



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: April 20, 2007
Author: Michelle Vernooy
Phone No.: 604.871.6042
RTS No.: 6459
VanRIMS No.: 05-5000-10
Meeting Date: May 3, 2007

TO: Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets
FROM: Director of Social Planning
SUBJECT: Reconsideration of Community Services Grants Applications - 2007

RECOMMENDATION

- A. That Council approve a Community Services Grant of \$15,000 to Network Two Community Services Society - Vancouver Roving Leaders. Source of funding is the 2007 Community Services Grants budget;
- B. That Council approve a Community Services Grant of \$58,168 to Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House. Source of funding is the 2007 Community Services Grants budget;
- C. That Council approve a Community Services Grant of \$18,208 to the Philippine Women Centre. Source of funding is the 2007 Community Services Grants budget;
- D. That Council NOT approve a Community Services Grant to the following Agencies:

Atira Women's Resources,
Network Two Community Services Society - Hastings Street Media Lab;

CONSIDERATION

- E. That Council approve a six-month terminating grant of \$15,600 to the Downtown Eastside Residents' Association. Source of funding is the 2007 Community Services Grants budget.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager RECOMMENDS approval of A to D and submits E for Council's CONSIDERATION.

COUNCIL POLICY

On November 22, 1994, City Council established that reconsideration of grant recommendations can only occur if they are based on one or both of the following premises:

1. that eligibility criteria have not been properly applied; and/or
2. the financial situation of the applicant has not been properly assessed or understood.

Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes.

SUMMARY

This report includes recommendations for the five applications for which organizations have requested reconsideration for the 2007 Community Services Grants. Staff are recommending grants totalling \$91,376 for three applications and no grant for two applications. The recommended grants are at the same level as originally recommended by staff.

On April 3, 2007, Council did not approve a grant of \$31,212 to the Downtown Eastside Residents' Association (DERA) and instructed staff to seek an alternate service provider. Based on this instruction, a process is underway to select an alternate service provider. This will be reported back to Council in early June. DERA has requested the opportunity to present to Council for reconsideration on May 3, 2007.

Council may wish to consider Recommendation E, for a 6-month terminating grant to DERA for the period January 1 to June 30, 2007, to cover staff and other costs incurred in the first part of this year.

PURPOSE

This report provides information on reconsideration requests of five Community Services Grants applicants, and makes recommendations on these requests. It also includes consideration of a terminating grant for the DERA Seniors' Coordinator.

BACKGROUND

In November 1994, City Council approved a grants "reconsideration" process for grant applicants who disagreed with the Social Planning Department's recommendations regarding their applications. A key feature of the process is that there are only two grounds for reconsideration:

1. that eligibility criteria have not been properly applied; and/or
2. the financial situation of the applicant has not been properly assessed or understood.

The eligibility criteria and funding priorities in the present Community Services Grants program were approved in 2003. Each of the three grant streams - Direct Social Services, Organizational Capacity Building, and Neighbourhood Organization Grants - has eligibility criteria. The Direct Social Services Grants category also has funding priorities.

During the first six weeks of 2007, the Social Planning grant review team assessed all applications using the approved criteria and priorities. Applicants are advised in writing of staff's recommendations, and of the reconsideration process which can be used if they disagree with the recommendations. Organizations requesting reconsideration are removed from the Allocations report and referred to the reconsideration process. Applications which are not in dispute are forwarded to Council. This year's Allocations report went to Council on April 3, 2007.

DISCUSSION

Four applicants, representing five applications, requested reconsideration (Network Two submitted two reconsiderations). These applicants were asked to provide a written submission supporting their request for reconsideration to Social Planning by March 6, 2007. (Details on the reconsideration process are attached in APPENDIX A).

In the reconsideration process, Social Planning staff review the original application, supporting materials, interview notes, and any new information provided by the applicants. Staff then prepare comments on reasons for their original recommendations, on their review of the additional material submitted by the groups, and on any revisions to the original recommendations. This material, together with the applicants' submissions, is attached as APPENDIX B.

Staff have reviewed the five applications and are recommending no changes from the original staff recommendations. Three applications are recommended at the original levels and two applications have been deemed ineligible.

AGENCY	Original Recommendation	Reconsideration Recommendation	Request	2006 Grant
Atira Women's Resources	\$0	\$0	\$82,800	\$0
Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House	\$58,168	\$58,168	\$80,500	\$57,026
Network Two - Hastings Street Media Lab	\$0	\$0	\$40,000	\$0
Network Two - Vancouver Roving Leaders	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$60,000	\$0
Philippine Women Centre	\$18,208	\$18,208	\$45,000	\$18,205
Total: 5	\$91,376	\$91,376	\$308,300	\$75,231

In addition, one application for the Downtown Eastside Residents' Association (DERA), Seniors' Coordinator, was not approved on April 3, 2007, and Council instructed staff to seek an alternate service provider. This work is underway.

