



REPORT

Report Date: June 21, 2021
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RTS No.: 14566
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: July 20, 2021
[Submit comments to Council](#)

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: Senior Manager of Sport Hosting Vancouver
SUBJECT: Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants – Summer Intake 2021

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council approves seven new Vancouver Community Sport Event Grants totaling \$33,450 as outlined in the body of this report to each organization listed in Table 1 under the column entitled “Organization” and for the amount set out beside their name in the column entitled “Grant Recommended”; source of funding is the 2021 Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Program Budget.
- B. THAT the grant be subject to each grant recipient agreeing to the terms and conditions of the community sport hosting grant program as generally outlined in this report and otherwise satisfactory to the Senior Manager, Sport Hosting Vancouver and the City Solicitor.
- C. THAT no legal rights or obligations are created by the approval of the Recommendations A through B above unless and until the grant agreement letter is executed and delivered by the grant recipient.
- D. THAT, pursuant to Section 206(1)(j) of the Vancouver Charter, the organizations listed in Table 1 which are not otherwise a registered charity with Canada Revenue Agency are deemed by Council to be an organization contributing to the culture, beautification, health, or welfare of the City.

Approval of Recommendation A constitutes a grant and therefore requires an affirmative vote of at least-two-thirds of all of Council pursuant to Section 206(1) of the Vancouver Charter.

REPORT SUMMARY

With declining COVID-19 case counts and increasing vaccination rates, BC has permitted the Return to Sport Events following the BC Restart 4 Step Plan. BC is currently entering Step 3 that will allow the return of community sport events that follow a communicable disease safety plan. Community Sport Events are a great platform to

bring people back together and the City of Vancouver will be able to support these initiatives through the Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grant Program.

This report recommends approval of seven new Vancouver Community Sport Event Grant applications totalling \$33,450. Applications received include two local and regional sport tournaments, two new sport initiatives and three annual sport events. The current balance of the 2021 Vancouver Community Sport Event Grant budget, prior to funding these seven recommended grants, is \$129,778.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

2004: Council approved a policy statement in support of celebrations, sporting events and special events: “Council welcomes celebrations and special events for their contribution in making Vancouver a vibrant City, in reflecting our cultural diversity and neighbourhood character, and for economic, cultural and recreational benefits they bring to the City. Council supports the facilitation of these events by staff, encourages mitigation of short-term disruptions in neighbourhoods and encourages cities to welcome these activities and to participate in them.”

2006: Council approved a Sport Hosting Policy and Sport Hosting Grant Program effective January 1, 2007, with annual funding of \$200,000 to support a range of sporting events.

2008: Council adopted the Vancouver Sport Strategy as a guide to the City’s future initiatives and engagement with sport programs, facilities and events.

2011: Council approved revisions to the Sport Hosting Grant Program guidelines to improve the effectiveness of the grant and better serve local sport organizations.

2015: Council adopted the Sport Hosting Vancouver Action Plan, and approved the creation of the Sport Tourism Development Fund with funding of \$1.0 million over 2 years as the City’s commitment to this Fund which will support MAJOR sport events that advance the Sport Hosting Vancouver Action Plan goals. In that same decision, Council approved the change of name from the City’s current ‘Sport Hosting Grant Program’ to the ‘Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grant Program’, and directed staff to review the program and provide recommendations for any changes necessary to enhance the grant program. This grant program has an ongoing annual Operating Budget funding of \$200,000.

2016: Council approved revisions to the ‘Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Grant Program’, expanding the type of events that are eligible for funding at a community level, including Local or Regional Sport Tournaments, New Sport Event Initiatives, and Annual Sport Events.

2019: Council approved the recommendations for the City Participation in Women Deliver 2019 Conference (RTS 12946) including approval of the allocation of \$35,000 from the 2019 Sport Hosting Program budget to launch the new program stream of “Community Sport Champions Recognition” that will align with the themed Women Deliver objectives. Each year, the theme of the recognition program will change.

Approval of grant recommendations requires eight affirmative votes

CITY MANAGER'S

The City Manager recommends approval of the foregoing.

REPORT

Background/Context

The Vancouver Community Sport Hosting Program has 2 streams of grants supporting non-profit community sport organizations in the City of Vancouver.

1. Community Sport Event Grants

Community Sport Event Grants provide financial support for sporting events that have the potential to bring direct or indirect economic, social, health and community development benefits to the City of Vancouver. Approximately \$200,000 is distributed annually to support local, regional, and new sport event initiatives.

