



REPORT

Report Date: December 6, 2022
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VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: December 7, 2022
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TO: Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities
FROM: General Manager of Arts, Culture and Community Services
SUBJECT: 2022 Community Services and Other Social Grants

INTRODUCTION

This report provides Council recommendations for grants to support community generated initiatives that further the City's social sustainability goals.

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT Council authorize six (6) Hastings Legacy Fund grants totalling \$142,400 from the Hastings Social Responsibility Reserve to the organizations listed in Column 1 of Appendix A in the amounts recommended for each organization in Column 2 of Appendix A.
- B. THAT Council approve one (1) Organizational Capacity Building grant of \$4,500 from the 2022 Social Policy Operating Grants Budget to The Dugout Drop-In Centre Society for strategic planning support.
- C. THAT Council approve one (1) one-time Renter Services grant of \$25,000 from the Affordable Housing Operating Grants Budget (EHT Allocation) to the First United Community Ministry Society for the Evictions Survey and Mapping research project under the Renter Services Grants Program.
- D. THAT Council approve one (1) Capital grant of \$12,172 from the 2022 Capital Budget Provincial Childcare MOU funds for school age 5-12 year olds to False Creek Community Centre Association to create 10 additional/new licensed school-aged childcare spaces at the Community Centre..

- E. THAT Council approve one (1) grant of \$30,000 which was provided to the City by Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) to advance the City's and VCH's joint priorities under the Healthy City Strategy, including responses to health inequities and consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and upstream interventions in the social determinants of health, to Simon Fraser University Morris J. Wosk Centre for Dialogue for the Hey Neighbour Collective Project.
- F. THAT Council approve up to a combined total of \$100,000 in one-time grants under the Social Policy Grants Program for the Building Safer Communities Vancouver Program and authorize the Managing Director, Social Policy & Projects, to approve individual funding amounts for each one-time community based research grant to organizations and projects selected based on the specific eligibility criteria and requirements detailed in Appendix C. Source of funds is Federal funding through the Building Safer Communities Funds from Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada.
- G. THAT, pursuant to Section 206(1)(j) of the Vancouver Charter, Council deems any organization that is to receive a grant pursuant to the above recommendations, is listed in Appendices A to C or named in Recommendations A to F, and is not a registered charity with the Canada Revenue Agency, to be an organization contributing to the health or welfare of the City.
- H. THAT Council authorize the General Manager, Arts, Culture and Community Services to negotiate and execute agreements to disperse the grants described in Recommendations A to F on the terms and conditions set out herein or such other terms and conditions as are satisfactory to the General Manager, Arts, Culture and Community Services and the Director of Legal Services.
- I. THAT no legal rights or obligations will arise or be created by Council's adoption of Recommendations A through F unless and until all legal documentation has been executed and delivered by the respective parties.

Recommendations A – I require 2/3 affirmative votes of all Council members per section 206 (1) of the Vancouver Charter.

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The City Manager recommends approval of the foregoing.

REPORT SUMMARY

This report seeks Council approval to disperse a variety of operating and project grants totalling \$314,072, funded through the 2022 operating and specific reserve funds, and funding contributions from senior government.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

The recommendations support key civic policy and strategic directions as follows:

- Making Strides: Vancouver’s Childcare Strategy (2022)
- Equity Framework (2021)
- Renter Services Program (2019)
- Housing Vancouver Strategy (2017)
- Framework for City of Reconciliation (2014) and UNDRIP Strategy (2022)
- Healthy City Strategy (2014).

REPORT

Background/Context

The grants recommended in this report will support a critical range of activities that add to the collective capacity of Vancouver’s non-profit sector to contribute to creating a healthy city for all.

Strategic Analysis

Grants to the non-profit service sector are key social development tools that enable organizations to contribute to City policy goals, including the Healthy City Strategy and related Council strategies on public safety and equity.

