

NO: R130

COUNCIL DATE: July 24, 2023

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **July 20, 2023**

FROM: **General Manager, Finance**

FILE: **1850-20**

SUBJECT: **Council Initiatives Funding Request - Homelessness Services Association of British Columbia Annual Conference**

RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. Approve from the Council Initiatives Fund, a sponsorship contribution of \$2,000 to support the Surrey tour portion of the 2023 Homelessness Services Association of British Columbia (“HSABC”) Annual conference to be held from September 27 to 29, 2023.

INTENT

HSABC has forwarded a request to the City of Surrey to provide a sponsorship for its annual conference to be held from September 27 to 29, 2023 at the Radisson Hotel, Richmond.

BACKGROUND

HSABC is a solution-focused, member driven non-profit organization that supports shelters, drop-in centres, outreach teams, and other organizations addressing homelessness across British Columbia. HSABC’s mission is to unify, support, and strengthen homelessness services through training, coordination, networking, program implementation, research, and advocacy.

DISCUSSION

HSABC’s annual conference is a three-day capacity building event designed to improve quality of care, support health and wellness and strengthen the homelessness serving sector through a variety of program elements. This year’s conference themes will focus on professional development, peer perspectives and social justice issues. In addition to powerful keynote speakers, workshops, panel presentations, dialogue sessions, and networking opportunities, the 2023 HSABC Annual Conference will also feature a social enterprise and resource market, onsite cultural supports, self care practitioners, indigenous performances, documentary screenings, and tours to enhance event experiences. HSABC will be hosting one tour with the City of Surrey. This

guided tour will include site visits across the housing continuum and will allow conference attendees to learn more about successful approaches to addressing homelessness in Surrey. HSABC is requesting the City of Surrey provide a sponsorship contribution of \$2,000 to support the Surrey tour portion of the 2023 annual conference. Full details of the conference program are attached in Appendix "I".

FUNDING

Staff have evaluated the current request to ensure it is compliant with the Council Initiatives Fund Utilization Policy. Staff recommend that Council support the HSABC 2023 Annual Conference by providing a sponsorship contribution of \$2,000 from the Council Initiatives Fund. Appendix "II" 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 sponsorship contribution of \$2,000 to support the Surrey tour portion of the 2023 HSABC Annual Conference to be held from September 27 to 29, 2023.

Kam Grewal, CMA, CPA
General Manager, Finance

Appendix "I": Program Details – 2023 HSABC Annual Conference
Appendix "II": Council Initiatives – Allocations for 2023

Conference Program

Program Day 1 – Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Time	Session
8:15 - 9:15 AM	Breakfast Buffet
9:15 - 9:45 AM	Conference Welcome
9:45 - 10:35 AM	Keynote with Angela Marie MacDougall Director, Battered Women’s Support Services Association
10:35 - 11:00 AM	Coffee Break
11:00 - 12:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions:
	<p>Intersectional and Anti-Oppression Approaches to Ending Gender Violence - Rosa Elena Arteaga, BWSS, Director of Clinical Practice and Direct Services</p> <p><i>This Anti-Racism, Anti-Oppression and Ending Gender Violence workshop intends to deepen the application of an anti-racism and anti-oppression framework in the frontline work of women’s and inclusive organizations. Participants will learn to recognize both individual and systemic racism while building skills to help reduce barriers to quality anti-violence services and programs.</i></p> <p>Introduction to Indigenous Cultural Safety - Samantha Jack, Len Pierre Consulting, Consultant</p> <p><i>This session will seek to examine the emergence of Indigenous Cultural Safety (ICS) in relationship to Reconciliation and equity-oriented approaches to client support. Conversations will dive into the purpose and significance of ICS as a structural initiative to mitigate harm. Additionally, examining the relationship between colonialism and state violence against Indigenous peoples and its implications for Indigenous cultural safety today. The intention of this workshop is to share knowledge with attendees in a meaningful way that will support the amazing work that frontline workers do.</i></p> <p>Seniors Homelessness in BC Panel</p> <p><i>The increasing number of seniors experiencing homelessness presents unique challenges for BC’s aging population as well as for health, housing, and community services providers. This panel will outline research on promising practices around delivering housing and services to older persons experiencing homelessness in Metro Vancouver as well as perspectives from peers and service providers about what does and does not work.</i></p>
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00 PM	Keynote with Shelley Joseph Ladders to Kindness, Owner & Lead Trainer
2:15 - 3:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions:
2:15 - 3:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions:
	<p>Winter Extreme Weather Response Program Dialogue</p> <p><i>This session will offer opportunities to join round table discussions about Winter Extreme Weather Response Programming in BC. Explore community, regional, and provincial perspectives while reflecting on findings from BC Housing’s Strategic Review of the Winter EWR Program.</i></p> <p>Indigenous Leadership in Rural and Remote Communities</p> <p><i>A panel discussion with Indigenous-led organizations and First Nations communities that are tackling some critical issues related to homelessness, including encampments, harm reduction and access to justice.</i></p> <p>The Foster Kid Survival Guide</p> <p><i>Hip Hop Artist, Youth Worker, and Former Foster Kid: Bryant Doradea aka “HK” details his experiences growing up on the streets and eventually working on the Frontline with at-risk youth. His workshop promotes trauma recovery, trauma informed practice, and insight into the darkness we must traverse in order to get back to the light!</i></p>
3:30 - 4:00 PM	Coffee Break
4:00 - 4:45 PM	Fireside Chat with BC Coalition to End Youth Homelessness
5:00 - 7:00 PM	Social Reception
	<p><i>Join us for this social hour and enjoy a full reception menu while networking with other conference participants in the pre-function area. Return to the ballroom to experience a powerful opening by Spoken Word and Hip Hop artist, Bryant Doradea followed by Indigenous dance and story telling performances by The Dancers of Damelahamid.</i></p>

