



REPORT

Report Date: November 12, 2020
Contact: Mary Ellen Glover
Contact No.: 604-673-8443
RTS No.: 13625
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: December 9, 2020
[Submit comments to Council](#)

TO: Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities
FROM: General Manager of Arts, Culture and Community Services
SUBJECT: 2020 Homelessness Action Week and Supportive Housing Grants

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approve the Homelessness Action Week (HAW) grants in the individual amounts as outlined in Appendix A and Appendix B of this report to 15 organizations (\$66,000) in aggregate, outlined in Table 1 of the report, to create awareness about and engage citizens on solutions to homelessness and to support Vancouver residents who are experiencing homelessness or living in supportive housing throughout this upcoming year; source of funds to be the 2020 Arts, Culture and Community Services Street Homelessness Operating Budget (\$36,000), and the 2020 Capital budget for the Supportive Housing Grant Program (\$30,000).
- B. THAT all grants be subject to each approved recipient organization signing and returning a grant approval letter to the City agreeing in writing to its terms.
- C. THAT grant approval letters be on the terms generally outlined in the report and otherwise satisfactory to the General Manager of Arts, Culture and Community Services and the Director of Legal Services.
- D. THAT the General Manager of Arts, Culture and Community Services be authorized to execute all grant approval letters on behalf of the City of Vancouver.
- E. THAT no legal rights or obligations will arise or be created by Council's adoption of Recommendation A unless and until all legal documentation has been executed and delivered by the respective parties.

Approval of Recommendations A and B constitute grants and therefore require an affirmative vote of at least 2/3 of all of Council members pursuant to Section 206(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*.

REPORT SUMMARY

The 2020 Homelessness Action Week (HAW) is the 15th annual campaign across Metro Vancouver aimed at raising awareness about and building local capacity for solutions to homelessness. This report seeks Council approval for 15 Homelessness Services grants totalling \$66,000 as part of the ongoing Homelessness Action Week grants program. The source of funds for the HAW grants is the 2020 Arts, Culture and Community Services (ACCS) Street Homelessness Operating Budget and the 2020 Capital budget for the Supportive Housing Grant Program,

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

Housing Vancouver Strategy 2018-2027 and Housing Vancouver 3 Year Action Plan 2018-2020: The Housing Vancouver Strategy (2018-2027), as well as the Housing Vancouver Three Year Action Plan (2018-2021), outline goals to demonstrate continued leadership and advocacy on addressing the causes and solutions to homelessness. The City of Vancouver is committed to working with partners to deliver immediate supports to individuals experiencing homelessness while transitional and permanent social housing is made available to prevent homelessness, foster pathways out of homelessness, and keep people housed.

Framework for City of Reconciliation: In 2014, Council approved the Framework for City of Reconciliation which recognizes that reconciliation goes beyond just one community and must enhance opportunities and understanding of all communities. Reconciliation is not limited to one community. Instead it reaches into aspects of all of our histories and current environments and because of that a City of Reconciliation will look to ways that it can cultivate connections with First Nations, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal groups for whom meaningful engagement and understanding can create a healthier, supportive city. Moving forward as a City of Reconciliation, the City of Vancouver will look for ways to enhance opportunities, and understanding in our communities.

Anti-Racism Action Plan: The City of Vancouver is committed to reconciliation, equity, diversity, inclusion and the full participation of all people in the economic, cultural, social and political life of the community. The City is actively engaging in a number of actions to work towards the realization of these commitments. Council assigned 2020 funding for staff to work with the Black and African diaspora communities on anti-Black racism. This work was delayed due to COVID-19 response, but staff have reached out to community to express commitment are doing significant work on a current state analysis of community requests and actions for a community report. While a broader anti-racism strategy was identified for the 2021 ACCS workplan, staff are bringing this work forward with direction from Council and will reallocate existing resources to advance this broader strategy.

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager recommends approval of the foregoing.

Homelessness Action Week provides the opportunity to engage residents in raising awareness about homelessness issues, including building greater community understanding of the drivers and solutions to homelessness, challenging stigma around homelessness, and providing direct support to those who are experiencing homelessness. Targeting our limited resources to

proactive social objectives promotes healthy and inclusive neighbourhoods and positively impacts the quality of life for all Vancouver citizens.

REPORT

Background/Context

Homelessness

Homelessness is one of the most significant issues facing Vancouver today. The City, together with its partners, has made significant efforts to take action to address homelessness, including increasing the supply of social and supportive housing, temporary modular housing, and ensuring access to emergency low-barrier services such as temporary shelters, warming centres, and homeless outreach to connect people to income, housing, and supports. Council policy is to maintain services for the homeless and at-risk individuals, while working on a Poverty Reduction Strategy, with the awareness that a major underlying cause of homelessness is poverty. Stigma and discrimination directed towards people who experience homelessness, such as assumptions that poverty, which keeps people from securing a home, is their fault, compound the challenge of addressing the issue through systematic efforts.

