



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: December 2, 2010
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Meeting Date: December 16, 2010

TO: Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets

FROM: Deputy General Manager of Community Services and Active Managing
Director of Social Development

SUBJECT: 2010 Civic Childcare Grants - Program Development and Innovation Grants

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approve \$30,000 for the 2010 Civic Childcare Grants listed in Appendix A, the source of funds to be the 2010 Child Care Grants Budget.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

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

COUNCIL POLICY

In 1990, Council approved the Civic Child Care Strategy which set out to:

- support the viability, accessibility and quality of existing child care services;
- assist child care initiatives in high need areas;
- encourage and support efficient, coordinated administrative services required for a child care system in Vancouver to lever other sources of child care funding, whenever possible.

In 2009, the Joint Council on Childcare instructed staff to increase the number of childcare spaces by 5%, at a minimum, over the following three years.

Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for \$30,000 in Program Development and Innovation grants to seven organizations, summarized in Appendix A and the discussion below.

DISCUSSION

Since the early 1990's, Council has provided funding for a number of small grants to non-profit child care societies to facilitate local research and innovation, assist with new program development, and support programs that experience financial instability as a result of unforeseen circumstances. This year these grants will create new opportunities within the childcare community by:

- inspiring new ways of thinking about how to best structure, support and coordinate child care and child development services at the local level;
- supporting the development of 134 new spaces and 2 programs that are integrated in Vancouver Board of Education facilities, and
- helping to stabilize 177 spaces in neighbourhood-based programs.

The Civic Childcare Grants are part of an overall review of Social Policy granting initiatives, and are subject to report back to Council in 2011.

There is one yearly deadline for these grants. The following seven grants, totaling \$30,000 are recommended:

Applicant	Staff Recommendations	Project	Childcare Priority
<i>The Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC (CCCABC)</i>	<i>Innovation Grant \$5,000</i>	The Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC (CCCABC) in partnership with the Early Childhood Educators of BC (ECEBC) has leveraged funding from Vancouver Foundation and VanCity to develop an emerging plan for an integrated approach to delivery and governance of early care and learning in Vancouver and British Columbia as a first phase.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City's contribution of \$5,000 will develop communications tools as part of the second phase of the development of this plan and enable the CCCABC to obtain input and partnerships with a broader range of stakeholders, including the business community.
<i>Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House (MPNH)</i>	<i>Stabilization Grant \$4,000</i>	The MPNH provides 152 spaces in 4 programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to internal reorganization and decreased funding levels in 2010 from private foundations, MPNH needs assistance to improve its coordination of financial tracking, financial policies, and staff training that will build capacity to support the continuity of child care operations.

Applicant	Staff Recommendations	Project	Childcare Priority
<i>Kitsilano Daycare Society (KDS)</i>	<i>Program Development Grant \$4,000</i>	Kitsilano Daycare Society has provided early learning and care for children aged 3-5 since 1972. KDS provides 25 licensed spaces and is relocating its services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new location has been identified in the same neighbourhood. Funding will enable KDS to undertake a quantity survey of its new development project and to hire a fundraising professional to develop a strategy for meeting its financial target. Conditions on this grant are summarized in Appendix A.
<i>Ray Cam Cooperative Centre</i>	<i>Program Development Grant \$4,000</i>	Ray Cam has recently opened the Hastings Street Early Learning Enrichment Centre Preschool Program at 881 East Hastings Street. The goal of this centre is to provide preschool opportunities for children and families in the Strathcona and DTES neighbourhoods who do not typically access early learning programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A grant of \$4,000 will be used for a targeted outreach strategy including peer recruitment, referral networks and other engagement activities to create awareness of the new program and build enrollment in the 20 space program.
<i>Spare Time Child Care Society - Bobolink/Oppenheimer Elementary</i>	<i>Program Development Grant \$4,000</i>	Spare Time operates 244 licensed school age spaces in 5 elementary schools in Vancouver. Bobolink is located at David Oppenheimer Elementary school, and is expanding its school-aged care program by 25 additional licensed spaces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A grant of \$4,000 will cover one time costs of expanding existing services, including the creation of a new program for children in grades 4 to 7.
<i>Spare Time Child Care Society - Livingstone Elementary</i>	<i>Program Development Grant \$4,000</i>	In 2009, Spare Time opened a 25 space out of school early learning and care program on the grounds of Livingstone Elementary school, and reached full capacity upon opening. Due to the high need for childcare Spare Time has received licensing approval to add an additional 40 spaces to its existing program in the school basement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A grant of \$4,000 would cover the costs of expanding Livingstone's existing program, and would include staffing costs, curriculum/program costs, and professional fees for licensing and inspections.
<i>Vancouver Native Health Society (VNHS)</i>	<i>Program Development Grant \$5,000</i>	VNHS operates and administers the Phil Bouvier Family Centre's Childcare Program, which opened in September, 2010 providing 49 full day group childcare spaces, including 24 infant and toddler spaces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A grant of \$5,000 will cover costs associated with the start up of the Phil Bouvier Family Centre, including staff development, training, and policy and procedures manuals, and expansion to include additional 20 spaces for the day by day operations of the centre.

