

COUNCIL MEMBERS' MOTION

*For consideration at the Standing Committee meeting on Policy and Strategic Priorities
May 6, 2026*

2. Sound Investment: Re-instating the Vancouver Music Fund

Submitted by: Councillor Orr

WHEREAS

1. The Vancouver Music Fund (VMF) has previously provided targeted support to emerging artists, producers, and music businesses through small grants for recording and business development;
2. The VMF has contributed to measurable outcomes including the creation of intellectual property, local employment, and the growth of Vancouver's creative economy;
3. Vancouver City Council has previously endorsed the Vancouver Music Strategy (YVR Music Strategy) and Culture|Shift, which identify music and cultural industries as important contributors to economic development, community well-being, and the city's global identity;
4. There is ongoing interest from the local music sector in the continuation or renewal of programs that support early-stage creative work and industry development;
5. The Vancouver Music Fund has varied in scale and was not established as a permanent program, including a one-time allocation in 2025 associated with the JUNO Awards;
6. Staff have advised that there is currently no identified funding source for the program, and that reinstating it in 2026 would require significant trade-offs and present operational challenges; and
7. Staff have further advised that consideration of the Vancouver Music Fund would be more appropriately aligned with the 2027 operating budget process.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council direct staff to explore options to reinstate or replace the Vancouver Music Fund for consideration as part of the 2027 Operating Budget, including options to restore funding at or above previous levels.
- B. THAT Staff report back with program design options, eligibility criteria, and anticipated outcomes, including alignment with the Vancouver Music Strategy (YVR Music Strategy) and Culture|Shift.

- C. THAT Staff report back on potential funding sources and partnership opportunities, including economic development, tourism-related, cultural funding mechanisms, and opportunities to leverage provincial or federal programs, for consideration during the 2027 budget process.

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