

NO: R077

COUNCIL DATE: April 12, 2010

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **April 1, 2010**

FROM: **General Manager, Parks, Recreation
and Culture** FILE: **1850-20**

SUBJECT: **Grant Application - UBCM Age Friendly Community Planning & Project
Program**

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Department recommends that Council:

1. Endorse an application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) for a grant of \$20,000 under the UBCM ***Age Friendly Community Planning & Project Program*** for the purpose of planning and developing a Seniors' Resource and Referrals hub in Fleetwood Community Centre that would provide services to seniors and older adults across the City; and
2. Authorize the City Clerk to forward a copy of this report and the related Council resolution to the UBCM, to the Focus on Seniors' Committee of Council, to the Surrey Seniors Planning Table and to the Social Planning Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND

In February 2010 the Parks Recreation & Culture Department in consultation with the Seniors' Planning Table – North submitted a grant application to the UBCM under the ***Age Friendly Community Planning & Project Program*** for \$20,000 to facilitate the planning and development of a Seniors' Resource and Referrals Hub in the Fleetwood Community Centre that would provide services to seniors and older adults on a citywide basis. The grant application has been approved in principle by the UBCM who have requested that Council provide a resolution that demonstrates Council support for the project.

DISCUSSION

Staff is working collaboratively with the Surrey Seniors' Planning Table and Come Share Society to facilitate a central site (hub) at the Fleetwood Community Centre where seniors and their families can access community resources and information that support and facilitate seniors "aging in place".

This initiative will provide seniors with an enhanced opportunity to continue to live an independent, healthy and active life. The proposed resource and referral hub will increase the opportunity for seniors and their families to be aware of and access programs, services and support systems for seniors. The hub will also include opportunities for seniors to volunteer their time to support the hub, which supports the “Seniors helping seniors” concept. The Come Share Society is also partnering in this project by providing training and information for volunteers who will in turn provide services to the community through the Fleetwood Seniors Resource and Referral Hub. The Seniors’ Planning Table – North intends to place a focus on seniors’ housing as part of this project with a view to better communicating to seniors and their family’s information about seniors housing options and opportunities.

CONCLUSION

The Seniors’ Resource and Referral Hub will provide valuable information and services to seniors in support of healthy and active aging in place and will also provide an opportunity for seniors to become involved in the project as volunteers or facilitators. This project represents another opportunity for the City of Surrey to support and partner with the Seniors’ Planning Table in developing new supports for seniors and older adults across the City.

Laurie Cavan
General Manager
Parks, Recreation and Culture