The following grant is Not Recommended:

Applicant	Staff Recommendation	Project
<i>Vancouver Native Health Society (VNHS)</i>	<i>Program Development Grant \$0</i>	VNHS applied for a second Program Development grant for staff expenses for the ongoing operation of the centre's regular opening hours. This request was different from what was proposed in VNHS's original letter of interest. Staff recommend No Grant as the application requests funding for ongoing expenses that are ineligible under the Program Development Grant.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2010 budget for Civic Childcare Grants is \$1,137,400. This report's recommended allocation of \$30,000 for Research and Innovation, Program Development, and Program Stabilization Grants will exhaust the 2010 Civic Childcare Grants budget. Grant recommendations are summarized in Table I below.

Table I - 2010 Recommendations

Grant Type	Applicant	2010 Recommended Grant
Research, Innovation, Policy Development	Early Childhood Educators of BC	\$5,000
Stabilization	Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House	\$4,000
Program Development	Kitsilano Day Care Society	\$4,000
Program Development	Ray Cam Cooperative Centre	\$4,000
Program Development	Spare Time - Bobolink/Oppenheimer	\$4,000
Program Development	Spare Time - Livingstone	\$4,000
Program Development	Vancouver Native Health - Phil Bouvier Start up Expenses	\$5,000
Program Development	Vancouver Native Health - Phil Bouvier Ongoing Staff Costs	\$0
	Total	\$30,000

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Access to affordable, quality child care is important to creating inclusive, socially sustainable communities. Child care increases parents' labour force participation, aids in healthy child development, and supports economic growth. These grants will support the development of new early childhood related policies, will stabilize one important program provider, and will allow for new program development.

CONCLUSION

This is the third of three reports related to the allocation of the 2010 Civic Childcare Grants. The Social Development Department is recommending Council approval for:

- one Research, Policy Development and Innovation Grant to the Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC (CCCABC),
- one Program Stabilization Grant to Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House,
- five Program Development Grants to Kitsilano Day Care Society, Ray Cam Cooperative Centre, Spare Time Child Care Society for its Bobolink/Oppenheimer and Livingstone programs, and Vancouver Native Health Society - Phil Bouvier start up costs, and
- no grant for Vancouver Native Health Society - Phil Bouvier ongoing staff costs.

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Appendix A - 2010 Program Development, Stabilization and Program Development Grant Recommendations and Conditions

Grant Type	Applicant	Recommended	Conditions
Research, Innovation, Policy Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports new child care research, policy and other projects whose aim is to improve practice throughout the city 	Coalition of Child Care Advocates of BC	\$5,000	
Stabilization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One time allocation of funds to assist in developing stable, monthly financial management and to develop viable, long term financial management plans. 	Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House	\$4,000	
Program Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For non-capital related expenses related to starting up a new program or expanding current service. 	Kitsilano Daycare Society	\$4,000	Grant to be released once the following conditions have been met: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A lease for the daycare's new prospective location has been signed. 2) A Development Permit is approved for a 25 space program (following Council's approval of an easement on the adjacent City property to enlarge the available outdoor play space). Should this site not work as a temporary or permanent location for the Society, 60% of the grant (\$2,400) will still be released upon written request and approval of the Director of Social Policy to support a fundraising assessment and strategy to identify the long term capacity and operational viability of the Society.
	Ray Cam Cooperative Centre	\$4,000	
	Spare Time Child Care Society - Bobolink/ David Oppenheimer School	\$4,000	
	Spare Time Child Care Society - Andy Livingston Elementary	\$4,000	
	Vancouver Native Health	\$5,000	
	Vancouver Native Health	0	Not an eligible expense. Program Development grants are for the expansion and/or start-up costs related to expanding licensed capacity or establishing new programs.
		\$30,000 total	