COVID and the 2020 HAW Call for Proposals

The COVID-19 pandemic has had significant impact on services and spaces available to people who are experiencing homelessness. Community centres, drop ins and libraries which are frequently used by individuals experiencing homelessness reduced their hours or closed. Shelter capacity was reduced as a result of physical distancing requirements. SROs and other non-market housing providers instituted no guest policies to mitigate the spread of the disease leaving those who may be couch surfing with no other options.

COVID also impacted the homelessness services sector's capacity to respond to those in need as a result of reduced staffing, increased demand and pivoting to ensure spaces were safe for everyone. In response, the decision was made to delay the Homelessness Action Week grant call which was scheduled for late March 2020. Instead, City staff aligned this year's grant call with Homelessness Action Week (October 11-18) to raise profile of HAW.

City staff worked to align the grant call with publicizing the Regional Homelessness Action Week, recognizing that typical projects and events hosted during HAW would not be occurring due to limited services at various organizations, as well as limitations on gatherings.

Due to the change in timeline, the 2020 HAW Grants and events will be different, allowing for flexibility for service providers to modify events and projects to different timelines and modified event programming. For example, the Gathering Place Connect event will be hosted over 3 days (instead of 1) and have limited numbers of folks who can access the event at one time. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the health and safety of staff and public is top priority. Grant applicants will be required to comply with all applicable public health requirements and guidelines relating to COVID-19 and to make the safety of its employees and volunteers and members of the public a top priority.

While we have seen incredible resilience within Vancouver's social service sector, we recognize the difficulty of planning during a pandemic. In a recent Vantage survey, 92% of Vancouver non-

profit organizations social service organizations reported that COVID-19 caused major interruptions to their projects, programs and services. Staff recognized the resiliency of the non-profit organizations and their ability to continue their services to those who most need in Vancouver.

Homeless Action Week 2020

2020 Homelessness Action Week (HAW) took place across Metro Vancouver, from October 11 to 18, 2020 and is the 15th annual regional campaign aimed at raising awareness about and building local capacity for solutions to homelessness. Since its inception in 2009 to 2013, Homelessness Action Week was coordinated and funded across the region through the Metro Vancouver Homelessness Secretariat (MVHS) under the Federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS). Changes to HPS funding criteria in 2014 resulted in all HPS funding being targeted for Housing First initiatives and away from initiatives such as HAW. Despite the loss of MVHS coordination and support, Homelessness Action Week took place throughout the region, with regional coordination occurring through the Council of Metro Vancouver Community Homeless Tables and local funding and coordination in several municipalities. Last year, there were Homelessness Action Week events in Burnaby, New Westminster, North Shore, Richmond, Surrey, Tri-Cities and Vancouver. Notwithstanding the shift of the Federal Government as a funding partner onto other priorities, Homelessness Action Week continues to provide a unique opportunity regionally and locally to engage citizens, the media and the private and non-profit sectors on the causes of and solutions to homelessness.

Local non-profit community groups are important partners in helping to achieve the desired outcomes of HAW. HAW grants enable the City to develop new relationships with non-profit partners and nurture existing ones. The HAW grant program continues to generate events, activities and interest year after year:

- In 2009, the City provided \$9,300 to four community groups (RTS 08283)
- In 2010, the City provided \$10,500 to five community groups (RTS 08788)
- In 2011, the City provided \$25,000 to nine community groups (RTS 09325)
- In 2012, the City provided \$30,000 to eleven community groups (RTS 9581)
- In 2013, the City provided \$35,000 to eighteen community groups (RTS 10135)
- In 2014, the City provided \$40,000 to sixteen community groups (RTS 10619)
- In 2015, the City provided \$43,000 to eighteen community groups (RTS 10980)
- In 2016, the City provided \$36,650 to thirteen community groups (RTS 11433)
- In 2017, the City provided \$43,000 to seventeen community groups (RTS 11939)
- In 2018, the City provided \$46,000 to sixteen community groups for regular HAW Grants (RTS 12506)
- In 2018, the City provided \$27,000 in Temporary Modular HAW grants to nine community groups (RTS 12506, RTS 12777)
- In 2019, the City provided \$64,000 to 14 organizations (RTS 13139)

Grant funds have contributed to uniting Vancouverites in a common goal to raise awareness about and create solutions to the issues of homelessness and to support organizations providing direct services to homeless individuals.