Application intake and eligibility guidelines can be found here:

<https://vancouver.ca/people-programs/sporting-event-grants.aspx>

2. Community Sport Champions Recognition Grants

Community Sport Champions Recognition Grants recognize and celebrate citizens who are making sport accessible in the City of Vancouver. This stream offers grants to advance the efforts and accomplishments of residents and organizations who deliver sport and physical activity to make a positive impact in our community, while aligning with City Council's key priority areas, including but not limited to, gender equity, reconciliation and affordability. This annual recognition program budget is \$35,000, and grant awards will be directed to a certain them or interest based on City Council priorities and initiatives within that cycle. The 2021 theme is celebrating Indigenous Sport. More information and list of past recipients can be found here:

<https://vancouver.ca/people-programs/community-sport-champions-recognition-program.aspx>

March 17, 2020 the Government of BC declares state of emergency to support the province wide response to the novel COVID-19 pandemic. At that time all events and public gatherings were cancelled, and the City of Vancouver paused the intake of applications and distribution of Community Sport Hosting Grants. The 2021 budget for the Community Sport Hosting Grant program was reduced for a one-time non-permanent saving reduction of \$99,960 with a remaining balance of \$129,778 to support the return of community sport events when it is permitted to return to play and competition in 2021.

Discussion

All Community Sport Event Grant applications are reviewed by a panel comprised of representatives from the Park Board, City of Vancouver and other key stakeholders in the sport hosting community.

This report recommends grants for which applications were received in Summer 2021, under the approved 2016 guidelines (Appendix A).

Summary of Review Panel Recommendations

This report recommends approval of seven new Vancouver Community Sport Event Grant applications totalling \$33,450. Applications received include two local and regional sport tournaments, two new sport initiatives and three annual sport events. The current balance of the 2021 Vancouver Community Sport Event Grant Budget is \$129,778.

The following is a summary of events for which Community Sport Event Grants are being recommended; the recommended grant amounts are shown in Table 1.

1) Local and Regional Sport Tournaments

BC School Sports will host a 1-day cross country race featuring 4 distinct races and approximately 1250 student athletes from every region of the province. The 'BC School Sports Cross Country Provincial Championship' will welcome 260 schools, 300+ coaches and over 500 spectators to Jericho Beach Park on Nov 6, 2021.

Southlands Riding Club will host the SRC BC Dressage Championship, a sanctioned gold member competition of Equestrian Canada. Southlands Riding Club has been providing amateur competition and recreation riding in Vancouver since 1943.

2) New Sport Event Initiatives

The RunVan (Vancouver International Marathon Society) – 'Return to Sport/Second Half' is a new event in the RUNVAN portfolio, provided restrictions are reduced, to help showcase that route-based events may return safely. This new sporting event is intended to be a 500 participant pilot event that can share its best practices with other event producers, and also prepare run directors and volunteers for the annual Granville Island Turkey Trot and Great Trek in October.

The PHS Community Services Society in partnership with the BC Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS will launch the inaugural 'DTES Healthcare Workers & Friends Invitational Cup' in mid-fall of 2021. The aim of this soccer tournament will be to use a sporting event as a catalyst for connection amongst this extended community of passionate and dedicated front line workers. The tournament will include 16 teams representing a collection of primary care clinics and social service organizations in the neighbourhood.

3) Annual Sport Events

Special Olympics British Columbia Society (Vancouver) will be hosting their 19th Annual John Baillie Invitational Floor Hockey Tournament. In addition to the floor hockey games, a skills competition is held for floor hockey developmental athletes. Athletes from Vancouver, Abbotsford, Burnaby, Delta, Mission, North Shore, Richmond and Surrey will be participating in the tournament.

The False Creek Rowing Club will host the 'Head Up The Creek Rowing Regatta' for the 10th year in 2021. The rowing regatta will be staged from Vanier Park, with competitors racing to Science World and back. The overall winner of the event becomes the "City of Vancouver Rowing Champion" as per a proclamation made by the previous Mayor and Council.

The Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society is ready to dust off the boats and return to the water with local races celebrating the community's resilience

over the past 18 months. The '2021 Concord Pacific Dragon Boat Festival' will be a downscaled return to play festival on Sept 25, 2021 with 200m sprint races making the race accessible to all no matter how hard or how little they have trained this past season.

