



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: July 10, 2013
Contact: Mary Clare Zak
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VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: July 24, 2013

TO: Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment
FROM: General Manager of Community Services
SUBJECT: Report back on an allocation of additional \$1 million dollars to Social Grants

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approve the allocation model for the addition of \$1 million dollars to the Community Social Services and related grant funds.
- B. THAT Council approve increased funding in 2013 to 55 programs currently receiving Community Service program grants totalling \$465,000 as outlined in Recommendation A. Source of funding is the Innovation Fund.
- C. THAT Council approve increased funding for 2013 to 9 current Food Systems program grants to Neighbourhood Food Networks totalling \$34,000 as outlined in Recommendation A. Source of funding is the Innovation Fund.
- D. THAT Council approve 1 new grant of \$45,000 to reduce fees for low income parents at Woodward's Childcare as outlined in the funding model in Recommendation A. Source of funding is the Innovation Fund.
- E. THAT Council approve 5 new project grants to five organizations totalling \$42,000 to support Vancouver's Food Strategy and increase Aboriginal participation in community centres in partnership with the Board of Parks and Recreation as outlined in the funding model in Recommendation A. Source of funding is the Innovation Fund.

Recommendations B to E authorize grants and require eight affirmative votes for approval.

REPORT SUMMARY

This report recommends a funding approach for the addition of \$1 million dollars to Social Grants based on a March 2013 Council motion. Any new funding allocation for 2013 and future years is based on guiding principles that include:

- Advancing key City priorities and strategies;
- Addressing critical gaps in service;
- Encouraging innovative approaches to addressing complex social issues. Building partnerships with departments across the City;
- Leveraging funding and other resources among funders and community groups; and,

The additional \$1 million will be allocated within the existing Social Grants streams (Community Services, Food Systems, and Early Care and Learning), under two funding categories:

- **Core Program Funding** for programs providing continuing services addressing City priorities
- **Project Funding** for one time, time limited projects up to 2 years in length, to encourage innovation across a range of partnerships and sectors.

Grants totalling \$586,000 are recommended in this report. These include increases to 65 existing core program grants to 55 organizations totalling \$544,000. Recommendations are based on a recent review of applications, gaps in service and emerging needs previously identified in a March 13, 2013 Council report entitled "2013 Community Services and Other Social Grants" (RTS 9991).

Finally, this report recommends 5 project grants to 5 organizations totalling \$42,000. The balance of \$414,000 in project funding will be made available in September 2013 through a call for proposals process. Staff will report back to Council on these allocation recommendations in late 2013.

Based on Council's motion, the incremental \$1M will be built into the on-going operating budget for social grants in 2014 and staff will conduct the annual call for core program funding proposals for Community Services, Food Systems and Early Care and Learning grants. Going forward, anticipating further demands and needs for core program funding, it is expected that up to \$800,000 of the \$1 million will be allocated to this category, and a minimum of \$200,000 will remain as project funding.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

On March 13, 2013, Council approved the Administrative Report dated February 28, 2013, entitled "2013 Community Services and Other Social Grants" (RTS 9991), and based on the information in the report adopted the following:

- i. Staff report back to Council with an allocation model for the addition of \$1 million dollars to the Community Social Services and related grant funds to help meet the existing and emerging funding gaps;
- ii. This additional funding be directed to a second Community Social Services and related grant intake for the fall of 2013; and

- iii. The source of funds for 2013 be the Innovation Fund and included as part of the regular operating budget for future years.

On October 30, 2012, Council approved a Neighbourhood Access Grant of up to \$45,000 annually to the YMCA to ensure improved access to childcare for low-income families from the Downtown East Side (RTS 9763).

On December 11, 2012, Council passed a resolution that requested that staff report back on information, analysis and any proposals for addressing the gap between available funding and increasing demand for Social Grants.

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

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

REPORT

Background/Context

The March 13, 2013, report to Council titled "2013 Community Services and other Social Grants", recommended annual grants in three funding streams - Community Services, Early Care & Learning and Food Systems. This report builds on an earlier report (May 2, 2012 - RTS 9003) identifying social indicators and trends, and providing analysis, needs and demands for social grants including an assessment of gaps in funding.

Both reports point to increasing demands and gaps in services linked to City priorities, reduced core funding for many programs, more restrictive resources from private and public funders, and a non-profit sector under increasing stress due to rising costs. A number of factors that are driving demand and creating gaps in service include: (see Appendix B)

- Vancouver has highest rate of poverty among Canadian cities at 16.5%¹;
- 25% of respondents reporting social isolation as identified by the Vancouver Foundation report²;
- 36% of children in Vancouver are identified as being vulnerable and not 'school ready'³;
- As a result of an aging population, the percentage of seniors is expected to almost double by 2036⁴;
- The link between mental health and addiction and homelessness;
- Access to services by vulnerable newcomers including immigrants and refugees;
- The negative effects of the sex trade on vulnerable individuals, including violence and exploitation;
- Significant increases in service demands. For example, neighbourhood houses have experienced a 70% increase in demand over the past five years⁵.

¹ Conference Board of Canada – July 2011

² Connections and Engagement – Vancouver Foundation – June 2012

³ UBC HELP – Early Development Instrument – Sept. 2011

⁴ 2011 Census & Vancouver HSDA Projections

⁵ As reported on grant applications

Linked to these pressures are Council priorities that would benefit from enhanced funding:

- Homelessness
- Mental Health & Addictions
- Service gaps to address sex worker safety, supports & exiting
- Food Systems
- Early Care & Learning
- Urban Aboriginal Peoples
- Seniors & Youth at risk
- Immigrants & Refugees

Finally, the reports noted the significant leverage and value for money achieved through the City of Vancouver social grants. On average, for every dollar provided, there is a \$4 return on investment.

