated by the City on their behalf. The recommended grant is not sufficient to pay for all wages, benefits, and program costs and Britannia does not have enough of its own supplementary funding to pay the difference (estimated at \$13,510).

### Social Planning Comments

Britannia notes, in its letter, that they were asked to host and administer this grant (by Social Planning) and that the Latin American Youth Outreach Worker services are provided on a city-wide basis, not just in the Grandview area. Staff agree with this description of the situation.

This is a high priority service that should be funded. However, if the grant isn't large enough to cover a significant portion of the costs, Britannia may be forced to reduce or even cut the service.

One of the considerations when setting grant funding levels is the amount that is given to other similar types of service. Funding to Britannia at last year's level is comparable to that given to other youth outreach workers, and staff feel that it would be unfair and inequitable to significantly increase only this grant, particularly when the need for the increase is as a

result of the collective agreement negotiated by the City. Within this context, it is reasonable to increase the grant to the same level (\$45,000) that is now being recommended for other similar services. Although this still isn't as much as was requested, it may be sufficient in the short term. However, future CS Grants will not be able to provide annual increases that will be enough to meet wage and benefit cost increases, as established through the collective agreement. The gap between the grant funding level and Britannia's ability to pay the top-up will, in all likelihood, continue to grow.

Staff considered, and continue to review, a number of alternatives to resolve this situation, including:

- fund the program out of Britannia's operating budget, not the CS Grants budget (funding could be transferred from the Grants budget to Britannia's, so there would be no net increase in costs to the City).
- Transfer the grant to other non-profit agencies. Unfortunately, most of the service need is in the Grandview area, and there are few other agencies in the neighbourhood, and even fewer that could provide the same levels of support and supervision as is provided by Britannia.
- Establish a fee for service contract with Britannia, as was done with Ray-Cam a number of years ago, when the same problem arose. However, there have been on-going administrative issues that have arisen with this model and both the City and Ray-Cam are actively seeking solutions to these issues.

### Recommendation

Staff recommend a grant of \$45,000, which is an increase of \$3,692 over the previous recommendation and is at the same level of funding as for other similar services.

## Britannia Community Services Centre Society Vietnamese Seniors Worker (#14)

Request:	\$50,690
2004 Grant:	\$38,500
Social Planning Initial Recommendation:	\$39,268
Social Planning New Recommendation:	\$45,000

### Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

The Vietnamese Seniors Outreach Worker provides recreational, social, cultural, educational and integration opportunities to Vietnamese seniors and families. The program aims to reach out to Vietnamese seniors who are in need of social and emotional support by providing opportunities for social integration to reduce isolation and to assist them in accessing mainstream services.

### Social Planning's Initial Response:

Staff recommended a grant of \$39,268 which is equal to last year's grant, plus an inflation adjustment.

### Basis for Reconsideration

In the letter requesting reconsideration (attached), Britannia asserts that their financial situation has not been properly assessed or understood. They note that this seniors worker is an employee who is covered under the Collective Agreement which is negotiated by the City on their behalf. The recommended grant is not sufficient to pay for all wages, benefits, and program costs and Britannia does not have enough of its own supplementary funding to pay the difference (estimated at \$14,642).

### Social Planning Comments

Britannia notes, in its letter, that they were asked to host and administer this grant (by Social Planning) and that the Vietnamese Seniors Worker services are provided on a city-wide basis, not just in the Grandview area. Staff agree with this description of the situation.

This is a high priority service that should be funded. However, if the grant isn't large enough to cover a significant portion of the costs, Britannia may be forced to reduce or even cut the service.

One of the considerations when setting grant funding levels is the amount that is given to other similar types of service. Funding to Britannia at last year's level is comparable to that given to other seniors workers, and staff believe that it would be unfair and inequitable to significantly increase only this grant, particularly when the need for the increase is as a result of the collective agreement negotiated by the City. Within this context it is reasonable to

increase the grant to the same level (\$45,000) that is now being recommended for other similar services. Although this still isn't as much as was requested, it may be sufficient in the short term. However, future CS Grants will not be able to provide annual increases that will be enough to meet wage and benefit cost increases, as established through the collective agreement. The gap between the grant funding level and Britannia's ability to pay the top-up will, in all likelihood, continue to grow.

Staff considered, and continue to review, a number of alternatives to resolve this situation, including:

- fund the program out of Britannia's operating budget, not the CS Grants budget (funding could be transferred from the Grants budget to Britannia's, so there would be no net increase in costs to the City).
- Transfer the grant to other non-profit agencies. Unfortunately, most of the service need is in the Grandview area, and there are few other agencies in the neighbourhood, and even fewer that could provide the same levels of support and supervision as is provided by Britannia.
- Establish a fee for service contract with Britannia, as was done with Ray-Cam a number of years ago, when the same problem arose. However, there have been on-going administrative issues that have arisen with this model and both the City and Ray-Cam are actively seeking solutions to these issues.

### Recommendation

Staff recommend a grant of \$45,000, which is an increase of \$5,732 over the previous recommendation and is at the same level of funding as for other similar services.

## Britannia Community Services Centre



1661 Napier Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5L 4X4 Tel: (604)718-5800 Fax: (604)718-5858

March 8, 2005

Social Planning Department  
453 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C.  
V5Y 1V4

**REVISED**  
SOCIAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
Ref'd To: Sx By: PI  
**RECEIVED**  
MAR 15 2005  
File No. \_\_\_\_\_

### **Request for Reconsideration of Grant Applications: BRITANNIA COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTRE SOCIETY Latin American Youth Outreach Program Vietnamese Seniors' Worker**

Britannia Community Services Centre Society requests reconsideration of both the Latin American Youth Outreach Program, and the Vietnamese Seniors Worker position under the second premise for appeal:

- that the financial situation of the applicant has not been properly assessed or understood.

#### **Rationale:**

- with the exception of the small (2%) increase, this position has received the same level of funding since 2001
- Britannia receives its core funding through the City of Vancouver, and there is no supplementary funding within our Budget to pay the wages of these grants as per the Collective Agreement.
- this position comes under the CUPE 15 collective agreement and the position has received increases as part of the collective agreement. The negotiated increase has not been added to the position, nor have any monies come forward to offset the retroactive payments for these two grants
- as CUPE 15 members these employees have not reached their top increment step and no additional funding has been added to address this issue or benefit issues
- Britannia was asked to host and administer these two grants as there is a large Vietnamese Senior and Latin American youth population within this community. These workers are providing city wide services.

**2005 Budgets:**

**Latin American Youth Worker:**

Salaries + benefits (pay grade 16 step 4)	\$46,778.
Program Expenses	\$ 6,200.
Administration Expenses	\$ 1,200.
Other Expenses	\$ 640.
<b>Total amount of program operation:</b>	<b>\$54,818.</b>

Amount requested from the City of Vancouver	\$46,778.
<u>Amount granted from the City of Vancouver</u>	<u>\$41,308.</u>
<b>Budget Shortfall</b>	<b>\$5,470.</b>

**Vietnamese Seniors Worker:**

Salaries + benefits (pay grade 18 step 5)	\$50,690.
Program Expenses	\$ 1,400.
<u>Administrative Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 1,820.</u>
<b>Total amount of program operation:</b>	<b>\$53,910.</b>

Amount requested from the City of Vancouver	\$50,690.
<u>Amount granted from the City of Vancouver</u>	<u>\$39,268.</u>
<b>Budget Shortfall</b>	<b>\$11,422.</b>

**Total amount requesting for reconsideration** **\$16,892.**

For 2005 Britannia has only requested the salary portions of both these Grants as it has re-allocated funds from its' Gaming Account to fund expenses for these two grants for 2005. Britannia is doing this, to help defray the cost of these programs to the City, while it catches up on wages and benefits.

Sincerely yours:



Enzo Guerriero  
Executive Director  
Britannia Community Services Centre

## Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society (#24)

Request:	\$165,509
2004 Grant:	\$ 40,500
Social Planning Initial Recommendation:	\$ 41,300
Social Planning New Recommendation:	\$67,500

### Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

The Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society (DEYAS) provides an umbrella of support services to “high risk” youth and adults who are meeting most of their social, emotional and economic needs on the streets of the downtown eastside. Services include street outreach, alcohol and drug counselling, residential withdrawal management, needle exchange, youth drop-in programs, and life-skills/employment training. The grant request is to fund the street outreach component for 19 to 24 year old youth.

### Social Planning's Initial Response:

Staff recommended \$41,300 which is equal to last year's grant, plus an inflation adjustment.

### Basis for Reconsideration

In the letter requesting for reconsideration (attached), the Society spoke about the real cost to deliver the service. DEYAS lost all their Ministry for Children and Family Development (MCFD) funding in 2004, resulting not only in a huge loss of service but also an inability to cover off any extra costs associated with the City funded position. This position also had its City funding reduced last year as well (from \$48,196 to \$40,500). DEYAS states that they contributed approximately \$14,000 in additional funds to support the City funded position and they no longer have the ability to do so.