DERA has requested reconsideration and the opportunity to address Council. This submission is attached as APPENDIX C.

Staff note that in cases where an agency was previously-funded, and then terminated, a six-month terminating grant has also generally been recommended and this is put forward for Council's consideration

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Community Services Grants recommended in this report total \$106,976, with the source of funds being the 2007 Community Services Grants budget. This includes E under Recommendations presented for consideration.

CONCLUSION

This report makes recommendations for those 2007 Community Services Grants applicants that requested reconsideration in the 2007 Community Services Grants Allocations process plus consideration for a termination grant.

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HOW TO REQUEST RECONSIDERATION OF YOUR GRANT APPLICATION

Reconsideration Submission: Deadline March 6, 2007

You must notify the Social Planning Department, in writing, with a letter that clearly that you are requesting reconsideration and indicates which of the following two reasons form the basis of your request. Please note that Council has established that reconsideration of grant recommendations will be considered **only** if they are based on one or both of the following premises:

1. that eligibility criteria have not been properly applied; or
2. that the financial situation of the applicant has not been properly assessed or understood.

In addition to the request itself, you may submit a written statement explaining your reason(s) for seeking reconsideration. This statement should relate specifically to the basis for your request (that is, eligibility or financial situation) and **should not exceed two** typewritten pages. The information you provide will be submitted, verbatim, to City Council, along with Social Planning's response on the request.

Your REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION must be received by Social Planning NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM on **Tuesday, March 6, 2007**. Requests received after the deadline cannot be considered. We must be firm about this because City Council needs to be advised in a timely manner about who is or is not requesting reconsideration.

MAIL OR BRING YOUR REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AND THE SUPPORTING INFORMATION TO:

If by mail, send to:

Social Planning Department
453 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V5Y 1V4

If by hand or courier, send to:

Social Planning Department
Ste. 100 - 515 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V5Z 4A8

Or Fax it to 604-871-6048

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION PROCESS for City of Vancouver Community Services Grant

Vancouver City Council has adopted a "reconsideration process" for grant applicants who disagree with the recommendations submitted by Social Planning Department staff. The process is intended to ensure that all relevant information presented in an application has been fairly and completely presented and reviewed and to provide City Council with written reasons for any disagreement, from the perspectives of both the applicants and Social Planning staff.

Note: Council has established that grant recommendations will be reconsidered only if the request is based on one or both of the following premises:

1. that eligibility criteria have not been properly applied; or
2. the financial situation of the applicant has not been properly assessed or understood.

The process adopted by Council contains the following steps:

- Applicants are notified, in writing, of Social Planning's recommendations, along with reasons for reduced or no grants. Any conditions or comments which may help to explain the rationale for specific recommendations may also be provided.
- Applicants who wish to dispute the recommendations may then submit a request for reconsideration to the Social Planning Department (see the next page for details on how to make such a request).
- Applications which are not in dispute (i.e. the applicant has not requested reconsideration) are sent directly to City Council. This year, Council will consider these recommendations on April 3, 2007. Council does retain the right, however, to direct that any recommendations about which it has concerns be referred to the reconsideration process. Payment of approved grants will be processed as soon as possible following the Council decision.
- The reconsideration process for disputed recommendations will take longer. After written notice and the supporting information have been received by Social Planning, staff will review: the applicant's reasons for requesting reconsideration; the information provided on the grant application form and attachments; and information provided during any interviews. Applicants will be contacted if there are questions, and every effort will be made to clarify misunderstandings. Staff will then prepare a written summation of their findings, including the decision to either amend the original recommendation or to keep it as is.
- The applicant's rationale for requesting reconsideration, as well as staff comments and recommendations will then be compiled in a report to City Council for its consideration. Relevant sections of this report will also be forwarded to all applicants involved in this process.
- City Council is currently scheduled to consider the recommendations coming out of the reconsideration process on May 3, 2007. Any applicant wishing to make a presentation to Council concerning its grant application may do so at that time by making prior arrangements with the City Clerk. Instructions on how to do this will be provided in advance. Council will make a decision on these grants at the May 3, 2007 meeting. Payment of approved grants will be processed as soon as possible following the Council decision.

- B-1 Atira Women's Resource Society
- B-2 Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House
- B-3 Network Two Community Services Society - Hastings Street Media Lab
- B-4 Network Two Community Services Society - Vancouver Roving Leaders
- B-5 Philippine Women Centre

Atira Women's Resource Society (#3)

Request	\$82,800
2006 Grant	\$ 0
Social Planning Initial Recommendation	\$ 0
Social Planning New Recommendation	\$ 0

Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

Atira Women's Resource Society provides a variety of supports to women and their children, including housing, education, advocacy, outreach, and other services.