Summary of Grants and Priority Areas

Table 1: Summary of Grants and Priority Areas

Rec.	Grant Type	Healthy City Strategy (HCS) & Other City Priorities	Direct Impact	Total Funding	Appendix
A	Hastings Legacy Fund Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Being and Feeling Safe & Included - Cultivating Connections 	6 grants that build the capacity of the Hastings-Sunrise neighbourhood to address and respond to local social issues and build a safe and inclusive community	\$142,400	A
B	Organizational Capacity Building Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Healthy Human Services - Being & Feeling Safe & Included • Accessibility Strategy • Equity Framework 	1 grant to support internal capacity of non-profit organization with strategic planning.	\$4,500	N/A

Rec.	Grant Type	Healthy City Strategy (HCS) & Other City Priorities	Direct Impact	Total Funding	Appendix
C	Renter Services Grant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCS: - Healthy Human Services - A Home for everyone • Housing Vancouver Strategy 	1 grant to a community organization to increase the non-profit sector's understanding of evictions on renters and ability to provide advocacy and support to Vancouver renters.	\$25,000	N/A
Grants funded from contribution agreements with other orders of government					
Rec.	Grant Type	Healthy City Strategy (HCS) & Other City Priorities	Direct Impact	Total Funding	Appendix
D	School Age Care Expansion Grant/ Provincial Childcare MOU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCS - A Good Start • Making Strides Childcare Strategy 	1 grant to support the creation of 10 new licensed childcare spaces	\$12,172	N/A
E	Vancouver Coastal Health – HCS payment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCS: - Being & Feeling Safe & Included - Cultivating Connections 	1 grant to advance joint priorities under the Healthy City Strategy, including responses to health inequities and consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, and upstream interventions in the social determinants of health.	\$30,000	B
F	Building Safer Communities Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCS: - Healthy Human Services - Being & Feeling Safe & Included • Equity Framework 	Grants for community-based research project to understand youth violence and effective prevention strategies for youth in the city.	\$100,000	C

Rec.	Grant Type	Healthy City Strategy (HCS) & Other City Priorities	Direct Impact	Total Funding	Appendix
2022 TOTAL				\$314,072	

Detailed Information

Further information about each of the grant streams and the programs and projects that funding will support follows:

1. 2022 Hastings Legacy Fund Grants (Recommendation A) - \$142,400

The Hastings Legacy Fund (HLF) grant program was launched in 2009, following expansion of legal gambling at the Hastings Racetrack and its purpose is to mitigate problems and provide community benefits to the local neighbourhood. This year, funds include a current reserve balance of \$58,000. The annual contribution of \$100,000 from Hasting Entertainment Inc. is expected to be received in December 2022. The six HLF grants recommended (Appendix A) support projects that build the capacity of the Hastings-Sunrise neighbourhood to address and respond to local social issues and build a strong, safe and inclusive community. Criteria for HLF grants include a requirement that funded work occurs within the Hastings-Sunrise neighbourhood with a focus on building a strong, safe, inclusive community based on the principles of community capacity building, public safety, civic engagement and supporting green initiatives.

Due to a staffing shortage and rising workload constraints in 2022, there was not a new call for proposals for the HLF grants for 2023. 2022 grantees are being recommended for the same grant amount for 2023 with the call for proposals scheduled for fall of 2023.

A list of recommended grants, with project descriptions, can be found in Appendix A.

2. 2022 Core Support Grants: Organizations Capacity Building Grant (Recommendation B) - \$4,500

Core Support Grants (CSG) provide funding that address inequities and mitigates conditions that create barriers to equity for residents of Vancouver. Grants may fund the direct delivery of social services to individual residents, or activities that support non-profits to improve their ability to deliver social services, address social issues and navigate change. The grant recommended to The Dugout Drop-In Centre Society is to support facilitated strategic planning. With the changing landscape of social services this grant will go toward program visioning for future service development, preparing the organization for capital planning conversations to come.

3. Renter Services Grants (Recommendation C) - \$25,000

Renter Services Grants enhance non-profit advocacy and support services to Vancouver renters. A previously awarded grant of \$40,000 was declined, leaving a balance of grant funds. Staff recommend a \$25,000 grant to support the work of the First United Community Ministry Society to implement an 'Evictions Survey and Mapping project'. CMHC, housing advocates and other stakeholders have identified a lack of data on evictions regionally and nationally as a key

knowledge gap. This research project aims to document and understand evictions in Vancouver, and more broadly in Metro Vancouver and BC, including who is being evicted and where, the basis for the evictions, and impacts on renters. First United plans to conduct surveys from now until April 2023, with the research project completed within a year.

Distribution of one-time funds of \$25,000 through the Renter Services Grants program will enable pivotal early stage project needs such as community outreach to equity-seeking groups, as well as opportunities to leverage additional funding. Research results can be used across City staff teams and by the non-profit sector to help inform policy and programs.

4. Expansion of Childcare Spaces at False Creek Community Centre Association (Recommendation D) – \$12,172

This grant supports False Creek Community Centre Association's plan to add 10 new licensed childcare spaces to the existing 36-space School Age Care program operated within the Community Centre.