Strategic Analysis

The allocation model is based on the following six guiding principles:

- 1) Address gaps and emerging needs for community services;
- 2) Support key City priorities:
 - Ending street homelessness by 2015
 - Building strong, safe, inclusive communities
 - Becoming the greenest city in the world by 2020
 - Supporting a creative and growing economy
- 3) Coordinate with City strategies & initiatives including:
 - Healthy City Strategy (underway)
 - Vancouver Food Strategy
 - Greenest City 2020 Action Plan
 - Cultural Strategy (underway)
 - Engaged City Strategy
 - Local Area Plans (e.g. DTES, Grandview-Woodlands)
 - Housing & Homelessness Strategy
 - Vancouver Economic Action Plan
 - Year of Reconciliation
 - Welcoming Communities Initiative
- 4) Enhance partnerships to support initiatives across City departments;
- 5) Leverage funding and enhance collaborative efforts among funders and community groups;
- 6) Develop innovative approaches to address key social issues.

Allocation Model Overview - Recommendation A

The additional \$1 million provides for enhanced core program funding and new short term project funding.

Core Program Funding:

This report recommends an immediate increase to existing core funded programs totalling \$544,000. In subsequent years, this amount will reach up to \$800,000 to address priorities

and service demands, and will be administered through existing annual review of Community Services, Early Care and Learning and Food Systems grants streams.

Core program funding is critical to the sustainability of priority services, provides the capacity for programs to respond to emerging needs, and allows organizations to efficiently manage services. Grant recipients seeking continued funding are assessed annually to ensure programs continue to address priority issues in effective and innovative ways. Programs that demonstrate excellence typically receive continued funding, while others that do not may have their grants reduced or eliminated. This ensures that funds are targeted while freeing up grant dollars for new priorities.

Project Funding:

\$42,000 in project funding is recommended with a remaining \$414,000 to be allocated in the fall of 2013. A minimum of \$200,000 will be retained for project funding in subsequent years. Project funding will enable the City to creatively approach entrenched social problems, emerging needs or pilot new innovative methods. Projects could include initiatives to address social isolation, building resilient communities and strengthening the non-profit sector. Project funding will help the City to build on existing relationships with other funders and institutions, build new relationships, and achieve greater leveraging opportunities. These could include pooling funds to support high impact projects or coordination among City departments to achieve shared outcomes. Every year projects that demonstrate strong outcomes may be recommended for core program funding.

Criteria for project funding includes:

- One time only (1 to 2 years duration)
- Advances City priorities & strategies
- Focus on innovation
- Pilot or start up initiatives
- Target gaps and emerging needs
- Leveraging from other funders and/or institutions
- Demonstrated partnerships with other community organizations .

Table 1: Recommendations and future allocations for additional \$1 Million

2013			
Immediate Funding - Grants Recommended in Report			
Core <u>Program</u> Funding to Address Current Gaps	Community Services Grants	Recommendation B	\$465,000
	Food Systems Grants	Recommendation C	\$34,000
	Early Care & Learning Grants	Recommendation D	\$45,000
			\$544,000
<u>Project</u> Funding to Address Emerging Needs	Community Services	Recommendation E	\$10,000
	Food Systems		\$32,000
			\$42,000

September 2013 Call for Proposals		
<u>Project</u> Funding	One time project funding, up to 2 years, to encourage innovative approaches	\$414,000
Total		\$1,000,000
2014 and On		
Core <u>Program</u> Funding to Address Current Gaps	Community Services Grants	\$800,000
	Food Systems Grants	
	Early Care & Learning Grants	
<u>Project</u> Funding	One time project funding, up to two years, to encourage innovative approaches	\$200,000
Total		\$1,000,000

1) **2013 Recommendations for Core Program Funding - \$544,000**

a. **Community Services Grants Stream - \$465,000 - Recommendation B**

Recommendations approved by Council for 111 annual Community Services (CS) Grants in 2013 were adjudicated by a staff team and a rigorous review process. Of these staff recommend that 55 grants (approximately 50% of the total) be increased to help address the gaps and emerging priorities outlined in the March 13, 2013 report to Council including:

- Neighbourhood House service demands
- Aboriginal programs
- Community safety
- Mental health and addictions
- Vulnerable children, youth and families
- Isolated immigrant newcomers and refugees
- Seniors at risk
- Homelessness

i. **Neighbourhood Houses**

This report recommends that neighbourhood houses receive an increase to their funding. Ten neighbourhood houses provide a broad range of supports across the city and act as key service platforms and connectors both for the communities they serve and for a constellation of other community and social services.

The neighbourhood houses are also uniquely placed to serve the varying needs of Vancouver residents and are an important vehicle in supporting key City priorities including the Healthy City Strategy, the Vancouver Food Strategy, the Welcoming Communities initiative and the Engaged City Strategy. The recommended increases below are proportional to the current level of funding.