Program Day 2 – Thursday, September 28, 2023

Time	Session
8:30 - 9:15 AM	Breakfast Buffet
9:15 - 9:45 AM	Morning Welcome
9:45 - 12:15 PM	<p>Concurrent Sessions:</p> <p>Introduction to Mental Health First Aid - Donna Bonertz, CCDP, Employment & Rehabilitation Coordinator, New View Society</p> <p><i>Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) is the help provided to a person developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. Just as physical first aid is administered to an injured person before treatment can be obtained, MHFA is given until appropriate treatment is found or until the crisis has been resolved. Join this introductory workshop to learn how to recognize signs & symptoms and gain practical skills to support those experiencing mental health issues.</i></p> <p>Introduction to Anti-Oppressive De-Escalation Skills - Randene Wejr, Executive Director, Turning Points</p> <p><i>In this workshop, participants will explore ways to center clients and help them in ways that don't perpetuate or exasperate power inequities. This session will offer opportunities to work through realistic scenarios and learn how to self-regulate, hold space for clients that may be displaying aggressive behaviours, and de-escalate intense situations.</i></p> <p>Trans Inclusion for Low Barrier Services - Sara Gill, meaningful Inclusion Project Lead, Saal Sexual Violence Support Centre</p> <p><i>This workshop addresses the specific considerations that might arise for trans inclusion in low barrier services and aims to build on skills and strengths that frontline workers already have, using specialised scenarios and accessible tools to increase trans clients' safety. The audience for this is typically frontline workers, SRO workers and mental health and addiction workers.</i></p>
10:00 - 2:30 PM	<p>Tour:</p> <p>Vancouver Tour</p> <p><i>Join this tour to learn more about innovative approaches to addressing homelessness in Vancouver. This guided 4-hour tour will include site visits across the housing continuum.</i></p> <p>Surrey Tour</p> <p><i>Join this tour to learn more about innovative approaches to addressing homelessness in Surrey. This guided 4-hour tour will include site visits across the housing continuum.</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Please note: Tour spaces are limited, offsite lunch is provided.</i></p>
12:15 - 1:15 PM	Lunch
1:15 - 2:30 PM	<p>Concurrent Sessions:</p> <p>In the Service of Hope: Centering Lived Expertise in Peer Support Worker Training - Jonathan Orr, Project Manager, BC Campus</p> <p><i>This workshop will highlight the importance of peers in the homelessness serving sector and provide practical tools for peer engagement, support, and training.</i></p> <p>Community Safety with Peers Not Police - Summer-Rain, Manager, Direct Services & Indigenous Women's Program, BIVSS</p> <p><i>This session will highlight critical community-based alternatives to police through peer led outreach. Hear from those on the frontlines of the anti-violence movement leading grassroots initiatives that support safety, interventions, and connections with women and gender-diverse individuals who have experienced violence.</i></p> <p>By Us For Us</p> <p><i>This powerful panel discussion will highlight calls to action from the first of its kind, By Us For Us report. This unique Needs and Risks Assessment of Sex Workers in the Lower Mainland and Southern Vancouver Island, examines intersecting oppressions, risks, support needs, and strengths to ensure the voices of sex workers are uplifted in the right way. This session will support a deeper understanding of peer perspectives and outline recommendations to enhance health and security through safe work environments.</i></p>
2:30 - 3:00 PM	Coffee Break

