

NO: R077

COUNCIL DATE: May 6, 2024

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **April 30, 2024**

FROM: **General Manager, Finance**

FILE: **1850-20**

SUBJECT: **Council Initiatives Funding Request – UNITY**

RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. Approve a funding contribution of \$8,000 from the Council Initiatives Fund in support of UNITY's annual Celebrating You event to be held on May 16, 2024.

INTENT

The City received a funding request from UNITY for their annual event "Celebrating You" to be held on May 16, 2024 in Surrey.

DISCUSSION

UNITY is a collaboration between three societies: Semiahmoo House Society, The Semiahmoo Foundation and Peninsula Estates Housing Society. UNITY's non-profit mission revolves around delivering community and employment services to individuals with disabilities and their families, while also providing affordable and inclusive housing solutions in Surrey and White Rock. Since 2010, UNITY's Wise Employment Solutions has been dedicated to offering a comprehensive suite of support services, including pre-employment skills, job-specific and short-term training, job search support, on-the-job coaching, and job maintenance.

UNITY hosts an annual event, "Celebrating You", to celebrate and facilitate youth and adults with intellectual disabilities who have obtained and sustained meaningful employment in the community. UNITY is requesting that the City consider supporting this annual event by providing a funding contribution of \$8,000 to offset costs of catering, equipment rental and honorariums to guest speakers and volunteers.

FUNDING

Staff have evaluated the current request to ensure it is compliant with the Council Initiatives Fund Utilization Policy. Staff recommend that Council support UNITY's annual event, Celebrating You, through a funding contribution of \$8,000 from the Council Initiatives Fund.

Appendix "I" attached to this report documents the balance in the Council Initiatives Fund based on an assumption that Council will approve the recommendations of this report.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council approve from the Council Initiatives Fund, a funding contribution of \$8,000 in support of UNITY's annual Celebrating You event to be held on May 16, 2024.

Kam Grewal
CFO/General Manager
Finance

Appendix "I": Council Initiatives Fund – Allocations for 2024

Appendix “I”



2024 FINANCIAL PLAN COUNCIL INITIATIVES

| Description | Amount | Allocation to date | Remaining |
|---|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Carried Forward from Prior Year | 240,000 | | |
| 2024 Proposed Budget | <u>260,000</u> | | \$ 500,000 |
| Surrey Hospitals Foundation - Celebration of Care Gala | | 12,500 | |
| SFU President's Surrey Community Mixer | | 5,000 | |
| Immigrant Link Centre Society | | 5,000 | |
| Princess Margaret Secondary School - LeoCraft Design Team | | 15,000 | |
| Balsar Community Foundation - Run Surrey Run | | 20,000 | |
| Penmar Community Arts Society - Salmon Sessions Music Festival (Proposed) | | 15,000 | |
| Surrey Pride Society - Rainbow Gala and Awards Night (Proposed) | | 4,000 | |
| UNITI - Celebrating You (Proposed) | | 8,000 | |
| Allocations for 2024 | | <u>\$ 84,500</u> | <u>\$ 415,500</u> |