Table 2: Recommended increases for neighbourhood houses

Agency or Program	Program Description	2013 CS Grant	Proposed Increase
Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House	Supports core funding for community-based programs serving diverse, changing, cultural and basic needs of families in support of key civic priorities.	\$92,740	\$18,626
Collingwood Neighbourhood House		\$94,596	\$19,005
Downtown Eastside Neighbourhood House		\$35,700	\$10,000
Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House		\$84,128	\$16,904
Gordon Neighbourhood House		\$64,160	\$12,910
Kitsilano Neighbourhood House		\$67,036	\$13,485
Kiwassa Neighbourhood House		\$94,594	\$18,997
Little Mountain Neighbourhood House		\$73,586	\$14,795
Mt. Pleasant Neighbourhood House		\$69,076	\$13,893
South Vancouver Neighbourhood House		\$94,594	\$18,997
TOTAL		\$770,210	\$157,612

ii. **Build capacity in the urban Aboriginal population** to make successful transitions from reserves to urban centres, connecting to cultural traditions, engaging across cultures, and providing more equitable access to programs and services. Increases to Aboriginal serving organizations are of special importance during this Year of Reconciliation. A particular focus will be on increasing the number of Aboriginal children, youth and young mothers who are able to access programs that build their capacity to meet challenges and thrive in their communities.

Table 3: Recommended increases for Aboriginal programs

Agency or Program	Program Description	2013 CS Grant	Proposed Increase
Aboriginal Mother Centre Society	Supports community referral and information outreach to local Aboriginal children and families.	\$20,000	\$10,000
Warriors Against Violence Society	Strengthens educational programs addressing family violence through Aboriginal empowerment and engagement practices	\$10,200	\$5,000
Aboriginal Front Door Society	Assists people with multiple barriers transition into stable housing and employment through life skill and personal development.	\$45,900	\$10,000
Native Education College	Supports students and families to overcome effects of marginalization on housing, employment and community interaction	\$26,528	\$10,000
Red Fox Healthy Living Society-Leadership	Youth mentorship building for Aboriginals, immigrants and youth with disabilities to enhance overall health, life knowledge and civic engagement	\$29,580	\$10,000
Urban Native Youth Assoc. (UNYA) - Outreach	Supports native youth through prevention-focused services and Aboriginal engagement and life skill practices	\$46,976	\$9,395
TOTAL		\$155,313	\$54,395

iii. **Increase community safety** through outreach, supports and referrals to services for women experiencing violence or marginalization. Based on recommendations identified in the Missing Women Commission of Inquiry (December 2012) and the City Task Force on Sex Work and Sexual Exploitation (underway), funding increases are being targeted to increase access to safety and exiting supports and to programs designed to prevent youth sexual exploitation.

Table 4: Recommended increases for programs supporting community safety

Agency or Program	Program Description	2013 CS Grant	Proposed Increase
PACE - Providing Alternatives, Counselling & Education Soc.	Builds on reducing isolation and harm through education and support services to sex workers	\$59,956	\$15,000
Collingwood Nbh House Society-Living in Community	Supports community coordinated approaches to addressing impacts to the neighbourhood from sex work	\$15,300	\$5,000
SWAN (Supporting Women's Alternatives Network)	Supports coordinated outreach and advocacy for immigrant, migrant and trafficked indoor-based sex workers	\$15,300	\$5,000
HIM (Health Initiatives for Men) Society	Supports men and youth addressing sexual exploitation and quality of life improvements	\$15,340	\$5,000
Battered Women's Support Services	Supports education, prevention and intervention programs for women and girls experiencing violence and abuse	\$48,712	\$5,000
DTES Women's Centre - Administration	Core support for centre to build capacity for services to vulnerable women and children in the DTES	\$63,672	\$10,000
TOTAL		\$218,280	\$45,000

iv. **Create improved access for people with mental health and addictions issues** to social, health, housing and employment services. With 93% of people experiencing homelessness having a current mental disorder and 83% exhibited a substance abuse disorder the issue of mental health and addictions funding in this area is pivotal in the prevention of homelessness and in ensuring people have the supports to remain housed⁶.

Table 5: Recommended increases for mental health and addictions programs

Agency or Program	Program Description	2013 CS Grant	Proposed Increase
ARA Mental Health Action Research and Advocacy Association	Builds on outreach and referral services to enhance quality of life for persons living with multiple mental health barriers	\$15,000	\$9,000

⁶ BC Health of the Homeless Survey Report, 2011

Canadian Mental Health Association, Vancouver-Burnaby	Supports outreach services to expand knowledge and build resiliency for person with mental health barriers	\$8,200	\$5,000
MPA - Motivation, Power & Achievement	Focuses on skill building, empowerment and self-esteem for persons with severe and persistent mental health and addictions issues	\$10,712	\$5,000
Crisis Interven. & Suicide Prev. Ctr. Of BC	Supports program to provide emotional support to youth, adults and seniors in distress; suicide awareness and prevention	\$23,928	\$5,000
Vancouver Recovery Club	Supports a drop-in centre with peer to peer support and counseling services for persons recovering from substance abuse	\$32,664	\$5,000
Kettle Friendship Soc.	Builds on holistic approach to harm reduction through supported housing, employment and life skill development and community integration.	\$68,976	\$6,000
La Boussole, Centre Communautaire Societe	Supports outreach to francophone populations including street involved youth to address housing, employment and network capacity building	\$14,860	\$5,000
TRAC Tenant Resource & Advocacy	Builds on the coordination and implementation of programs to reduce barriers to affordable and secure rental housing	\$45,900	\$5,000
211 British Columbia Services	Builds on quality information and reporting out on the Street and Shelter Help Line and availability list	\$32,900	\$5,000
TOTAL		\$253,140	\$50,000

v. **Increase access to quality, affordable services for vulnerable children, youth and families.** With 36% of children being vulnerable on at least one scale of the EDI (Early Development Instrument) on entering kindergarten⁷, increased funding will focus on food programs, support to Aboriginal children and families, and enhancing child development service hubs. Funding in the area of youth is targeted at early intervention and prevention programs for those youth most at risk of marginalization.

