

## CITY OF VANCOUVER

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT



Report Date: October 14, 2005  
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Phone No.: 604.871.6498  
RTS No.: 05392  
CC File No.: 2051  
Meeting Date: November 1, 2005

TO: Vancouver City Council  
FROM: Managing Director, Cultural Services  
SUBJECT: 2005 Cultural Operating and Project Grants Rebalancing

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approve 70 Operating supplemental grants amounting to \$825,000, and 15 Project supplemental grants amounting to \$66,000, as listed in Appendix A, for a total of \$891,000. Source of funds to be the 2005 Cultural Grants Budget.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

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

#### COUNCIL POLICY

City Council established the annual civic grant programs, including Cultural grants, in March 1978. The current Operating and Project grant categories were approved on December 14, 1989. A second deadline for Project grants was established in 1999.

Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes.

#### PURPOSE

This report outlines the recommendations of an independent Advisory Committee for 85 supplemental grants to Operating and Project grant recipients for 2005. **Appendix A,**

summarizes the 2005 approved recommendations as well as the recommended supplemental grants. As not all applicants chose to submit supplemental requests, and to provide context for Council, **Appendix B (Limited Distribution to Council members only)** provides the front pages of each 2005 grant recipient as was provided in the initial reports to Council on March 29, and July 19, 2005 (RTS #04856 & #05006).

## BACKGROUND

Operating grants are designed to assist large and small organizations in achieving a level of stability required to provide ongoing quality programming or services. To be considered for an Operating grant, an organization must be a non-profit, professional arts organization with an artistic mandate. Organizations will have received civic Operating or Project grants for at least the past two consecutive years. They must also meet other criteria related to artistic merit, organizational competence and community impact. Project grants are designed to support new and developing arts organizations, established organizations that work on a project basis, and for organizations undertaking special one-time initiatives. These groups must also be professional, non-profit arts organizations.

In December 2004 Council approved the creation of the City Creative Task Force with a mandate to review the City's roles and responsibilities in arts and culture. As a catalyst to the Task Force planning process, and in recognition of the importance of investment in strengthening the cultural sector, Council approved a \$1 million increase to the 2005 cultural grants budget on March 17, and approved in principle further increases of \$2 million in 2006 and \$3 million in 2007 and thereafter, subject to the City's annual budget process.

On June 13th, the Task Force hosted a public consultation meeting where more than 80 representatives from the arts and cultural community attended and provided valuable feedback on priorities and options for the allocation of the \$1 million increase to the 2005 Cultural grants budget. In addition, an on-line survey was delivered and additional input was gathered via the net.

From the input gathered from the community, the City Creative Task Force recommended that the most important factors to weigh in considering how to allocate the additional funds were that the funds be used to:

- Build on the community's artistic and organizational strengths;
- Respond to an increasingly diverse population;
- Address historic civic funding imbalances; and
- Focus on rebalancing existing Operating, Project and Diversity programs (but not including operating grants to Major Exhibiting Institutions).

Using this input, the City Creative Task Force proposed the following funding allocations which they concluded reflected the majority of the community input and would provide the widest benefit to the arts and cultural sector. On July 19, 2005, Council approved the proposed funding allocations which included \$825,000 to be allocated as supplemental grants to the 2005 Operating grant recipients and up to \$75,000 for supplemental grants to the 2005 Project grant recipients and for new project grant requests (\$9,000 was recommended to assist new project requests and is detailed under a separate report RTS #5393). In addition,

up to \$50,000 was allocated to the Diversity Initiatives program budget (detailed in a separate report RTS #5394), and \$50,000 towards costs of administration of the advisory process and outreach initiatives.

The Task Force further recommended that the supplemental funding requests be reviewed by an Independent Advisory Committee.

