

DATE OF MEETING | MAY 9, 2018 |

AUTHORED BY | MARY SMITH, MANAGER, RECREATION SERVICES  
PARKS AND RECREATION |

SUBJECT | TRAVEL ASSISTANCE GRANT – VANCOUVER ISLAND SPECIAL  
NEEDS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

## **OVERVIEW**

### **Purpose of Report**

To obtain Council approval of a request for a Travel Assistance Grant. |

### **Recommendation**

That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend that Council approve the request for a Travel Assistance Grant from the Vancouver Island Special Needs Hockey Association in the amount of \$900 for eighteen (18) athletes to attend the 2018 Adaptive Hockey Challenge in Kelowna, BC from 2018-MAR-30 to 2018-APR-01.

## **BACKGROUND**

The City of Nanaimo provides a contingency account for amateur sports and cultural groups, and individuals to travel within B.C. (excluding travel on Vancouver Island) and out of province to a Regional, National or International Championship. These funds are available to sports and cultural groups qualifying in Provincial or Regional competitions and the current policy provides \$50 per person to a maximum of \$1,000 per application for travel within B.C. or \$100 per person to a maximum of \$2,000 per application for travel outside of B.C. Requests are considered on a first-come, first-served, basis as funds remain available.

Staff review all Travel Assistance Grant applications and forward the recommendation to the Council for approval.

On 2018-APR-26, staff reviewed a Travel Assistance Grant application submitted by the Vancouver Island Special Needs Hockey Association requesting financial assistance for eighteen (18) athletes to attend the 2018 Adaptive Hockey Challenge that was held in Kelowna, BC during the period of 2018-MAR-30 to 2018-APR-01. Staff determined that this application meets all but two of the grant criteria. Specifically, the two criteria they cannot meet are the need to qualify at a provincial, regional, or national level and the need to be attending a regional, provincial, or national championship. The team consists of adults and youth with developmental disabilities and as such, there is no league and this invitational tournament is the only tournament available to them. Staff believes the opportunity to have this team represent Nanaimo at this tournament merits extra consideration and recommend that Council approve the application. |

## **OPTIONS**

1. That the Finance and Audit Committee recommend that Council approve the request for a Travel Assistance Grant from the Vancouver Island Special Needs Hockey Association in the amount of \$900 for eighteen (18) athletes to attend the 2018 Adaptive Hockey Challenge in Kelowna, BC from 2018-MAR-30 to 2018-APR-01.
  - **Budget Implication:** To date there have been \$1,000 allocated or pending from the 2018 Travel Grant Contingency Funds. If the above travel grant of \$900 is approved, \$5,600 will remain available for any additional 2018 travel grant requests.
  - **Engagement Implication:** Promotes excellence in sports and culture.
2. Deny the Travel Assistance Grant application.
  - **Budget Implication:** To date there have been \$1,000 allocated or pending from the 2018 Travel Grant Contingency Funds. If the above travel grant of \$900 is denied, \$6,500 will remain available for any additional 2018 travel grant requests.

## **SUMMARY POINTS**

- Funds are allocated yearly for Travel Assistance Grants.
- The group applying does not meet two of the required criteria as there are no championships available for the group to compete in.
- To date there has been \$1,000 allocated or pending from the 2018 Travel Grants Contingency Funds and \$6,500 remains available for 2018 travel grant requests.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Travel Assistance Grant Application  
Travel Assistance Evaluation Form

### **Submitted by:**

Mary Smith  
Manager, Recreation Services

### **Concurrence by:**

Richard Harding  
Director, Parks and Recreation