

# A16



## CITY OF VANCOUVER

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: November 5, 2007  
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Meeting Date: December 11, 2007

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: Co-Director, Office of Cultural Affairs (Grants, Awards and Support Programs)

SUBJECT: Adjustments to 2007/08 Theatre Rental (Operating and Project) Grants

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approve the conversion of four (4) previously approved 2007 Theatre Rental Grants in the amount of \$32,485 to one-time cash grants as outlined in this report. Source of Funds is the 2007 Theatre Rental Grants, a program within the Cultural Grants budget.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager of Community Services recommends approval of the foregoing.

#### COUNCIL POLICY

In 1979 and again in 1983, City Council affirmed a Theatre Rental Operating Grants programs to provide grants equal to theatre rent for cultural organizations that are regular users of the Vancouver Civic Theatres.

In 2006, Council approved a Theatre Rental Projects Grant program, established to replace the Baxter Grant Program and designed to financially assist occasional, new and diverse non-profit arts and cultural organizations wanting access to the Vancouver Civic Theatres.

Approval of a grant recommendation requires eight affirmative votes.

## PURPOSE

This report recommends the conversion of previously approved 2007 Theatre Rental Grants (Operating and Project) to cash grants for performances by non-profit organizations that had been scheduled for the summer of 2007 at the Vancouver Civic Theatres but had to be rescheduled to alternate venues as a result of the recent civic strike.

## BACKGROUND

On July 24, 2007 Council approved 12 Theatre Rental (Operating) Grants and one Theatre Rental (Projects) Grant for use of the Civic Theatres for the last six months of 2007. However, six (6) uses were not able to proceed because of the recent strike. The affected non-profit organizations had to reschedule or defer their performances to alternate venues.

Table 1 - Summary of organizations, alternate venues and performance dates.

Organization	Previously Approved Date and Venue	Actual Date and Venue
Flamenco Rosario	September 1, 2007 Vancouver Playhouse	September 1, 2007 Waterfront Theatre
Vancouver Recital Society	September 23, 2007 Orpheum	September 21 & 22, 2007 Chan Centre
Vancouver Summer Music Festival	July 26, 2007 Orpheum August 7, 2007 Orpheum	July 26, 2007 The Centre in Vancouver August 7, 2007 Chan Centre
Vancouver Symphony	October 4, 2007 Orpheum	April 10, 2008 Orpheum
Vancouver Tap Dance Society	September 3, 2007 Vancouver Playhouse	September 3, 2007 Granville Island Stage

## DISCUSSION

All of these organizations incurred incremental costs associated with moving their performances to alternate venues. In addition to theatre rental costs, they had additional marketing, ticketing and in some cases, additional artist costs.

To help mitigate the financial impact of the additional costs of alternate venue rentals, staff are recommending that the funds previously approved as Theatre Rental Grants be converted to cash grants in the same amount and awarded to the same organizations in order to assist with the unplanned financial impact to these organizations as a result of the recent civic strike and closure of the Vancouver Civic Theatres.

The report recommendation seeks to convert \$32,485 in Theatre Rental Grants to cash grants.

Previously Council-approved theatre rental grant for one Vancouver Symphony performance, rescheduled from October 4, 2007 to April 10, 2008 will be carried forward as part of the year-end process.

Table 2 - Summary of recommended Cash Grants

Organization	Cash Grants
Flamenco Rosario	2,720
Vancouver Recital Society	7,725
Vancouver Summer Music Festival	20,000
Vancouver Tap Dance Society	2,040
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,485</b>

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report seeks to convert \$32,485 in grants already approved by Council as Theatre Rental Grants to four cash grants.

### CONCLUSION

This report outlines a proposal to assist those non-profit performing arts organizations which had received civic support through Theatre Rental (Operating and Project) Grants for the use of the Vancouver Civic Theatres and which had to relocate their events over the summer of 2007 to alternate venues as a result of the recent civic strike.

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