Table 6: Recommended increases for children, youth and family programs

Agency or Program	Program Description	2013 CS Grant	Proposed Increase
Kiwassa Nbhnd Services Assoc-Youth Programs	Builds on existing life skill and leadership programs serving at-risk inner city youth.	\$31,836	\$5,000
PLEA Community Services Society of BC - KidStart	Supports children 6+ to address negative effects from criminal activities, addiction and family abuse.	\$26,396	\$5,000
Network of Inner City Comm. Services Soc.- Van Roving Leaders	Supports vulnerable youth in development of life skills and leadership goals through recreation and cultural activities.	\$26,012	\$5,000
Immigrant Svcs Soc of BC - MY Circle Program	Multicultural peer support assisting immigrant and refugee youth and families	\$48,452	\$5,000

⁷ UBC HELP – Early Development Instrument, Sept. 2011

Community GAB Youth Services	Supports existing community outreach and referral to queer youth and families addressing effects of marginalization	\$31,760	\$5,000
Pacific Comm. Res Society - Broadway Youth Res. Centre	Supports the "Resource Room" as an entry point for accessing range of youth prevention and education programs	\$37,100	\$7,420
Leave Out Violence (LOVE) British Columbia	Supports anti-violence and youth leadership programs engaging multiple cultures and backgrounds.	\$26,324	\$10,000
KidSafe Project Society	Supports six inner-city elementary schools linking at-risk children and youth with life skill and prevention services	\$36,024	\$10,000
Watari Research Assoc. - Comm Youth Outreach	Builds on outreach services to inner-city youth improving quality of housing, day treatment and case management	\$61,788	\$10,000
Family Services - Directions - Outreach & After Hours	Builds on outreach services to street-involved youth under 19 yrs addressing barriers to full community integration in the Downtown South area.	\$81,304	\$16,261
TOTAL		\$363,386	\$78,681

vi. **Increase newcomer's access to services and support and build stronger connections between newcomers and long-time residents.** The City's current Welcoming Communities initiative is partnership with the Provincial Government and a range of community based organizations and institutions that aims to address the unique needs of Vancouver's newcomers. Increased funding will support programs for isolated immigrant newcomers and refugees, immigrant women preparing for employment, and other identified needs.

Table 7: Recommended increases immigrant and refugee programs

Agency or Program	Program Description	2013 CS Grant	Proposed Increase
Strathcona Community Centre Association - S.O.S.	Provides case co-ordination and referrals to community resources and programs that support refugee claimants.	\$43,220	\$5,000
Pacific Immigrant Resources Society - Outreach Workers	Builds on outreach and referral services to immigrants and refugee women and families.	\$56,378	\$5,000
Inland Refugee Soc. of BC	Assists refugee claimants to meet immediate basic needs to improve housing, employment and integration	\$53,860	\$5,000
MOSAIC - Community Development	Supports multilingual programs assisting immigrants and refugees with settlement and community integration	\$80,860	\$6,000
DTES Women's Centre - Chinese Seniors Outreach	Supports outreach to isolated Chinese seniors, women and children dealing with extreme poverty	\$46,716	\$5,000
TOTAL		\$281,034	\$26,000

vii. **Strengthen programming for seniors.** For seniors, 15% of whom live below the poverty line⁸ and 24% of whom have no knowledge of English or French⁹, the effects of low income,

⁸ 2009 Tax Filer Data

isolation and cultural barriers are compounded by issues of the high cost of living in Vancouver. With the number of seniors expected to double by 2036¹⁰, funding increases will support initiatives set out in the City's Age Friendly Action Plan presented to Council in June 2013, and focus on programs that enhance social and cultural inclusion, peer support and ensuring access to basic services and supports.

Table 8: Recommended increases for seniors programs

Agency or Program	Program Description	2013 CS Grant	Proposed Increase
Renfrew-Collingwood Seniors' Society	Supports quality of life programs to seniors to maintain independence and promote improved health & well being	\$17,192	\$5,000
South Granville Seniors Friendship Centre	Supports outreach to Spanish and other local seniors to promote health, well-being and independence	\$41,144	\$5,000
Vancouver 2 nd Mile-Dtn. S. Nbhd Helpers	Supports outreach program to improve education and cultural understanding through socialization in SRO hotels	\$24,816	\$5,000
2 nd Mile -Nbhd Helpers Chinese Outreach Proj.	Supports outreach to Chinese seniors in the DTES and Strathcona to improve quality of life and cultural engagement	\$28,972	\$5,000
2 nd Mile -DTES Seniors' Centre	Supports drop-in centre and outreach services to isolated seniors in the DTES	\$32,732	\$5,000
2 nd Mile -DTES Nbhd Helpers	Builds and supports community networks serving vulnerable seniors in SRO hotels in the DTES meeting basic needs	\$46,254	\$5,000
West End Seniors Network	Supports outreach and referrals and enhancement to the Seniors Peer Counseling program	\$48,712	\$5,000
South Vancouver Nbhd House - S. Van Srs' Council	Supports seniors in South Vancouver to improve quality of life, health and independence through outreach programs	\$41,560	\$8,312
BC Seniors Services and Housing Info.	Supports outreach programs to isolated seniors at imminent risk of homelessness to stabilize housing and improve independent living	\$20,400	\$10,000
TOTAL		\$301,782	\$53,312

viii. Address homelessness through enhanced support for vulnerable populations to maintain existing housing and avoid homelessness. Examples include outreach to seniors, connecting street involved youth to appropriate housing options and crisis intervention for people with mental health issues in the DTES who are not supported by other services.

