



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: April 3, 2007
Author: Ray
Stensrud/Jennifer
Standeven
Phone No.: 604.873.7437
RTS No.: 06622
VanRIMS No.: 05-5000-20
Meeting Date: April 17, 2007

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: Manager of Non-Market Operation and Director of the Gathering Place

SUBJECT: Authorization to receive funding for the Evelyne Saller Centre and Gathering Place

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approve the continued receipt of annual ongoing funding from BC Housing to provide services operated at the Evelyne Saller Centre and the Gathering Place.
- B. THAT the Director of Legal Services in consultation with the General Manager of Community Services be authorized to execute annual agreements with BC Housing, effective immediately, for a period of five years, up to and including the year 2011. Such annual agreements customarily include an indemnification by the City of BC Housing.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

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

COUNCIL POLICY

There is no applicable Council Policy

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to request Council acceptance of annual ongoing funding from the Province (BC Housing), and continue to authorize the Director of Legal Services to execute the annual agreements. Council previously authorized the Director of Legal Services to execute the Centres' annual agreements between the City and the Province for the period 2001 to 2006.

BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION

The Province (BC Housing) funds a portion of the services provided by the Evelyne Saller Centre and Gathering Place on behalf of residents of the DTES and DTS who are socially and economically marginalized. Typically, people who receive services from the two centres are on income assistance, pensions and/or low/no income and live in SRO's in the community. Services are offered to a varied demographic of youth, adults, seniors and families in need.

Annual funding has been provided by the Province to the Evelyne Saller Centre since 1976 and to the Gathering Place since 1996. The ongoing provincial funding supports the following:

- The Evelyne Saller Centre: 100% of operating and staffing costs for food and health/hygiene services; and 50% of the administration services. The Province's contribution to the Evelyne Saller Centre is \$1,829,800 for the 2007/08 fiscal year;
- The Gathering Place: 100% of operating and staff costs for the Health Centre. The Province's contribution to the Gathering Place is \$103,670 for the 2007/08 fiscal year.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The City's portion of funds to operate the two centres is approved as part of the City's annual budget. In 2007 \$651,747 was approved for the Evelyne Saller Centre and \$2,100,588 for the Gathering Place.

CONCLUSION

By offering reliable daily supports 7 days per week, for close to 365 days per year, the Evelyne Saller Centre and Gathering Place contribute to the well being and stability of many people who live in the DTES and DTS. With Council's acceptance of this report, the Director of Legal Services will be authorized to execute future agreements with the Province.

* * * * *