

NO: F019

COUNCIL DATE: July 11, 2011

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## FINANCE COMMITTEE

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **June 28, 2011**

FROM: **General Manager, Finance & Technology**

FILE: **1850-20**

SUBJECT: **2011 Late Grant Applications – 5988 – 184 Street**

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## RECOMMENDATION

The Finance & Technology Department recommends that the Finance Committee recommend that Council approve a grant of \$2,200 to Guru Teg Bahadur Welfare Society to assist in off-setting part of the 2011 property taxes payable for the property the Society owns at 5988 – 184 Street, which is illustrated on the air photo attached as Appendix “A” to this report.

## BACKGROUND

On December 13, 2010, the Finance Committee approved the City’s “One Time” Grants for 2011. Since that time, the City has received a late grant application from Guru Teg Bahadur Welfare Society for financial assistance to assist in off-setting the property taxes that are payable for the property the Society owns at 5988 – 184 Street as illustrated on Appendix “A” attached to this report.

## DISCUSSION

The “Policy on City Grants” (D26) provides that late grant applications will only be considered in instances where the requirement for grant funds was not reasonably foreseeable prior to September 30<sup>th</sup> of the immediately preceding year (i.e., the deadline date by which grant requests are to be submitted to the City for the following year) and if the requirement for funding is critical to the survival of the organization or the event.

The Guru Teg Bahadur Welfare Society operates a Sikh worship temple on the subject property, which is located in Cloverdale. This is the first Sikh temple in Cloverdale and has a congregation of over 250 people attending on a weekly basis.

The City on an annual basis provides under its legislated authority permissive property tax exemptions for places of worship in Surrey. The Society’s property was not included in the list of 2011 permissive property tax exemptions due to an ownership change that took place on November 15, 2010, which was after the deadline for inclusion on the list. The Society has since applied for a City grant to assist in off-setting the 2011 property taxes payable for the subject property. The total property taxes for the property for 2011 are \$13,386.75 of which \$6,303.49 is the City’s portion.

The Grants Evaluation Committee has reviewed the application and has determined that it meets the grant evaluation criteria. In consideration of the amount that remains in the Grants Budget for 2011, the Grants Evaluation Committee is recommending that a grant of \$2,200 be provided to the Society for the purpose of assisting with the payment of the 2011 property taxes for the subject property.

***Statement of Remaining Funding in the 2011 Grants Budget:***

Should Council approve the Grants Evaluation Committee recommendation, the following is a summary of remaining balances in the City Grants Budget:

Special Recognition Funds	\$2,500
Property Taxes	0
High School Dry Grads	1,100
One-time Grants	<u>5,975</u>
	<u>\$ 9,575</u>

Vivienne Wilke, CGA  
General Manager,  
Finance & Technology

Appendix "A": Air Photograph of the Property at 5988 – 184 Street

APPENDIX "A"