The grant request was to fund two positions (Program Manager and Case Manager) for the Enterprising Women Making Art (EWMA) program. This program supports women in the Downtown Eastside to create employment and training opportunities through the production of marketable artisan items and to develop a women-centred artisans' cooperative. The project offers practical support, an experiential learning environment and skills-based training.

Social Planning's Initial Response:

Staff recommended NO GRANT due to ineligibility as the project is still in a developmental stage.

Basis for Reconsideration

In the letter requesting reconsideration (attached), the Society states that the EWMA program has been operational since 2003 and is not a time-limited project. They do however note that the EWMA program assists women to develop artisan cooperatives which are in the developmental and formative stages of business operation. Atira states that the EWMA program itself is not developmental.

Social Planning Comments

The EWMA program has two related components: one being for women to get together, create art, and develop employment skills in a supportive environment and the other being the development of cooperatives to provide mechanisms for these women to sell their products and generate an income.

In late 2005, the City's Innovation Grants program provided a \$10,000 grant the EWMA project. The purpose of the Innovation Grants (which no longer exist) was to provide short-term support to innovative projects which were in a developmental stage and which would not qualify for funding in the main Community Services grants program. The hope at that time was that Atira would secure ongoing funding from a variety of sources to run the program on a long term basis. Unfortunately, this has not occurred.

Atira's current CS grant application is for \$82,800, which would fund more than 2/3 of EWMA's total costs of \$120,150. However, under the terms of the Direct Social Services stream of the Community Services Grants program, significant parts of the EWMA program, namely the employment training elements and the economic development component, are ineligible. While Atira has accessed some funding towards the social enterprise component of this program, it has been unable to secure any other significant ongoing sources of funding for the rest of the program.

Given the lack of other funders, staff assess this program as being in a developmental phase and as ineligible. Staff also note that the Community Services grants program does not have the capacity to be a primary funder, especially in cases where a program is only partly eligible. The average Direct Social Services grant for eligible programs is \$34,634.

Staff note that this program could be eligible for support via the City's new Social Responsibility Fund grants, which will be available to groups in the Downtown Eastside/Mt Pleasant areas.

Recommendation

Staff recommend NO GRANT.

February 28, 2007

Social Planning Department
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

To Social Planning Department:

Re: Reconsideration of 2007 Community Services Grants Recommendations and Allocations

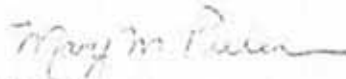
I would like to request the reconsideration of Atira Women's Resource Society's application for a direct services grant, on the basis that eligibility criteria have not been properly applied. The Social Planning Department has deemed our application as ineligible "as it is for a project which is in the developmental stage". I wish to dispute this recommendation.

I understand that the Community Services Grants Program does not fund "time-limited projects (3 years or less) in the developmental or formative stage". However, Enterprising Women Making Art (EWMA), the program of Atira Women's Resource Society that would receive the grant, is a program that has operated and provided services for women in the Downtown Eastside for over three years (since August 2003). It is not a time-limited project. The program has provided a spectrum of services, including co-operative business development assistance, personal and emotional support for participants, resource coordination, case management, community drop-ins, and marketing and sales coordination and assistance. Based on the definition outlined in the Community Services Grants Program information sheet (and re-stated above), EWMA is not in the "developmental stage".

As a first time applicant, I also called and spoke with a Social Planner prior to applying, in order to ensure the EWMA program was indeed eligible. During our conversation (which included the length of time the program had been operating), the Planner expressed no concern that EWMA was in its 'developmental stage' and therefore not eligible for the grant.

Where the confusion may lie, is that the EWMA program assists women in the Downtown Eastside community, who are developing co-operatives and who are in the developmental and formative stages of operating a business, such as Creative Women Craftworks. The program is not at a developmental or formative stage itself, but supports a co-op business that is.

Sincerely,



Mary Pullen
Program Manager, Enterprising Women Making Art

ATIRA

Women's Resource Society

**Surrey &
White Rock
Office**

Suite 204 - 15210
North Bluff Road
White Rock, B.C.
V4B 3E6

T: 604.531.9143
F: 604.531.9145

**Vancouver
Office**

101 East Cordova
Vancouver, B.C.
V6A 1K7

T: 604.331.1407
F: 604.688.1799

www.atira.bc.ca
office@atira.bc.ca



Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House (# 57)

Request:	\$80,500
2006 Grant	\$57,026
Social Planning initial recommendation	\$58,168
Social Planning New Recommendation	\$58,168

Program Description (Summarized from the grant application)

Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House (MPNH) requested a grant to cover a portion of four core staff positions: Executive Director, Operations Manager, Office Assistant and ECD Coordinator. The increase was to include the ECD Coordinator in the core staff, on the basis that the revised role of this position includes advocacy and community capacity building.

