

NO: R107

COUNCIL DATE: May 29, 2017

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **May 23, 2017**
FROM: **Acting General Manager, Finance & Technology** FILE: **1850-20**
SUBJECT: **Late Grant Application – Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society in partnership with Sher Vancouver**

RECOMMENDATION

The Finance & Technology Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report as information; and
2. Approve a grant of \$1,000 from the 2017 One-Time Grants Budget to the Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society (“PICS”) to assist with the launch of a peer support group for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (“LGBT”) South Asian Youth, administered by their partner organization, Sher Vancouver.

BACKGROUND

On November 21, 2016, Council approved the City’s 2017 Community Grants. Since that time, the City has received a late grant application from PICS and Sher Vancouver. This report will address this request.

DISCUSSION

Sher Vancouver is a social, cultural, support group for LGBT South Asians and their friends and families. The group provides advocacy, counselling, peer support, social activities and outreach presentations to combat bullying, racism, and other forms of discrimination. The group has over 600 members, mostly originating from Surrey and the Metro Vancouver area.

In partnership with PICS, Sher Vancouver is launching a peer support group for LGBT South Asian youth. The group will be led by trained facilitators who have been screened by Sher Vancouver. The purpose of the group is to reduce the alienation, loneliness, depression and suicidal ideation of youth at-risk. Sher Vancouver, in partnership with PICS, is seeking a grant of \$3,000 to offset costs associated with the launch of a peer support group for youth at-risk.

The Grants Evaluation Committee has evaluated this request and has determined that a grant of \$1,000 would be reasonable in the context of similar requests that the City has received from other organizations for which the City has provided financial assistance. It is further recommended that this funding be provided from the unallocated One-time grant funding.

Statement of Remaining Funding in the 2017 Grants Budget:

Should Council approve the Grants Evaluation Committee recommendation, Appendix "I" outlines the remaining balances for the 2017 City Grants Budget.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

Through the array of grants and sponsorships provided to community groups, the City is able to support the objectives of the Sustainability Charter. This request will specifically support the following Desired Outcomes:

- Inclusion DO23: Numerous active local clubs, groups and agencies contribute to the community's well-being; and
- Health and Wellness DO1: Surrey has a full range of high quality, community-based health and social services and programs that address health and wellness.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council approve a grant of \$1,000 from the remaining 2017 One-Time Grants Budget to Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society (PICS) in partnership with Sher Vancouver.

Kam Grewal, CPA, CMA
Acting General Manager,
Finance & Technology

Appendix "I" – 2017 Community Grants



2017 COMMUNITY GRANTS

| Description | Unallocated Balance |
|--|------------------------|
| Grants for Property Taxes | |
| Opening Balance | \$ 5,000 |
| Available for Future Allocation | \$ 5,000 |
| | |
| Grants for Dry Grads | |
| Opening Balance | \$ 4,500 |
| Allocated via Corporate Report 2016-F004 | (500) |
| Available for Future Allocation | \$ 4,000 |
| | |
| Grants for Special Recognition | |
| Opening Balance | \$ 5,000 |
| Available for Future Allocation | \$ 5,000 |
| | |
| Grants for One-time | |
| Opening Balance | \$ 62,000 |
| Allocated via Corporate Report 2016-F004 | (56,350) |
| Volunteer Cancer Drivers Society | (1,500) |
| 3300 BCR Bhai Kanhaiya RCACC | (1,000) |
| Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society (Proposed) | (1,000) |
| Available for Future Allocation | \$ 2,150 |