HAW 2020 in Vancouver builds on the success of partnerships between the City, the Province and other private and not-for-profit partners to reduce homelessness through a diversity of responses across Vancouver.

Strategic Analysis

Homelessness Action Week (HAW) and Supportive Housing Grants

The City of Vancouver has played an integral leadership role in initiating and supporting Homelessness Action Week since its inception. The City's Homelessness Action Week Grant program, established in 2009, supports a variety of community-led positive and engaging initiatives and events that take place in Vancouver during HAW and throughout the year.

The overarching goals of HAW Grants are to:

1. Support Vancouver residents who are experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, or living in supportive housing
2. Use creative approaches to increase community awareness of homelessness and the drivers of homelessness
3. Build greater understanding with citizens on solutions to homelessness including supportive housing & health supports.
4. Engage the voices of those with lived experience.
5. Decrease the stigma associated with homelessness and the exclusion experienced by Vancouverites who are experiencing homelessness.

These five goals are aligned with the *Housing Vancouver Strategy* of continued leadership and advocacy on addressing the causes of and solutions to homelessness. The strategy prioritizes actions that speak to research and innovation, improvements in health and safety, and partnering opportunities for prevention and elimination of homelessness and creating pathways to housing stability.

2020 HAW Grants

This year, HAW grants are comprised of two streams:

HAW and Supportive Housing Grants: Stream A

Stream A HAW Grants are intended to support Vancouver-based non-profit societies that want to host an event or do a project in Vancouver that keeps within the spirit of HAW and/or supports residents living in supportive housing. Typically, funding for these grants is up to a maximum of \$3,000 per grant per organization.

HAW and Supportive Housing Grants: Stream B

Stream B HAW grants are intended to support Vancouver-based non-profit societies creating projects that focus on destigmatizing homelessness, including building greater community understanding of the drivers and solutions to homelessness. Funding for these grants is up to a maximum of \$10,000.

HAW Grant Application and Adjudication Process

A formal call for proposals to host events or organize projects supporting the HAW and Supportive Housing goals as part of Homelessness Action Week and awareness throughout the year was issued on October 7, 2020.

Grant application forms were available online. The maximum grant amount which an applicant in Stream A could receive is \$3,000. The maximum grant amount which an applicant in Stream B could receive is \$10,000.

Grant applications were reviewed by a committee comprised of two Arts, Culture and Community Services staff and one community member and were assessed according to the following criteria:

- Stream A projects had to be designed to directly benefit people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness within local neighbourhoods.
- Stream B projects had to be designed to offer unique and creative solutions that can build greater community understanding of the experience of homelessness, as well as the drivers and solutions to homelessness.
- Organizations had to:
 - Be a registered non-profit society based in Vancouver, in good standing;
 - Have a proven track record for delivering projects, services and/or hosting events; and
 - Demonstrate a strong level of partnership with a range of key local stakeholders. This might include, but not be limited to, neighbourhood groups, BIAs, schools, faith groups, operators and tenants of supportive housing, operators and tenants of social housing, and other local non-profits societies.
- Priority was given to projects that are not part of ongoing operations or programming.
- Priority was given to projects that leveraged funding from other sources.

Each applicant is eligible to receive one grant. Applicants who had received HAW grants in the past were eligible to apply.

The call for proposals resulted in 23 applications, from 23 unique agencies, totaling \$144,500 in requests (See Table 1).

Twelve (12) organizations applied for Stream A funding for a total request of \$34,500. Eleven (11) organizations applied for Stream B funding for a total request of \$111,000 (See Table 1). This is an increase from six applicants to this stream last year.

A number of organizations applied for Stream B, but proposing projects that provided direct services to people experiencing homelessness (Stream A). The adjudication committee evaluated as such and reallocated funding to the best of their ability to meet the needs of the organizations, while remaining within the budget allocated for the total of the grants. This is reflected in Table 1 below.

Table 1.

Totals for HAW and Supportive Housing Grants 2019	Total Amount Requested	Funding Available	Funding Recommended	Unfunded
Total Requested for Grant Stream A (Maximum \$3000)	\$34,500	\$36,000	\$24,100	\$10,400
Total Requested for Grant Stream B (\$10,000)	\$110,000	\$30,000	\$41,900	\$68,100
	\$144,500	\$66,000	\$66,000	\$78,500

Total funds available for 2020 HAW grants is \$66,000 and staff is recommending \$24,100 be allocated to Stream A (9 projects) and \$41,900 to Stream B applicants (6 projects).

