



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: May 16, 2011
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RTS No.: 9203
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: May 31, 2011

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: Managing Director of Cultural Services
SUBJECT: Capital Grants to Vanier Park Museums for Collections Storage

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approve a capital grant of up to \$145,000 to the Vancouver Museum Society as outlined in this report which will enable the Museum of Vancouver to house, preserve and make available the Vancouver 2010 Legacy Collection on the City's behalf. Source of funds is the Capital Budget for Olympic Shelving.

- B. THAT Council approve a capital grant of up to \$60,000 to the Vancouver Maritime Museum Society as outlined in this report which will enable the Maritime Museum to install shelving, and reorganize and consolidate current collection artifacts to make room for the Vancouver 2010 Legacy Collection. Source of funds is the Capital Budget for Cultural Reinvestment.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager recommends approval of the foregoing.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager recommends approval of the foregoing.

COUNCIL POLICY

Approval of grants requires eight affirmative votes.

PURPOSE

This report seeks Council approval for capital grant allocations to the Vancouver Museum and the Vancouver Maritime Museum that will enable these museums to better house, preserve, and make accessible the Vancouver 2010 Legacy Collection and civic collections on the City's behalf.

BACKGROUND

The Vancouver 2010 Legacy Collection was created to support VANOC's mission and vision through the preservation of material culture – objects, memorabilia, and ephemera – that enables the telling of the stories of the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic Games.

On December 7, 2010, Council approved \$585,000 (RTS# 08983) in capital grant funds for the first phase of this project which has been used to purchase and install approximately 1800 sq. ft. of compact storage units. This new shelving will facilitate maximum utilization of the existing storage area for the Vancouver 2010 Legacy Collection.

DISCUSSION

The capital grant recommended in this report is to complete this project which entails moving the collection from temporary storage at the Manitoba Yards to the Museum of Vancouver, preparing the artifacts for storage, making temporary storage mounts and supports, lining drawers and shelving. The artifacts from the collection will be then accessioned, catalogued, and digitally photographed. The catalogue records and digital images will be made available to the public on the Internet.

Once the collection is catalogued and digitized, there is also the added value that this collection offers for future research. Particularly when used in conjunction with the Vancouver 2010 material held by the City of Vancouver Archives, this collection will provide opportunities for research in a wide range of subjects, from athletic history to urban planning to aboriginal studies.

In order to accommodate the Legacy Collection, the Vancouver Maritime Museum, which shares collection storage space with the Museum of Vancouver, needs to install new shelving and consolidate some of the City's collection of maritime artifacts that are stored in the same area. Therefore, staff are recommending a capital grant of \$60,000 to the Maritime Museum for new shelving and reorganization of existing artifacts to accommodate the incoming artifacts from the 2010 Legacy Collection.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2011 Capital Budget included \$145,000 for completing the Olympic Legacy Collection project at the Museum of Vancouver and the capital grant to the Vancouver Museum Society recommended in this report will be funded by this Capital Budget allocation.

The 2006 Capital Budget included \$1 million for the Olympic Legacy and Cultural Reinvestment Fund, from which sufficient funding is available for the recommended capital grant of \$60,000 to the Vancouver Maritime Museum Society.

CONCLUSION

In order for the museums to house and care for the civic collections and the Vancouver 2010 Legacy collection, the collection storage areas require consolidation, upgrading and additional shelving to accommodate the new 2010 Legacy collection.

The spirit, collaboration, and achievements of the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic Games will be documented for posterity in a way that is meaningful for participants and the wider community, and the legacy of an Olympic collection of artifacts is a significant component of such preservation and future learning. This collection of objects and memorabilia from the 2010 Winter Olympic Games will represent our individual and collective experiences during this exciting time in the City's history. The City of Vancouver will preserve this collection within the Museum of Vancouver, and will make it accessible across Canada through exhibitions and loans.

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