- **27 grants with \$126,000 targeted to the prevention and alleviation of homelessness** - 26% of all increases to Community Services grants.
- Note: the 27 grants come from programs in almost every population category above and so are counted separately.

⁹ 2006 BC Stats

¹⁰ Vancouver HSDA Projections, June 2012

b. Food Systems - \$34,000 - Recommendation C

The Vancouver Food Strategy and the Greenest City Action Plan call for Vancouver to become a global leader in urban food systems. The overall local food target is to increase city and neighbourhood food assets by 50% by the year 2020. Examples of food assets include community gardens and orchards, urban farms, farmers markets and neighbourhood food networks.

Increases to 9 currently funded food networks through the Food Systems grants to support on-going neighbourhood based programming. Neighbourhood food networks (NFN) are community-based organizations that catalyse action, knowledge and skill-building on a range of food system issues and facilitate community connectedness through programs including community gardening, multicultural cooking clubs, and seniors cooking classes. Due to funding constraints when the NFN grants were allocated in early 2013, staff were unable to provide the level of support to each network that would allow them to operate at optimum levels. The recommended increases below will support each network to more effectively achieve their outcomes in the neighbourhoods they serve.

Table 9: Recommendations for Increased Funding for 2013 Food Systems Grant Recipients

Organization	Neighbourhood Food Network/Projects	2013 NFN Grant	Proposed Increase
Britannia Community Services Society	Grandview Woodland Food Connection	\$16,000	\$4,000
Collingwood Neighbourhood House	Renfrew Collingwood Food Security Institute	\$16,000	\$4,000
Downtown Eastside Neighbourhood House	DTES Right to Food Network	\$10,000	\$4,000
Gordon Neighbourhood House	West End Neighbourhood Food Network	\$5,000	\$2,000
Hastings Community Association	Hastings Sunrise Community Food Network	\$16,000	\$4,000
Kitsilano Neighbourhood House	Westside Food Collaborative	\$16,000	\$4,000
Potluck Café Society	DTES Kitchen Tables NFN	\$16,000	\$4,000
South Vancouver Neighbourhood House	South Vancouver Neighbourhood Food Network	\$10,000	\$4,000
Trout Lake Community Association	Cedar Cottage Food Network	\$10,000	\$4,000
TOTAL		\$115,000	\$34,000

c. Early Care and Learning - \$45,000 - Recommendation D

Annual funding to the YMCA to reduce fees for low-income families from the Downtown Eastside to access the Woodward's childcare centre. (Funding approved in principle October 30, 2012 - RTS 9763)

2) Project Funding

a. Recommendations for Immediate Funding

i. \$10,000 - Recommendation E

Funding is recommended for 1 project in partnership with the Board of Parks and Recreation. This project, designed to increase urban Aboriginal participation in community centres, has been developed in close consultation with Park Board staff. It is time sensitive and therefore recommended for immediate funding.

Table 10: Project Funding to increase urban Aboriginal participation

Organization	Description	Proposed Amount
Aboriginal Life in Vancouver Enhancement Society (ALIVE)	Pilot project in partnership with Park Board, Motivate Canada and Gen 7, to recruit 5 urban Aboriginal youth between the ages of 17- 28 years to be trained and supported as leaders and mentors working within the Vancouver Community Centre system.	\$10,000

ii. \$32,000 - Recommendation E

Funding is recommended to 4 projects to further advance the goals and specific actions identified in the Vancouver Food Strategy. These projects are one-time, “shovel- ready” and time sensitive opportunities to make progress towards, and dovetail, current policy efforts underway. The NFN working group, through the Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House, is building capacity and improving access to healthy, affordable and culturally diverse foods. The Vancouver Urban Farming Society (VUFS) will help inform emerging policy directions on urban farming currently under development. Potluck Café will improve institution food procurement in the DTES. The Oak Street Market will assist in advancing newly revised Farmers’ Market policy.

Table 11: Project Funding for Food Systems

Organization	Description	Proposed Amount
Cedar Cottage Food Network Society	Build capacity and strengthen the NFN Working Group to support greater alignment with the Vancouver Food Strategy goals through hosting networking forums, creating marketing strategy, and developing community programming opportunities.	\$8,000
Vancouver Urban Farming Society (VUFS)	Support the development of a best practices guide and host a forum that will help inform both urban farmers and policy makers in Vancouver.	\$8,000
Potluck Café Society	Through partnership with DTES Kitchen Tables’ Food Procurement Project, support hiring a local food buyer for food providers and kitchens to improve the nutritional quality and quantity of food available to DTES residents.	\$8,000
Oak Street Market	Support community market analysis to improve relationships with residents, businesses and organizations, including a communication strategy to increase community engagement.	\$8,000
TOTAL		\$32,000

Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)

Financial

On March 13, 2013, Council received the analysis contained in the Administrative Report dated February 28, 2013, entitled "2013 Community Services and Other Social Grants", and established that the source for an additional \$1 million dollars for 2013 be the Innovation Fund and that \$1 million dollars be included as part of the regular operating budget for grants programs for future years.