Projects being recommended for funding provide unique opportunities for capacity and skills development, awareness raising and direct access to resources and services for people experiencing homelessness and those at risk.

Personal stories of overcoming struggles with mental health, substance use and/or homelessness humanize this very tragic issue. Some of the grants being recommended in this report support giving voice to individuals who are experiencing homelessness through dialogue, workshops, and research. Other grants provide the opportunity for people who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness to participate in their local community and connect with neighbours and/or a range of service providers. Others provide the opportunity for residents who are housed to build empathy, compassion and respect and to challenge stigmatizing and discriminatory beliefs about homelessness in their local neighbourhood and the city. Others seek to discover more about the drivers to homelessness, and what can be done to recommend solutions.

While all applicants met some of the eligibility criteria, those being recommended in this report more strongly supported the goals and criteria set out in the proposal call. Staff will work with unsuccessful applicants to build capacity for future years.

The Tables in Appendix A and Appendix B summarize the applications received and the recommended funding level of each.

Future HAW Grant Calls

HAW 2021 will resume funding cycle of past years, with grant calls in late spring, and funding issued by early Summer 2021. For organizations whose grants were not recommended for this funding stream will have the opportunity to apply in the near future to HAW 2021 funding.

Other HAW Events

Homeless Connect Events

Homeless Connect Events connect people who are experiencing homelessness and those at risk to a range of services, including health and dental services, access to income assistance and the BC Housing registry, haircuts, foot care, food, etc. Over the years, City of Vancouver-sponsored Connect events have taken place at the Carnegie Library (Alley Health Fair), the Gathering Place Community Centre (Gathering Place Connect), and the Evelyne Saller

Community Centre (Evelyne Saller Community Connect). This year, the Evelyne Saller Community Centre and the Gathering Place Community Centre will be hosting a rendition (to meet COVID requirements) of a 2020 Connect events in November 2020. Carnegie Centre will host a Homeless Connect event in 2021, which will be funded out of the 2021 Homelessness Services operating budget.

Unsurprisingly, this year, we saw a change with regard to Homeless Connect events: none of our community organizations applied for funding for Homeless Connect Events.

Financial

This report recommends Council approve \$66,000 in grants to fifteen (fifteen) non-profit organizations, source of funds being the Arts, Culture and Community Services Street Homelessness Operating Budget (\$36,000) and the 2020 Capital budget for the Supportive Housing Grant Program (\$30,000).

Communications

A calendar of events and activities will be created and posted on the City's website www.vancouver.ca/homelessnessactionweek and the regional HAW website: <http://stophomelessness.ca/haw/> and across social media.

CONCLUSION

Homelessness is a humanitarian crisis in Vancouver and across the country, creating severe human suffering and loss of individual potential. It also poses significant costs to the City of Vancouver, as well as our health, social services and criminal justice systems. In response, the City has ambitious goals to increase the supply of affordable housing, including social and supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness, as outlined in the *Housing Vancouver Strategy*.

Homelessness Action Week provides the opportunity to engage residents in raising awareness about homelessness issues, challenging stigma around homelessness, providing direct support to those who are homeless, and welcoming homeless and formerly homeless residents in local neighbourhoods. Targeting our limited resources to proactive social objectives promotes healthy and inclusive neighbourhoods and positively impacts the quality of life for all Vancouver citizens.

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HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GRANTS STREAM A BEING RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING:				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
Aboriginal Mother Centre Society. ¹	<p>AMCS Homelessness Action Week: DTES - Absolute homeless people that hang out on the streets of Vancouver. People that are immobilized by their addiction and cannot walk up to the union gospel to stand in line for hours to be fed. We walk the alleys to find the most vulnerable people. Giving them warm meals and handing out warm jackets and toques, gloves, and mitts. Covid19 care packages with facemasks, hand sanitizers and gloves. Strathcona park, get in contact with people that are living in the tent city to help find housing. Make sure staff are safe and able to support people that do not have the means to find housing on their own. Applying for assistance or finding funds to afford to pay rent and sustain housing. Grandview park, where there are more indigenous people are reaching different parks in Vancouver. Sleeping in tents and parkades that they can find to keep warm and feel safe. Giving resources- information packages to help support people to get into warm housing. Help give information and phone numbers for housing supports in the DTES.</p>	N/A	\$10,000	\$3,000
Catholic Street Missionaries Society	<p>Extreme Cold Weather Outreach During the Pandemic: When the temperature drops to 2 degrees or lower, we shall go out to the street at night to give out things that will keep those who sleep on the street warm. The things we plan to give out include long waterproof coats (that is transformable into sleeping bags), winter sleeping bags, blankets, hand and toe warmers, gloves, etc. Our primary population is those who sleep on the street. Because of COVID-19, much less people will be able to sleep inside shelters (due to social distancing requirements). Although the government has relocated many to hotels, there are still a lot of people sleeping on the street. This project is to save the lives of those who will be shivering or frozen in the cold winter nights, if left by themselves without any help. We keep them warm by providing them with some of the items listed above.</p>	N/A	\$3,000	\$2,000