Program Day 2 – Thursday, September 28, 2023

3:00 - 4:00 PM	<p>Concurrent Sessions:</p> <p>"This is what my spirit needed": Pathways to Housing & Healing Developed with the Indigenous Street Family on Vancouver Island - Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi, Executive Director, and Julia O'Quinn Equity Programming & Research Manager, ACEHS</p> <p><i>Based on 5+ years of story gathering with the Indigenous Street Family on Vancouver Island, the Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness Society (ACEH) has developed culturally supportive housing, programs, and services toward ending Indigenous homelessness. With ongoing evaluation demonstrating promise in this practice, the ACEH looks to share knowledge and its Dual Model of Housing Care practice to inform systems-level transformation. These offerings continue to support Indigenous peoples across the housing continuum in Our Way - serving the youngest to the oldest, inclusive of our relatives with experience of substance use, gender-based violence, incarceration, foster care, 2SLGBTQIA+ based discrimination, and colonial harm.</i></p> <p>Grief and Loss: Bereavement Training for Professionals</p> <p><i>This session will explore models of grief and griever styles, organizational/community grief, workplace loss, and death in the workplace. Participants will gain a better understanding of the impacts of primary and secondary losses and develop strategies for healing.</i></p> <p>Mobile Primary Care: Meeting Needs in Community</p> <p><i>This session will feature new programming that reduces barriers to critical primary care services through mobile outreach. Join guest speakers from The Vancouver Aboriginal Health Society (VAHS) to learn more about how the new mobile health unit van teams doctors, nurses and social workers with Indigenous knowledge keepers, elders, and healers provide care from an Indigenous perspective to vulnerable women in community.</i></p> <p>Low Barrier Home Supports in Community Settings - Mariner Janes, FAHST Home Support Team Manager, Vancouver Coastal Health</p> <p><i>The Flexible Adaptable Home Support Team (FAHST) is a new low-barrier Home Support team in Vancouver Community. FAHST home support workers are trained to offer trauma-informed, culturally safe services through a harm reduction lens. This presentation will outline an alternative Home Support model of care designed to offer flexible and consistent services to those with complex needs in community.</i></p>
4:15 - 5:00 PM	<p>Keynote with Len Pierre CEO, Len Pierre Consulting</p>
5:00 - 7:00 PM	<p>Social Reception - Game Night</p> <p><i>Get ready to put that collection of random facts to good use and compete for prizes at our games night reception. Fuel up for fun with a full reception menu, network with other conference participants in the pre-function area then head to the ballroom for trivia night. Choose a team of those you know or connect with a new table of knowledge keepers and take home the win!</i></p>

Program Day 3 – Friday, September 29, 2023

Time	Session
8:30 - 9:15 AM	Breakfast Buffet
9:15 - 9:45 AM	Morning Welcome
9:45 - 10:35 AM	Keynote with Dr. Christy Sutherland Medical Director, PHS Community Services
10:35 - 11:00 AM	Coffee Break
11:00 - 12:00 PM	Concurrent Sessions: In From the Cold, Community Perspectives on Rural Homelessness <i>This exciting session will feature the film In From the Cold, which invites viewers into the worlds of those experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity on Salt Spring Island. After the screening, residents and service providers from the film will host a panel discussion about the unique challenges and opportunities in rural communities.</i> Implementation of Complex Care Housing throughout BC <i>A panel discussion highlighting the different implementations of Complex Care Housing across the province and sharing promising practices that might be applicable across the Homelessness Services and Health sectors.</i> Sex Work Laws, Rights and Supports: Effectively Meeting the Needs of Sex Workers <i>This workshop will review sex work stigma, laws, criminalization, rights and provincial resources with the goal of reducing barriers to services within your organization and/or community.</i>
12:15 - 1:15 PM	Lunch
1:20 - 2:20 PM	Concurrent Sessions: Call For Action: Land Back <i>Join Kanahus Manuel and the Tiny House Warriors Movement as they share their mission to resist the Trans Mountain pipeline's encroachment on unceded Secwepemc Territory. Discover how ten strategically placed tiny houses along the pipeline route assert Secwepemc Law and jurisdiction, blocking pipeline access while providing housing to Secwepemc families affected by deliberate colonial impoverishment. Learn about their vision of re-establishing village sites and asserting authority over their unceded Territories.</i> Call For Action: Stop the Sweeps <i>Join the movement to halt the unjust practice of street sweeps in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Through narratives recounting experiences of harassment, intimidation, and the heartbreaking loss of personal belongings, Stop The Sweeps campaign sheds light on the pressing imperative to safeguard the dignity of unhoused individuals and ignite transformative empowerment within the Downtown Eastside community.</i>
2:20 - 3:00 PM	Keynote with Light The Way Youth Homelessness Conference Leaders

Appendix “II”



2023 FINANCIAL PLAN COUNCIL INITIATIVES

Description	Amount	Allocation to date	Remaining
Carried Forward from Prior Year	240,000		
2023 Proposed Budget	260,000		\$ 500,000
SFU Share the Vibe Community Mixer		5,000	
The Realistic Success Society		5,000	
Rotary District 5050		10,000	
KidSport BC Surrey Chapter		3,000	
Run Surrey Run		20,000	
Desi-Q Cultural Gala - Sher Vancouver		2,500	
U19 Ukranian Women's Junior Softball Team		5,000	
RCMP Musical Ride		6,000	
Gone Country, Here for the Cure		10,000	
Surrey Fiesta Extravaganza		10,000	
Anti-Racism Forum & Art Exhibition - PICS (Proposed)		10,000	
Homelessness Services Association of BC - Annual Conference (Proposed)		2,000	
Allocations for 2023		\$ 88,500	\$ 411,500