The core staff ensure funding is in place to deliver services, coordinate and supervise other staff, build partnerships with other organizations to improve service delivery, engage in community development activities, advocate for social issues, and support the board's governance of the organization.

Social Planning's Initial Response

Staff recommended a 2% Cost of Living increase to Mt. Pleasant and to all other Neighbourhood Houses.

Basis for Reconsideration

The Society's letter (attached) notes that Mt. Pleasant Neighbourhood House is in an inner-city neighbourhood which is in transition and which has significant challenges. The organization has been called upon to participate in community building and advocacy activities, including the upcoming City planning process, and states that it does not have the financial resources to maintain/advance this work.

Social Planning Comments

Community Services grants for Neighbourhood Houses are specifically targeted to core staff and intended to assist the organization in undertaking community capacity building, advocacy and community development activities. Neighbourhood Houses differ in the size of their total operating budgets and core staff budgets, and also in their capacity building and development activities. Recommended funding levels for each house relate to both these factors. The recommended grant of \$58,168 to MPNH responds to its reported capacity-building and development activities and, as a proportion of operating and core staff budgets, is at a level comparable to or greater than the grant level provided to the majority of other neighbourhood houses.

Staff acknowledge that MPNH is becoming more active in community capacity building, advocacy and community development and that, subject to available funding in future years, this would be one of the factors taken into account in assessing funding levels.

Starting in 2007, the City's new Social Responsibility Fund grant program may also offer support for some community capacity building activities in Mt. Pleasant and the Downtown Eastside areas.

Recommendation

Staff recommends a grant of \$58,168 to Mt. Pleasant Neighbourhood House.



MOUNT PLEASANT NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

800 East Broadway, Vancouver, B.C. V5T 1Y1

Telephone: (604) 879-8208 Fax (604) 879-4136

March 5, 2007



Michelle Vernooy, Social Planner
Social Planning Department
City of Vancouver
100-515 W. 10th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4A8

Dear Michelle:

Re: Reconsideration of Grant Application—
Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House

Thank you for responding to my questions regarding your decision of funding allocation for Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House (MPNH). As a follow-up I am submitting a request for reconsideration.

MPNH is situated in an inner city neighbourhood with significant challenges including – low incomes in a high cost city, a high number of new immigrants, a high proportion of single parents and individuals on income assistance, and a significant number of isolated seniors. In addition, Mount Pleasant is a community in transition, and because of its very diverse components and changing environment, is a neighbourhood that requires a cornerstone such as MPNH to foster and lead community capacity, community development and advocacy.

The current environment also particularly necessitates that MPNH provides a strong voice of advocacy in light of the developments occurring due to the 2010 Olympics and the Mount Pleasant Planning Process. In the past year we have been called upon to actively participate in numerous community building and advocacy issues, and of these, we have already provided significant support to the City of Vancouver's planning process. It is also clear from the Mount Pleasant Planning meetings I have attended that we will need to be an active leader in the community throughout the process, especially in the social component aspects.

These extra demands for advocacy and community involvement place great stress on our resources. It has become increasingly clear that there are expectations for MPNH to not only continue with our past activities, but also to take on additional community roles. It was for this reason that I had requested additional resources so that the advocacy

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and community capacity roles we have assumed in the past, especially those related to childcare and children's issues could be maintained while we assumed additional involvements to meet the changing needs of our community. However, I believe that the recommendations for MPNH's Community Service Grant funding did not accurately account for our financial limitations to resource these additional expectations.

Without the additional resources, MPNH will not be able to fulfill several of the goals that we outlined in our proposal related to food security and the social isolation of several marginalized populations. Our plan indicated a number of activities that targeted seniors, Aboriginal peoples and women. I am particularly concerned that we will not be able to expand our advocacy and capacity building initiatives related to the Aboriginal community. As outlined in the proposal, MPNH has particularly made efforts this past year to connect with Aboriginal organizations and to transform the neighbourhood house to be more accessible to the Aboriginal population. The small steps we have taken this past year need to be built upon; however, there are limitations in the staff resources we currently have and we also need to continue our work related to early childhood development and readiness of children to learn. It is primarily for that reason that we have asked the City of Vancouver to support our efforts by increasing our grant allocation, thereby eliminating the necessity of MPNH having to choose what to eliminate from our work.

I would also like to point out that while the 2% COLA that was allocated to neighbourhood houses, MPNH benefits less from this gesture than many of the other houses as we are funded for considerably less than the other houses that operate in neighbourhoods that have similar challenges as Mount Pleasant. That said, this further compounds our inability to receive adequate financial support for the advocacy and leadership work we are doing in Mount Pleasant, and I am left with the impression that while MPNH operates in a growing, changing and challenging environment, the City of Vancouver is not recognizing the growing financial needs of MPNH nor our ability to adequately respond to the community's challenges due to limitations on our resources.