¹ This organization applied for Stream B, but project was a direct service grant, so was moved to Stream A funding stream, and approved

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GRANTS STREAM A BEING RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING:				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
Connect Vancouver Foundation	<p>Connect EMPOWER: The Connect Vancouver Foundation proposes a new micro-project explicitly focused on facilitating ongoing and new employment opportunities for homeless and marginalized groups in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Due to COVID-19, our organization has seen an unprecedented rise in demand for our services. Connect Vancouver has identified a series of organizations needing our programs. This initiative would focus specifically on providing free cell phones and cell phone bills to homeless populations in Vancouver who are currently employed part-time or are actively seeking employment. The project will involve collaborating with local temp-agencies and organizations that facilitate employment opportunities and are working directly with Vancouver's homeless population. The project recognizes the unpredictable nature of part-time employment and the importance of cell phones and active phone number to facilitate communication with employers. The project aims to provide 20-25 individuals with smartphone devices and a minimum of six months of free cell phone bills. The project would also collect metrics on employment opportunities gained or maintained by using the cell phones provided. This project's target demographic focuses on multiple-barrier individuals (Indigenous, LGBTQ+, Mental Illness, Immigrants/Refugees, Women) who are currently homeless or recently experienced homelessness, above the age of 25 that now have part-time employment or are actively seeking employment opportunities.</p>	N/A	\$3,000	\$3,000
DUDES Club Society. ²	<p>DUDES Street Squad COVID Outreach: The proposed project is a full-scale launch of the DUDES Street Squad (DSS) pilot program to meet the exponential increase in demand driven by the COVID-19 crisis. After the launch, DSS would run three days per week (as opposed to one), relying on 12 peer outreach volunteers and 1 peer facilitator volunteer. Furthermore, we are proposing an increase in the geographic area served by DSS from the current three-block range on East Hastings Street to</p>	N/A	\$10,000	\$3,000

² This organization applied for Stream B, but project was a direct service grant, so was moved to Stream A funding stream, and approved

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GRANTS STREAM A BEING RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING:				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
	other key neighbourhoods in East Vancouver including Strathcona Park (which has reached out several times to request DSS presence), and Grandview-Woodlands around DUDES Clubs' new office space. Currently, the DSS runs as a pilot program one day per week, and engages four men, who are led by a peer facilitator, to do outreach along East Hastings Street.			
Pedal Foundation	Pedals for Raincity: Pandemic Response: The Vivian provides supported housing for 24 at-risk, chronically homeless women. It is the first minimal barrier housing program in Vancouver specifically designed for women living with concurrent mental illness, addiction and other challenges. The women of the Vivian cannot afford their own bikes. Due to the pandemic, many of them are being advised to avoid public transit due pre-existing medical conditions. This project will provide a fleet of bicycles for the women at The Vivian to borrow. We have already provided 3 bikes to them, but are looking for support to get them 4 more bikes along with the appropriate accessories such as lights, locks, and helmets. The bikes will be delivered early in 2021, and come with the required maintenance service later in the year to ensure the fleet is in safe riding condition. By ensuring that these women have bikes we are ensuring they have access to transportation.	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$2,600
Renfrew/ Collingwood Seniors Society	Direct Social Services: The Intergenerational Connections program aims to create awareness of social issues relevant to marginalized seniors among youth in the community. . Through various volunteering projects, two student groups from Nootka Elementary and four student groups from Windermere Secondary will explore topics such as homelessness, impacts of poverty, food security, stigma, discrimination, and social responsibility. All students will practice skill development through multiple art projects, letter writing and knitting projects. The grade 10 and 11	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GRANTS STREAM A BEING RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING:				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
	students will be provided with specific learning materials and in class instruction on community involvement and the role of social planning as part of their leadership career education. For the seniors, the focus of the finished art projects will be to provide emotional connection, reduce isolation and create greater understanding between youth and marginalized seniors. In addition, we will support seniors by providing holiday gifts that will be customized by student artwork. Due to COVID restrictions, meal delivery and typical interactive programs between students and seniors can no longer take place. However, by shifting our focus to the classroom environment, we have quadrupled our student participation levels and aim to introduce concepts of community involvement and social determinants of health.			
West End Seniors' Network Society	Housing Application Days: We will partner with various housing providers to host Application Days at our Kay's Place location. This will support older adults to complete applications to various housing providers, thereby breaking down a barrier they may face to accessing appropriate housing.	N/A	\$3,000	\$1,500
Working Gear Clothing Society	Increasing the capacity and sustainability of Working Gear's Barbershop Program: The goal of this project is to increase the capacity of Working Gear's barbershop with the hopes of solidifying long-term sustainability for this community. This project will endeavour to get the barbershop back on its feet post-Covid-19, by increasing the hours of availability. By paying our barber volunteers a stipend, not only would we be able to alleviate some of the financial burdens our barbers incur by volunteering with us, but it also ensures that Working Gear maintains its mandate of alleviating poverty and not causes it for our volunteers. As BC begins to reopen, which includes Working Gear's Barbershop, the demand for hygiene and personal body products along with haircuts is at an all time high. Before COVID-19, Working Gear was already struggling to meet the needs of our clients for hair services. We now are in an even more dire situation after COVID-19. We are requesting a sum of \$3,000 dollars, which will be used to provide a small stipend for our barbers.	N/A	\$3,000	\$3,000