In the effort to address Vancouver's shortfall of approximately 15,500 licensed childcare spaces for children ages 0-12, the City entered into a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") with the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development, whereby the Province committed to provide \$33 million for Vancouver childcare between 2019-2022.

Recommendation D seeks Council approval to grant Provincial MOU funds to support this project.

5. Grant for Hey Neighbour Collective (Recommendation E) - \$30,000

The City and Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) have an ongoing memorandum of understanding (MOU) to identify joint priorities under the Healthy City Strategy (HCS). In January 2022, VCH provided one-time funding to the City to advance work under this MOU, to respond to health inequities and the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, and to pursue upstream interventions toward health and well-being. Social connections are an important determinant of health, and the HCS sets a target that all Vancouverites have at least four people in their support network. Health and environmental emergencies over the past few years have shown how essential these connections are to individual and community resilience. A majority of Vancouverites live in apartment buildings, which can be challenging environments to build social connections and community. These challenges can be compounded by systemic inequities based on factors like age, disability, language, or income.

The Hey Neighbour project originated as a City-led action in the first Healthy City Strategy Action Plan, and is now an independent collective housed within SFU's Centre for Dialogue. The Collective focuses on building community, social connectedness, and resilience in multi-unit housing. The recommended grant will support research and evidence briefs; engagement with the rental housing sector, including operators of housing for equity-denied groups; age-friendly building audits; knowledge mobilization and convening; and advocacy. These outcomes will inform planning and policy at both the City and VCH, and support work toward a healthy, equitable and resilient city for all in Vancouver.

A letter of support from Vancouver Coastal Health can be found in Appendix B.

6. Building Safer Communities Program (BSCP) Vancouver

The Building Safer Communities Fund is a contribution program received from the Department of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada that will provide \$4,283,535 over four years to the City to support community-based prevention and intervention strategies to tackle gun and gang activities. The establishment of a \$100,000 grant fund will support one-time community-based research projects focused on exploring the nature, trends, incidence and prevalence of youth violence in the city, as well as the characteristics of effective community-based violence prevention strategies.

As part of the implementation of the BSCP Vancouver, the City will work collaboratively with the non-profit sector, youth, and public partners to identify ways to stop youth violence before it starts and identify community responses that effectively prevent its recurrence. Key deliverables for the first year include: (1) research on the nature and scope of youth violence, youth wellbeing and the youth sector; a needs assessment; (2) an evidence-based youth violence prevention strategy and action plan; and (3) the development of a funding framework to re-distribute funds to community based organizations for years two through four of the program. A \$100,000 granting fund has been established to support one-time community based research projects. Staff is seeking delegated authority through the Managing Director of Social Policy and Projects to approve individual funding amounts for each one-time community-based research grant to organizations and projects selected based on the specific eligibility criteria and requirements.

An Information Sheet about the BSCP Vancouver Community Based Research Grants including eligibility criteria and requirements are included in Appendix C

Financial

Funding for grant recommendations totalling \$314,072 and the remaining balances are summarized below.

Reserve Grants

Rec	Grant Stream	Source of funding	2022 Budget	Previously Approved	Recommended in this Report	Balance
A	Hastings Legacy Fund	Hastings Social Responsibility Reserve	\$158,600 (\$100,000 to be received December 2022)	\$0	\$142,400	\$16,200

Note: Balance of the Hastings Social Responsibility Reserve Fund will be applied to grants in 2023.

Operating Grants

Rec	Grant Stream	Source of funding	2022 Budget	Previously Approved	Recommended in this Report	Balance
B	Community Services Grants / Organizational Capacity Building	Social Policy Operating Grants	\$7,147,340	\$7,042,843	\$4,500	\$99,997*

Rec	Grant Stream	Source of funding	2022 Budget	Previously Approved	Recommended in this Report	Balance
TOTAL			\$7,147,340	\$7,042,843	\$4,500	\$99,997

* Staff will be seeking to carry forward the remaining balance into 2023 to support a project focussed on funding Black-led organizations as recommended to Council in the September 2023 report to Council on Historic Discrimination toward the Black and African diaspora communities and ongoing racism faced by these communities.

Renter Services Grants

Rec	Grant Stream	Source of funding	2019 Budget	Previously Approved	Recommended in this Report	Balance
C	Renter Services Grants	Affordable Housing Operating Grants Budget (EHT Allocation)	\$1.5M	\$1.46M*	\$25,000	\$15,000

*Previously approved total does not include a grant of \$40,000 that was declined.