Approval of \$586,000 in grants recommended in this report will leave \$414,000 unspent in 2013. Staff will report back on recommended allocations for the remaining funds in late 2013.

CONCLUSION

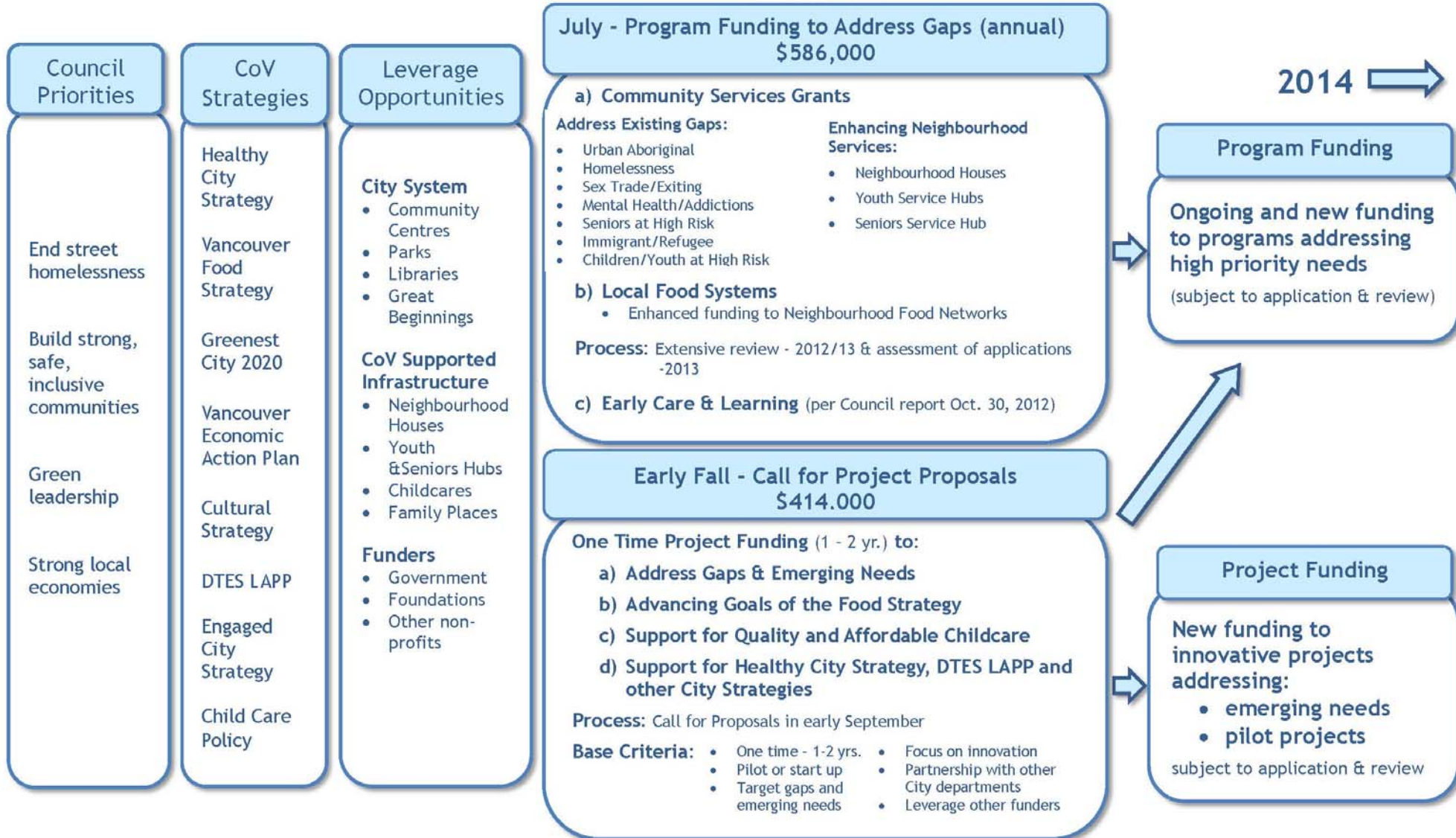
The recommended allocation model for the addition of \$1 million dollars to Social Policy Grants outlines an immediate funding strategy for 2013 as well as one for future years. The model is designed to:

- Address gaps in service, both current and emerging;
- Build partnerships with departments across the City, other funders and community groups;
- Leverage funding and enhance collaborative work among funders and community groups;
- Develop innovative approaches to social issues;
- Move the City closer to achieving key priorities and strategies including the Healthy City Strategy, Vancouver Food Strategy, Greenest City 2020, Housing and Homelessness Strategy, Cultural Strategy, the Engaged City Task Force and local area plans.