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GRANTS STREAM A BEING RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING:				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
WePress Community Arts Space Society (dba WePress) ³	Information Sharing, and Employment Opportunities: This project will help meet the immediate needs of the unhoused and precariously housed during the pandemic while working to connect them to services and build communities of care. We will coordinate the preparation of 3800+ meals/week for 6 weeks by 8 community kitchens (total 23,830+ meals) by: 1) Preparing 200 hot lunches/day, 5 days/week at the Vancouver Japanese Language School & Japanese Hall's (VJLS-JH) kitchen with a 5-person team, including 2 paid low-income community organizers with lived experience (peers); 2) Coordinate the distribution of WePress meals with our partner organizations; and 3) Support partner organizations to prepare and distribute meals (7 other groups). Our partner organizations are groups led by Indigenous people and people with lived experience of poverty or who work closely with them. In addition to feeding people who are homeless or housing insecure, the outreach through meal distribution provides social connection and opportunities to provide information about housing and other services, PPE, and other supplies. The regular employment provided through meal preparation and distribution will provide social inclusion, personal fulfilment, and the independence and dignity that comes when people have the income to make their own choices.	N/A	\$10,000	\$3,000
	Total Requested for Stream A		\$34,500	
	Total Recommending for Stream A			\$24,100

³ This organization applied for Stream B, but project was a direct service grant, so was moved to Stream A funding stream, and approved

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GRANTS STREAM A NOT BEING RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING :				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
Atira Women's Resource Society	Housing Starter Kits for Women: Preparation of 20 housing starter kits for women at risk of homelessness moving from shelters or transitional housing into independent housing, a daunting emotional and financial task. The kits will ease the financial burden of moving, create a sense of home and help encourage women to maintain tenancies.	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
Coalition of Peers Dismantling the Drug War Society	Strathcona Park Tent Community – New Year Meal & Kitchen Support: Strathcona park's tented community is an Indigenous-led, majority Indigenous community, with a current population of approximately 500 residents. The kitchen and food prep spaces in the community are tremendously under-resourced for the coming winter months. Our project seeks to collaborate with one or more community partners, to host an event in the park where we will distribute 400 meals to the tented community, as well as deliver and set up kitchen tools and supplies necessary to support the residents' ongoing food needs into the upcoming winter months. This includes cooking supplies, and serving / food distribution supplies, as outlined in the budget. Up to 400 residents from our population, groups will enjoy a healthy and delicious meal. Our population groups in the tented community will also benefit from a more well supplied food prep space. The COVID-19 lockdowns have resulted in significantly reduced access to food for the homeless community in the DTES.	N/A	\$3,000	\$0

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GRANTS STREAM A NOT BEING RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING :				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
Collingwood Neighbourhood House Society	<p>Stay Informed, Stay Housed in Collingwood Renfrew: CNH Outreach staff have developed a 96-page resource manual that lists appropriate services for low income and underhoused individuals, in Renfrew Collingwood neighbourhood. The purpose of this manual gives the opportunity to practice independence and develop the skills needed for informed decision-making. It also gives people who experience systemic oppressions, (Indigenous peoples, youth, sex workers, seniors, people with disabilities or dealing with substance use etc.) the ability to become aware of programs and services that they're entitled to as the manual lists eligibility requirements for every program description. Additionally, the manual can support our recently housed clientele and the other tenants at the supportive or modular housing. In this situation, the tenants can learn how to become resourceful, which can lead to an increase in confidence and it creates a smoother transition to independence. Part of the manual is also populated with COVID resources to support people who experience technological barriers to learn about services without stressing about ways to access online service description. We would use these funds to finalise and print copies of this manual for distribution to under-housed individuals and supportive housing in the neighbourhood. The manual will also be available as an online Google Doc.</p>	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$0