## DISCUSSION

An independent, multi-disciplinary Advisory Committee comprised of representatives of the artistic and cultural community was assembled. Staff sought nominations from disciplinary umbrella service organisations for individuals who had a broad knowledge of the arts and cultural sector, but were not currently in positions of authority (either as Board members or paid staff) with organizations seeking City funding. The following representatives from the music, visual arts, theatre, dance, and festivals community formed the committee:

- Peter Hannan
- Karen Love
- Laara Sadiq
- Nicola Norberg Follows
- Frances Wasserlein

As all committee members have some indirect relationships within the client community, they were required to declare these conflicts and remove themselves from consideration as appropriate.

All 2005 City Operating and Project recipients were automatically considered for supplemental funding. Organizations were invited, but not required, to submit a two page letter providing a rationale for increased or supplemental assistance to their organization, no later than Sept. 7, 2005. The Advisory Committee assessed each organization in the context of existing program guidelines as well as the guiding factors established by the community through the consultation process.

The Committee, based on the feedback from the community consultation, focused on strategic investments - with resources targeted to those organizations which they considered best demonstrated exceptional artistic vision, organizational capacity and/or who were responding to an increasingly diverse population. In cases where the current funding level was already considered high in comparison to other organizations, or if the organization was not meeting all program criteria, they were not considered by the Committee to be a high priority for an increase.

Project organizations were carefully reviewed and given the limited amount available (\$66,000 for 51 organizations), larger grants to fewer groups was considered by the Committee to have a greater impact within the community as a whole. Therefore, the Committee recommended increased support to 15 organizations.

Please see Appendix A for the list of the 2005 Operating and Project supplemental grant recommendations.

As reported to Council in July, because of the compressed timeframe available to solicit submissions, review, evaluate and report on recommendations, no request for reconsideration process is possible. The recommendations arise from a carefully considered review process undertaken by an independent Advisory Committee, comprised of experts representing the arts and culture sector.

#### **Advisory Committee Comments:**

Following advisory committee adjudication processes, staff seek feedback from committee members on the review process as well as issues of concern affecting the grant recipients. The Operating and Project rebalancing committee identified the following issues which they felt should be considered for future processes.

The Advisory Committee felt that to rebalance a grant that had been previously determined by a staff committee was challenging - it was suggested that future adjudications be undertaken completely by one or the other.

Recognizing that the community had asked for a very simple application process, the committee would have liked more material from the project organizations to help inform their recommendations.

The Advisory Committee felt that with future increases, additional resources ought to be allocated to Projects as this was felt to be where much innovative work is occurring. This was also considered to be where the younger artists were and there appeared to be a huge gap between funding for the established groups and funding of the younger artists and organizations.

A clearer definition around the Operating vs. Project grant program was needed.

Too many organizations are struggling with management issues. Encouraging or assisting with professional management was deemed to be a high priority.

Succession planning was considered to be a priority as well and there are models that can be shared with those groups facing this.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Approval of 70 Operating supplemental grants amounting to \$825,000, and 15 Project supplemental grants amounting to \$66,000, as listed in Appendix A, for a total of \$891,000, leaves no unallocated balance in the Operating and Project Grants budget.

## CONCLUSION

Approval of the Advisory Committee's recommendations will start the process to rebalance City cultural grant funding levels, and provide much needed resources to build on artistic and organizational strengths of the core non-profit arts and cultural organizations in the City.

The Managing Director of Cultural Services notes the value and importance of the independent Advisory Committee's expertise, insight, and carefully balanced recommendations and recommends their approval.

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City of Vancouver Cultural Grants 2005  
Operating and Project Applications, Alphabetical List

