

NO: R234

COUNCIL DATE: November 19, 2018

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## REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **November 15, 2018**

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

FILE: **5000-01**

SUBJECT: **Application for a Union of BC Municipalities Age Friendly Communities Grant**

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## RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Department recommend that Council:

1. Receive this report for information;
2. Approve the submission of an application to the Union of BC Municipalities (“UBCM”) 2019 Age Friendly Communities Grant Program for a grant in the amount of \$25,000 to engage a diverse set of seniors, service agencies and community associations to implement an Activity Support Care Facilitator Program (“ASCFP”) for those aged 55 and over; and
3. Request that the City Clerk forward a copy of this report and the related Council resolution to the Surrey Seniors Advisory Committee and to the Social Planning Advisory Committee for information.

## INTENT

The purpose of this report is seek Council support for the City to submit an application for a grant under the UBCM Age Friendly Communities Grant Program and in collaboration with other key partners to identify and develop an action plan strategy for implementation of an ASCFP for those aged 55 and over. Council approval of this application is a requirement of the Age Friendly Communities Grant Program application criteria.

## BACKGROUND

The UBCM Age Friendly Communities Grant Program is provincially funded and intended to assist local governments in BC to best support aging populations, develop and implement policies and plans, or undertake projects that enable seniors to age in place, and facilitate the creation of age friendly communities. Since 2005, the Provincial Government has provided \$6.25 million to support the program. UBCM Age Friendly Communities Grants have been offered to 148 local governments whose projects have been completed or approved for funding.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff in collaboration with community-based agencies, local seniors, volunteers and representatives of the Seniors Advisory Committee, have prepared an application for funding in the amount of \$25,000 from the UBCM Age Friendly Communities Grant Program. This initiative will enable the City and key stakeholders to assess the needs for a one to one ASCFP that will help seniors to remain active within recreation, fitness or sport programs and develop a model that will be implemented and incorporated into the Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors Action Plan.

### **Activity Support Care Facilitator Program (ASCFP)**

The overall goals of the project are to:

- Support seniors to remain socially, physically and mentally active, and maintain their health and independence for as long as possible;
- Offer a diverse continuum of programs and services from prevention to intervention that is available for all seniors, including at risk and vulnerable seniors;
- Engage seniors in a respectful way to play a role in achieving age friendly outcomes; and
- Ensure all seniors no matter their ability, are equally supported to access recreation, fitness and sport activities.

At this time, the needs and experiences of seniors accessing recreation, fitness and sport are not well understood from either an experiential or systems perspective. This work helps to fill this gap in knowledge, while at the same time creating capacity for seniors to purposely contribute to program development.

The roles of the City with the Age Friendly Strategy for Seniors clearly outlines, advocacy, policy, partnering and service delivery. The City values the commitment to supporting all persons and to reduce barriers to program participation. This proposed assessment and ASCFP would contribute to prevention of isolation and support healthy active aging in place.

## **SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

The application for a UBCM Age-Friendly Communities Grant supports the objectives of the City's Sustainability Charter 2.0. In particular, this initiative relates to Sustainability Charter 2.0 themes of Inclusion and Health & Wellness. Specifically, the initiative supports the following Desired Outcomes ("DO") and Strategic Directions ("SD"):

- Housing – DO14: Supports are available to enable all people to live as independently as possible in the community.
- Age-Friendly Community – DO 15: Surrey's youngest and oldest residents are valued community members.
- Age-Friendly Community – DO 19: Supports are available for healthy aging in place.
- Health Services and Programs – 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 the submission of an application to the UBCM's 2019 Age Friendly Communities Grant Program for a grant in the amount of \$25,000 to engage a diverse set of seniors, service agencies and community associations to implement an ASCFP for those aged 55 and over; and
- Request that the City Clerk forward a copy of this report and the related Council resolution to the Surrey Seniors Advisory Committee and to the Social Planning Advisory Committee for information.

Laurie Cavan  
General Manager  
Parks, Recreation & Culture