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GRANTS STREAM A NOT BEING RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING :				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
Hot Potato Initiative Foundation	<p>Educational Videos: Our 1-minute Educational Animation Videos on the topic of homelessness serve to educate and engage young Canadians in the conversation about homelessness. Through these quick videos, we aim to build a community understanding of the different topics surrounding homelessness, including structural inequality, housing crisis, and drug legislation. With the support of the Homelessness Action Week Grant, we will be able to create 5-6, attention span friendly, 1-minute videos and use the funds to collaborate with animation professionals to develop the most engaging, easy to follow, and informative videos possible. The content featured will be based on our Education Portfolios “modules” which cover an array of concerns within the overarching topic of homelessness. These videos will spark the interest of students, and they will then be able to learn more through our additional educational resources. We hope that we will be able to spread these videos through the networks of over 500 students. This will allow us to reach a bigger audience than ever before. Additionally, resources that our Educational Portfolio creates are distributed amongst our School Network Programme meaning that we will be able to reach the educators and students in our established school chapters. We are also hoping for these chapters to display these videos during their club meetings so that they can facilitate a discussion surrounding different topics of homelessness.</p>	N/A	\$2,500	\$0

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GRANTS STREAM A NOT BEING RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING :				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
Jewish Family Services Agency of Vancouver	<p>We Are Here, Hear Us – Telling the Stories of Jewish Homelessness in Vancouver: The project is to interview 15 local members of the Jewish community who are or have recently been homeless, or who are at high risk of homelessness in order to tell their stories and increase understanding about homelessness within the community. The community members with the experience of being homeless are often experiencing judgement, as “homelessness does not exist in the Jewish community.” By writing and distributing a report widely within the community, as well as holding at least one speaking event featuring one or more interviewees speaking about their lived experiences, it will increase understanding within the Jewish community about the profound suffering of homelessness, decrease stigmatization, and provide information about what help people need. The majority of project activities such as interviewing, report writing, and presentations will be done by local Jewish community members who are or have been homeless within the past five years. They will be compensated for their time at a rate of \$20/hour. For both the people doing the interviewing/report writing and the survey participants – there is a healing component of talking about lived experience, telling the stories of homelessness and being heard. For many participants there will be the added satisfaction of knowing that by telling their stories they are helping the community understand and respond.</p>	N/A	\$3,000	\$0

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING GRANTS STREAM A NOT BEING RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING :				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
Powell Street Festival Society	<p>Paeuru Mashup Community Dance Rehearsals: Powell Street Festival Society has commissioned a community song and dance project called the Paeuru Mashup, capturing sounds and gestures of the beloved Powell Street Festival. Veterans of Vancouver's Taiko community, Onibana Taiko, created the memorable composition, and the dance organisation, Company 605, choreographed a fun and accessible collective line dance suitable for all bodies. So far, we have taught the dance to over 50 people, and we now wish to develop a troupe of local residents with the ambition to present diverse community members dancing Paeuru Mashup at the 45th Powell Street Festival in Oppenheimer Park, July 31, 2021. This HAWS-funded project will be the first in a series of physically-spaced dance workshops to teach the Paeuru Mashup to homeless and precariously housed DTES residents (8-10 people).</p>	N/A	\$3,000	\$0

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING STREAM B GRANTS BEING RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
Downtown Eastside Women's Centre Association	<p>Assessing and addressing the impact of COVID-19 on DTES homeless woman:</p> <p>Would like to couple completion of last year's project with an assessment of how the pandemic is impacting homelessness and homeless women in this community. The homelessness survey initiated last year, would be revised to include questions relating to COVID19 impacts and if/how the needs of the homeless community has changed over the course of the year. The final report of the project is meant to give both DEWC and the City insights into the needs of women of the community and may offer insights into how the pandemic has changed their perspectives.</p>	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$5,442
Association of Neighbourhood Houses of British Columbia:	<p>This grant is for South Vancouver Neighbourhood House</p> <p>South Vancouver Community Hub for Homelessness: The purpose of the South Vancouver Virtual Community Hub for Homelessness is to offer direct housing navigation services for individuals along with training for businesses, service providers, and residents, along with collaborative resource development work with organizations to create housing solutions in the south side of Vancouver.</p>	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$6,858

