

NO: F010

COUNCIL DATE: **APRIL 14, 2014**

FINANCE COMMITTEE

TO: **Finance Committee**

DATE: **April 8, 2014**

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

FILE: **1850-20**

SUBJECT: **Late Grant Applications**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Finance & Technology Department recommends that the Finance Committee recommend that Council approve the following grant recommendations:

1. Approve a grant in the amount of \$500 to the Kids Help Phone to assist in the delivery of counselling to young people, and
2. Deny a grant to Mha Puja BC as they do not meet the criteria of the City Grant Policy.

BACKGROUND

On November 25, 2013, the Finance Committee approved the City's "One Time" Grants for 2014. Since that time, the City has received late grant applications from the Kids Help Phone and from MhaPuja BC for financial assistance.

DISCUSSION

Kids Help Phone

The Kids Help Phone is a non-profit organization that provides telephone and on-line counselling and information services to children across Canada. These services are 24/7/365 days per year and are provided without any core government or United Way funding. In 2012, Kids Help Phone provided help to children across Canada and more specifically, to over 16,000 children from BC. These services are delivered via phone requests, web requests and on-line live chats. The children range in age from 8 years to 20 years, of which approximately 50% ask questions about the everyday issues of growing up that they do not know how to address through their normal support system, approximately 30% are seeking assistance with mental health issues, while the remaining 20% are at-risk children who do not have support to help them deal with their problems. The Kids Help Phone has requested a financial contribution to assist in the continuation of this service for kids in Surrey and all of British Columbia.

The Grants Evaluation Committee has evaluated this request and have determined that the requested grant meets the grant evaluation criteria. It is therefore recommended that Council approve a grant of \$500 to the Kids Help Phone, which is consistent with amounts provided in the past.

Mha Puja BC

Mha Puja is a unique cultural event of the Newari people from Nepal that is celebrated once every year in November following the Lunar Calendar. This is a cultural tradition meant for achieving: peace, prosperity, harmony, & happiness among all. The organizers of this event have requested financial support to deliver this event in Surrey and while a location has not been determined as yet, it was held at the North Surrey Recreation Centre in 2012 and at the Fleetwood Recreation Centre in 2013. The budget for this event is \$3,000 and organizers have requested that the City provide 50% of the funding (\$1,500). It is anticipated that 250 people will be invited to attend this event.

The Grants Evaluation Committee has evaluated this request against the grant evaluation criteria and have determined that the requested grant is ineligible as the event is not open to the general public (City Grant Policy D-25, 10(e)). It is therefore recommended that Council not provide a grant to Mha Puja BC.

Statement of Remaining Funding in the 2014 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	\$ 2,500
High School Dry Grads	\$ 2,000
One-time Grants	<u>\$ 13,925</u>
Total Remaining in Grants Budget	<u>\$ 18,425</u>

Vivienne Wilke, CGA
General Manager,
Finance & Technology