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NO: **R252**

COUNCIL DATE: **December 10, 2012**

## REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor and Council**

DATE: **December 4, 2012**

:FROM: **General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture**

FILE: **18550-01**

XC: **5000-01**

SUBJECT: **Application for a Grant under the UBCM Age-Friendly Community Planning and Project Program**

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## RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department recommends that Council:

1. approve the submission of an application to the UBCM's **2013 Age-Friendly Community Planning & Project Program** for a grant in the amount of \$20,000 for the implementation of initiatives focused on enhancing the well-being of Surrey seniors as generally described in this report; and
2. request that the City Clerk forward a copy of this report and the related Council Resolution to the Seniors Advisory and Accessibility Committee and the Social Planning Advisory Committee as information.

## INTENT

The purpose of this report is seek Council approval for the City to make application for a grant under the *Seniors' Housing and Support Initiative* (SHSI) for two initiatives focused on enhancing the well-being of seniors in Surrey. Council approval of such an application is a requirement of the SHSI application criteria.

## BACKGROUND

The SHSI was created in 2004 by way of a \$2 million grant from the Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development. In the fall of 2008, SHSI offered to local governments the first round of grants under the Age-friendly Community Planning Program. This was followed by a second round in the spring of 2009 and a third round in 2010.

In February 2010, the City, in consultation with the Seniors' Planning Table, submitted a grant application to UBCM under the SHSI Program for \$20,000 to assist in planning and developing a Seniors' Resource and Referrals Hub in the Fleetwood Community Centre that provides services to seniors on a citywide basis. That application was successful and the related project has been successfully completed.

In December 2011, the City, in consultation with Surrey/White Rock Comeshare Society and the DiverseCity Community Resources Society submitted a grant application to UBCM under the SHSI Program for a \$20,000 grant for the development of an Integrated Mobile Outreach Program for Seniors and to organize and host a conference for seniors, themed around “Aging in Place”. Again, the application was successful and the related program of work was completed successfully.

## DISCUSSION

Applications for the 2013 round of grants under the SHSI Program are now being accepted by the UBCM.

Staff in partnership with the Seniors’ Comeshare Society and the Seniors Advisory and Accessibility Committee has prepared an application for funding in the amount of \$20,000 from the SHSI 2013 *Age-Friendly Community Planning & Project Program* with a view to undertaking the following the initiatives:

1. the expansion of the “A Roof Over My Head” workshop series that address issues related to seniors housing; and
2. the development of two Caregivers Forum that will assist in addressing issues that are faced by seniors and their caregivers.

Each of these initiatives is described in more detail in the following sections:

1. “A Roof Over My Head” Workshops

The community response to the 'A Roof Over My Head' Workshop series has been very positive. Feedback from these sessions has indicated a need to undertake additional information sessions and workshops for seniors on critical issues such as finances, personal planning, rental rights, housing transition to seniors facilities, Power of Attorney, and “Getting Your Affairs in Order”.

2. Seniors’ Caregiver Forums

Two Forums will be planned in partnership with United Way of Lower Mainland and the Seniors Comeshare Society to assist caregivers to seniors by providing tools and resources to support the delivery of effective care to assist seniors in experiencing a full and active life, particularly seniors who require special supports.

## SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The proposed application if successful will assist in achieving the objectives of the City's Socio-Cultural Goals of the Sustainability Charter to promote a safe, caring, engaged and liveable community, with a sense of place, that is inclusive of all aspects of diversity and provides a range of educational, recreational, cultural and employment opportunities, affordable and appropriate housing, transportation options and personal, health and social services that are accessible to all, specifically:

- Work with other orders of government to ensure that there are sufficient, high quality health and social services available in appropriate, accessible locations to meet the needs of all residents, including vulnerable populations;
- Cultivate a community that is caring and compassionate, inclusive and respectful of all aspects of diversity, in which citizens are involved and connected, and have a shared sense of pride in the City; and
- Provide opportunities for meaningful community engagement in civic issues so that the City is responsive and countable to the needs of the community.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council:

- approve the submission of an application to the UBCM's **2013 Age-Friendly Community Planning & Project Program** for a grant in the amount of \$20,000 for the implementation of initiatives focused on enhancing the well-being of Surrey seniors as generally described in this report; and
- request that the City Clerk forward a copy of this report and the related Council Resolution to the Seniors Advisory and Accessibility Committee and the Social Planning Advisory Committee as information.

Laurie Cavan  
General Manager  
Parks, Recreation and Culture