



## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: June 18, 2015  
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Meeting Date: July 22, 2015

TO: Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment  
FROM: General Manager of Community Services and Chief License Inspector  
SUBJECT: 2014 / 2015 Animal Welfare Grants

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

That Council approve two (2) 2014/2015 Animal Welfare Grants totalling \$21,200 as outlined in this report; source of funds to be the 2015 Community Services Operating Budget - Animal Welfare Grants.

### ***REPORT SUMMARY***

Animal Services received two Animal Welfare Grant applications with a total funding commitment of \$21,200. It is recommended that funding in the amount of \$10,600 be approved for Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary and that \$10,600 be approved for Small Animal Rescue Society BC (SARS BC).

The animal welfare grant (AWG) provides financial aid to registered non-profit organizations that support Animal Services in delivering specialized care for animals that are unable to be housed in the Animal Shelter. These animals include provincially regulated wildlife, as well as rabbits, hamsters, gerbils, birds and reptiles. Vancouver Animal Services is restricted to supporting dog-related services, and on a limited scale, housing and adoption services for other animals. For example, Animal Services must respond to calls for service that require sheltering of animals other than dogs; these animals may be temporarily housed at Vancouver Animal Services Shelter until a suitable sheltering option is available. Animal Services has partnered with a number of specialized rescue organizations that shelter animals that can't be housed with Animal Services. Animal Services works closely with Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary and SARS BC and transfers animals to these agencies to provide specialized care and sheltering.

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

The approval of the Animal Welfare Grant requires eight affirmative votes of Council.

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

The City Manager and General Manager of Community Services recommend approval of the foregoing recommendation.

### ***REPORT***

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

On June 28, 2007, Council approved the Application Process and Form for animal-related grant applications for 2008 and future years for animal-related grant applications. The amount of funds dedicated to animal-related applications for 2014 and 2015 total \$21,200.

#### **Eligibility and Review Criteria**

To be eligible for the Animal Welfare Grant, the successful applicant must be a registered non-profit society that serves the city of Vancouver. The organization must extend its services to the general public in the city of Vancouver, and may not exclude anyone by reason of religion, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, language, disability or income. Societies must be in good standing with the Registrar of Companies, financially stable with sound administration, and have a proven track record of public service. Further, the organization must meet the minimum standard of care as set out by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) Companion Animal Welfare Position Statement.

(<http://www.sPCA.bc.ca/assets/documents/welfare/position-statements/companion-animal-welfare.pdf>)

The organization that receives an Animal Welfare Grant must agree to certain conditions. Specifically, these are to allow occasional visits from City staff to ensure compliance with standards of care and accountability. Both of these rescue agencies have been inspected by Vancouver Animal Services Staff who support the issuance of the grant funding. In addition, the successful applicant must agree to submit a brief report at the end of the grant's term identifying direct and indirect outcomes from the Animal Welfare Grant.

Upon meeting the eligibility criteria the organizations application will be assessed considering financial need and the degree to which the organization supports the operation and objectives of Animal Services.

#### ***Strategic Analysis***

Staff contacted and informed several organizations that were eligible for animal-related grants. Two applications were received with total funding request of \$21,200.

### Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary

Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary was founded in 1998 as a safe haven for parrots that are injured orphaned, abused, neglected and abandoned in Metro Vancouver. Its mission is to enhance the quality of life for parrots in Metro Vancouver by offering a refuge for abandoned, abused and unwanted birds; providing medical treatments and professional avian veterinary services; placing birds into permanent loving homes and educating current and potential bird owners of the special needs that parrots require to live a long healthy and happy life. Over the past 15 years, Greyhaven has taken in and found new adoptive homes for more than 2,700 parrots. In 2014 Greyhaven took in approximately 49 exotic birds from the Animal Services Shelter.

Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary is seeking a \$10,600 grant to support on-going care and rehabilitation efforts. Funds will be used to improve sheltering in the large bird area, which includes painting, plumbing repairs, flooring enhancements, and improved sanitation.

### Small Animal Rescue Society of BC

SARS BC was established in 2004 and is dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation and re-homing of homeless or unwanted small animals throughout the province. SARS BC works with the SPCA locations and all municipal animal shelters across the province to provide assistance and education to shelters, their staff and their volunteers. SARS BC houses animals that traditional shelters are not able to care for, which include rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, gerbils, mice, rats, degus, chinchillas and hedgehogs. SARS BC also has a community outreach program that provides food or vet care for those who are unable to provide for their animals but do provide a loving home. Other programs include adoption and fostering programs, advocacy and humane education and educational opportunities for elementary schools and colleges.

In 2014 SARS took in approximately 74 small animals from the Animal Services Shelter. Without these placements these animals would either linger in the shelter for adoption or would have to be euthanized since the shelter is not adequately set up to house and care for animals other than dogs.

SARS BC is requesting a grant of \$10,600 to provide funding for their community outreach program, the spaying and neutering of 40 rabbits and 10 small animals that are currently waiting for surgery, and the replacement of the front roll up door for the shelter.

***Implications/Related Issues/Risk******Financial***

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Requested Amount</b>	<b>Recommended Amount</b>
Greyhaven Exotic Bird Sanctuary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Purchase hardwood or laminate flooring</li> <li>▪ Paint sanctuary</li> <li>▪ Replace plumbing and black mould eradication</li> </ul>	<b>\$10,600</b>	<b>\$10,600</b>
Small Animal Rescue Society of BC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spay &amp; neuter 40 rabbits and 10 small animals</li> <li>▪ Replace roll up door for shelter</li> <li>▪ Community Outreach funding</li> </ul>	<b>\$10,600</b>	<b>\$10,600</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,200</b>	<b>\$21,200</b>

Source of funds for the recommended grants is the 2015 Community Services Operating Budget for Animal Welfare Grants.

***CONCLUSION***

Each of the organizations applying for grant funding is of value to the City as they provide services and assistance to the City that, at times, the Vancouver Animal Services cannot provide. Although, the amount of funding available for animal-related applications is not sufficient to cover the total amount of grant requests from each organization, staff recommend that Council allocate grants totalling \$21,200 to the organizations outlined in the Recommendation from the 2014 and 2015 funds allocated to animal-related applications.

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