If you have further questions regarding this appeal, please contact me at 604-684-7498.

Sincerely,



Jocelyne Hamel
Executive Director

Network Two Community Services Society - Hastings Street Media Lab (#60)

Request	\$ 40,000
2006 Grant	\$ 0
Social Planning's Initial Recommendation	\$ 0
Social Planning New Recommendation	\$ 0

Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

Network Two Community Services Society through the Hastings Media Lab provides disadvantaged youth (12 - 18 years old) with the opportunity to explore and develop their creativity using various forms of multi-media including music, video and digital graphic arts. The program has two core purposes: to eliminate traditional barriers to digital creativity for this group and to provide interesting and relevant substitutes for high-risk activities.

Social Planning's Initial Response

Not Eligible. The proposed program is for a project in the developmental or formative stage.

Basis for Reconsideration

Network Two Community Services Society has applied for reconsideration of their request (in the attached letter) on the basis that "that the eligibility criteria and priorities have not been properly applied". They dispute that the service is a project in the developmental stages given it is now in its second year of operation.

Social Planning Comments

Social Planning acknowledges that engaging youth in a self-directed way to express themselves through media arts offers a valuable alternative to high risk activities for youth who live in the Hastings corridor. The Hastings Media Lab offers youth access to a space and equipment to create and publish their work. The Lab has been running for three years with in-kind support, but has no other funding sources. The requested City grant would be the sole source of revenue for this project and is intended to support the salary and benefits of the Creative Director.

In assessing applications, staff look for support from other funders both for the program as a whole and for any staff position for which funding is sought. As this is not demonstrated in the budget, the service is still viewed as being in the developmental stage. Social Planning notes that the City is currently funding two other organizations that also engage at-risk youth in the arts, one of which has a drop-in location close to the Hastings corridor.

Recommendation

Staff recommend NO GRANT.

*Network of Inner City Community Services Society
c/o Ray Cam Cooperative Community Centre
920 East Hastings Street
Vancouver BC V6A 3T1*



March 6, 2007

Community Services Granting
Social Planning
City of Vancouver
Suite 100 - 515 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4A8

The Network of Inner City Community Services Society, formerly Network Two Community Services Society, is hereby applying for reconsideration of the application by the Hastings Street Media Lab for funding under the Direct Social Services category, Community Services Grants.

This application for reconsideration is being made on the basis that eligibility criteria for the program have not been properly applied. The letter notes that the grant was turned down as the project is in the developmental stage. The criteria state that developmental stage projects are not eligible when the project is time-limited (three years or less). This is not the case with the Media Lab, which is ongoing and is intended to exist and grow for many years to come. It can also be argued that the project is not actually in the developmental stages as it is now in its second year of operation, has successfully staged a number of events, is providing myriad opportunities for local youth to access program activities, has developed a number of community and corporate partners and has an ongoing presence through its Vancouver Youth Radio website.

Thank you for conducting this reconsideration. I look forward to working with you further on this exciting initiative.

Regards,

Judy McGuire
Executive Director

Network Two Community Services Society - Vancouver Roving Leaders (#61)

Request	\$ 60,000
2006 Grant	\$ 0
Social Planning Initial Recommendation	\$ 15,000
Social Planning New Recommendation	\$ 15,000

Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

Network Two Community Services Society is a consortium of community based organizations and resident groups working together in the delivery and coordination of services for youth and families in the northeast sector of Vancouver. Funds were requested to hire additional staff for their Roving Leaders Program to work with children and youth engaged in high risk street activities in three neighbourhoods. Program workers will support youth and their families who require more intensive support than is available through existing service providers.

Social Planning's Initial Response

Staff recommended a new grant of \$15,000 toward additional staffing for the Roving Leader program, pro-rated for 9 months, for 2007.

Basis for Reconsideration

Network Two is requesting reconsideration on the basis that their financial situation has not been properly assessed. In the letter to Social Planning (attached), they stated that the cost for a 20-hour part time leader position will require \$24,000 and that the City grant will be insufficient to fund such a position fully.

Social Planning Comments

Financial information provided by Network Two indicated that, currently, there are 3 part-time Roving Leaders working for a combined total of about 46 hours per week in three neighbourhoods, or an average of 16 hours/week per worker. Average hourly rate for the Leaders would be about \$18.50/hour plus benefits.

Social Planning recommendation for a grant of \$15,000 is based on the cost for adding one part-time (16-hour) Roving Leader to the existing team of workers. The pro-rated City grant of \$15,000 will be sufficient to cover the salary and benefits of an additional part-time position for 9 months. Network Two may alternately choose to add more hours to the existing workers if that is deemed more desirable.

