

Community Cultural Development Investment Program

– Fall Intake, 2019

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That Committee of Council approve the following Community Cultural Development applications:

- 1) Project Category:
 - Hyde Creek Watershed Society - \$1,500;
 - Polonez Tri-City Polish Association - \$5,000;
 - Foolish Operations Society - \$5,000;
 - Hope Lutheran Christian School - \$5,000; and
 - Port Coquitlam Heritage and Cultural Society - \$4,788.
- 2) Development Category:
 - Autumn Moon Festival- \$1,600.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL/COMMITTEE ACTION

Council has awarded Community Cultural Development Investment Program grants annually since 2004.

REPORT SUMMARY

An Evaluation Committee comprised of Recreation, Communications and Finance staff has ranked applications for grants from the Community Cultural Development (CCD) Investment Program based on budget, community support, benefit to the community, ability to deliver the project, and project design. The Evaluation Committee recommends awarding six grants, including five in the Project Category and one in the Development Category as summarized in this report.

BACKGROUND

The Community Cultural Development (CCD) Investment Program encourages and supports the development of arts, heritage and cultural activities in Port Coquitlam. It was developed in consultation with the community during the creation of the 2001 Cultural Plan and Policy and is designed to provide financial resources for community groups, organizations and individuals for this purpose.

The Community Cultural Development Investment Program includes three categories:

- Project (April 30 and September 30 deadlines): up to \$5,000 for not-for-profit organizations applying for arts, culture, heritage projects and events.
- Development (April 30 and September 30 deadlines):

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- Professional Individual Program – up to \$1,000 for an individual's professional development;
- Community Initiative Program – up to \$2,500 for new arts, culture and heritage groups, collectives or individuals who do not have not-for-profit status but have projects that serve the community; and,
- Capacity Building Program – up to \$5,000 for strategic development of not-for-profit organizations.
- Operating (April 30 deadline) – up to \$20,000 per year for a three-year term for overall operating costs of well-established non-profit organizations.

Increased promotion of the CCD Investment Program began in 2017. Since 2018, a free grant-writing information session has been offered prior to each application intake to provide an overview of the process for potential applicants and offer tips on completing successful applications. The grant program application forms were updated in January 2018 to integrate festivals and align with *Imagine Port Coquitlam*, the City's Cultural Plan, launched in 2016. The increased promotion and the addition of information sessions have contributed to an increase in the number of successful applications:

- 2016 - four applicants were awarded funding;
- 2017 - eight applicants were awarded funding; and
- 2018 - fourteen applicants were awarded funding.

Staff are currently reviewing the variety of ways that City funds are distributed to individuals, groups and community organizations. A report summarizing the findings will come forward to Committee prior to final budget deliberations. It will include recommendations to improve consistency and clearly outline the process for City funding, in order to address requests from groups and/or for projects that are not currently eligible for funding based on the CCD criteria.

DISCUSSION

The City received a total of six applications in the Project and Development Categories for this intake (2019 Fall). The Evaluation Committee reviewed all of the applications using a checklist and score sheet based on the program criteria clearly outlined in the application package for each grant category. The six applications recommended for funding successfully meet all of the criteria. There is one new applicant, Hope Lutheran Christian School, which is a registered non-profit society, operating in Port Coquitlam, and serving the local community since 1955.

The application summary below provides a brief description of the application, amount requested and recommended grant award.

Project Category

Applicant	Application Description	Request	Recommended
Hyde Creek	The 20 th Annual Hyde Creek Salmon Festival will	\$1,500	\$1,500