DEYAS also stated that in order to ensure that outreach services to 19 to 24 year olds could continue 7 days/week with vacation and sick coverage and that day and evening activities could be supported, they would require 2 additional workers.

### Social Planning Comments

Social planning staff are in the process of examining the needs for youth in the Downtown Eastside with specific focus on outreach services. The situation is complex as there have been significant changes in provincial government contracts in the last year including service delivery redesign, transfer of funding for Aboriginal youth programs and services to Aboriginal agencies, and a shift towards a “hub” model of service delivery. Some of these changes are impacting some communities and service providers significantly.



DEYAS is one of these agencies that experienced large provincial funding cuts and all (6) of their street outreach workers were cut leaving only the one City-funded position. Although the MCFD still funds 4 outreach positions (all for youth under 19) through other agencies, 2 positions are for Aboriginal youth, and the other 2 positions are operated out of another agency in the downtown south - both agencies are expected to provide outreach services for the entire city. This appears to have led to a service reduction in the downtown eastside for youth (under 19).

The impact of the changes to MCFD policy and contracting has also led to a lack of transitional programs and services for youth as they reach their 19<sup>th</sup> birthday and many are no longer eligible for programs and services. For many youth this means that they can collect income assistance but can only afford housing in the downtown eastside. Many are left extremely vulnerable with few supports in place.

The City has funded DEYAS to provide outreach services to this age group but with no other DEYAS workers to partner with and fewer outreach workers on the street at all, the work of the one City-funded position has been compromised. It has reduced their ability to connect with the most vulnerable youth on the street and there are many more safety concerns to consider when there is only one worker. Consequently, staff are recommending funding for an additional half-time worker. The recommended funding level is the same as is now being recommended for other youth outreach workers (\$45,000 for an FTE).

The Vancouver Youth Funders Committee has agreed to work with social planning staff to examine the current model of youth outreach (for youth under 19) and address emerging issues.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommend that a grant of \$67,500 be approved to fund 1.5 outreach workers (for youth up to 24 years of age), with the following CONDITION:

QUARTERLY PAYMENTS ARE CONTINGENT UPON RECEIPT OF ACTIVITY REPORTS TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL PLANNING, BY JUNE 1, SEPTEMBER 1 AND DECEMBER 1, 2005. THESE REPORTS WILL INCLUDE INFORMATION ON CLIENTS SERVED AND OUTCOMES RELATED TO THE WORK.



Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society



March 7, 2005

**DEYAS ADMINISTRATION  
& MAILING ADDRESS**

49 West Cordova Street  
Vancouver, BC. V6B 1C8  
PHONE: 604-685-6561  
FAX: 604-685-7117

**YOUTH DETOX**  
49 West Cordova Street  
Vancouver, BC.  
PHONE: 604-251-7615  
FAX: 604-254-9923

**YOUTH ACTION CENTRE**  
Street Drop-in  
41 West Cordova Street  
Vancouver, BC.  
PHONE: 604-602-9747  
FAX: 604-602-9749

**YOUTH LIFESKILLS**  
47 West Cordova Street  
Vancouver, BC.  
PHONE: 604-602-9747  
FAX: 604-602-9749

**YOUTH OUTREACH**  
47 West Cordova Street  
Vancouver, BC.  
PHONE: 604-251-3310  
FAX: 604-685-7117

**ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAM**  
49 West Cordova Street  
Vancouver, BC.  
PHONE: 604-685-7300  
FAX: 604-685-7117

**NEEDLE EXCHANGE**  
5 East Hastings Street  
Vancouver, BC.  
PHONE: 604-307-9996  
FAX: 604-685-7117

**COMMUNITY PICK-UP**  
50 Blood Alley  
Vancouver, BC.  
PHONE: 604-657-6561  
FAX: 604-685-7117

**HEALTH OUTREACH VAN**  
50 Blood Alley  
Vancouver, BC.  
PHONE: 604-551-5011  
Fax: 604-685-7117

Rick Gates  
Social Planning Department  
City of Vancouver  
Ste. 100 - 515 West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4A8

Re: 2005 Community Service Grants - Direct Social Service Category  
Request for Reconsideration

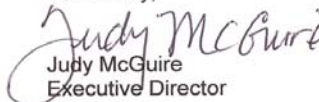
The Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society (DEYAS) would like to thank the Social Planning Department for once again, choosing to support our agency's Youth Street Outreach Program. However, in assessing the funding necessary to properly deliver such a program, we have come to the conclusion that the current funding recommendation is insufficient to financially support the service in question.

Therefore, DEYAS asks for reconsideration of our 2005 Community Service Grant application on the grounds that the financial situation was not appropriately assessed. The funding amount awarded - \$41,300 - is in fact inadequate to provide even the barest minimum service the City is indicating it wishes to contract with DEYAS.

We concur with the City that the program should be provided and therefore request sufficient funding to do so properly.

Please refer to the document attached for the full rationale for our submission. Should you require any further information, please contact me at your convenience.

Yours truly,

  
Judy McGuire  
Executive Director



*Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society*

**2005 Community Service Grants - Direct Social Service Category  
Request for Reconsideration**

The Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society (DEYAS) is requesting reconsideration of the Social Planning Department's recommendation that the society receive a 2005 Community Services Grant in the amount of \$41,300 for a Youth Street Outreach Program. The society applied for a total grant of \$165,509.

The City of Vancouver has a long history of providing funding for the DEYAS Youth Outreach Program itself, as well as partial funding for supervisory support. This funding was supplied to provide extra support for outreach to high-risk youth in the Downtown Eastside, with the specific intention of giving the agency the capacity to provide outreach and support to the 19 to 24 age group not covered under Provincial youth programs. Although the amount varied somewhat from year to year, support for this single position, plus partial supervisory funding, tended to be provided in the close to \$50,000 range. For example, the 2003 grant was for \$48,196.

In 2004, the Provincial Ministry of Children and Family Development reorganized Youth Outreach and other youth services under what they termed a 'hub' model. Under this model, East Vancouver youth outreach was designated under the Aboriginal hub and DEYAS lost the applicable contract, leaving the single position funded by the City as the agency's sole outreach worker. At the same time, the City reduced funding for the position to \$40,500. This left DEYAS with a single, under-funded worker, mandated to target 19 to 24 year olds, providing limited front-end contact to our other youth and young adult services, including youth detox and youth lifeskills / training.

For this first year after this reorganization, DEYAS chose to maintain the service despite this very limited budget – an expensive proposition, as no program costs were attached to the position but one we felt was necessary, as Ministry reorganizations and cut-backs had sharply reduced the total number of youth outreach workers providing service within the City. As a result, even given extremely tight budgeting, the program has run a deficit for the year of approximately \$14,000. Client need notwithstanding, it has become clear that the agency cannot afford to keep supplementing this contract, no matter how necessary the service.

Therefore, the agency in consultation with other youth-serving organizations on Vancouver's east side did an analysis of the positions actually needed to provide even the minimal acceptable service under this program. Although the assumption was hardly warranted by the limited availability of Provincially-funded underage youth outreach workers, DEYAS assumed for this request that the positions would be targeted to the young adult population - the 19 to 24 year olds not under the mandate of the Ministry of Children and Family Development. It became quickly clear that to deliver even a minimal program would require three workers, some supervision, and program costs. Three workers were deemed necessary to ensure that service was available seven days per week, that vacation and sick time could be properly covered, and that both day and evening activities could be undertaken as necessary. Evening outreach was deemed the key to actually reaching the young people in question, while day work was crucial for follow-up with government and other agencies, client appointments, and other stabilizing program elements.



**DEYAS Request for Reconsideration**

....2

The need for more outreach services in east Vancouver has been obvious on a case by case basis for the past year to all organizations in the area providing youth and young adult related services. Even a cursory analysis shows a disturbing trend. For example, a single eastside worker during the month of February provided direct service to 22 children/youth under age 19 and to 16 further youth aged 19 to 24. A number of these youth and young adults were new to the streets; all were deemed to be at high risk and/or 'falling through the cracks' in current services; all were judged to require ongoing support. Youth homelessness is rising, while supports such as youth agreements or social assistance are being limited or entirely withdrawn, depending on the circumstances.

DEYAS remains in an excellent position to deliver and support the required services. The agency has effectively run this program for 20 years and over that time has developed many other supporting programs such as a street-youth drop-in, youth detox, lifeskills / training, needle exchange, a health outreach van (on-street nursing services), and drug & alcohol counselling. The agency is well integrated with other Vancouver organizations serving youth and young adults, participating in coordinating activities such as the Hard Targeting initiative for high-risk youth, which DEYAS founded; this initiative is now coordinated through the Downtown Eastside Neighbourhood Safety Office. DEYAS is an active member of the Network Two Society, the Network of East Vancouver Community Organizations, the Youth Alcohol & Drug Agencies group and Fast Track to Employment, and maintains ongoing productive relationships with many other community partners. DEYAS Executive Director, Judy McGuire, is a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the City's Child and Youth Advocate, and of the Vancouver Board of Trade's Community Affairs Committee and Downtown Eastside Task Force. DEYAS is also working with a number of other organizations delivering youth-related services to develop a City-wide coordinating mechanism for all youth and family programs.