Table 1. Recommended Community Sport Event Grants, Summer Intake 2021

Vancouver Community Sport Event Grant Applications						
LOCAL OR REGIONAL SPORT TOURNAMENT						
Organization	Event	Dates	Location	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Notes
BC School Sports	BC School Sports Cross Country Provincial Championships	November 6, 2021	Jericho Beach Park	\$5,000	\$5,000	1250 student athletes from every region of the province will participate with 300+ coaches, from 260 schools and over 500+ spectators.
Southlands Riding Club	SRC BC Dressage Championships	August 27-29, 2021	Southlands Riding Club	\$10,000	\$5,000	Southlands has been provided a home for equestrian sport and recreation in the City of Vancouver since 1943. The club provides training opportunities for amateur athletes from grassroots to Grand Prix. The SRC BC Dressage Championship is a sanctioned gold member competition of Equestrian Canada.
NEW SPORT EVENT INITIATIVE						
Organization	Event	Dates	Location	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Notes
RUNVAN Vancouver International Marathon Society	Return to Sport - Second Half	September 26, 2021	123 6 Ave E, Vancouver BC	\$5,000	\$5,000	The 'Return to Sport' event will be an opportunity to trial the new COVID19 Safety Plans in a reduced participant running event. All learnings of this pilot project will be shared with other race directors and best practices will be discussed to ensure the safety and success of the return to organized running. The race will take place on the seawall and minimize impact on roadways and local businesses. If step 4 of the BC Restart plan is successful, the target is to host 500 runners in advance of hosting the Granville Island Turkey Trot in October 2021.
PHS Community Services Society	DTES Healthcare Workers Friends Invitational Cup	September 25/26 or October 2/3, 2021 TBC	Strathcona Park (TBC)	\$7,000	\$7,000	The DTES Healthcare Workers & Friends Invitational Cup is a new one day soccer fun tournament made up of healthcare professionals and front-line workers from integrated care clinics and other related social service organizations in the DTES. Aim of tournament is to bring together passionate and dedicated front-line workers to celebrate their ongoing commitment to the health of all in our community.

Table 1 – Continued:

ANNUAL SPORT EVENT						
Organization	Event	Dates	Location	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Notes
Special Olympics British Columbia Society	19th Annual John Baillie Invitational Floor Hockey Tournament	November 27, 2021	Notre Dame High School	\$3,500	\$3,500	The tournament provides individuals with intellectual abilities the opportunity to enhance their lives through organized sport. Teams from all over the lowmainland will participate, and individual athletes who do not play on a team yet will be invited to try the development skills clinic to be introduced to the sport and encouraged to join a team.
False Creek Rowing Club	Head Up the Creek Rowing Regatta	October 31, 2021	False Creek - Vanier Park to Science World	\$2,950	\$2,950	Event takes place in October as the final event of the long distance racing season projected to be the last 'head race' in Canada for 2021. Winner is crowned "City of Vancouver rowing champion".
Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival Society	2021 Concord Pacific Dragon Boat Festival	September 25, 2021	False Creek - Creekside Community Centre - Concord Pacific	\$5,000	\$5,000	The Festival will be an important milestone in the return to play calendar. The smaller scale will allow for a more sustainable restart versus starting off with the full scale Festival next June. Anticipate that there will be 800-2000 participants.
TOTALS:				\$38,450	\$33,450	
SOURCE OF FUNDS: Community Sport Hosting Grant Program 2021:					\$129,778	
Less: Total recommended Community Sport Event Grants at July 2021:					\$33,450	
**Less: Community Sport Champions Recognition 2021:					\$35,000	
Total recommended disbursements at July 2021:					\$68,450	
Community Sport Hosting Grant Program, closing balance 2021:					\$61,328	

Financial

The recommended Community Sport Events Grants will be funded from within the existing approved 2021 Operating Budget as referenced in table 1.

There will be 2 intakes of community sport event grant applications in fiscal 2021. This report covers intake 1 – Summer July 2021. The second intake of applications will be October 2021, and Council can expect to see a report November 2021 that will allocate the remaining approved funding.

**The Community Sport Champions Recognition program will be delivered in Q3. This year's 2021 theme will recognize Indigenous Community Sport Champions from Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh and Urban Indigenous Peoples.

CONCLUSION

The Vancouver Community Sport Event Grant review panel recommends that Council approve grants totalling \$33,450 as outlined in the body of this report. The recommendations are the product of a comprehensive and thoughtful review process consistent with the policy and guidelines approved by Council. This is the first of two application intakes for 2021. The second application intake for Community Sport Event Grants will be October 2021.

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