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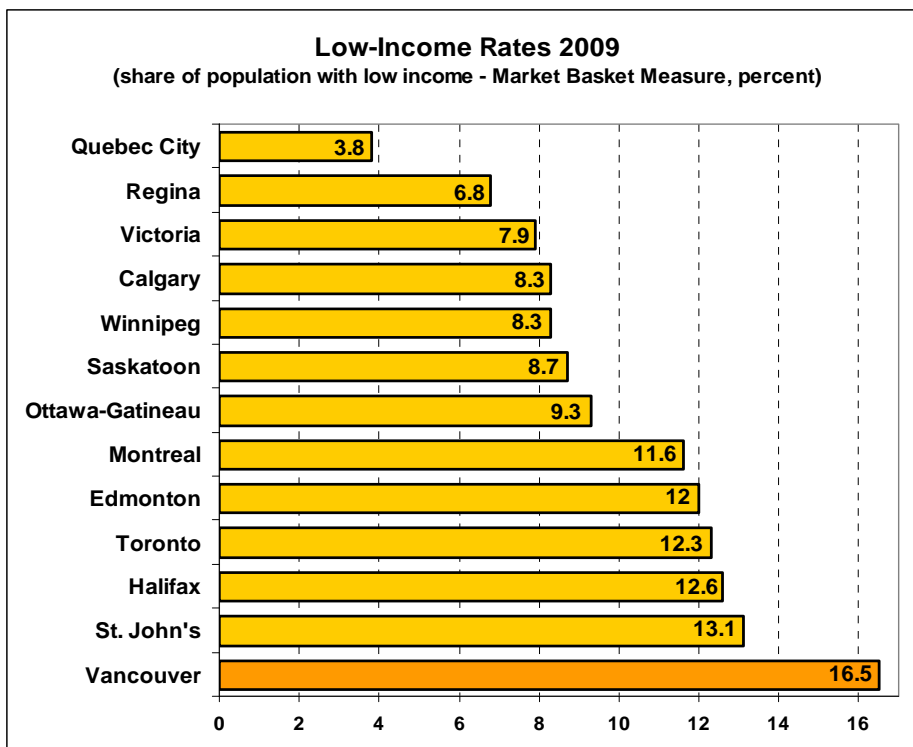
Allocation Model for the \$1M in New Social Grants

2013



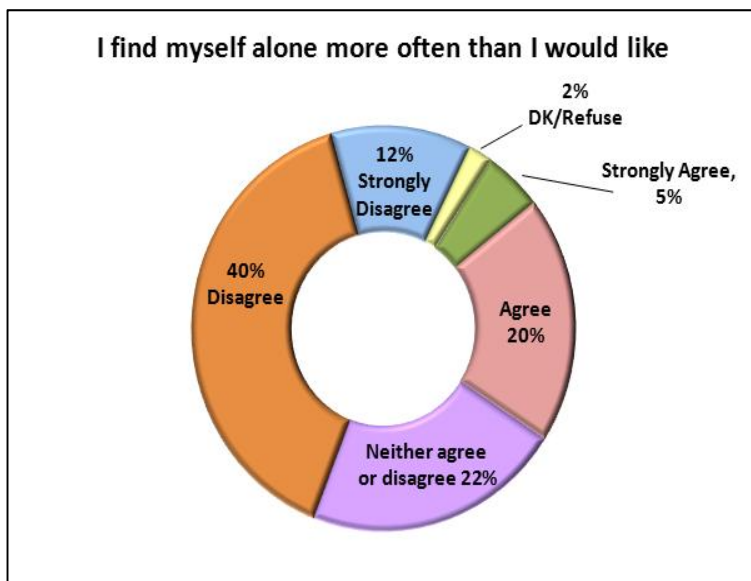
Factors Driving a Demand for Social Services and Creating Emerging Needs

1) Low income rates highest among Canadian cities



Source: Conference Board of Canada - July 2011

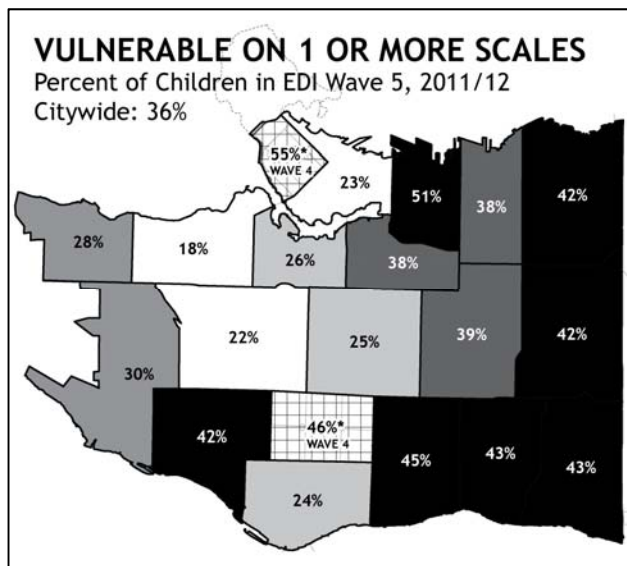
2) Social isolation among significant portion of population



- 25% of people asked indicated they were alone more than they like.
- Isolation exacerbated by:
 - Poverty
 - Old age
 - Newcomer (immigrant/refugee)
 - Young parent
 - Abuse
 - LGTBO
 - Addictions

Source: Connections and Engagement - Vancouver Foundation - June 2012

3) High Childhood Vulnerability



- 10.5% of BC children live in poverty, 2nd highest rate in Canada. (Stats. Can., 2010)
- 36% of children in Vancouver are vulnerable on at least one scale on entering kindergarten. (UBC HELP - Early Development Instrument - Sept. 2011)

4) Critical needs for urban Aboriginal population:

- People with Aboriginal identity are twice as likely to be low income after tax compared to the general population. (2006 Census, in Canada)
- 32% of Vancouver's homeless. (CoV Housing, 2012)
- High school drop-out rates for Aboriginal youth more than twice that of those for non-Aboriginal students. (Statistics Canada, 2010)
- Aboriginal youth 7 times more likely to be incarcerated (Statistics Canada, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Integrated Correctional Services Survey; 2006 Census of Population.)
- Aboriginal youth have higher rates of suicide, HIV/Aids, shorter life expectancy (12 years less), and higher rates of diabetes. (Statistics Canada, 2007/10; Canadian Institute of Child Health, 2000; Health Canada, 2003; Statistics Canada, 2001 to 2017 projection)