Current systems are failing the youth in Vancouver and the need for this program has never been more crucial. While the cost of funding this service at even the minimal level requested indeed calls for a large increase, the price of not doing so will ultimately cost the City more in policing costs alone, while the human costs will mount as youth and young adults are lost to street life and to drugs. We request the City's support to help us help them change their futures.

## End Legislated Poverty (ELP) #27

Request:		\$ 44,900
2004 Grant:		\$ 33,996
Social Planning Initial Recommendation:	\$ 0	NO GRANT
Social Planning New Recommendation:	\$ 0	NO GRANT

### Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

The goal of End Legislated Poverty's work is to organize low-income people and advance greater understanding about the causes of poverty and the need to end it. Their Organizational Capacity Building grant request was for a full time Organizer/Volunteer Coordinator who would be responsible for supervising volunteers, carrying out various campaigns, providing referrals for advocacy, writing articles/press releases and acting as an advisor for community-based research.

### Social Planning's Initial Response:

Staff recommended NO GRANT. The organization's ability to function was severely curtailed by the Province's decision to terminate funding in 2003. While staff has recommended maintaining funding over the past two years, they have concluded that the organization is no longer sustainable.

### Basis for Reconsideration

End Legislated Poverty requested reconsideration on the basis that "the financial situation of the applicant had not been properly assessed or understood" (see attached letter). They provided some additional information on their current financial situation, specifically noting recent donations they had received. The Board expressed confidence they could continue to function if the City approved a grant of \$44,900 to cover the salary, benefits and administrative costs of a paid Organizer/Volunteer Coordinator. They confirmed that City funding would not be used to support ELP's provincially focused work which would be managed by volunteers and donated labour from member organizations.

### Social Planning Comments

There are two areas of concern with ELP's application: the financial viability of the organization and their eligibility within the grant stream (Organizational Capacity Building) under which ELP has made this year's application.

Since losing significant Provincial funding in 2003, ELP has been forced to change from an organization with full time staff to one that relies heavily upon volunteers, and on a three

person working Board. Over the past two years of continued City funding, Social Planning staff had hoped that ELP would be able stabilize its operation and expand its fundraising. This has not occurred. ELP has not applied for grants from other funders.

Their only full time staff person, the City-funded Organizer/Volunteer Coordinator, went on a medical leave in the fall. A new Board was elected in late November 2004. During this period of change, they missed deadline dates for City grants. ELP ended up applying late for a Community Services Grant and did not apply for a rent subsidy grant. Without this grant, their rent for a City-owned space will now be approximately \$12,000 instead of the \$5,000. The organization has just realized the implications of this oversight and is now making plans to move.

ELP's organizational struggles continue to divert their attention from building a diversified financial base. They are seeking increased City support (\$44,900) to cover over 50% of their projected operating budget of \$85,900. A grant at this level would not be on par with funding provided to other organizations requesting City funding for similar staff positions. Further, Social Planning staff do not believe that ELP has the capacity to secure the additional needed funding.

A second problem is that ELP requested an Organizational Capacity Building grant for a staff position to engage volunteers in their office and community activities. This coordinator's work is to be focused on their own organization's need to recruit and support volunteers. In the past ELP was funded for this work more appropriately under the Direct Social Services grant category. ELP's current grant request does not meet the eligibility criteria for an Organizational Capacity Building grant. Under this grant stream "the primary purpose and mandate of the funded service or program is to support other non-profit agencies to improve their ability to deliver social services, address social issues and navigate change". Groups who are funded for Organizational Capacity Building grants provide services to other non-profit organizations such as assistance with volunteer recruitment, a centralized information service, or support to become internet competent.

While ELP has grassroots connections and knowledge to share about poverty issues they are not the only City-funded organization that helps low-income residents advocate for themselves. A number of City-funded organizations help low-income residents exercise their rights and/or they incorporate systemic advocacy into their work, for example: the BC Coalition for People with Disabilities, Tenant's Rights Coalition, the Vancouver Area Human Rights Coalition, the Vancouver Status of Women (publishes the Welfare Guide for Women) and MOSAIC (facilitates the Working Group on Poverty).

Staff acknowledge the contribution ELP has made to the discussion of poverty issues but, in view of the continuing financial and organizational difficulties, have concluded that the Society is not sustainable. The application under the Organizational Capacity Building stream is also ineligible.

### **Recommendation**

NO GRANT



- ◆ Advocacy Outreach Society, Salmon Arm
- ◆ BC Teachers' Federation
- ◆ Boundary Women's Resource Centre, Grand Forks
- ◆ Branching Out, Dawson Creek
- ◆ Bulkley Valley Anti-Poverty Group, Smithers
- ◆ Carnegie Community Centre Association
- ◆ Christ Church Cathedral
- ◆ Comox Valley Anti-Poverty Social Action Group, Courtenay
- ◆ Cowichan Women Against Violence Society, Duncan
- ◆ Downtown Eastside Residents' Association
- ◆ Downtown Eastside Women's Centre
- ◆ First United Church
- ◆ Handicapped/Low Income Society
- ◆ Kamloops Active Support Against Poverty Society
- ◆ Kitimat Anti-poverty
- ◆ Lower Light Society, Fort Nelson
- ◆ Metis Family Services
- ◆ National Action Committee on the Status of Women - BC
- ◆ Neighbourhood Helpers
- ◆ Nelson Advocacy Centre
- ◆ North Okanagan Community Response Advocacy Project
- ◆ Penticton & Area Women's Centre
- ◆ Philippine Women's Centre
- ◆ Skeena Advocacy for Everyone, Terrace
- ◆ Stepping Stone Vision
- ◆ Sunshine Coast Unemployment Action Centre, Gibsons
- ◆ Tenant's Rights Action Coalition
- ◆ Terrace Anti-Poverty Group
- ◆ Together Against Poverty Society, Victoria
- ◆ Unitarian Church of Vancouver
- ◆ United Native Nations Society
- ◆ Vancouver & District Public Housing Tenants Association
- ◆ Vancouver-Richmond Mental Health Network
- ◆ Vancouver Status of Women
- ◆ Vernon & District Women's Centre

ELP is partially funded by the City of Vancouver

Ste. 211- 456 W.Broadway.  
Vancouver B.C V5Y 1R3  
Ph:(604) 879 1209  
Fax:(604) 879 1229

March 30th, 2005



Dear City of Vancouver Social Planning Staff and City Counsel

As part of the reconsideration process we are supplying the addition of a revised budget for 2005.

Also please note that we are exploring additional sources of funding through Foundations, Grants and other funding sources.

We are also in the process of finding another place to relocate to, with the, possibility of using a shared space to reduce our rental expenses.

We are happy to share our progress on these developments as they unfold

Thank you consideration of our application for reconsideration

Dave Ross

End Legislated Poverty Board Chairperson

End Legislated Poverty  
211-456 West Broadway  
Vancouver BC  
V5Y 1R3

March 8, 2005

RE: 2005 Community Service Grants

This is formal notification that End Legislated Poverty is requesting "reconsideration" of "the Social Planning Departments [recommendation of] NO Community Services Grant [to] be approved for [our] organization."

We are requesting reconsideration under criteria #2

"the financial situation of the applicant has not been properly assessed or understood"

Supporting information is included in the submission included in the next 2 pages.

Thank you for consideration of this request.

Sincerely



David Ross ELP Board Chairperson



End Legislated Poverty  
211-456 West Broadway  
Vancouver BC  
V5Y 1R3

March 8, 2005

RE: 2005 Community Service Grants

Dear City Council Members:

In Appealing the Recommendation of Social Planning regarding our application for continued funding we would like to clarify the following points which may not have been understood in the making of this recommendation.

As to you concerns re: "sustainability" and our target of raising \$30,000 in the next year with we did achieve in 2003 (\$30,387) but fell sort of that amount last year:

-We are currently relying on professional expertise from donated labour from the community organizations that make up our coalition as well as first hand experiential knowledge of our volunteers in our fund raising work .

-In our proposed budget for 2005 we have budgeted a modest amount (approx. 15%) for administrative staff to assist with administration of activities.

-While we expect improvement with funding for some administrative work after March 31 2005, over the last six months we have done a good job of fund raising with a working board, donated labour, and use of volunteers while paid staff have been working on organizing work in the Vancouver Area as our previous contract with The City of Vancouver

ELP continue to have broad support and interest given our unique talents in involving low income people from various marginalized population in advocating for programs that are aimed at reducing and ultimately eliminating poverty, from community organizations, labour and professional organizations as reflected in our donations over the last 6 months.