It should be noted that a prorated 12-month City grant towards this program will be \$20,000, which is sufficient funding for a part time position (16 hours/week) for the whole year.

Recommendation

Staff recommend a pro-rated grant of \$15,000 towards the salary of a part time Roving Leader position.

Comments: Pro-rated new grant for 2007 toward salary of Roving Leader position. Activity report outlining goals, activities and outcomes is requested for the period of April to September 31, 2007, due October 15th, 2007.

*Network of Inner City Community Services Society
c/o Ray Cam Cooperative Community Centre
920 East Hastings Street
Vancouver BC V6A 3T1*

March 6, 2007

Community Services Granting
Social Planning
City of Vancouver
Suite 100 - 515 West 10th Avenue
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4A8

The Network of Inner City Community Services Society, formerly Network Two Community Services Society, is hereby applying for reconsideration of the funding recommended for the Roving Leaders program under the Direct Social Services category, Community Services Grants.

This application for reconsideration is being made on the basis that the financial situation of the applicant has not been properly assessed. The letter notes that a grant of \$15,000 has been recommended as a pro-rated salary amount for a Roving Leader position. Given that even one Roving Leader position, working at an estimated 20 hours per week, has a cost of \$24,000 as noted in the application, it is difficult to determine exactly what the amount recommended is intended to accomplish. While the program and the agency certainly value the support of Social Planning, we also acknowledge that it is difficult to provide an extra position for less than the targeted 20 hours noted and the staff comment is somewhat unclear on the exact intended use for the recommendation. Further background on program specifics, the interaction of the initiative with other City-funded operations, and the level of demand we are attempting to meet, will also be provided.

Thank you for conducting this reconsideration. I look forward to working with you further on this exciting initiative.

Regards,


Judy McQuire
Executive Director

Philippine Women Centre (#69)

Request	\$ 45,000
2006 Grant	\$ 18,205
Social Planning Initial Recommendation	\$ 18,208
Social Planning New Recommendation	\$ 18,208

Program Description (summarized from the grant application)

The Philippine Women Centre (PWC) of BC is a grassroots organization providing a range of services, including settlement assistance, housing information, job search, and general information and referral. They also have an active volunteer program, a youth program, are involved in several community economic development initiatives and conduct capacity building sessions for the organization and its members.

Social Planning's Initial Response

Staff initially recommended a grant of \$18,208, which is equal to last year's grant.

Basis for Reconsideration

In the letter requesting reconsideration (attached), the PWC states that the basis of their request for reconsideration is that the organization's financial situation was not properly assessed and understood. In the letter, the PWC: 1) describes the growing needs and demand for PWC's programs and the Executive Director's role in serving this growing Filipino community and; 2) indicates that an additional \$20,000 was requested for a new Program Coordinator position. This position would plan, organize, lead and coordinate the overall programs of the PWC and manage the Centre's volunteer program, resource development program, and youth and capacity-building programs.

Social Planning Comments

Social Planning staff agree that there are growing needs in the Filipino community due to the increasing number of Filipino immigrants and temporary workers coming to BC. However, settlement and integration services for newcomers are under the mandate of other levels of government, and these services as well as a number of other services provided by the PWC such as the job search program, community economic development, skills training and arts and culture are ineligible for Community Services Grants.

The recommended grant of \$18,208 represents 64% of the executive director's salary. Staff are of the view that the recommended level of funding is adequate under the circumstances. According to the budgetary information presented in the application, the Program Coordinator position for which the PWC is also seeking City support is not a new position but has been in place and has been funded from other sources for several years.

Recommendation

Staff recommend a grant of \$18,208.



401 Powell Street, Vancouver, BC, V6A 1G7, Canada, phone: 604-215-1103, fax: 604-215-1906, email: pwcc@vancouvercenter.org

BY FAX

Subject: Written Statement Explaining Reasons for Request for Reconsideration
Attention: Social Planning Department, City of Vancouver
Fax Number: 604-871-6048
From: Philippine Women Centre of British Columbia (PWC)
Submitted by: Marilou Carrillo, Chairperson
Date: March 6, 2007

The Philippine Women Centre of British Columbia (PWC) is requesting for the City of Vancouver to reconsider its grant recommendation based on the PWC's belief that our organization's financial situation was not properly assessed and understood.

For 2007, we are being recommended to receive a total of \$18,208 from the Community Services Grant. This grant will help support, strengthen, create, and implement programs that serve Filipino women and the Filipino community in Vancouver.