	Organization Name	Grant Type	2005 Approved Mar. 29 July 19	2005 Supp. Recomm. Nov. 1	2005 Total	2004 Other Civic Support
1	Aboriginal Art and Culture Celebration Soc.	PR	5,000	5,000	10,000	
2	Alliance for Arts & Culture Soc.	OP	40,000	0	40,000	VS
3	Arts Club of Vancouver Theatre Soc.	OP	95,000	20,000	115,000	VS
4	Artspeak Gallery Soc.	OP	13,500	10,500	24,000	
5	Axis Theatre Soc.	OP	14,000	15,000	29,000	VS
6	B.C. Book Prizes (West Coast Book Prize Soc.)	PR	1,000	0	1,000	
7	Ballet B.C. (Pacific Ballet B.C. Soc.)	OP	83,000	20,000	103,000	TR \$91,025
8	Bard on the Beach Theatre Soc.	OP	10,000	5,000	15,000	CAP \$5,600; VS
9	Barking Sphinx Performance Soc.	PR	1,000	0	1,000	
10	Battery Opera Performing Arts Soc.	OP	4,500	5,000	9,500	
11	Boca Del Lupo Theatre Soc.	OP	7,000	10,000	17,000	
12	Canadian Music Centre - B.C.	OP	11,000	5,000	16,000	VS
13	Caravan World Rhythms Soc.	PR	7,000	0	7,000	BAX \$4,350
14	Carousel Theatre Soc.	OP	20,000	5,000	25,000	CAP \$2,200; VS
15	Centre culturel francophone de Vancouver	OP	8,500	5,000	13,500	BAX \$2,300; VS
16	Chamber Music Festival (Van. Recital Soc.)	OP	13,500	5,000	18,500	
17	Children's Arts Umbrella Assn.	OP	7,500	5,000	12,500	
18	Children's Festival (Can. Institute of the Arts for Young Audiences)	OP	116,500	0	116,500	VS
19	Chor Leoni Men's Choir	OP	5,000	10,000	15,000	
20	Cineworks Independent Filmmakers Soc.	OP	15,000	18,500	33,500	VS
21	Coastal Jazz and Blues Soc.	OP	15,000	30,000	45,000	TR \$17,400; VS
22	Contemporary Art Gallery Soc.	OP	43,000	32,000	75,000	VS
23	Crafts Assn. of B.C.	PR	2,250	4,000	6,250	
24	Dancers Dancing Dance Soc.	PR	1,500	0	1,500	

Note: The numbers in the left column correspond to the order of the front pages of the 2005 applications.

BAX = Baxter, CAP = Capital, CELEB = Celebration, CPA = Community Public Art, DI = Diversity Initiatives, FIN = Finance Other, TR = Theatre Rental, POD = ArtsPOD, OP = Operating, PR = Project, VS = Venue Support (bonused amenity, rental subsidy, park use, or property tax exemption)

	Organization Name	Supp. Grant Type	2005 Approved	2005 Supp.	2005 Total	2004 Other Civic Support
25	Dancing on the Edge Festival Soc.	OP	9,000	10,000	19,000	TR \$4,600; VS
26	DanStaBat Performance Soc.	PR	4,500	0	4,500	
27	DOXA Documentary Film and Video Festival	PR	1,500	4,000	5,500	
28	Dragon Boat Festival (Can. Intl. Dragon Boat Festival Soc.)	OP	5,000	0	5,000	VS
29	Early Music Vancouver (Van. Soc. for Early Music)	OP	14,000	6,000	20,000	VS
30	EDAM Performing Arts Soc.	OP	12,000	10,000	22,000	
31	Electric Company Theatre Soc.	OP	12,500	27,000	39,500	
32	Elektra Women's Choir	OP	3,000	12,000	15,000	
33	Felix Culpa (Grinning Dragon Theatre Soc.)	PR	3,000	0	3,000	
34	Firehall Theatre Soc.	OP	40,000	20,000	60,000	CPA \$20,000; VS BAX \$2,300
35	Flamenco Rosario (Rosario Ancer Flamenco Arts Soc.)	PR	3,000	0	3,000	
36	Full Circle: First Nations Performance Soc.	PR	4,500	0	4,500	
37	Greater Van. Professional Theatre Alliance	PR	1,000	0	1,000	
38	Green Thumb Players Soc. (Green Thumb Theatre for Young People)	OP	31,000	12,000	43,000	
39	Grunt Gallery (Visible Arts Soc.)	OP	12,500	7,500	20,000	
40	Hard Rubber New Music Soc.	OP	3,500	5,000	8,500	
41	Headlines Theatre (Theatre for Living Soc.)	OP	11,000	6,000	17,000	
42	Holy Body Tattoo Soc.	OP	13,500	15,000	28,500	
43	Jewish Community Centre of Greater Van.	PR	1,500	0	1,500	CELEB \$2,000
44	Joe Ink Performance Soc.	OP	6,500	10,000	16,500	
45	Judith Marcuse Projects Soc.	OP	18,000	5,000	23,000	
46	Karen Jamieson Dance Soc.	OP	5,000	2,000	7,000	
47	Kidd Pivot (Crystal Pite Dance Soc.)	PR	7,500	5,000	12,500	
48	Kokoro Dance Theatre Soc.	OP	11,500	5,000	16,500	
49	Leaky Heaven Performance Soc.	PR	6,000	0	6,000	DI \$6,500; POD \$1,250
50	Little Chamber Music Series That Could Soc.	PR	1,000	0	1,000	
51	Live Biennial of Performance Art Soc.	PR	2,500	0	2,500	
52	Lola MacLaughlin Dance Soc.	OP	11,000	6,000	17,000	
53	MainDance Projects Soc.	OP	2,500	5,000	7,500	