We receive ongoing community support in the form of donations such:

\$3600/year from one union as \$300 per month

As the result of recent efforts:

\$5000 (Sept 30th 2004) from a professional association  
\$1500 (Dec 2004) and  
\$2089 (Feb 2005) both from another profession association

as well as smaller donations in the \$100-\$400 range  
\$400 A North Shore Church, Jan 2005,  
\$200 a student organization, Feb 2005  
\$100 a Vancouver Church, Nov 2004

Also many donations from individuals (some low income and working poor) of \$10 to \$100

This recent record suggests that with modest improvement we can meet our stated fund raising goals.

Our rent is quite low only \$5840 per year or \$487 per month after our subsidy from the City (\$12,840-7000 subsidy=\$5840)

Please note that we have careful to set aside monies for commitments such designated funding (i.e. deferred income from other grants including a grant for transition/capacity building work), and contingencies such as equipment contracts. This is reflected in our current surplus in our grant application budget. Much of this money is separated in trust accounts.

We had to adjust to less funding for administration since the loss of our provincial grant in 2003. We are learning to make more effective use of donated labour and expertise on the short term. Remaining funds from our capacity grant permits us enhance skills training, team building and organization development. We continue to count on the work with people other than city funded staff while securing enough funding to secure paid professional expertise as required.

We hope that clarifying these issues indicates that on careful inspection that we remain viable and will be able to continue to serve the terms our grant.

We be pleased to answer any question regarding above information should it be helpful in your decision.



Dave Ross ELP board Chairperson.

## Kiwassa Neighbourhood House (#46)

Request:	\$120,000
2004 Grant:	\$ 59,000
Social Planning Initial Recommendation:	\$ 69,000
Social Planning New Recommendation:	\$ 84,000

### Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

Kiwassa Neighbourhood House is a long-established agency serving the neighbourhoods of north Hastings Sunrise and north Grandview Woodlands in Vancouver. Using a community development framework, the Neighbourhood House provides many programs and services ranging from childcare to school-age social development, seniors, family services, employment and settlement, aboriginal programs, job training and volunteer development. The Neighbourhood House also works in partnership with different coalitions and groups, and provides support to many local initiatives.

The City grant is to support the core functions of the organization, including work related to community development, issue advocacy and capacity building.

### Social Planning's Initial Recommendation

Staff originally recommended an increase of \$10,000 to the 2005 grant, for a total of \$69,000. This is commensurate with proposed increases for similar neighbourhood-based organizations which have played significant community leadership role as well as demonstrated a high level of achievement in community involvement and participation.

### Basis for Reconsideration

Kiwassa Neighbourhood House is requesting reconsideration for an additional funding of \$20,000 above the initial recommendation by staff, for a total of \$89,000. Their request is based on their current financial resources which they deem insufficient to continue to do the essential community work in support of the City's strategic goals in strengthening neighbourhoods and addressing social needs.

Kiwassa pointed out that the neighbourhoods they serve are facing issues of poverty, crime and safety, lack of community amenities, addictions, families at risk and significant cultural and language integration challenges. Increasingly, they are being asked by local groups and residents to support local initiatives at low or no cost. As their administrative and management capacity are stretched to the maximum, they are faced with having to turn down worthwhile community requests and initiatives and having their ability to continue with their community building work at the same level compromised. Additional funds from the City can assist with more community capacity building work, support better service delivery and allow them to continue with their leadership role in community affairs.

## Social Planning Comments

The City's Community Services Grants Program underwent some major changes two years ago, resulting in the establishment of three categories of grants, including Neighbourhood Organization Grants. This structural change reflects the need to better recognise and support neighbourhood-based work in the areas of community development, capacity building and issue advocacy. Neighbourhood-based organizations, such as Kiwassa Neighbourhood House, have played key roles in responding to increasingly complex issues and needs in neighbourhoods. However, resources required to respond to these issues have not kept pace over the years. In fact, most of these groups have to address additional government requirements or solicit new sources of funding due to provincial contract restructuring and funding cutbacks.

In fall of 2004, Social Planning staff convened meetings with all currently city-funded neighbourhood-based organizations to discuss their vision and roles in developing strong vibrant neighbourhoods. Recommendations from that discussion identified the need for increased core funding so organizations can more adequately fulfill their role in community capacity building and community development.

Over the years, Kiwassa Neighbourhood House has demonstrated a highly consistent and effective approach in working with neighbourhood residents in addressing local issues and needs. Strong partnerships are built and fostered, and community participation is always encouraged and promoted. With Council's approval of an increased budget in the Community Services Grants Program, staff are recommending an increase of \$25,000 from the 2004 grant to the organization for a total of \$84,000 for 2005. The additional resources will assist the organization to continue with their important role in strengthening neighbourhoods and to address social needs in the community. This is consistent with staff's recommendation for a \$25,000 increase in the funding for two other Neighbourhood Houses who are doing excellent work in the area of strengthening their neighbourhoods.

## Recommendation

Staff recommend a grant of \$84,000, which is an increase of \$15,000 over the previous recommendation.



03/08/05 15:40 FAX 604 254 7673

KIWASSA NEIGH HSE

002



March 7, 2005

Rick Gates  
Social Planner  
City of Vancouver  
Social Planning Department  
453 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V5Y 1V4

Dear Rick:

This letter is to advise you that Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Association is requesting a formal reconsideration of staff's recommendation to City Council for the amount of our Neighbourhood Organization Grant. We are requesting an additional \$20,000 beyond the staff's recommendation, for a total grant request of \$89,000.

We appreciate the staff recommendation for an increased amount to our agency beyond prior years' grants. At the same time, we think that our financial situation was not sufficiently clear or understood in regards to our capacity to do the important work of community building and strengthening our neighbourhoods.

If we were not facing reduced capacity to do the community development, capacity building and advocacy work that we do and that is so greatly needed in our neighbourhood, we would not be making this appeal for reconsideration.

I am attaching supporting documentation regarding this matter. We are most appreciative of the opportunity to make this request. We also appreciate the time and effort of Social Planning staff in supporting and advocating for the work of neighbourhood based agencies and programs. We wish that the community service grants budget was larger and hope that it will increase.

Again, thank you for consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Nancy McRitchie  
Executive Director

2425 Oxford Street  
Vancouver, B.C. V5K 1M7  
Tel 254-5401  
Fax 254-7673

A United Way Agency



### Request for Reconsideration

Kiwassa Neighbourhood House is requesting reconsideration of our recommended Neighbourhood Organizational Grant amount. We are requesting a total grant of \$89,000, which is an increase of \$20,000 above the initial recommendation of City staff.

We appreciate that City staff recommended an increase of \$10,000 over previous years' grants. Yet we feel we have not made clear enough the degree to which additional financial resources are required in order to continue to do the essential community work that we currently do and to support the City's strategic goals around strengthening neighbourhoods and addressing social issues.

Kiwassa Neighbourhood House serves the neighbourhoods of north Hastings Sunrise and north Grandview Woodlands. One of these neighbourhoods is an area of poverty, serious crime and safety issues, lack of community amenities, addictions, issues for at risk families, and significant cultural and language barriers. This is the area most in need of community capacity building and neighbourhood strengthening, and the area of highest priority for Kiwassa and its mandate. The other areas of our community face to a somewhat lesser degree the same issues. Residents in our community also face increased challenges due to reductions and restructuring in services. Our community is also affected by changes in the Downtown East Side.

Kiwassa Neighbourhood House provides a very broad range of services and programs. For many years neighbourhood based services for the local community have been our primary function. Sometimes contracts for services have come with administration support dollars and sometimes they have not. Contracts for services have never paid a lot for the core administrative and infrastructure costs such as supervision, contract and financial management, administration, bookkeeping, insurance and facilities. In recent years these costs have been increasingly under-funded by service contracts.

We have survived by extensive grant writing, development of many strong service delivery partnerships, building the capacity of volunteers and by operating our core functions in as lean a manner as possible. As an independent agency, our only core grants come from the City of Vancouver and the United Way. More and more, our management resources have been stretched due to increased monitoring and reporting requirements from our many funders and more onerous application processes for funding contracts, as well as in supporting front line staff dealing with rising community need for supports and services.

As a result of our past work and demonstrated commitment to community building, Kiwassa is increasingly being approached by other organizations, both formal and informal, for support for community initiatives. Some of these initiatives are local and others are for a larger geographical area. We have taken on many of those requests but we are finding our capacity to do so is diminishing in relation to the increased needs. In many cases we are asked to provide administrative and infrastructure support to community initiatives. We do this at low or no cost because in many cases the groups asking for this support have so little

Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Association  
Request for Reconsideration



capacity and yet the community need is demonstrated. However, we are now in the position of having to turn down some of the requests for support that have come our way.

