



## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: November 22, 2011  
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Meeting Date: December 13, 2011

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: Managing Director, Social Development

SUBJECT: 2011 Small Capital Grants for Child Care and Social Services; 2011 Child Care Innovation and Program Development Grants; and Community Service Grants Advance Instalments for 2012

### *RECOMMENDATION \**

- A. THAT Council approve seven Childcare & Social Service capital grants totalling \$93,333; source of funds to be the 2011 Capital Budget for Childcare & Social Service Capital Grants.
- B. THAT Council approve seven 2011 Civic Childcare Program Innovation and Development Grants totalling \$29,904; source of funds to be the unallocated portion of the 2011 Child Care Grants Budget.
- C. THAT Council approve an advanced instalment of \$21,172 to PACE; source of funds the 2012 Community Service Grants Budget.
- D. THAT Council approve an advanced instalment of \$10,000 to the Downtown Eastside Neighbourhood House; source of funds the 2012 Community Service Grants Budget.

### *REPORT SUMMARY \**

This report seeks Council's authorization for funding in three areas:

- 1) Small Capital Grants: 7 child care, social service and housing non profit organizations that will improve access to services for vulnerable populations, including homeless women and urban Aboriginal communities, and contribute to health and safety upgrades for a total of \$93,333 in small capital grants.

- 2) Child Care Innovation and Program Development: 2 grants will support Aboriginal focussed curriculum and inspire new teaching methods that will be shared across child care programs in Vancouver, and 5 grants will assist child care providers to develop plans to support the creation of a minimum of 75 new child care spaces and assess demands for child care in high need areas.
- 3) Community Service Grants Advance Instalments: Two advance instalments to help stabilized key services in the DTES: i) for PACE Society to support the 157% increase in demand for PACE services assisting sex workers in the DTES and funding reductions from other sources; ii) for the DTES Neighbourhood House, to stabilize the organization as it develops a fundraising strategy following the loss of funds from a private donor.

#### ***COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS \****

***Small Capital Grants:*** The City has supported the non profit sector with small capital grants to improve service access and address health and safety requirements since 1975. In 1987, City Council adopted "Criteria and Guidelines for Capital Grants" stipulating that the City's contribution to any one project not exceed one-third of the total project cost.

***Child Care Grants:*** Council approved the Civic Child Care Strategy in 1990 with goals that include supporting the viability, accessibility and quality of existing child care services. In 2009, the Joint Council on Childcare targeted an increase in the number of childcare spaces of 5%, at a minimum, over the following three years.

***Community Service Grants/Advance Grant to PACE and DTES Neighbourhood House:*** On March 7, 1978, City Council established the Community Services Grants program. Council's past practice has included providing installments of grants to stabilize operations of non profit services in advance of the regular annual grants considerations where warranted and where priorities exist. On February 3, 2011, Council approved PACE's application of a 2011 Community Service Grant totaling \$58,780 and the Downtown Eastside Neighbourhood House application was approved for \$30,000.

Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes.

#### ***CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS \****

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

#### ***REPORT:***

##### ***Background/Context \****

The grants recommended will advance physical operations and stabilize the administrative capacities of non profit organizations through three funding programs:

**Small Capital Grants** improve the safety, security and operational needs of non-profit social service and child care organizations. The City provides up to a 1/3 contribution towards projects for feasibility studies, new construction, or health and safety upgrades.

**Child Care Program Development and Innovation Grants** - Since the early 1990's, Council has provided small grants to non-profit child care societies that include research leading to

innovative practices and assisting with planning processes supporting the development and expansion of new programs and spaces.

**Advance Grants to PACE and the DTES Neighbourhood House** - Council has assisted organizations in the past with similar requests through grants through an advance on an upcoming core operating grant.

***Strategic Analysis*** \*

Recommendations support Council’s priorities of housing and homelessness, including housing for women and Aboriginal communities. Further, the report supports safety and inclusion by enhancing Aboriginal cultural understanding among child care providers and supporting violence prevention for sex workers. The report also supports funding to stabilize organizations supporting vulnerable populations and a food hub for the low income DTES population, as noted as a priority in Greenest City 2020.

