

MINUTES
FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE STANDING COMMITTEE

Held at Saanich Municipal Hall, Committee Room # 2
770 Vernon Avenue

Monday, March 11, 2024, at 10 a.m.

Present: Councillor Susan Brice (Chair), Councillor Teale Phelps Bondaroff, Councillor Nathalie Chambers, Councillor Karen Harper, Mayor Dean Murdock (10:05 a.m.)

Staff: Paul Arslan, Director of Finance; Jennifer Lockhart, Senior Manager of Financial Services; and Tara Judge, Executive Assistant to the CAO

MINUTES FOR ADOPTION

MOVED by Councillor Karen Harper and Seconded by Councillor Teale Phelps Bondaroff: “That the minutes of the Finance and Governance Standing Committee meeting held October 30, 2023, be adopted as circulated.”

CARRIED

2024 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES GRANTS AND COMMUNITY BUILDING GRANTS

A report from the Director of Finance dated March 1, 2024, was presented along with the list of grant applications.

Councillor Brice detailed the process of reviewing grant applications, allocating dollar amounts and providing a recommendation to Council as to which applications to fund. The goal for grant funding is to recommend dollars that meet our strategic objectives and within available budget. A reminder that grants we provide are to be municipally focused.

Requests for funding in 2024 amounts to \$446,729; the budget available for both the Strategic Priorities and Community Building Grants for 2024 is \$202,080.

A Motion from the March 7, 2024, Council session was to direct the Finance and Governance Standing Committee to discuss options for increasing the grant allocation funding in the future. This will be added to a future Committee agenda, before the 2025 fiscal year budget guidelines are finalized.

Individual motions will not be made after review of each item. The Senior Manager, Financial Services will keep a running tally for the Committee to conduct a final review at the end, at which time a formal motion with a recommendation of grant approvals to Council will be made.

Recommendation that the Arts, Culture and Community Wellbeing Advisory Committee and the Sustainability and Climate Action Advisory Committee chairs each bring back to their committees a discussion regarding opportunities for farmer markets in the District of Saanich and how these are related to food security and promoting healthier, more livable communities.

Request that staff discuss with the Saanich Communications team the possibility of sharing any social media posts or insert into Saanich newsletters the various events or activities identified by grant applicants; specifically those related to food security events or farmers markets.

Discussion regarding the receipt of grant applications from groups of a medical or health-related nature that are not municipal government funded activities. Concern that insufficient provincial funding appears to be available for various health-related groups. Possible topic for a Councillor to bring forward as a discussion at AVICC or UBCM as not specific to just Saanich.

GRANT TYPE	Amount Requested This Year	Amount Recommended for Approval
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES GRANTS		
676 Kittyhawk Sponsoring Committee Society (on behalf of 676 Kittyhawk Air Cadet Squadron)	\$2,000	\$0
Bike Victoria Society O/A Capital Bike	\$3,325	\$2,000
Capital Region Food and Agriculture Initiatives Roundtable	\$15,000	\$12,590
Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria	\$50,000	\$12,490
Creatively United for the Planet Society	\$3,000	\$2,800
Crisis Intervention & Public Info Society of GV-Need 2 Suicide Prevention	\$10,000	\$5,000
Esquimalt Farmers Market Society	\$10,000	\$0
Greater Victoria Sports Tourism Commission*	\$0	\$0
Greater Victoria Visitors & Convention Bureau (Destination Greater Victoria)	\$15,000	\$15,000
Greater Victoria Volunteer Society (Volunteer Victoria)	\$10,000	\$10,000
KidSport Greater Victoria	\$10,000	\$0
LifeCycles Project Society	\$20,000	\$18,000
Peninsula Streams Society	\$30,000	\$25,000
PKOLS - Mount Douglas Conservancy	\$3,850	\$3,850
Prospect Lake Preservation Society	\$28,569	\$0
Saanich Marine Rescue Society	\$10,800	\$5,000
Saanich Neighbourhood Place	\$70,000	\$25,000
Shelbourne Community Kitchen Society	\$20,000	\$15,000
South Island Farmers Institute	\$9,735	\$0
STEM Camp	\$5,100	\$0
Take a Hike Foundation	\$10,000	\$2,000
The Rithet's Bog Conservation Society	\$1,100	\$1,100
Vancouver Island South Film & Media Commission	\$60,000	\$30,000
Victoria Brain Injury Society	\$5,000	\$0
Victoria Sexual Assault Centre	\$5,000	\$0
Victoria Native Friendship Centre	\$10,000	\$2,500
SUBTOTAL: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES GRANTS	\$417,479	\$187,330

GRANT TYPE	Amount Requested This Year	Amount Recommended for Approval
COMMUNITY WELL-BEING AND PLACE-MAKING PROJECTS GRANTS		
No applications received under this grant stream	\$0	\$0
COMMUNITY EVENTS GRANTS		
Bike Victoria Society O/A Capital Bike	\$1,750	\$1,750
Gorge Tillicum Community Association	\$7,500	\$7,500
Greater Victoria Sport Tourism Commission*	\$2,500	\$2,500
Humanity in Motion Society dba SOWCOOL.org	\$7,500	\$0
Rep Here in Canada	\$5,000	\$0
Victoria and Vancouver Island Greek Community Society	\$5,000	\$3,000
SUBTOTAL: COMMUNITY EVENTS GRANTS	\$29,250	\$14,750
TOTALS – ALL GRANT TYPES		
	\$446,729	\$202,080
TOTAL GRANTS BUDGET AVAILABLE		
	\$202,080	\$202,080
FUNDS STILL AVAILABLE		
		\$0

*Greater Victoria Sports Tourism Commission applied under the Strategic Priorities Grant stream in 2023 and in 2024 applied under the Community Building Grant stream.

Following the review of the grant applications the following motion was made:

MOVED by Councillor Chambers and seconded by Councillor Harper: “That the Finance and Governance Standing Committee advance their recommendations for grant funding totaling \$202,080 to Council.”

CARRIED

GOWARD HOUSE SOCIETY FUNDING REQUEST

The Director of Finance presented the Goward House Society Funding Request report dated February 28, 2024.

The report outlined the reduced revenues were due to the impact of COVID-19. Financial support would be provided as a one-time funding from the COVID-19 Restart Grant.

MOVED by Councillor Phelps Bondaroff and seconded by Councillor Harper: “That the Finance and Governance Standing Committee recommends a one-time funding of \$10,000 to the Goward House Society from the COVID-19 Restart Grant.”

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Susan Brice

Chair

I hereby certify these Minutes are accurate.

Tara Judge

Tara Judge, Executive Assistant to the CAO