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	Organization Name	Supp. Grant Type	2005 Approved	2005 Supp.	2005 Total	2004 Other Civic Support
54	Malaspina Printmakers Soc.	OP	4,500	2,000	6,500	VS
55	Mandala Arts and Culture Soc.	PR	2,500	0	2,500	BAX \$2,300
56	Mascall Dance Soc.	OP	6,500	2,000	8,500	
57	Miscellaneous Productions Soc.	PR	1,500	0	1,500	
58	Mortal Coil Performance Soc.	PR	4,500	0	4,500	
59	Movement Enterprises Soc.	PR	2,000	0	2,000	
60	Music in the Morning Concert Soc.	OP	8,800	5,000	13,800	TR \$11,150
61	Musica Intima Soc.	OP	7,500	27,000	34,500	
62	Native Daughters of B.C., Post No.	OP	3,500	0	3,500	VS
63	New Forms Media Soc.	PR	3,500	5,000	8,500	
64	New Orchestra Workshop Soc.	OP	2,500	7,500	10,000	
65	New Performance Works Soc.	PR	1,000	0	1,000	
66	NeWorld Theatre Soc.	OP	9,500	27,000	36,500	
67	Norman Rothstein Theatre (Van. Westside Theatre Soc.)	PR	8,500	0	8,500	VS
68	Or Gallery Soc.	OP	10,000	10,000	20,000	
69	Pacific Baroque Orchestra Soc.	OP	4,000	37,000	41,000	
70	Pacific Cinémathèque Pacifique	OP	22,500	18,500	41,000	VS
71	Pacific Theatre (First Pacific Theatre Soc.)	OP	7,500	7,500	15,000	VS
72	Pink Ink Theatre Productions Assn.	OP	9,500	8,500	18,000	
73	Pitt Gallery (Unit/Pitt Soc. For Arts and Critical Awareness)	OP	7,000	4,000	11,000	
74	Playwrights Theatre Centre	OP	15,500	20,000	35,500	VS
75	Powell Street Festival Soc.	OP	6,500	5,000	11,500	VS
76	Proximity Lab Soc.	PR	1,500	4,000	5,500	VS
77	Public Dreams Soc.	OP	14,000	11,000	25,000	
78	Radix Theatre Soc.	PR	3,500	5,000	8,500	
79	Reel to Real: Celebration of Moving Images Soc.	PR	1,500	0	1,500	
80	Ruby Slippers Productions Soc.	OP	8,000	5,750	13,750	
81	Rumble Production Soc.	OP	14,000	10,000	24,000	
82	Satellite Video Exchange Soc.	OP	16,000	5,000	21,000	
83	Shameless Hussy Production Soc.	PR	1,000	0	1,000	
84	Sista'hood (Working Arts Soc.)	PR	1,500	0	1,500	
85	Soc. for Disability Arts and Culture	PR	3,000	5,000	8,000	