Some of the requests within the past year that Kiwassa *has* responded to include:

- Providing consultation and administrative support at no cost to a local preschool that is part of a school that lost its community school designation;
- being the lead agency of a consortium for the north half of Vancouver that provides family support programs, funded by the Ministry for Children and Family Development within their restructured contract and service delivery model;
- providing space, financial services and funder liaison at no cost for a local community art project;
- providing space and payroll services for an Aboriginal society providing community programs at Kiwassa;
- participating on the Windows of Opportunity management team, working towards a city wide strategic approach in prioritizing investing in children, youth and families;
- being lead agency for a two year community development project addressing the issues of sex work in the city of Vancouver, with a very broad range of stakeholders;
- participating in the Coalition for Kids advocacy organization towards involving our youth program in community education and advocacy;
- providing the Neighbourhood Small grants program at no cost to our community for small resident projects;
- providing some financial services at no cost for a local neighbourhood group doing community building and fundraising.

Kiwassa recognizes the need to be proactive regarding local and community wide planning processes in response to changes in government policy and service restructuring. We are involved in a number of service networks, and have identified a number of review and planning initiatives that are required, yet such work takes time and resources that are at this point too limited.

In closing, the funds that we are requesting over and above our previous grant amount would enable us to further support community capacity building, support our current community service provision, assist those organizations and groups making requests of us, and allow us to continue to take a leadership role in strengthening our neighbourhoods and addressing social issues.

We appreciate this opportunity to ask for reconsideration of our Neighbourhood Organization Grant and appreciate your time and attention to this request.

Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Association  
Request for Reconsideration

## Philippine Women Centre (#70)

Request:	\$45,000
2004 Grant:	\$17,500
Social Planning Initial Recommendation:	\$17,848
Social Planning New Recommendation:	\$17,848

### Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

The Philippine Women Centre (PWC) provides a range of services, including settlement assistance, housing information, job search, and general information and referral. They also have an active volunteer program, a youth program, are involved in several community economic development programs and conduct capacity building sessions for the organization and its members.

### Social Planning's Initial Response:

Staff recommended a grant of \$17,848, which is equal to last year's grant with an inflation adjustment.

### Basis for Reconsideration

In the letter requesting reconsideration (attached), PWC stated that the basis of their request was premised on both eligibility and finances. In subsequent conversations with the Executive Director, she has indicated that they understand that eligibility is not an issue and that their financial situation was the sole basis for reconsideration. No additional written information or explanation of the financial situation has been provided, although in its letter, the Centre states "We wish to make a presentation to Council at the reconsideration meeting..."

### Social Planning Comments

The grant application states that the City grant funding will be used for a newly created a core staff position. The Executive Director has since clarified that the previous City grant was used to pay for approximately 16 hours per week of her time. She does work more than 16 hours each week, but that additional time is unpaid. PWC is requesting an increase in the City grant to be able to add 12 hours per week to the Executive Director's paid work time.

Staff note that adding to the ED's paid time as requested, at the same rate as is currently paid, would require a grant of approximately \$30,000, not \$45,000 as requested.

The PWC's budget in the fiscal year beginning in 2004 was \$181,150. The projected budget for 2005 is \$249,300, which includes a Community Services Grant of \$45,000. Both budgets include unrestricted funding from sources such as gaming, donations, and fund-raising. These figures



would seem to indicate that the organization has the financial capability of paying the Executive Director for additional hours, should they wish to do so.

No additional information has been provided that would demonstrate that the financial situation is other than that which was determined by staff during the initial review. Consequently, there is no basis for change to the initial recommendation

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommend no change to the original recommendation of \$17,848.

6042151905 KALAYAAN CENTRE

225 P02 JAN 31 '04 03:43



## PHILIPPINE WOMEN CENTRE OF B.C.

451 Powell St., Vancouver, B.C., Canada, V6A 1G7, ph/fax (604) 215.1103, email: pwc@telus.net

March 8, 2005

City of Vancouver  
Community Services Group  
Social Planning Department  
Suite 100 – 515 West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue

VIA FACSIMILE: 604-871-6048

**Attention: Social Planning Department**

Dear Sirs / Mesdames:

**RE: 2005 Community Services Grants – Request for Reconsideration**

Further to your February 23, 2005 letter, this is to advise that we are formally requesting reconsideration of your recommendation to City Council that we receive \$17,848 under the above program.

The basis of our reconsideration is of both premises:

1. that eligibility criteria have not been properly applied; and
2. that the financial situation of the applicant has not been properly assessed or understood.

We wish to make a presentation to Council at the reconsideration meeting scheduled for April 28, 2005.

If you have any questions, please call us at the above number.

Sincerely,

Monica Urrutia  
Chairperson

## Self-Help Resource Assoc. - on-line self help (#76)

Request:	\$25,000
2004 Grant:	\$ 0
Social Planning Initial Recommendation:	\$ 0 NO GRANT
Social Planning New Recommendation:	\$ 0 NO GRANT

### Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

The On-Line Self-Help (OSH) Community Initiative is a collaborative project aimed at creating a sustainable, accessible, and inclusive on-line community; one that will have the capacity to host online courses and workshops and online self-help and peer support groups, and provide online resources and support to the self-help and peer support community. The proposed City grant would partially fund a Project Coordinator position and a portion of the Executive Director's salary, while working on this project.

### Social Planning's Initial Response

Staff determined that this proposal is not eligible for funding because, according to City Council policy, Community Services Grants are not provided for "time-limited projects (three years or less) in the developmental or formative stage".

### Basis for Reconsideration

SHRA has applied for reconsideration on the basis that the eligibility criteria have not been properly applied. In their request for reconsideration letter (attached) they assert that the work of the proposed program is to launch and maintain an on-going sustainable, accessible and inclusive online site. They say that the first two phases of the project were the developmental stages; now they are hoping to implement it by year end.

### Social Planning Comments

This is an exciting and innovative project that, once it's up and running, will provide access to a information and supports for a wide range of groups and residents that might otherwise have difficulties getting this help. However, staff have assessed that the project is still in the last stages of development, as evidenced by:

- The projected launch date of the online site is November or December 2005
- The project coordinator position was posted as a 1-year term position
- The Executive Director, in an e-mail to staff, clarified that the City funding was intended to be used for the project coordinator "through to the end of the project", or "until the end of the year"
- In the application form they state that one of the activities over the next year is to "design, build and launch the final OSH community site"

Once the OSH site is up and running (i.e. next year), the organization may very well be eligible for a Community Services Grant, in either the Organizational Capacity Building or Direct Social Services category. But in the meantime, Community Services Grant funding, which is intended for longer-term on-going support cannot, and should not, be used for the final stages of this developmental project.

**Recommendation**

NO GRANT



**Self-Help Resource Association of BC**  
#306 - 1212 West Broadway, Vancouver BC, V6H 3V1  
Telephone: (604) 733-6186 Fax: (604) 730-1015  
E-mail: shra@telus.net Website: www.selfhelpresource.bc.ca

Social Planning Department  
453 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

March 8, 2005



To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept the following letter as a request for reconsideration of the grant that the Self-Help Resource Association of BC submitted for the Online Self-Help (OSH) Community Project. We are applying under the first clause, that eligibility criteria have not been properly applied to.

While the previous phases of the OSH project were time-limited and in the development stages, the work of the proposed program is to launch and maintain a sustainable, accessible, and inclusive online community for self-help and peer support as described in the grant application.

The Online Self-Help Community Project was initiated in 2002 to create a sustainable, accessible, and inclusive online community; one that has the capacity to host online courses and workshops developed by SHRA and our partners; host online self-help and peer support groups, and provide online resources and support to the self-help and peer support community of Vancouver.

In keeping with the SHRA philosophy which values lived experience and community engagement, the OSH Project is designed to meet the specific training and networking needs of facilitators who support a number of different communities struggling against multiple barriers.

During the first two years of this project we researched communication platforms and tools; formed partnerships primarily with community organizations supporting people with disabilities; conducted a 'Live Online' pilot workshop based on SHRA's "Six Steps to Self-Help"; and completed a further online training of SHRA's Grassroots Facilitator Training with 22 participants.

The first two phases of the project allowed us to respond to the growing demand for online self-help groups due to decreased capacity and resources. We were able to identify an approach to training that provided organizations with economically feasible, sustainable, accessible, and relevant methods for the development and maintenance of self-help and peer support groups.

The successes and challenges during the first and second phase of the OSH Project

have helped define our plan for this last phase; the online site's launch and sustainability. Based on our learnings we hope to supplement the work of organizations by:

- Widening our Steering Committee to include organizations throughout Vancouver that work with women, youth, First Nations people, immigrants and refugees, seniors, the LGBT communities etc. in an effort to ensure that the project is accountable to their needs.
- Creating a space for online training, information, and resources that can be accessed by community organizations and facilitators to keep informed and connected to the issues.
- Redesigning our website to be more user-friendly and effective in doing online training beyond the scope of the outlined project.

Our networking to date has yielded a positive response from a spectrum of community organizations who wish to participate in the project as Steering Committee members, training group participants, technical advisors etc. (some are keen to be a link on the website). They are excited about the potential to work together to address issues such as sexism, racism, ableism, homophobia, ageism, poverty etc. by sharing and exchanging resources in a timely manner.

We have been fortunate enough to learn and develop this project to the point where we are able to launch a final site and are hoping to secure support from Social Planning to launch the project from its previous developmental phases into the ongoing, sustainable online community of self-help and peer support we described in the grant application.

