

NO: R069

COUNCIL DATE: April 11, 2022

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## REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **April 7, 2022**

FROM: **General Manager, Finance**

FILE: **1850-20**

SUBJECT: **Late City Grant Application – The Blue Eagle Community Cadet Youth Project**

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## RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. Approve funding in the amount of \$3,000 from the 2022 unallocated City Grants (One-Time) Budget in support of The Blue Eagle Community Cadet Youth Project.

## BACKGROUND

At its Regular meeting on December 22, 2021, Council adopted the recommendations of Corporate Report No. F004; 2021 City Grants for 2022. Since that time, the City has received a late grant application request from the Metro Vancouver Transit Police (the “MVTP”) to support the Blue Eagle Community Cadet Youth Project. This report will address this request.

## DISCUSSION

The MVTP, in collaboration with the Surrey Youth Probation Office of the Ministry of Child and Family Development (the “MCFD”) and the Surrey RCMP Youth Section, is expanding the delivery of an Indigenous-focused youth initiative entitled the Blue Eagle Community Cadet Youth Project (the “Project”) to Surrey. The project is currently being operated in East Vancouver for youth between the ages of 12 and 15 and focuses on building leadership skills while learning about Indigenous culture and policing. Due to its success in Vancouver, the MCFD approached the MVTP to enquire as to the possibility of launching a similar initiative in Surrey.

The Project will be targeting Indigenous youth aged 12 to 15 years who are vulnerable to being recruited into the street gang lifestyle, or those who are likely to come into conflict with the law. The objective is to provide these youth with guidance, leadership skills, and cultural awareness while reinforcing positive life choices. While not exclusively for Indigenous youth, the Project will seek to recruit youth identifying with this demographic and incorporate Indigenous knowledge through program elements. It will also serve as an avenue for young people to form positive relationships with community justice partners and increase their pursuit of similar careers. The objective of this project is to foster positive relationships between the police, the youth, and the communities within the city. Youth participants that exhibit leadership skills will

be able to assist adult team leaders with the delivery of the program, and in turn, become role models among their peers and in the community.

The Surrey-based Project will engage participants one day per week during the critical after-school period. Each weekly session will begin with a Talking Circle where a land acknowledgment is expressed, an Indigenous prayer song is sung, and everyone is provided with an opportunity to talk. Participants will be involved in various activities such as team-building exercises and sports games. A special night will be planned monthly, such as a pizza night, movie night, or a guest lecturer. Once every two months, a community initiative will be organized in which the youth will become engaged in the community by performing a clean-up, assisting elders, or helping with organizing a community event.

The MVTP is seeking a funding contribution of \$10,000 from the City to cover the costs of uniforms, meals, and activities for youth participants. The Grants Evaluation Committee has evaluated this request and has determined that a grant of \$3,000 would be reasonable in the context of similar requests that the City has received from other organizations for which the City has provided financial assistance. It is further recommended that this grant be provided from the unallocated City Grants (One-Time) Budget.

### **Statement of Remaining Funding in the 2022 Grants Budget**

Should Council approve the Grants Evaluation Committee's recommendation, Appendix "I" outlines the remaining balances for the 2022 City Grants Budget.

### **SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

The recommendations of this report support the objectives of the City's Sustainability Charter 2.0. In particular, the recommendation relates to Sustainability Charter themes of Inclusion and the following Desired Outcomes ("DO's"):

- Inclusion DO1: Surrey welcomes, includes, embraces and values the diversity of people who live here;
- Inclusion DO2: Surrey is a caring and compassionate city that learns about and supports its residents of all backgrounds, demographics and life experiences;
- Inclusion DO7: Surrey's Urban Aboriginal community is thriving with high educational outcomes, meaningful employment and opportunities for cultural connections; and
- Inclusion DO24: Surrey has a strong social infrastructure that supports the needs of its diverse and growing population.

### **CONCLUSION**

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council approve a grant in the amount of \$3,000 from the 2022 unallocated City Grants (One-time) in support of The Blue Eagle Community Cadet Youth Project.

Kam Grewal, CPA, CMA  
General Manager, Finance

Appendix "I": City Grants – 2022 Allocations



## CITY GRANTS - 2022 ALLOCATIONS

Description	Unallocated Balance
<b>Grants for Property Taxes</b>	
Adopted Budget	\$ 5,000
<b>Available for Future Allocation</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
<b>Grants for Dry Grads</b>	
Adopted Budget	\$ 4,500
Ecole Panorama Ridge Secondary	(250)
Princess Margaret Secondary	(250)
Kwantlen Park Secondary	(250)
Semiahmoo Secondary	(250)
<b>Available for Future Allocation</b>	<b>\$ 3,500</b>
<b>Grants for Special Recognition</b>	
Adopted Budget	\$ 5,000
<b>Available for Future Allocation</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>
<b>Grants (One-Time)</b>	
Adopted Budget	\$ 83,000
Allocations to date (Corporate Report No. F004; 2021)	(80,000)
Metro Vancouver Transit Police (Proposed)	(3,000)
<b>Available for Future Allocation</b>	<b>\$ -</b>