School Age Care Expansion Grant

Rec	Grant Stream	Source of funding	Total Provincial Contribution	Previously Committed	Rec. in this Report	Balance
D	School Age Care Expansion Grant	2022 Capital Budget - Provincial Childcare MOU (\$33M)	\$33M	\$21,195,500	\$12,172	\$11,792,328 ¹

¹ In the effort to address Vancouver's shortfall of approximately 16,000 licensed childcare spaces for children ages 0-12, the City entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development, whereby the Province committed to provide \$33 million for Vancouver childcare between 2019-2022. As of this report, \$11.79M remains

Other Grants

Rec	Grant Stream	Source of funding	Recommended in this Report
E	Hey Neighbor Collective Project	Payment received from Vancouver Coastal Health under the existing Healthy City Strategy MOU to advance joint priorities, including responses to health inequities and consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, and upstream interventions in the social determinants of health.	\$30,000
F	Building Safer Communities Program Vancouver Grants	Federal Contribution Agreement between Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada and the City of Vancouver as part of the Building Safer Communities Fund	\$100,000

CONCLUSION

A total of \$314,072 grants funding is recommended in this report. These grants support a broad range of organizations, programs and projects that work toward a healthy and more equitable city for all Vancouverites.

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**APPENDIX A: 2022 SOCIAL POLICY GRANTS
Hastings Legacy Fund Grants Recommended**

Projects build the capacity of the Hastings-Sunrise neighbourhood to address and respond to local social issues and build a strong, safe and inclusive community.

1	2	5	6	7
AGENCY	2021 RECOMMEND	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS & CONDITIONS
Association of Neighbourhood Houses of British Columbia dba Frog Hollow Neighbourhood House	\$18,360	Generating Connections: Our stories, our worlds	Supports intergenerational approaches to build a strong sense of community identity and reduce barriers to inclusion.	CONDITION: Pending receipt of contribution to the Hasting Legacy Reserve
Hastings North Business Improvement Association	\$20,400	Sunrise Safety Team (SST)	Promotes a positive and healthy atmosphere for Hastings Sunrise businesses, customers, visitors, residents and community members.	CONDITION: Pending receipt of contribution to the Hasting Legacy Reserve
Hastings North Area Planning Association, The	\$11,220	Community Clean Up Program (CCU)	Mobilizes and supports community volunteers to identify and restore unsafe and problematic areas through active citizen participation.	CONDITION: Pending receipt of contribution to the Hasting Legacy Reserve
KidSafe Project Society, The	\$23,460	KidSafe Break Programs: Thunderbird and Hastings Elementary Schools	Provides comprehensive services to at-risk children attending Thunderbird and Hastings Elementary schools when they are closed for winter, spring and summer breaks.	CONDITION: Pending receipt of contribution to the Hasting

C

1	2	5	6	7
AGENCY	2021 RECOMMEND	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	COMMENTS & CONDITIONS
				Legacy Reserve
Kiwassa Neighbourhood Services Association	\$45,500	Eastside Youth Wellness	Provides direct outreach and the provision of recreational and social supports to ensure optimal health and engagement of young people.	COMMENT: \$20,000 increase to off-set reduction in core support grant and to ensure continuation of services. CONDITION: Pending receipt of contribution to the Hasting Legacy Reserve
	\$23,460	Community Small Grants	Brings together community members, organizations and businesses to host, produce and support local projects and events in Hastings Sunrise.	CONDITION: Pending receipt of contribution to the Hasting Legacy Reserve
TOTAL = 6	\$142,400			



Office of the Chief Medical Health Officer
Vancouver Coastal Health
Suite 800-601 West Broadway
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4C2

November 4, 2022

Mary Clare Zak, Managing Director of Social Policy
City of Vancouver

In the past two decades the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Coastal Health have developed a close and effective partnership to improve the determinants of health and respond to emerging needs across the city's many neighbourhoods and communities. This has included supporting innovation and leadership in the non-profit sector to better understand and address a range of challenging issues. The health impacts of social isolation and loneliness have recently become one such area of concern where there is a need to both better understand the causes of, and potential responses to, what has been described as a "[Loneliness pandemic](#)". As evidence has emerged the [American National Institute on Aging warns](#) that the heightened risk of mortality from loneliness is equivalent to smoking nearly a pack of cigarettes per day and can reduce lifespan by as much as fifteen years. This is why the [Canadian Mental Health Association has identified social connection](#) as a priority in combating social isolation and loneliness. But how do we foster social connection in Vancouver communities?