However, we argue that the \$18,208 grant we are being recommended for 2007, is not considerate of our organization's financial situation for the following two, inter-related, reasons that we believe may hinder our organization's capacity to meet the growing needs of the community in Vancouver:

1. The amount does not consider the growing need and demand for PWC's programs

The financial situation of the PWC was not properly assessed in the light of the quickly growing Filipino community, 58 percent of whom are women, and the emerging issues associated with the fast growth of migrant and immigrant communities' of colour in an urban setting.

The Filipino community in Vancouver is already the second largest immigrant group in the city. In a short-span of 40 years, the number of Filipinos grew from a few thousand to now tens of thousands, the majority of whom are women and live-in caregivers who have entered Canada under Citizenship and Immigration Canada's Live-in Caregiver Program (LCP). This steep growth spurt is illuminating some very concerning and troubling issues and challenges facing the growing community that are impeding many in the community's full participation in the economic, political, social, and cultural life of the city.

Apart from settlement and integration issues, the community is facing a myriad of challenges as the majority of the community are now new residents in Vancouver.

In fact, recent studies have demonstrated the increasing economic segregation and ghettoization of Filipino women and the community and its' marginalization especially among Filipino youth in Vancouver who are mainly the children of former live-in caregivers who are now residents in the city.

A 2006 study by Professor Habiba Zaman of Simon Fraser University with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives revealed the concerning economic ghettoization and labour segregation of the larger Filipino community in Vancouver and pointed to the lack of support for newly-arrived Filipinos in regards to their economic security in the city and province. Another study by Professor Geraldine Pratt of the University of British Columbia presented in 2006 exposes the growing marginalization and alienation of Filipino youth in the city. Professor Pratt unveiled some startling statistics of the current state of Filipino youth in Vancouver's education -- revealing that 60 percent of Filipino boys entering Grade 8 drop out of highschool by their senior years.

While there is further evidence of emerging issues confronting Filipino women and the Filipino community in Vancouver, we cite the above two research studies to demonstrate the urgent and complex issues facing the growing and dynamic community in the city.

The PWC's programs and projects are aimed at addressing these issues by building capacity through social awareness and skills building in the community so that community members themselves can effectively meet the challenges they face towards their full and meaningful participation in the multicultural make-up of the city of Vancouver and Canadian society.

It should also be noted that the PWC is the only centre for women of Philippine ancestry and the larger Filipino community in the city and the province providing programs among the over 90,000 Filipinos living in the province.

Therefore, there is a pressing need for the PWC to continue to strengthen our existing programs, identify emerging issues and service gaps, and innovate new areas of work and programs. Although, we are committed to developing resources, the PWC's financial resources are limited, restricting our organization's ability.

2. The amount does not consider the centre's need for a Program Coordinator

As of now, the PWC's Executive Director (ED) contributes full-time hours at the PWC. In fact, the ED is often working at the PWC up to 6-days a week as part of her volunteer hours, but also, to ensure the success and continuity of the PWC's programs.

The recommended \$18,208 will definitely go towards supporting the PWC's ED as an important component of our organization.

In our original proposal for the 2007 Community Services Grant, we requested for an additional \$20,000 for new program coordinator position. In our organization's assessment, there is a real need for us to support a Program Coordinator.

The ED's role is to provide leadership, direction and management toward the achievement of PWC's strategic goals. She is tasked to plan, organize, lead and coordinate the overall work of the PWC.

In order to effectively support the ED and achieve the PWC's objectives, carry out the programs, and continue to be relevant to the community, we believe it necessary to establish a Program Coordinator position. The Program Coordinator would be appointed by the Board of Directors to provide direction and management of the PWC's core programs. She would be tasked to plan, organize, lead and coordinate the overall programs of the PWC which include managing the Centre's volunteer program, resource development program, youth and capacity-building programs.

It is for the above reasons that we originally requested for a \$45,000 grant from the City of Vancouver, recognizing the vital and important role that the PWC's ED plays in serving the growing Filipino community while at the same time realizing the need to expand our capacity to maintain, strengthen and develop the organization's programs.

We believe that the City of Vancouver recommended grant realizes the importance of our work in the community, however, our organization's current financial situation was not properly assessed for the above two reasons.

DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

12 EAST HASTINGS STREET, VANCOUVER, BC V6A 1N1

TEL: 604.682.0931 ~ FAX: 604.669.5499

KERR@DERA.BC.CA

April 11, 2007

Community Services Group
Social Planning Department
453 West 12th Avenue
Vancouver, BC
V5Y 1V4



Dear Ms. Kloppenborg:

RE: Application for reconsideration of recommended grant for DERA Senior's Program

We are in receipt of your letter dated April 5, 2007, outlining that Council did not approve the recommended grant for the Downtown Eastside Residents' Association to provide assistance to Chinese seniors in Vancouver's downtown eastside.

I am writing to you to request reconsideration of this decision, based on our position that Council did not correctly interpret the grant eligibility criteria. DERA wishes to speak at any upcoming reconsideration hearing.

