



## CITY OF VANCOUVER

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Date: November 30, 2006  
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Meeting Date: January 16, 2007

TO: Vancouver City Council  
FROM: Assistant Director, Office of Cultural Affairs  
SUBJECT: 2007 Advance Grant Instalments - Major Exhibiting Institutions

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. THAT monthly instalments, based on 2006 funding levels, be made to the following organizations beginning January 2007, in advance of consideration of these organizations' individual 2007 Operating Grant requests:

A.S.T.C. Science World Society	\$ 7,442
Vancouver Art Gallery Association	\$ 170,208

- B. THAT bi-weekly instalments, based on 2006 funding levels, be made to the following organizations beginning January 2007, in advance of consideration of these organizations' individual 2007 Operating Grant requests:

H.R. MacMillan Space Centre Society	\$19,004
Vancouver Maritime Museum Society	\$14,885
Vancouver Museum Commission	\$27,058

Source of funds for both A and B is the Cultural Grants budget.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager of Community Services RECOMMENDS approval of A and B.

## COUNCIL POLICY

Council's policy is to provide instalments of operating grants to allow these organizations to meet their operating needs, in advance of consideration of their annual grant requests during the regular grant review process.

Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to maintain monthly or bi-weekly funding at 2006 funding levels for each of the five major exhibiting institutions in advance of their 2007 annual grant review.

## BACKGROUND

In past years, the City has disbursed operating grants to the Vancouver Art Gallery Association, A.S.T.C. Science World Society, Vancouver Museum Commission, Vancouver Maritime Museum Society and the H.R. Macmillan Space Centre Society in equal instalments throughout the year. Instalments to the Vancouver Art Gallery Association and A.S.T.C. Science World Society are paid monthly, while the three other organizations are paid bi-weekly. The instalments are timed to accommodate the operating cash flow requirements of these organizations.

## DISCUSSION

This report recommends that instalments be continued as in past years, with payments commencing in January 2007, in advance of Council's consideration of the 2007 operating grant requests. These instalments allow for the organizations to manage their cash flow more effectively, as many funding agencies do not issue 2007 grant funds until later in the year.

Staff conduct a review of each institution's annual operations in May/June of each year for report to Council in July. Once the amount of the 2007 operating grant to each organization is approved, an adjustment will be made to ensure that the correct grant amount is disbursed. Consistent with previous years, staff recommend that instalment levels for these organizations be based on 2006 actual funding levels, so that any adjustments that may need to be made in 2007 to accommodate for inflation or budget reductions are minimal.

A summary of 2007 instalments for these organizations is provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Schedule of Instalments

<u>Organization</u>	<u>2007 Instalments</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
A.S.T.C. Science World Society	\$ 7,442	Monthly
Vancouver Art Gallery Association	\$ 170,208	Monthly
Vancouver Maritime Museum Society	\$ 14,885	Bi-weekly
Vancouver Museum Commission	\$ 27,058	Bi-weekly
H.R. MacMillan Space Centre Society	\$ 19,004	Bi-weekly

### *Grant Program Review*

In 2007, the Office of Cultural Affairs will be undertaking a review of all of its cultural grant programs, including the major exhibiting institutions annual operating grant program. The review will not specifically review individual grants but instead review and make recommendations regarding the City's cultural grant programs and grants policies. As part of this program review, the community, including the major exhibiting institutions, will have an opportunity to provide input in the review process. Final recommendations regarding the entire complement of grants programs will be presented to Council for consideration in mid-2007 along with an implementation plan and timeframe for any recommended changes to programs, procedures or processes. Staff do not anticipate any implications for the major institutions 2007 advance or annual grants.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Staff make recommendations on the 2007 operating grant allocations for each of these organizations once the City's 2007 budget is approved and following a review by staff of each organization's 2006 operational and financial performance. Where applicable, the independent review of the department's cultural grant programs will also inform these recommendations. As the advance instalments are proposed at 2006 approved grant levels, staff note that there will be sufficient opportunity to make any adjustments that may be required at the time that Council considers the 2007 operating grants to these five organizations.

### **CONCLUSION**

Staff recommend that A.S.T.C. Science World Society, H.R. Macmillan Space Centre Society, Vancouver Art Gallery Association, Vancouver Maritime Museum Society and the Vancouver Museum Commission continue to receive instalments as outlined in Table 1 commencing in January 2007 to assist these organizations in meeting their ongoing operational requirements.

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