5) Mental Health and Addictions

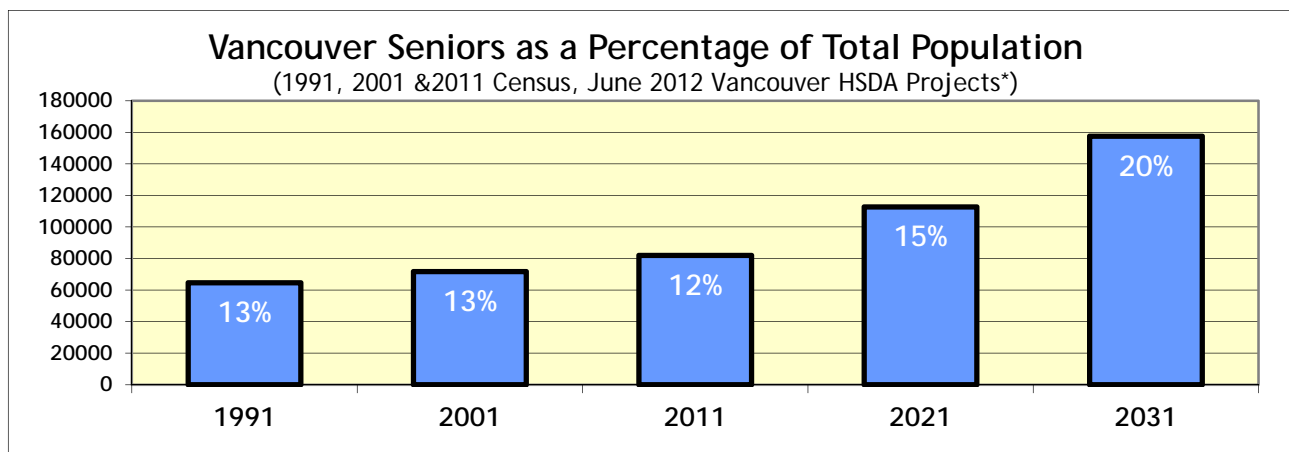
- DTES has double the rate of suicides and alcohol related death, and 5 times more drug-induced deaths than seen citywide (BC Vital Statistics Agency, October 2012)
- 30% of people in the DTES experience depression or anxiety (Downtown Eastside Core Health Services Profile, 2011)
- 59% of homeless have an addiction, 40% have a mental illness (CoV Housing, 2012)

6) Community Safety - Sex Trade and Sexual Exploitation

Population (estimates)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1000-2000 in Vancouver - on the street (80% indoors) • 80% women • 20% men and transgendered people • Aboriginal over represented
Risk Factors:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poverty and housing instability (87%) • History of sexual abuse as children (82%)
Effects:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence: 90% assaulted; 70% threatened • Chronic illness (25% are HIV+) • Addictions (82%); Mental health: PTSD (72%) • Children apprehended to government care • Lack of access to protection & services

Sources: MAKA Project, 2011; Shannon, *et al.* Structural and Environmental Barriers to Condom Use, 2009; Farley, *et al.* Prostitution in Vancouver: Violence and the Colonization of First Nation's Women, 2005; McCreary Centre Society. Against the Odds: A profile of marginalized and street-involved youth in BC, 2006; Saewyc, *et al.* It's not what you think: Sexually exploited youth in British Columbia, 2008; City of Vancouver. Homeless Count, 2011; Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, 2001.

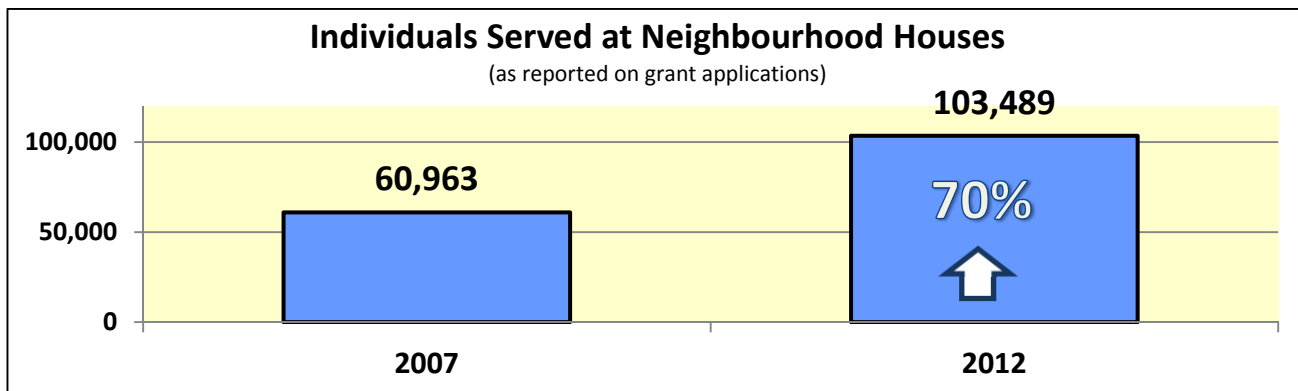
7) Growth in Seniors Population



Of all Vancouver Seniors:

- 29% live alone (2011)
- 27% are low income (2005)
- 24% are without knowledge of English or French (2006)

8) Large increase in Demand at Neighbourhood Houses



9) Non-profit Sector Under High Stress