Please find enclosed our written statement.

Regards,

Kim Kerr
Executive Director

SUPPORTING STATEMENT
DOWNTOWN EASTSIDE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
APPLICATION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF FUNDING

1. The following is a request for reconsideration of the refusal by the City of Vancouver City Council ("Council") to renew the funding of the Downtown Eastside Residents' Association for the provision of the "DERA Seniors Program" for 2007 ("Grant"). This request is based on the submission of the Downtown Eastside Residents' Association ("DERA") that the eligibility criteria were misapplied by Council.
2. DERA, many members of its staff in their personal capacities, and its Executive Director Kim Kerr are widely reported, outspoken and visible critics of the majority Non-Partisan Association ("NPA") who are in a 6-5 majority on Council for NPA policies towards low-income housing in Vancouver's downtown eastside and NPA policies towards ensuring the social sustainability of the 2010 Olympics.
3. Until April 3, 2007, in conjunction with the City of Vancouver's Community Services Group grant funding, DERA provided the services of a Seniors Coordinator to the Chinese community in Vancouver's downtown. The City of Vancouver provided part of the funding required for the coordinator's salary and overhead through a Community Services Grant, and DERA made up the difference in the associated expenses through other grants and funding opportunities. This arrangement has been in place for many years. The position has now been cut by DERA due to lack of funding.
4. At the April 3, 2007 City of Vancouver Council meeting ("Meeting"), the Community Services Group, Social Planning division reported back to Council on their recommendations for the 2007 Community Services Grants. The grants were reviewed by staff against Council approved priorities and Council approved eligibility criteria, as well as the merit of the services delivered. Recommended grants met both priorities and criteria in the opinion of staff.
5. DERA made an application for a grant for the 2007 calendar year to continue its senior's program. In keeping with the Council approved eligibility criteria, the manner in which DERA has conducted the program to date, and the identified priorities of Council, staff at the Social Planning department recommended the approval of the Grant at the Meeting
6. On a motion by Councillor Peter Ladner at the Meeting, City Council voted 6 to 5 to approve all of the recommended grants save for the grant to DERA. The motion made by Councillor Ladner was as follows:

I'd like to move that council approve 86 social services grants totaling \$270,578 including any recommended conditions on the grants as approved in Appendix A3 with the exception of item 17 the DERA Seniors Coordinator, for the amount of \$31,212 and ask staff to report back on other organizations capable of providing this service. And then the rest of C; source of funding is the 2007 Community Services Grants Budget.

("Motion")

7. No reasons were given during the Meeting by those Council members voting in favour of this unprecedented Motion, despite direct requests for justification made by council members who ultimately opposed the Motion.
8. DERA's grant was apparently refused because of allegations of improper conduct. In Appendix A to these submissions, Councillor Ladner, on his public website, provides the justification for his motion, and presumably his vote, which includes:
 - a. the "inexcusable behaviour" of people "closely associated" with DERA;
 - b. that such "inexcusable behaviour" at recent public events is "encouraged by DERA";
 - c. that the "Anti Poverty Committee" has "strong ties" to DERA and has gone "far beyond legitimate protest" in "several recent public events"; and,
 - d. that a DERA employee "recently admitted he spray-painted the Olympic clock."
9. During the meeting, it was confirmed by staff that staff is considering establishing criteria for "improper conduct" at the request of Council, but that such criteria did not yet exist.
10. DERA respectfully requests reconsideration on the basis that:
 - a. The grant application was recommended by staff based on current criteria, Council priorities, and the ability of DERA to deliver the proposed service;
 - b. The grant application made by DERA was unfairly and unjustifiably singled out by Councillor Ladner's motion, which converted the established process for Social Planning grants for that organization alone from a grant application process to a request for proposals process without notice to DERA or justification against criteria for such a change;
 - c. That criteria concerning "improper conduct," which do not currently exist and did not exist at the time of DERA's application, were applied by at least Councillor Ladner in a 6 to 5 vote, prejudicing DERA's application without DERA having notice or opportunity to answer those criteria, which criteria are still unknown;
 - d. That charges of "improper conduct" which are:
 - i. still largely unknown to DERA,
 - ii. of which DERA has been given no notice or opportunity to respond, and
 - iii. which have been publicly propagated as the reason for the motion by Councillor Ladner,prejudiced DERA's application without DERA having opportunity to answer those charges;
 - e. That no reasons were given for the refusal of the Grant and the change in process for DERA alone during the Council proceeding by those Councillors voting against providing the Grant; and,
 - f. That such unfair and arbitrary treatment occurred in April of the year in which the Grant funding was intended to be allocated by DERA as outlined in DERA's proposal, for a program identified as a priority by all involved.