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	Organization Name	Supp. Grant Type	2005 Approved	2005 Supp.	2005 Total	2004 Other Civic Support
86	Solo Collective Theatre Soc.	PR	2,500	0	2,500	
87	Standing Wave Soc.	OP	2,500	2,500	5,000	
88	Taiwanese Cultural Festival (Taiwanese Canadian Cultural Soc.)	PR	5,000	0	5,000	
89	Théâtre la Seizième	OP	8,000	11,000	19,000	VS
90	Theatre Replacement Soc.	PR	4,000	5,000	9,000	
91	Touchstone Theatre Soc.	OP	18,000	15,000	33,000	DI \$4,500
92	Turning Point Ensemble	PR	3,500	0	3,500	
93	Up in The Air Theatre Soc.	PR	2,000	0	2,000	
94	Uzume Taiko Drum Group Soc.	OP	6,500	5,000	11,500	
95	Van. Access Artist Run Centre	OP	5,000	4,000	9,000	
96	Van. Asian Film Festival Soc.	PR	1,000	4,000	5,000	
97	Van. Asian Heritage Festival Month Soc.	PR	7,500	0	7,500	
98	Van. Bach Choir	PR	1,000	4,000	5,000	
99	Van. Cantata Soc.	OP	13,000	2,000	15,000	VS
100	Van. Centre for Contemporary Asian Art (Centre A)	OP	9,500	32,000	41,500	DI \$5,500
101	Van. Chinese Instrumental Music Soc.	PR	2,500	5,000	7,500	
102	Van. Co-operative Radio (Community Radio Edn. Soc.)	OP	10,000	10,000	20,000	
103	Van. Dance Centre Soc.	OP	25,000	45,000	70,000	DI \$5,000
104	Van. East Cultural Centre	OP	72,000	20,000	92,000	
105	Van. Folk Music Festival Soc.	OP	55,000	25,000	80,000	BAX \$2,300; VS
106	Van. Fringe Festival (First Van. Theatrespace Soc.)	OP	32,000	5,000	37,000	VS
107	Van. Inter-Cultural Orchestra (VICO)	PR	600	0	600	
108	Van. Intl. Comedy Festival Soc.	OP	7,000	0	7,000	VS
109	Van. Intl. Dance Festival Soc.	PR	6,000	1,000	7,000	
110	Van. Intl. Film Festival Soc.	OP	17,500	7,500	25,000	
111	Van. Intl. Writers Festival Soc.	OP	22,000	27,000	49,000	VS
112	Van. Jewish Film Festival	PR	1,000	0	1,000	
113	Van. Latin American Film Festival (First Latin American Film Festival of Vancouver)	PR	750	0	750	
114	Van. Moving Theatre Soc.	OP	4,500	6,000	10,500	
115	Van. New Music Soc.	OP	24,000	5,000	29,000	TR \$4,600; VS

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Organization Name	Supp. Grant Type	2005 Approved	2005 Supp.	2005 Total	2004 Other Civic Support
116 Van. Opera Assn.	OP	18,000	10,000	28,000	TR \$321,600
117 Van. Out on Screen Film Festival Soc.	PR	6,000	0	6,000	
118 Van. Soc. of Storytelling	PR	2,500	0	2,500	
119 Van. Summer Festival Soc.	PR	9,000	0	9,000	TR \$8,700
120 Van. Symphony Soc.	OP	40,000	10,000	50,000	TR 726,720; VS
121 Van. Tap Dance Soc.	PR	2,000	0	2,000	
122 Van. Youth Theatre Soc.	OP	4,000	0	4,000	
123 Vetta Chamber Music and Recital Soc.	OP	3,000	5,750	8,750	
124 Wen Wei Dance Soc.	PR	3,000	5,000	8,000	
125 Western Front Soc.	OP	22,500	0	22,500	
126 Western Theatre Conspiracy Arts Soc.	PR	4,000	0	4,000	
127 Wild Excursions Productions Soc.	PR	2,000	0	2,000	
128 Word on the Street Festival (Van. Book & Magazine Fair Soc.)	PR	3,500	5,000	8,500	VS
<b>Totals</b>		<b>1,498,400</b>	<b>891,000</b>	<b>2,389,400</b>	

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