

## CITY OF VANCOUVER

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT



Report Date: June 2, 2008  
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Meeting Date: June 24, 2008

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: Co Director, Grants, Awards & Support Programs,  
Office of Cultural Affairs

SUBJECT: Arts Partners in Creative Development - 2008 Allocation

#### RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approve an Arts Partners in Creative Development (APCD) grant of \$166,667 to 2010 Legacies Now, for the 2008 program deadlines, for subsequent distribution to Vancouver arts organizations; source of funds is the unallocated funding from the 2008 Cultural Budget.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager recommends approval.

#### CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager notes that the APCD partnership is a good example of the leverage benefits made possible by Council's recent reinvestment in arts and cultural activities through increases to the cultural budget which has assisted in attracting new resources from other sources to the benefit of the Vancouver arts and cultural community. The City Manager recommends APPROVAL.

#### COUNCIL POLICY

In December 2006 City Council authorised staff to enter into a three-year, multi-funder strategic partnership, "Arts Partners in Creative Development" as a way to support the creation and development of new work and approved a City contribution of \$500,000 over three years to the \$6.5 million partnership.

The funding partnership is outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding among all partners dated April 10, 2007.

Approval of grant recommendation requires eight affirmative votes.

## PURPOSE

This report recommends approval of a grant to 2010 Legacies Now as the City's 2008 contribution to the Arts Partners in Creative Development (APCD) grant program. This funding contributes to a larger pool which is evaluated by the funding partnership with community assessment input and subsequently distributed by 2010 Legacies Now to arts organizations throughout BC. The City's grant is directed to Vancouver arts organizations.

## BACKGROUND

The Arts Partners in Creative Development Program is a strategic investment partnership to assist BC arts and cultural organizations to create and develop new works, or further develop existing works, with the intent of producing, presenting or exhibiting them at the highest standard.

With an initial investment of \$6.5 million over three years, successful applicants will develop, create or commission original works in the performing, visual, media and literary arts.

Funding partners for APCD include:

**Table 1**  
**Partners and Contribution Levels**

FUNDING PARTNER	TOTAL 3-YEAR CONTRIBUTION
City of Vancouver	\$500,000
Vcr. Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic & Paralympic Winter Games	\$500,000
Vancouver Foundation	\$1,000,000
2010 Legacies Now (ArtsNow)	\$1,500,000
Province of British Columbia, Ministry of Sport, Tourism and the Arts	\$1,500,000
Canada Council for the Arts	\$1,500,000
Total:	\$6,500,000

The program objectives are:

- To facilitate the creation of a wide range of original artistic work that reflects a high level of creativity and excellence and enhances the vitality of the arts and culture sector in British Columbia.
- To support the development of original work across disciplines that will represent the artistic excellence and diverse cultures of British Columbia to local, national and international audiences.

- To invest in the further development of existing work to achieve the highest artistic standard.
- To foster local, national and international artistic relationships and collaborations that will enhance the creative capacity of BC arts organizations.
- To contribute to the creation and development of an outstanding body of work that will enhance recognition of BC's arts and culture communities nationally and internationally.

The APCD Program Guidelines are attached to this report as Appendix A.

## DISCUSSION

Administration of the APCD program is provided by 2010 Legacies Now on behalf of the partnership. The application deadline for 2008 APCD grant programs was April 17, 2008. A copy of the application form is attached as Appendix B.

A Grant Assessment Committee comprised of representatives of the funding partners as well as community peers reviewed and recommended grant requests to a Steering Committee comprised of senior staff from funding partners.

Of the applications received 53 were from Vancouver arts organizations, of which 12 were recommended by the Grant Assessment Committee for support. Those not approved for support did not best meet the program objectives or criteria.

The complete list of recommended grant recipients will be announced at a joint announcement of the funding partnership in July 2008.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

In late 2006, Council approved in principle an annual budget of \$166,667 for 2007, 2008 and 2009 in support of a partnership commissioning program, Arts Partners in Creative Development. The recommended allocation of \$166,667 to 2010 Legacies Now for subsequent distribution to Vancouver arts organizations as outlined in this report is to be funded from the commissioning funds in the 2008 Cultural Budget leaving no unallocated commissioning funds in 2008.

## CONCLUSION

Arts Partners in Creative Development is a critical program which assists arts and cultural organizations in the creation and development of new work which will enhance our existing wealth of artistic and cultural expression, open up touring and exchange possibilities and ensure an artistic legacy from the upcoming showcase opportunities. Vancouver's arts organizations are increasingly competing on a global basis as residents and visitors alike are becoming more sophisticated and demanding in their tastes. These grants assist the sector in producing and exhibiting at the highest of artistic standards.

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