Thank you for consideration of this proposal. We look forward to answering any questions you may have and hope that you might reconsider the original "No" recommendation to City Council. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 604-733-6186 or [mridula\\_morgan@telus.net](mailto:mridula_morgan@telus.net).

Sincerely,



Mridula Morgan  
Project Coordinator,  
Online Self-Help Community Project

## Theatre for Living Society (Headlines Theatre) (#89)

Request:	\$20,000
2004 Grant:	\$16,160
Social Planning Initial Recommendation:	\$10,000
Social Planning New Recommendation:	\$10,000

### Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

Headlines is a theatre company that promotes and develops theatre, film and video generally, and THEATRE FOR LIVING specifically, as these cultural forms spring from and speak to issues that arise from community concerns. Their work raises awareness of social issues and shares the culture-making skills and techniques of that process.

The Community Services Grant is intended to pay for a portion of the salary of the Outreach Coordinator. This position provides a liaison with community organizations and service agencies helping them to make better use of THEATRE FOR LIVING techniques. This person also works to foster community representation and participation within the organization's main stage projects. This year, Headlines also applied for an increase of \$3,840 to their previous grant to partially fund a Community Scribe who would record audience interventions and resulting suggestions that take place during the forum theatre project and generate a report for community social service agencies.

### Social Planning's Initial Response:

Initially, in order to remain within the limits of the grants budget and to be able to fund other applications which rated higher with regards to City priorities, staff had to recommend no grant or a terminating grant to seven applicants, including Headlines. If additional City funding were to come available, staff recommended a grant of \$10,000. This was a reduction from previous year's funding as this year's proposal did not include the development, with community groups, of a number of "theatre for living" projects.

### Basis for Reconsideration

Headlines is seeking reconsideration on both allowable bases (see the attached letter). First, they claim that a misunderstanding about the work that they will be doing has resulted in the eligibility criteria not being properly applied. Second, they feel that their financial situation was not properly understood. In the letter they say that either of the staff recommendations results in a shortfall of \$10,000 - \$20,000 from their projected budget, and that this cut would severely hurt their ability to function.

## Social Planning Comments

Social Planning staff initially developed two recommendations for Headlines. The first was for no grant, which was necessitated by insufficient funding being available in the grants budget to adequately fund all applications. However, Council has since approved an increase to the grants budget, and staff are therefore no longer recommending no grant.

The second staff recommendation for Headlines, for \$10,000 represents a reduction of \$6,160 from the previous year's funding and is only half of what Headlines applied for.

Prior to last year, on the front page of the grant application form, Headlines stated that "We will continue to develop our relationships with community groups in Vancouver, in particular creating approximately 15 Theatre for Living projects in the coming year, as well as our mainstage production..." This year's application makes no mention of the "15" projects. When asked about this apparent change, the Managing Director recently replied "As is always the case, there will be short notice, small local events that we cannot plan this far in advance." (letter from Headlines)

For years, Social Planning staff have understood that the Community Services Grant would be directed to core staff for their part in the production of the small, local events (the 15 projects mentioned in the application), while the Cultural Grant (\$11,000 this year) would be directed to the mainstage production. Community Services grant funding has never been intended to be used for the Theatre for Living training workshops, as this is a function that is not eligible for City funding.

Headlines has pointed out, quite correctly, that there was no mention of the small community projects in last year's application, and that there was no resultant reduction in funding. However, as last year's mainstage project was "Practicing Democracy", a project that Council agreed to participate in, an exception was made. This year's mainstage projects are not so directly connected to City work.

There was, and still is considerable overlap between direct social services and artistic endeavour with groups like Headlines. Social Planning staff felt that the small, community projects were sufficiently aimed at addressing specific local social issues, that some CS Grant funding was warranted. With the apparent reduction in these projects, the funding should be reduced.

With regards to Headlines' assertion that this reduction in funding will "severely hurt our ability to function", staff note that the 2005 budget is \$344,934. The proposed \$6,160 reduction, which reflects a reduction in some types of work, combined with a \$1,000 increase in the City's Cultural Grant, should not, in our opinion have serious repercussions for the organization.

## Recommendation

Staff recommend a grant of \$10,000, with the following CONDITION:

THE COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANT FUNDING MUST BE USED FOR SMALL, LOCAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS, NOT THE MAINSTAGE WORK OR THE THEATRE FOR LIVING TRAINING WORKSHOPS.



# HEADLINES

## THEATRE FOR LIVING

#323 - 350 East 2nd Avenue, Vancouver BC, Canada V5T 4R8  
Centre for the Theatre of the Oppressed in British Columbia  
Tel (604) 871-0508 Fax (604) 871-0209  
e-mail: david@headlinestheatre.com web: www.headlinestheatre.com

Michelle Vernooy  
Social Planning Analyst  
Social Planning  
City of Vancouver  
#100 - 515 West 10th Ave.  
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4A8

March 1, 2005

This letter is to request a reconsideration of the Staff recommendation regarding Headlines Theatre's 2005 Community Services Grant.

In order to articulate this reconsideration it is necessary to lay down some context. For many years the process with Community Services has been extremely positive and responsible. This is, sadly, not the case this year.

We met on Monday, January 24, 2005 with our new Community Services Officer, Michelle Vernooy, for our yearly grant review. Present at that meeting were: Barbara Buckman (Board member), Dylan Mazur (Administrator), Dafne Blanco (Outreach Co-ordinator), Jackie Crossland (Financial Administrator) Michelle and myself (David Diamond, Artistic Director). For Headlines, these annual meetings have always been an important element of our relationship with the City.

In the past, if there were any questions or concerns about the current application, they would be raised at this meeting. Occasionally, if a question arose, the Officer might even call prior to the meeting. Historically, it has always been the case that questions were easily answered and brought clarity to the application.

In the January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting there was absolutely no indication that there was any concern whatsoever with the grant application. Not only did no concerns arise, but the officer praised the work of the organization with superlatives. If the concerns that have led to this recommendation for a cut to our funding had been raised at this meeting, I am pretty certain those concerns could have been answered, and I would not be writing this letter now, when grant decisions have already been made and available funds have been allocated.

With Project Grant applications, one expects to be 'up in the air' at every application. However, this grant is for Operating Funding; money that provides stability to the organization. To recommend a 100% cut to an organization's operating grant with absolutely zero notice of any concern about the past work, or the organization's future plans, is a sign that something has gone terribly wrong with the assessment process at Community Services.

My understanding is that, according to the staff recommendation, the best we can expect from the reconsideration process now is a \$6,160 cut in operating

Rainbow of Desire  
Cops in the Head  
Image Theatre  
Your Wildest Dream  
Reclaiming Our Spirits  
Power Plays  
Legislative Theatre

### Awards:

- 2004  
Jessie Richardson Theatre  
Awards: Outstanding  
Production and Significant  
Artistic Achievement for  
'Practicing Democracy'
  - 2004  
Red Cross Power of Humanity  
Award for 'Don't Say a Word'
  - 2003  
Honoured on permanent  
Kitsilano Community Mural as  
local peacemaker
  - 1998  
Hometown Award  
(N. American Community TV)  
Cultural/Ethnic Diversity for:  
'Generations'
  - 1996  
Canadian Healthy Environment  
Award for: 'Mamu'
  - 1996  
City of Vancouver  
Cultural Harmony Award
  - 1993  
CCTA Pacific Programming  
Excellence Award for:  
'This is my Life'
  - 1991  
MOSAIC  
Human Rights Award
  - 1989  
Jessie Richardson Award  
Innovation in Theatre for  
'SANCTUARY'
- for a complete list see:  
[www.headlinestheatre.com](http://www.headlinestheatre.com)

funding. Because no concerns were ever raised with us regarding the application, we are now in an unjust Catch-22.

The request in our application was for an increase of approximately \$4,000, which would have taken the operating grant to \$20,000/year. Either of the Staff recommendations- a 100% funding cut, or an additional allocation by Council of \$10,000 to fund Headlines – would amount to a shortfall of \$10,000 - \$20,000 from our projected operating budget. This cut from operating will severely hurt our ability to function.

The reason for the cut as articulated in the letter is:

“This is a reduction from previous year's funding as this year's proposal does not include the development, with community groups, of a number of "Theatre for Living" projects.”

This is absolutely false. So we are asking for reconsideration for the following reasons:

1. that eligibility criteria have not been properly applied:

In the year under consideration, and as articulated in the application, we are doing:

A nine day THEATRE FOR LIVING (TFL) intensive of Gimme the Keys at Windermere on drinking, drugs and driving that involves many local community service agencies;

The yearly TFL trainings which always serve the City;

A week long TFL workshop with the Indo-Canadian Community (now called “Here and Now”, which will then lead to a Main Stage TFL project (10 Vancouver Forum Theatre events) with MANY Indo-Canadian Social Service Agencies about violence issues. This project will also create an Action Report for use by Social Service Agencies.