***Capital Grants:***

The report recommends three minor projects related to health and safety upgrades and improved physical accessibility and two larger projects situated in new supportive housing developments where important life skills, counseling work, youth and other social services will be delivered.

8 applications were received and seven are recommended for funding. One application is NOT RECOMMENDED as it did not meet the deadline for providing required information to support the organization’s initial application.

The submissions are summarized in **Table I - Capital Grant Applicants and Priority Projects:**

Capital Grant Applicant	Priority Projects	Grant Requested	2011 Recommended Grant
Urban Native Youth Association	Feasibility study, including a capital funding strategy, market analysis and preliminary design concepts for a new urban Aboriginal youth centre and related supported housing project at Hastings and Commercial	\$35,000	\$35,000
St. James Community Service Society - 329 Powell Street	New construction to support the counseling and support programming space in the expanded 52 bed transitional women’s shelter in the DTES	\$25,000	\$25,000
Developmental Disabilities Association - Kids In General	Playground safety upgrade, to comply with Licensing regulations, increase physical accessibility	\$19,130	\$19,100
Women Against Violence Against Women Rape Crisis Centre	Capital fundraising feasibility study to explore market conditions and fund development options for the purchase of a possible new location	\$5,413	\$5,413
Arts in Action - Purple Thistle	Electrical and plumbing upgrade for new physically accessible location that will support at-risk youth	\$6,200	\$4,736

Capital Grant Applicant	Priority Projects	Grant Requested	2011 Recommended Grant
Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver - 2148 Kingsway	Floor replacement to facilitate a safety upgrade and better comply with health and safety regulations	\$2,704	\$2,236
Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver - 279 West Broadway	Floor replacement to facilitate a safety upgrade and better comply with health and safety regulations	\$1,942	\$1,848
St. Michael's Daycare	Floor replacement to facilitate a safety upgrade. NO GRANT is recommended because organization did not provide required follow up material.	\$1,000	\$0
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$96,389</b>	<b>\$93,333</b>

*Child Care Grants: 7 applications were received and are being recommended.* This year these grants will create new opportunities within the childcare community by:

- inspiring new ways of enriching programs using new teaching methods and culturally appropriate programming for Aboriginal children;
- supporting the development of a minimum of 75 new spaces, including 2 programs that are integrated with Vancouver Board of Education facilities, and
- exploring feasibility of developing new programs for younger children in neighbourhoods that demonstrate need.

*Community Services Grants Advances: Providing Alternatives Counselling and Education Society (PACE):*

PACE works to reduce the harm and isolation associated with sex work and has received a Community Services Grant since 2004. PACE works with the most marginalized and isolated sex workers with multiple barriers, including addictions, to support safety, provide life skills coaching, and to assist individuals with exiting. The organization's provincial gaming grant was reduced and they were unsuccessful with recent funding applications to other sources. PACE's membership has grown from 70 individuals in February 2010 to 180 today. PACE is requesting an advance of its anticipated 2012 Community Service Grant to help stabilize the society, provide bridge funding to improve its cash flow, and allow for time to develop a fund raising and financial strategy.

*Downtown Eastside Neighbourhood House:*

The Neighbourhood House was established in 2005 to serve the Downtown Eastside community. 11,000 residents used the House's service in the last year, which included family drop in programs, programs related to food access, community outreach and development, volunteer training and engagement work, and community festivals and events. The DTES Neighbourhood House plays a leadership role in the DTES food hub.

The House has recently transitioned to new leadership and has been informed that it will no longer be receiving revenue from a significant private donor. The organization will be establishing a fundraising committee to diversify its revenue streams, and has asked the City for an advance on its 2012 grant to relieve the pressure on its cash flow and enable fundraising efforts.

**Financial \***

**Capital Grant Recommendations** - The total 2011 budget for Capital Grants for Social Service and Child Care facilities is \$93,333. This report recommends allocations of the total amount of available funding, summarized in Table I above.

**Child Care Recommendations** - The 2011 budget for Civic Childcare Grants is \$1,160,200. The following seven grants for Research and Innovation and Program Development, will consume the remaining balance in the 2011 Civic Childcare Grants budget.