VCH has been keenly interested in the work of the Hey Neighbour Collective (HNC) as it seeks to answer this question. Hey Neighbour's applied approach to studying and testing interventions to improve social connection and belonging has shown tremendous potential, and has garnered interest and support from other funders, academics, and community advocates as one of the few efforts focused explicitly on this issue.

We have provided funding to flow through the City's Social Policy team to address emerging needs in the wake of the pandemic, social isolation and belonging being one of them, and fully support the use of the funds to support Hey Neighbours ongoing work in Vancouver communities. The Hey Neighbour Collective's mission supports goals shared by the City and VCH and we encourage those members of Council not already familiar with HNC to learn more about their innovative work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "SOLORZANO". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Juan Solorzano
Executive Director, Population Health
Vancouver Coastal Health

Cc: Michelle Hoar, HeyNeighbour Collective



City of Vancouver
Building Safer Communities Fund Vancouver
Community Based Research Grants or Participatory Action Research Project Grants

The City of Vancouver will be supporting community based research youth projects as part of the Building Safer Communities Program Vancouver.

The City of Vancouver Social Policy & Projects Division is leading a scoping process for the implementation of the Building Safer Communities Program (BSCP) in Vancouver. Funded by Public Safety, BSCF seeks to prevent and address the root causes of youth violence by creating safe spaces and empowering young people and communities to drive solutions that set them up for success. The objective of the BSCP is to support Municipalities and Indigenous (First Nation, Inuit or Metis) governments in their efforts to address gun and gang prevalence within the youth population by providing funding to support community led projects.

BSCP Vancouver is focusing on prevention efforts that promote individual and community well being, safety and belonging in the city. As such, the City of Vancouver will work collaboratively with the non-profit sector, youth and public partners to identify ways to stop youth violence before it starts and identify community responses that effectively prevent its recurrence

As part of the BSCP Vancouver, the City will be developing a Youth Safety and Violence Prevention strategy that will include:

- An assessment of the nature and scope of youth violence in Vancouver;
- Research on protective and resilience factors including effective prevention interventions
- An overview of community based prevention and intervention strategies prioritized for the local context;
- An action plan and funding strategy for delivering prevention initiatives that address the risk factors associated youth violence in the city.

2023 BSCP Youth Community Based Research Grants

Grants of up to \$10,000 will be available for youth groups and / or community stakeholders working with non-profit organizations to implement participatory action research projects aimed to exploring the nature, trends, incidence and prevalence of youth violence in the City, as well as the characteristics of effective community based violence prevention strategies.

Key areas / questions to be explored through the participatory action research projects include:

- *How can we map the connections between youth experiences of violence and broader systems of inequities in the social determinants of health?*
- *What factors are needed to enable a stronger sense of belonging and safety among youth in Vancouver?*
- *How can youth violence prevention program be integrated into broader interventions to support healthy middle-years child development?*
- *Given the diversity of youth in Vancouver, what targeted and culturally specific strategies should be developed to prevent gun and gang violence?*
- *What strategies are needed to prevent child and youth sexual exploitation?*
- *What supports could build capacity for the youth sector to implement effective wraparound service delivery models in Vancouver?*

Eligibility Criteria

- The Lead Organization is a registered non-profit society, community service co-op or social enterprise wholly owned by a non-profit and in good standing with the Registrar of Companies; OR a registered charity, in good standing with the Canadian Revenue Agency; OR a First Nations band.
- The Organization has an independent, active governing body composed of volunteers. No staff member can be a voting member of the Board or Executive.
- The Organization's by-laws must have provisions preventing Board members from being remunerated for serving as directors.
- The organization must demonstrate accommodation, welcoming and openness to people of all ages, abilities, sexual orientation, gender identities (including trans*, gender-variant and two-spirit people), ethnicities, cultural backgrounds, religions, languages, under-represented communities and socio-economic conditions in its policies, practices and programs, except in instances where the exclusion of some group is required for another group to be effectively targeted.
- The Organization shall not act in the capacity of a funding body for, or make grants to, other groups or organizations.
- The Organization must have the demonstrated functional capacity and sufficient financial resources to deliver the services or programs for which funding is sought.

Projects Must:

- Be completed by December 2023
- Have a clear youth engagement strategy embedded in the research
- Demonstrate partnerships with other community organizations.
- Participate in a Community Based Research training session led by the Social Policy Research and Data Team
- Commit to quarterly check ins to report on preliminary findings