

9. Cultural Performances at Council Meetings

Vancouver City Council, at its meeting immediately following the Standing Committee on City Services and Budget meeting on December 15, 2005, received requests to speak on this matter and agreed to refer this item to the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meeting on December 15, 2005, to hear speakers.

WHEREAS:

1. The Mayor has announced his commitment to the arts and our artists, by seeking to establish a new Vancouver Arts Partnership Agreement with the federal and provincial governments to provide for significantly larger investments in arts infrastructure throughout the City of Vancouver;
2. The contract with the Greater Vancouver Alliance for Arts and Culture Society to arrange cultural performances at Council meetings expires at year end;
3. Civic funding in support of the arts community should be directed to initiatives that connect artists to the community, rather than to the provision of entertainment for City Councillors;
4. The City currently has a variety of recognition programs and awards which highlight the contribution of Vancouver artists to our city, including:
 - i. Vancouver Arts Awards
 - ii. City of Vancouver Book Award
 - iii. City of Vancouver Artist Residency Award
 - iv. City of Vancouver Artist Studio Rental Award
 - v. Starwalk/BC Entertainment Hall of Fame
 - vi. Freedom of the City

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT in the 2006 operating budget the \$18,000 allocated to fund cultural performances at Council meetings be reallocated to increase general cultural grants.

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