

DATE OF MEETING SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

AUTHORED BY LAARA CLARKSON, MANAGER, RECREATION SERVICES,
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

SUBJECT COMMUNITY PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANT – SALISH
STORM HOCKEY

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report

To obtain Council approval of a request for a Community Program Development Grant. |

Recommendation

That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend that Council approve the request from the Salish Storm Hockey Association for a Community Program Development Grant in the amount of \$4,500 to assist in funding the Storm the Ice program.

BACKGROUND

The intent of the Community Program Development Grant is to assist community groups to develop new or expanded programs that provide increased opportunities for residents to participate and connect with community, and to enhance residents' exposure to a variety of experiences.

The grant is intended as seed funding to help get new programs off the ground or to expand existing programs with the hope that the programs become self-sustaining. It is not intended to be long-term operational funding or funding for capital expenditures. A total budget of \$15,000 is available through this fund with applications accepted by November 1 for Spring/Summer programs and May 1 for fall/winter programs, or as funds remain available. |

DISCUSSION

A total of one grant application was received prior to the deadline of 2021-MAY-01 for the intake period for 2021 Fall/Winter programs. This application was brought forward to Council and approved on 2021-JUL-26. The application received from the Salish Storm Hockey Association (Salish Storm) is a late submission and is being considered due to funds remaining available for 2021.

In 2020, Salish Storm was approved for a grant for this program, however, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, they were unable to offer the ice hockey program and pivoted to use the funding for a new ball hockey and in-line hockey programs instead. Now, with restrictions lifting, they are reapplying for this grant to offer the low-barrier ice hockey program.

As outlined in Attachment A, the intention of this program is to engage Indigenous children in a low-barrier hockey program to both introduce the game of ice hockey to children and their families and also continue the development of those already playing the game.

Staff has determined that the application successfully meets all the grant criteria and Staff supports this application.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Each year, a total of \$15,000 is allotted for the Community Program Development Grant fund and a total of \$6,500 has been allocated so far in 2021, with \$8,500 remaining available.

The Salish Storm is requesting \$4,500 in grant funding from the City of Nanaimo to support their low-barrier ice hockey program.

OPTIONS

1. That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend that Council approve the request for a Community Program Development Grant from the Salish Storm Hockey Association in the amount of \$4,500 to assist in funding the Storm the Ice program.
 - The advantages of this option: Meets the goal of helping community groups introduce new programs to increase opportunities for residents to participate and connect in the community.
 - The disadvantages of this option: The application was received past deadline but funds remain available for 2021.
 - Financial Implications: If approved, a balance of \$4,000 would remain available in 2021 for fall/winter programming.
2. That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend that Council deny the Community Program Development Grant application.

SUMMARY POINTS

- Funding of \$15,000 is allocated yearly for Community Program Development Grants.
- The application from the Salish Storm Hockey Association meets all grant criteria.
- The funding will support Salish Storm in funding a new low-barrier ice hockey program for Indigenous children, youth and their families.

ATTACHMENTS:

ATTACHMENT A: Application for the Community Program Development Grant from Salish Storm Hockey Association

ATTACHMENT B: Community Program Development Grant Evaluation Checklist |

Submitted by:

Laara Clarkson
Manager, Recreation Services |

Concurrence by:

Lynn Wark
Director, Recreation and Culture

And by:

Richard Harding
General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture

And by:

Laura Mercer
Director, Finance |