

DATE OF MEETING JUNE 20, 2022

AUTHORED BY JAMIE SLATER, MANAGER, REVENUE SERVICES

SUBJECT CONSIDERATION OF OTHER GRANT APPLICATION

OVERVIEW

Purpose of Report

To bring forward the 'Other Grant' application from the Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association to Council for consideration.

Recommendation

That Council award an 'Other Grant' in the amount of \$5,000 to support the hosting of the 13U AAA Provincials Tournament held in Nanaimo.

BACKGROUND

The City of Nanaimo has been chosen to host the 13U AAA Baseball Provincials, which will take place from 2022-JUL-28 to 2022-AUG-01. The tournament will be hosted by the Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association (NMBA).

Hosting a Provincial tournament takes a large number of volunteers, many hours of organization and planning, and can create significant economic benefits for the Community. The tournament would take place at the Serauxmen fields on Third Street and would have a direct positive impact on Downtown Nanaimo businesses.

Through discussions with the NMBA, it was noted that they have contacted Tourism Nanaimo and the Nanaimo Hospitality Association to inquire about sport event hosting funding. Funding is not available for events that happen in July and August under these programs.

NMBA also reached out to ViaSport, which is funded by the Province of BC and encourages regional, provincial, national and international sport event hosting across the Province. Unfortunately the most recent round of grant applications were taken during January 2022, and NMBA did not know that they would be hosting the Provincials at that time. There are no current funding streams open through ViaSport.

Without funding, the hosting of a large Provincial tournament would be detrimental to the organization's financial health, and could have an impact on whether Nanaimo would be chosen as a future location for Provincial tournaments.

As such, the NMBA is applying under the 'other grants' application as outlined on the City of Nanaimo's website, under the emergency funding category.

DISCUSSION

Usually this type of grant application would go directly to the Finance & Audit Committee for consideration. However, given the urgency of the timeline (because the event would take place within a short time frame), this has been brought to a regular meeting of Council.

In terms of the application and awarding criteria, the 'other grant' criteria are outlined in Attachment A: Grants Policy and Guidelines.

The criteria for awarding other grants includes:

1. Large number of volunteers
2. Registered non-profit society
3. Sound financial and administrative management
4. Demonstrated financial need
5. Accessible to a large portion of the community
6. Broad base of support
7. Other source of financial support
8. Must be local in focus and comply with City of Nanaimo bylaws and policies

The NMBA is primarily a volunteer-run organization. They serve an estimated 650-700 players with approximately 18 volunteer spots on the Board of Directors and 130 community volunteers. They are a registered non-profit society that aims to make baseball accessible to the entire Nanaimo community.

As such, they meet the criteria outlined in City of Nanaimo policy documents.

The grant application has requested \$6,000 of event funding, which is broken down as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Baseball BC Umpires | \$3,000 |
| • Programs/Team Supplies/Medals | \$1,500 |
| • Field Supplies | \$500 |
| • Scorekeepers/concession/workers | <u>\$1,000</u> |
| • Total | <u>\$6,000</u> |

There is currently \$7,000 of 'other grant' funding available for the 2022 calendar year. The existing request would utilize almost all of the 'other grant' budget.

Council does have the ability to award a portion of the costs requested. For example, Council could support the Provincial tournament by covering the required fees for Baseball BC Umpires and field supplies, and programs, etc...but not covering other expenses that could be considered discretionary like fees for scorekeepers and concession workers. |

OPTIONS

1. That Council award an 'Other Grant' in the amount of \$5,000 to support the hosting of the 13U AAA Provincials Tournament held in Nanaimo.
 - **Advantages:**
 - i. The City of Nanaimo could partially support the hosting of a significant Provincial baseball tournament to be held in Nanaimo
 - ii. The Provincials tournament would be held at the Serauxmen Fields located in downtown Nanaimo and would provide economic stimulation for downtown businesses of all types
 - iii. This would utilize \$5,000 of the 'other grants' budget, leaving \$2,000 for other potential future requests for funding
 - **Disadvantages:** This would utilize \$5,000 of \$7,000 of the 'Other Grants' budget.
 - **Financial Implications:** There would be no impact to the financial plan as there are funds currently available in the budget.

2. That Council award an 'Other Grant' in the amount of \$6,000 to support the hosting of the 13U AAA Provincials Tournament held in Nanaimo.
 - **Advantages:**
 - i. The City of Nanaimo would fully support the hosting of a significant Provincial baseball tournament to be held in Nanaimo
 - ii. The Provincials tournament would be held at the Gyro fields located in downtown Nanaimo and would provide economic stimulation for downtown businesses of all types
 - **Disadvantages:** This would utilize \$6,000 of \$7,000 of the 'other grants' budget.
 - **Financial Implications:** There would be no impact to the financial plan as there are funds currently available in the budget.

3. That Council does not award an 'Other Grant' to the Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association.
 - **Advantages:**
 - i. None of the 'Other Grant' funds would be expended, leaving funds available for future applications
 - **Disadvantages:**
 - i. The City would not be supporting the hosting of a Provincial baseball tournament to be held in Nanaimo
 - ii. The Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association would need to reduce the support and activities provided at the Provincials tournament, which could determine whether Nanaimo is chosen as a future location for Provincial tournaments (if there is no support for the events).
 - **Financial Implications:** None

4. That Council provide alternate direction.)]

SUMMARY POINTS

- The Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association is seeking \$6,000 of funding support for the 13U AAA Baseball Provincials
- The Provincials Event would take place from 2022-JUL-28 to 2022-AUG-01
- The application from the Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association is under the 'Other Grants' funding category under emergency funding

ATTACHMENTS:

ATTACHMENT A: Grants Policy and Guidelines

ATTACHMENT B: Application from Nanaimo Minor Baseball Association |

Submitted by:

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Concurrence by:

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