“Here and Now” requires an ENORMOUS amount of networking and outreach from Headlines' Outreach Co-ordinator, whose salary is supported by this grant.

This is actually MORE local activity than the previous year; a year in which our operating grant request was successful.

What may be an issue is that the City is not seeing the kind of 'one day' or 'half day' local initiatives that always, inevitably, get peppered through the year. In the past we have articulated that we will:

“... also continue to develop our relationships with community groups in Vancouver, in particular creating approximately 15 THEATRE FOR LIVING projects in the coming year, as well as our Mainstage production (whatever that is going to be that year).”

The information quoted above was removed from our application the previous year, when we were planning the Gimme the Keys project. Mario Lee, who has a long history with Headlines was our assessor that year. Michelle was also present and in training. The omission of that text did not arise as an issue that year. The fact is that these other TFL workshops can NEVER be planned; they always happen as a response to short-notice requests from organizations.

I would request that the line above in quotes therefore be re-inserted in our application as they have happened every previous year and there is no reason to expect they will stop happening. This is the nature of truly serving local and immediate need – these smaller projects happen by request, not because of our pre-programming.

2. the financial situation of the applicant has not been properly assessed or understood.

The REASON given is that activity will be 'down' in the coming year (which is not true as articulated above). The RESULT, however, will be permanent. It will not last one year. Headlines does a great deal of work that serves the City in amazing ways. This 38% - 100% cut, for reasons that are not based in reality, will permanently hurt the organization's ability to function.

We respectfully request that at minimum, the Community Services operating grant remain at \$16,160. Further to that, that **City Council reject the Staff recommendation entirely** and our request for an increase to \$20,000, the first such request from us in years, be seriously considered. The service that Headlines' work has done through Practicing Democracy recently (and years of previous projects) and the work the organization continues to do for various sectors of the Vancouver community deserves the recognition.

Sincerely,



David Diamond  
Artistic and Managing Director  
Headlines Theatre  
#323-350 East 2nd Ave.  
Vancouver, BC Canada V5T 4R8  
(604) 871-0508 (ph) (604) 871-0209 (fax)  
e-mail: david@headlinestheatre.com  
web: <http://www.headlinestheatre.com>

CC by e-mail: Sue Harvey  
Rick Gates  
Mayor and Council (individually)  
Headlines' Board of Directors (individually)

## Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users (#98)

Request:	\$ 79,794
2004 Grant:	\$ 0
Social Planning Initial Recommendation:	\$ 0 NO GRANT
Social Planning New Recommendation:	\$ 0 NO GRANT

### Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users (VANDU) is a group of drug users and former users who work to improve the lives of people who use illicit drugs through user based peer support and education, and is committed to increasing the capacity of people who use drugs to live healthy and productive lives. It organizes street outreach, support discussion groups, educational events, needle exchanges and capacity building. It also endeavours whenever possible and appropriate to ensure people who use illicit drugs attend community events and participate in discussion.

The request for funding is to support the formation of 3 drug users groups: one in the Westend, one in the Fraser & Broadway area, and one is targeted to work with a Spanish-speaking Latino group.

### Social Planning's Initial Response

Staff determined that the proposal is not eligible for funding as it does not meet all of the eligibility criteria; specifically, the proposed activities come within the mandate of other levels of government (Health); connections/collaborations have not been established with other organizations in the communities that they wish to move into; and the issues and problems, and solutions that are unique to these communities have not been identified.

### Basis for Reconsideration

In the original application, VANDU requested funding to support the formation of 3 drug user groups, including a Spanish-speaking Latino group, for a total of \$79,794. In the letter requesting for reconsideration, VANDU indicated that they are now only seeking funding for 1/3 of the original proposal, for a total of \$26,333. The funding will be used to support a Spanish-speaking Latin American Network of Drug Users (LANDU) group. Although they don't specifically mention that they are disputing staff's application of eligibility criteria, it can be implied that this is the basis for their request for reconsideration.

### Social Planning Comments

The amended proposal from VANDU is to fund a part-time Project Organizer position working with Latino drug users in Vancouver, primarily by forming a Latin American Network of Drug Users group( LANDU). Currently, a small Latino users group meets weekly at WATARI which is located in the Downtown Eastside (DTES) area, and the meeting is supported by staff from the BC Centre For Disease Control and a counselling worker from WATARI. The purpose of the group is to address various kinds of health issues including preventative information.

VANDU estimats that there are about 300 Latino drug users in the DTES. Many of them came to Canada as refugee claimants, and became involved in drugs in the DTES. Due to residency status, language and cultural barriers, many of them could not access existing health services or information, such as detox, recovery house, counselling or basic disease prevention information. Some current Latino members of VANDU felt that by forming their own group, LANDU, and with additional organizing support, they could potentially access better health and social services, learn harm reduction and safe fixing practices, and communicate more effectively their needs and concerns to government agencies and the community at large.

Social Planning staff recognise that there are serious and urgent issues facing drug users in the City and especially in the DTES, and that there are additional barriers facing Latino users. Many health facilities do not provide language specific services or information, and many are perceived to be culturally inaccessible by Latino users. .

However, concerns raised by VANDU in their proposal are primarily to address health access issues and, as such, do not meet all of the eligibility criteria of the Community Services Grants, specifically: 1) that the program or services fall within the mandate of other governments, i.e. Health, and 2) that City's grants cannot be used to support health services, including health self-help groups.

Although we are unable to recommend a grant, there is an apparent health problem which needs to be addressed, and staff will assist VANDU in connecting with Vancouver Coastal Health.

#### **Recommendation**

NO GRANT



03/07/2005 10:14 6834797

VANDU

PAGE 01/01

*to  
social  
planning*

# VANDU

Vancouver Area Network Of Drug Users  
50 E. Hastings Street  
Vancouver, BC V6A 1N1

Ph: 604.683.8595  
Fax: 604.683.8586  
E-Mail: vandu@vandu.org  
Web: www.vandu.org

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	
Ref'd To: .....	By .....
<b>RECEIVED</b>	
MAR 09 2005	
File No. .....	<i>RG/SE</i>

March 8, 2005

Dear Rick,

Please accept this letter as notification in writing that VANDU is seeking reconsideration of our submission to the 2005 Community Services Grant proposal call. Specifically the part of the proposal that requests funding to support the Latin American Network of Drug Users or LANDU group.

We are appealing on the grounds that the Latin American Network of Drug Users has been meeting for 6 years and has established connections with other organizations. VANDU is eager to work with The BC Multicultural Health Services Society and the BC Centre for Disease Control to build LANDU. The WATARI Research Association has sponsored a support group for Latin American people who use illicit drugs which meets weekly. WATARI is also willing to work with VANDU to make this project a success.

We apologize for not emphasizing the issues, problems, and solutions that are unique to Latin American drug users. Language barriers, immigration struggles, police harassment and racial stigma are all unique problems faced by Latin American people who use illicit drugs. Latin American people in the downtown area are often assumed to be dealing drugs, and are thus criminalized to a degree not experienced by white people who use illicit drugs in our community. Latin American people who use illicit drugs are not fully served by VANDU because we are unable to talk to them in their own language and hear their issues and concerns.

This is a brief summary of our reasons for appeal. We are only seeking funding for 1/3 of the original proposal – a total of \$26,333. There is an urgent need to address the needs of Latin American people who use illicit drugs in our community. We look forward to addressing council to reconsider this important aspect of our proposal.

If you have any questions please contact me at 604.719.5313.

Thank you,

Ann Livingston  
Executive Program Director  
VANDU

Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users

## Vancouver Women's Health Collective (#107)

Request	\$49,421	
2004 Grant	\$49,421	
Social Planning Initial Recommendation		\$35,000
Social Planning New Recommendation:		\$35,000

### Program description (summarized from the application)

The Vancouver Women's Health Collective (VWHC) advocates for appropriate health care for women and provides a range of health information for women through their health information telephone line, a resource library, and the VWHC therapist and practitioner directory. They also engage in community organizing work around women's health issues.

The Vancouver Women's Health Collective applied for a CS Grant specifically for the wages and benefits of the Executive Director, who is responsible for all coalition, advocacy, and media work for the organization, as well as the day-to-day financial and office management functions. In addition, the VWHC intends to use part of the City grant towards the production costs of their newsletter.

### Social Planning's Initial Response

Staff recommended a grant of \$35,000 (provided that the Community Services Grants budget was increased, which was done by Council on March 17, 2005)

### Basis for Reconsideration

The Vancouver Women's Health Collective (VWHC) has requested reconsideration on the basis that their financial situation has not been properly assessed and understood.

In the attached letter, the VWHC makes the point that they applied for \$49,421, which is the same funding that Council approved for them in 2004. The VWHC argues that this year's work plan is the same as last year's, and therefore they should receive a similar amount.