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING STREAM B GRANTS BEING RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
Foundation for Social Change	The purpose of this project is to engage the general public in a conversation about homelessness and the dialogue will be led by our participants with lived experience. Our Lived Experience Advisory Panel (LEAP) is curious about how they could debunk the myths, disrupt the stereotypes and promote a less stigmatized understanding of those who live in homelessness, especially those recently experiencing homelessness. Recently FSC has gained much attention through the New Leaf project and there is now an opportunity to leverage this and assist our participants in using their voices and ideas to demystify and correct stereotypes that exist amongst the general public about people experiencing homelessness.	N/A	\$10,000	\$9,500
Gallery Gachet Society	HART in Print: HART In Print is a process-based art publishing project emerging from Gallery Gachet's outreach programming in supportive housing - Home Is Where the Art Is (HART). With funding from the Vancouver Foundation and the BC Arts Council as well as through community partnership with The Capilano Review (TCR), the HART program addresses social determinants of mental illness, particularly social isolation and mental health stigma, for artist residents of non-profit supportive housing in the downtown eastside of Vancouver. Specifically, the program offers biweekly art workshops, as well as resource and skill sharing, artistic feedback, and social connection, to 10 artists living in supportive housing provided by RainCity Housing and Support Society. Three of the	N/A	\$10,000	\$5,000

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING STREAM B GRANTS BEING RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
	<p>participants are connected through RainCity's outreach support for LGBT2SQ+ young adults facing housing precarity. The HART program is coordinated by Gallery Gachet programming staff Manuel Axel Strain with project management by Kendra Place.</p>			
<p>Association of Neighbourhood Houses of British Columbia: dba Gordon Neighbourhood House</p>	<p>Homelessness Action Week: West End: We will host engagement activities and avenues where neighbours can get factual answers based on best practices from public health experts, housing advocates, and people with lived experience. Examples of communication and multimedia content include: a literacy toolkit with best practices, online resources, social media campaign, printed collateral, and virtual sessions. As a result of COVID-19, virtual sessions will provide space for community members to ask frank questions and receive knowledgeable and empathetic answers from experts in the field. . By hosting engagement activities such as virtual dialogues, we imagine all participants will identify commonalities and ideally increased empathy towards all neighbours regardless of housing status</p>	<p>\$2,600</p>	<p>\$10,000</p>	<p>\$7,500</p>

HAW AND SUPPORTIVE HOUSING STREAM B GRANTS BEING RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:				
Agency	Project Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recom
Hives for Humanity Society	<p>What does home mean to you?: Our project will take the form of a campaign to build empathy and understanding around people who are experiencing homelessness, working to destigmatize the experience of homelessness, to build on our shared connection to nature, and concepts of home and belonging. We have built a campaign outline with existing marketing tools that are available, the content will be built through consultation with community members who have lived experience of homelessness.</p> <p>Our community members, through our gardens and beekeeping projects and programs, relationships we have with ceremonial leaders and community advocates, and with residents in Modular Housing projects, will be engaged in the design and messaging of this work, and have already been helping to develop the concept, which started as an idea to put a photo of our gardeners up on the marketing billboard that is in our Hastings Folk Garden site. This project will deepen this consultation, through relationships built around gardens and bees, to ask our members: what does home mean to you? Where do you feel belonging? What do you want people to know about your experience of homelessness and finding home.</p>	N/A	\$10,000	\$7,600
	Total Requested for Stream B		\$110,000	
	Total Recommended for Stream B			\$41,900

STREAM B HAW and Supportive Housing GRANTS NOT BEING RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING :				
Agency	Event Description	2019 Grant	2020 Request	2020 Recommended
Association of Neighbourhood Houses: Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House	Homelessness, Poverty & Covid-19: Voices from the Pandemic: This project will seek to raise awareness on how Covid-19 have impacted housing, homelessness and evictions, address how language has been a barrier for many in accessing key and timely legal information by fostering partnerships between legal service organizations and MPNH settlement services, and support folks experiencing risk of homelessness and eviction through one-time provision of basic needs (food, bus tickets, photocopying, etc.) and resource referrals and coordination with legal advocates and community support staff.	\$3,000	\$10,000	\$0
Movies Move Us	V6A for Change: With the experience of over 30 events dedicated to dissolving the stigma projected onto homelessness through meaningful storytelling, Movies Move Us is now presenting "V6A FOR CHANGE": a multi-format series of events designed to inspire, educate and redefine the narrative projected onto the community of Downtown Eastside Vancouver. The film has been an important source of change in BC to shift the common perspective on homelessness, and we are enthusiastic to collaborate with the Homelessness Action Week Grant team to take this important story further.	N/A	\$10,000	\$0