



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: July 4, 2006
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Meeting Date: July 18, 2006

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: Vancouver Foundation Contributions to the 2010 Legacies Now Society

RECOMMENDATION

THAT City Council approve a grant to the 2010 Legacies Now Society aggregating \$750,000 payable in 3 equal instalments of \$250,000 over the next 3 years, i.e. 2006 to 2008, (the "Legacies Now Grant"), the source of funds to be a grant to be received by the City from the Vancouver Foundation in the aggregate amount of \$750,000 payable in 3 equal instalments of \$250,000 over the next three years (the "Foundation Grant"), which the Vancouver Foundation has agreed to pay to the City on the condition that:

- (i) funds equivalent to the Foundation Grant are paid by the City to the 2010 Legacies Now Society for the implementation of its Accessible & Inclusive Cities & Communities Project; and*
- (ii) payments of the Foundation Grant to the City in the 2nd and 3rd year are subject to an evaluation of activities implemented by the 2010 Legacies Now Society under its Accessible & Inclusive Cities & Communities Project after completion of the 1st year of the project which confirms positive project outcomes;*

provided that payment of the Legacies Now Grant by the City will be contingent upon receipt by the City of each instalment of the Foundation Grant.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager RECOMMENDS approval of the foregoing.

COUNCIL POLICY

Approval of grants requires eight affirmative votes of Council.

SUMMARY

The City of Vancouver, the parties to the Vancouver Agreement (the federal and provincial governments and the City) and the 2010 Legacies Now Society ("Legacies Now") have been working together on the Accessible & Inclusive Cities and Communities Project (AICCP) since 2004, with the goal of fostering greater opportunities within all B.C. communities for people with disabilities.

The City of Vancouver as host city for the 2010 Olympic & Paralympic Winter Games will have to ensure that our City is accessible and activities inclusive to all our residents and visitors.

The City will be furthering our goal to improve accessibility by working closely with Legacies Now and community organizations to implement Phase II of the AICCP initiative. Legacies Now has applied to the Vancouver Foundation for funding and the Foundation has approved an initial grant of \$250,000 for the first year. The Foundation is committed to investing an additional \$250,000 per year for another two years subject to an evaluation and demonstrated positive outcomes from the first year. The total grant is referred to as the Foundation Grant.

The Vancouver Foundation and the City have agreed that the City will receive the grant funds on the condition that the City will pay an equivalent grant to Legacies Now to enable and facilitate work with community groups in Vancouver.

In the past the City has received funds to be paid as a grant to a specified organization for an identified purpose. This arrangement accommodates businesses and non-government organizations who wish to invest in the work of the City and/or the initiatives undertaken by the parties to the Vancouver Agreement.

PURPOSE

This report seeks Council's approval to accept the Foundation Grant and to use the funding received to pay a grant to Legacies Now to continue implementation of the Accessible & Inclusive Cities and Community Project (AICCP).

BACKGROUND

AICCP began two years ago with a simple, but fundamental goal: to foster greater opportunities within communities for people with disabilities. The initiative was initiated by former Vancouver City Councilors Sam Sullivan and Tim Louis along with former premier Mike

Harcourt. The AICCP was started under the Vancouver Agreement and then moved to Legacies Now in order to leverage potential 2010 opportunities.

Legacies Now was created in June 2000 to help build support for the Vancouver bid for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. In March 2002, the 2010 Legacies Now program was transferred from the Vancouver 2010 Bid Corporation to a newly incorporated society - the 2010 Legacies Now Society. It works with community organizations, the private sector and all levels of government. Legacies Now actively assists communities to create and develop unique and inclusive social and economic opportunities leading up to, during and beyond the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

Phase I of the AICCP initiative involved developing a strategic plan in consultation with the disabled community, municipalities and other NGOs, and implementing a rating system for municipalities to assess the accessibility and inclusivity of all their services and facilities.

Phase I of this initiative resulted in "Measuring Up", a community motivational guide designed to assist municipalities and communities in B.C. to assess the degree to which their citizens with disabilities are active participants in community life.

DISCUSSION

The opportunity for social change and improvements for people with disabilities has arrived. We are now facing an aging population, skills shortages and the immense task of hosting the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. One of the Province's five dedicated goals is to be "building the best system of support in Canada for persons with disabilities". The Vancouver Olympic Organizing Committee and the three levels of government signed the "Inner-City Inclusive Commitment Statement". Vancouver's Mayor has been a champion in promoting inclusivity and accessibility. Public awareness is high, making it an opportune time to advance "access" and "inclusion" issues.

The workshop to introduce the "Measuring Up" guide at the World Urban Forum was well received and very successful. Many community groups and businesses, including Tourism Vancouver, have expressed interests in working with the City on improving "accessibility" in the City.

The subsequent phases of AICCP will include:

- Working with Tourism Vancouver, Business Improvement Associations and community groups to discuss the model and involvement of their members;
- Identifying gaps and develop strategies to facilitate and enhance better accessibility in the City of Vancouver
- Researching and developing a sound business case to motivate the corporate sector to hire people with disabilities.

The AICCP initiative will work with Vancouver's City Manager's Office and the Vancouver Olympic Secretariat to identify gaps and areas for improvement to enhance the "accessibility" agenda. The project will also assist the Mayor in promoting the Measuring Up guide.

At times contributions are made through the City of Vancouver in order to maximize opportunities for business and other non-government organizations to invest in initiatives with public benefits. Where funders place specific requirements for their contributions, staff must seek approval from City Council, that upon receipt of the funding, the City will provide a grant equaling the donated amount to the assigned organization and/or specified initiative.

It is for this reason that Council's approval of a grant to Legacies Now (the "Legacies Now Grant") is needed, because the Foundation Grant to the City is conditional upon it being used to fund the Legacies Now AICCP initiative, particularly the work in Vancouver. Council approval of the Legacies Now Grant in advance of the City receiving the Foundation Grant will provide assurances to the Vancouver Foundation that the Foundation Grant will reach its intended target.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Vancouver Foundation has made a commitment to support Legacies Now and the City's work on "improving accessibility". The Vancouver Foundation will provide funds to the AICCP initiative over a three year period: \$250,000 in 2006; and, subject to satisfactory evaluation outcomes, \$250,000 in 2007 and \$250,000 in 2008. The funding will be made to the City of Vancouver as a grant in support of Legacies Now's AICCP initiative. Upon receiving the Foundation Grant the City will provide a grant to Legacies Now equal to the Foundation Grant. There are no direct financial implications for the City of Vancouver.

CONCLUSION

The next phase of the AICCP work will build on the progress and successes of the past two years. In order to facilitate broader support for the AICCP's agenda to increase accessibility, inclusivity and full citizenship of people with disabilities the City wishes to facilitate investment by non-government organizations in this initiative supported by the City. Therefore, Council's approval is requested provided that payment of such grant is contingent upon receipt by the City of the funding from the Vancouver Foundation.

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