**Table II - 2011 Civic Child Care Grant Recommendations**

Grant Type	Applicant	2011 Recommended Grant
Research, Innovation, Policy Development	Aboriginal Mother Centre Society	\$5,000
Research, Innovation, Policy Development	Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House	\$5,000
Program Development	Trafalgar Out of School Care	\$5,000
Program Development	Little Mountain Neighbourhood House - Marguerite Out of School Care	\$5,000
Program Development	Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House	\$5,000
Program Development	Aboriginal Mother Centre Society	\$2,500
Program Development	Eagles in the Sky	\$2,404
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,904</b>

**Advance Grants to PACE and the DTES Neighbourhood House**

In 2011, the total Community Service Grant budget was \$4,234,575. The 2012 Community Service Grant budget has not yet been finalized. However, there is Council precedent to release advanced funding for an organization receiving long standing support, and which would continue to be approved for ongoing operating funding through the Community Service Grant stream. As a result, this report does not recommend using contingency reserve money, but recommends advancing two instalments of the 2012 Community Service Grant: a \$21,172 advance instalment to PACE, plus a \$10,000 advance instalment to the DTES Neighbourhood House. As the advance instalments are recommended at 2011 approved grant levels, staff note that there will be the opportunity to make any adjustments that may be required at the time that Council considers the 2012 Community Service grant for these two organizations.

*CONCLUSION \**

The City's of Vancouver's support for the not for profit sector creates inclusive, socially sustainable communities by aiding organizations that help our city's most vulnerable and disadvantaged populations. Child care increases parents' labour force participation, aids in healthy child development, and supports economic growth. Capital grants help to ensure that our social service and child care non-profits have safe, accessible and appropriate physical environments.

The support for PACE and the Downtown Eastside Neighbourhood House outlined in this report will help to stabilize two organizations that provides important services for some of Vancouver's most marginalized populations.

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Recommendations for 2011 Child Care Innovation and Program Development Grants

Applicant	Project	Childcare Priority	Recommendation
<i>Aboriginal Mother Centre Society</i>	To support the development of an Aboriginal-focused curriculum and resource materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project will enhance the cultural experience of children in the Society's care, and the resource material developed will be shared with other centres across Vancouver.</li> <li>This has been identified as a priority for other centres that do not have the expertise or resources to develop their own culturally specific programs.</li> </ul>	Applied for as a Program Development Grant, but recommended as an Innovation Grant \$5,000
<i>Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House</i>	To hire a teaching specialist to help implement the Reggio Emilia curriculum at Frog Hollow. Staff will then develop materials to help other childcare programs in Vancouver implement similar programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The City's contribution of \$5,000 will help improve the quality of childcare programs across Vancouver interested in implementing the Reggio model.</li> </ul>	Innovation Grant \$5,000
<i>Trafalgar Out of School Care</i>	To support the creation of a new preschool program and appropriate curriculum in Trafalgar's current out of school care facility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This new program will introduce another use to the existing space, making the program more financially sustainable and filling a need in the school's community of parents for care for younger children.</li> </ul>	Program Development Grant \$5,000
<i>Little Mountain Neighbourhood House</i>	To support the creation of a new out of school care program and appropriate curriculum at Shaughnessy Elementary School.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This grant contributes to creating 20 new out of school care spaces.</li> </ul>	Program Development Grant \$5,000
<i>Aboriginal Mother Centre Society</i>	To support the creation of a new 3-5 care program, including space provisions for dedicated spaces for children in foster care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This grant contributes to creating 25 new 3-5 group care spaces.</li> </ul>	Program Development Grant \$2,500
<i>Eagles in the Sky</i>	To support the expansion of the current out of school care program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This grant contributes to expanding the program to include before school care and for planning required to expand the current licensed capacity from 30 spaces to 40 spaces.</li> </ul>	Program Development Grant \$2,404
<i>Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House</i>	To support the creation of a new group care program for young children in partnership with Laura Secord Elementary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This grant will contribute to a feasibility study that will examine neighbourhood demand for different types of care, scope out the possibility of siting the program in partnership with the school, and determining the financial feasibility of a new program. It will support the creation of up to 25 new spaces.</li> </ul>	Program Development Grant \$5,000
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$29,904</b>