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Applicant	Application Description	Request	Recommended
Watershed Society	celebrate the return of salmon to Hyde Creek on November 17, 2019 at the Hatchery and Education Centre. This free family event focuses on salmon enhancement and environmental stewardship of the Hyde Creek watershed through interactive activities, tours, exhibits and displays. The Festival is volunteer led, with approximately 8,000 volunteers hours logged in annually to produce this Festival.		
Polonez Tri-City Polish Association	This year, the Polonez Tri-City Polish Association celebrates its 30 th Anniversary and is planning its 15 th Annual BC Polish Festival on May 24, 2020 in Leigh Square. This Festival celebrates Polish culture and heritage through dance, music, food and art and attracts an estimated 2,000 visitors to downtown Port Coquitlam. The Festival is planning to feature the Polonez Dance Group from Port Coquitlam and the Polish Folk Dance Group from Las Vegas, animating Leigh Square and providing accessible cultural experiences to all ages.	\$5,000	\$5,000
Foolish Operations Society	The Society is planning to offer community dance workshops for families, preschoolers and educators in Port Coquitlam, April, 2020. This project is building on <i>Paper Playground</i> , a dance workshop and performance the Society offered to Port Coquitlam families in the Fall of 2019. 100% of the participants in the last project rated it as excellent with positive comments received: "Loved the interaction with the crowd and appropriate subject matter. An excellent display of arts integration and would love for more opportunities like this. This was an excellent partnership with the city in my mind." The 2020 project engages participants through workshops at community centres and outreach to preschools offering accessible dance experiences to children 0-5 years.	\$5,000	\$5,000
Hope Lutheran Christian School	The Bethlehem Walk is a popular bi-annual tradition taking place at Hope Lutheran Church and School in Port Coquitlam on December 17 and 18, 2019. The project is an interactive theatrical presentation of the Christmas story including art, drama and live music	\$5,000	\$5,000

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Applicant	Application Description	Request	Recommended
	involving more than 100 volunteers and 1,500 participants. The anticipated benefits to the community include providing a free holiday event to families, bringing isolated and under-privileged individuals together during the holiday season and developing positive neighbourhood relationships.		
Port Coquitlam Heritage and Cultural Society	This application is for a specific project that augments the Heritage Society's upcoming exhibit, <i>The "F" Words: Flu, Fire, Flood and Financial Fears</i> , and was not part of their operating budget request. The project, a comic book, will graphically depict Port Coquitlam's early history of Spanish flu, raging fires, devastating flood and financial crash and how the community overcame this adversity. It will highlight the city's passionate resilient spirit and persistence that helped build a prosperous future. This popular graphic novel style makes history more accessible to all ages and can also be used as a colouring book, marketing device and educational tool for visiting school groups. The funding request is for the graphic design and printing so the comic book can be distributed free to visitors of all ages.	\$4,788	\$4,788

Development Category – Community Initiative

Applicant	Community Initiative	Request	Recommended
Autumn Moon Festival produced by Kim Dinh	The 2 nd Annual Autumn Moon Festival celebrates the full moon in the eighth month of the lunar calendar and is inspired by traditional Asian Mid Autumn Moon Festivals. This free festival is family friendly and scheduled to take place in Port Coquitlam on October 3, 2020. Programming includes traditional lantern making and moon cake workshops, storytelling, traditional food, lantern displays, dance and music performances. The funding will pay for production expenses and enable this new festival to develop a marketing plan and professional promotional materials.	\$1,600	\$1,600

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS


The total amount of funding requested by applicants is \$22,888. The Evaluation Committee recommends funding \$22,888 toward the Fall Intake. The total annual budget for the CCD Investment Program is \$45,000 with \$25,000 allocated to the Project and Development Categories and \$20,000 allocated to the Operating Category. Port Coquitlam Heritage and Cultural Society was awarded a \$20,000 Operating Category grant in 2017 for a three year term dispersing \$20,000 in 2017, 2018 and 2019.

As noted, the 2019 approved budget allocation for the Community Cultural Investment Grant Program's Project and Development Categories is \$25,000. On July 9, 2019 Council approved transferring \$20,000 from the Self-Help Matching Grant Program in response to the increase in applications for CCD funding. During the spring intake, \$22,000 was awarded, leaving \$23,000 for this intake:

2019 CCD Grant Annual Funding - Project & Development Categories	\$25,000
2019 Self-Help Matching Grant Transfer of Funds	\$20,000
Total Funding for 2019	\$45,000
2019 CCD Grant Spring Intake Recommended Funding	-\$22,000
Total Funding Available for the 2019 CCD Grant Fall Intake	\$23,000

OPTIONS

(Check = Staff Recommendation)

#	Description
1 	Fund each Community Cultural Development application as recommended by the Evaluation Committee.
2	Fund each organization at a level determined by the Committee of Council
3	Do not fund any of the organizations that requested financial support.

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