### Social Planning Comments

The City does fund a number of other organizations, mostly coalitions, for their advocacy work which deals with issues that are not wholly within the City's jurisdiction. These organizations include: the BC Coalition of People with Disabilities, the Tenants Rights Action Coalition, and the Human Rights Coalition. By these precedents, the advocacy work of the VWHC is eligible for City funding. The main question facing staff then relates to identifying the appropriate amount of funding. While recognizing that Council provided a grant of \$49,421 to the VWHC in 2004, staff had indicated then that a grant of approximately \$30,000 was more appropriate given the scope and type of work being carried out by the VWHC.



Within the context the levels of funding being provided to other advocacy-related organizations, for the year 2005, staff has concluded that a grant of \$35,000 is a comparable contribution towards supporting the advocacy and organizing efforts of the VWHC.

**Recommendation**

Grant of \$35,000

FROM : UWHC

FAX NO. : 6047364234

Mar. 07 2005 05:15PM P1



## Vancouver Women's Health Collective

1 - 175 East 15th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5T 2P6  
Fax 604-876-1282 • Administration 604-736-4234  
www.womenshealthcollective.ca  
Information Centre 604-736-5262

SE  
RG

March 7, 2005

Social Planning Department  
City of Vancouver, 453 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue

SENT BY FAX: 604-871-6048

### Attention Social Planning Department:

The Vancouver Women's Health Collective is requesting a formal reconsideration of the Social Planning Department's recommendation to City Council. We are requesting reconsideration of our application for a CSG on the following grounds "that the financial situation of the applicant has not been properly assessed and understood".

Again this year, the Vancouver Women's Health Collective has applied to the CSG for \$49,421. Given that this year's work plan is the same as last year's, we are hoping that council will again award the VWHC \$49,421.

We hope councillors will see the wisdom in supporting our application in order to ensure that we may continue to advocate for appropriate, quality health care for the women of Vancouver. Last year, City Council made a decision to support a number of community organizations including women's groups that are struggling to survive in the given provincial climate. We were very grateful that you took this decision and we look to the recent establishment of the City of Vancouver's Women's Task Force as City Council's ongoing commitment to our community.

We are hopeful that Council will again approve our application for funding so that our voice does not disappear from the Vancouver landscape in the coming year.

In health,

On behalf of the Vancouver Women's Health Collective

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## West Coast Legal Education and Action Fund (West Coast LEAF) (# 109)

Request:	\$26,170
2004 grant	\$0
Social Planning Initial Recommendation:	\$0 NO GRANT
Social Planning New Recommendation:	\$0 NO GRANT

### Program Description (summarized from grant application)

LEAF's mandate includes public legal education. The Organizational Capacity Building Grant request is for a part-time staff to support a Speakers Bureau and a workshop series (Transforming Our Future) to equip frontline workers in community organizations and service agencies with the tools to better assist their clients in dealing with legal issues. Participants are educated about the Canadian legal system, *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, and diversity and equality issues in the context of the Charter.

### Social Planning's Initial Response:

Staff recommended NO GRANT. Staff determined that the application has not met all the eligibility criteria for an Organizational Capacity Building grant: specifically, that education about the Canadian legal system is within the jurisdiction of Justice Canada, and that there is no demonstrated link between information workshops on legal rights and the ability of participating organizations to deliver their services better. This type of functional relationship is mandatory in order to qualify for an Organizational Capacity Building grant.

### Basis for Reconsideration

The Society is requesting reconsideration on the basis that the eligibility criteria have not been properly applied. In their attached letter, the Society states that the education of individual workers increases the resources available to community organizations, by making them aware of legal strategies and legal resources. Also, the Society states that Justice Canada is reluctant to fund initiatives that are not national or provincial in reach, and that its regional programs favour crime prevention.

### Social Planning Comments

LEAF's application is for a part-time staff to provide two educational programs. Both the Speakers Bureau and the "Transforming Our Future" workshops are relatively new. The Speakers Bureau has been in place for about 8 months and the intention here is to tailor education to the needs of individual groups. So far, LEAF has worked with 3-4 groups, but none in Vancouver. "Transforming our Future" is a 4-part workshop which LEAF has offered three times a year for the past 2 years. Between 20-30 people from different organizations have attended each series, which deals with equality law, how this law relates to clients, and

useful legal strategies. Staff from various Vancouver groups have participated in these workshops.

These educational workshops are intended to increase the knowledge of frontline workers by providing specialized information that may help them to provide better service to clients. This information is helpful to these workers, as indicated by letters of support provided by Community Legal Assistance Society and MOSAIC. However, there is no information in either the grant application or letters to indicate any effect on the functioning or capacity of these organizations, and this is a fundamental criteria for an OCB grant.

For most other groups which receive OCB grants, the purpose of the entire organization is to support other organizations. One of the eligibility criteria is that "the primary purpose of the funded service is to support other non-profits to improve their ability to deliver social services, address social issues, and navigate change." To meet this criteria, groups have to demonstrate that their service increases the effective functioning of other organizations as organizations.

Social Planning staff agree that specialized education is an important facet of staff training in many different social service sectors, but without intentional partnerships between organizations and measurable outcomes, this activity does not qualify as organizational capacity building.

On the question of other funders, Justice Canada does fund public legal education, but elects to fund only one organization per province (People's Law School in B.C.). Justice Canada also provides project grants for diversity and equality initiatives, which LEAF may be able to access to support the start-up of initiatives such as the Speakers Bureau.

## Recommendation

NO GRANT



WEST COAST LEAF ASSOCIATION



Charitable Registration  
#119292464RR0001

#555 - 409 GRANVILLE ST.  
VANCOUVER, B.C. V6C 1T2

PHONE: (604) 684-8772  
FAX: (604) 684-1543  
E-MAIL: info@westcoastleaf.org  
WEBSITE: www.westcoastleaf.org

March 8, 2005

Mr. Rick Gates  
Social Planner  
Social Planning Department  
Ste. 100 – 515 West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4A8

**Re: 2005 community Services Grants  
Request for Reconsideration – West Coast LEAF**

Dear Rick:

I would like to thank you very much for reviewing West Coast LEAF's Association application to the City of Vancouver for an Organizational Capacity Building Grant submitted on Friday, December 3, 2004. We are indeed disappointed with the Social Planning Staff's recommendations. This letter is a formal request for reconsideration of our application on the grounds that:

1. that eligibility criteria have not been properly applied

In our application, West Coast LEAF requested funds to support the delivery of transformative legal workshops to community organizations to enhance the ability of front line workers to better assist their clients. It was stated that we did not clearly demonstrate the link between the program and how it enable organizations to do their work better. We submit the following for consideration:

The Transforming our Future workshop & Speakers Series provides the opportunity for frontline workers to identify repeated issues encountered by their clients and to recognize that there are legal strategies that can be used in a more global approach to remedy them. It teaches frontline workers how to recognize systemic patterns and gives them an understanding of the constitutional, international, law reform and legal administrative, as well as educational strategies that can be used to assist their clients.

For example, workers will frequently encounter clients who experience difficulties arising from the impact of not having legal aid, or dealing with the three week waiting period for EI, the creation of a card for new immigrants with landed status, or sex trade workers dealing with the communication laws. This program will give frontline workers in agencies knowledge that will enable that to identify how these issues fall within the purview of one or many of the legal instruments we identify in the program, such as the Charter, specific legislation or administrative

policies; enabling workers to employ specific legal strategies or help their clients do so to obtain a resolution.

**Supporting Information.**

It is our view that our program increases the amount of resources available to community organizations for the purposes of accessing and making better use of information and referral services. Not only does our program expose groups to legal strategies, it also exposes them to the myriad of legal resources available in the community that they may not otherwise be aware of or know how to access.

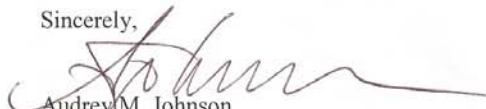
Finally, the decision to reject our application noted that such programs are funded by Justice Canada. We respectfully submit that this is not the case. Justice Canada is reluctant to fund initiatives that do not have either national or provincial reach or focus. Funding for regional based programs strongly favour crime prevention and do not include education without that element. Initiatives such as ours do not meet the criteria for Justice Canada funding.

Organizations who have benefited from our program or which have contributed to its development include: Battered Women's Support Services, MOSAIC, Justice For Girls, Community Legal Assistance Society, Downtown Eastside Women's Centre, BC Institute Against Family Violence, Society for Children and Youth, BC Teachers Federation and Vancouver Status of Women. Our community support for this program includes letters of support from MOSAIC and from the Community Legal Assistance Society. The Target population benefiting from this program: Low-income, immigrant and youth serving community organizations in Vancouver. The number of organizations in the Lower Mainland that **directly** benefit from this program 60 per year.

We are confident that the delivery of this important work will have a significant benefit and impact on community groups in the City of Vancouver. For these reasons, we respectfully ask for reconsideration of our application.

I look forward to hearing from you that you have reconsidered our request for funding \$ 26,170 for the Transforming our Futures and Community Speakers Bureau program.

Sincerely,



Audrey M. Johnson  
Executive Director