

COMMISSION REPORT

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE
COMMISSION

DATE: 2018 June 13

FROM: DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION &
CULTURAL SERVICES

FILE: 01400-20

SUBJECT: BURNABY ARTS COUNCIL 2018 OPERATING GRANT REQUEST

PURPOSE: To respond to the Burnaby Arts Council's request for operating grant funding for 2018.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** an operating grant of \$25,000 be awarded to the Burnaby Arts Council (BAC) for the 2018 fiscal year.
2. **THAT** the BAC be notified that grant funding for all community groups is currently under review, which will result in a more efficient and streamlined granting program to support qualifying community groups in future years.

REPORT

At the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission meeting of 2017 November 15, the Executive Director and other members of the Burnaby Arts Council (BAC) shared their achievements during the past year.

The Burnaby Arts Council's mandate is to promote, support and expand the arts in the City of Burnaby. The BAC consists of a volunteer board, one part-time administrator and a membership of 140 individual members and 20 member groups. They operate the Deer Lake Gallery at a City-owned property at 6584 Deer Lake Avenue, and they facilitate monthly community arts exhibitions, special events and programs in support of arts development in Burnaby. The BAC Deer Lake Gallery is an arm's-length facility which provides a small community resource for over 6,000 visitors per year and provides emerging visual artists with a dedicated, gallery space for their exhibition needs which is complementary to the Burnaby Art Gallery at Ceperley House (operated by City staff).

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The BAC is requesting a \$25,000 grant for operating assistance which the Commission has supported annually since 2000. In addition to the grant, the BAC also receives access to the above-noted City building at 6584 Deer Lake Avenue to use as their base and community art gallery. The City also provides custodial, gardening, maintenance, capital upgrades and utility support for the property.

Outside the annual support of the City of Burnaby, the BAC has traditionally received operating support from the Province through the B.C. Arts Council (BCAC) and a Federal Canada Summer Works Grant for the Summer Theatre program. They have also applied for and received Gaming funds and Festivals Burnaby Grant in support of the Deer Lake Craft Festival. Other revenue is earned through individual contributions, memberships, donations and programs.

The current administration has shown dedication to increasing revenues from the private sector by participating in ArtsVest, a national program dedicated to increasing funding for the arts from the private sector.

They have shown a commitment to the types of goals that are compatible with city directions such as:

- Promoting social connection through work experience and community volunteer hours and internships for Burnaby high school and SFU university students;
- Celebrating and serving a diverse community through activities such as First Nations art, dance and storytelling;
- Promoting life-long learning and community involvement, through activities such as Live Painting Tournament during the Summer Arts Festival;
- Operating important cultural facilities accessible to residents and visitors.

The Finance Management Committee is currently undertaking a general review of grants and funding support for community groups such as the BAC. The purpose of the review is to ensure that the City's granting programs are consolidated and clearly defined, and that the City is being efficient in the distribution of the limited funds available to support our community groups. Demand for funding and other support is high and constantly increasing with the City's growth, and the City has many groups whose activities benefit the community in many ways. The review will streamline the granting process to provide more direct support to groups who continue to demonstrate that their activities provide effective service in the community.

The provision of funding to the Burnaby Arts Council is aligned with the City of Burnaby's corporate strategic plan by supporting the goals that relate to a connected community, a healthy community and an inclusive community.

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It is recommended that approval be granted for a \$25,000 operating grant to the Burnaby Arts Council for 2018. This expense is included in the 2018 Annual Budget. It is also recommended that the Burnaby Arts Council be advised that the community group support programs are under review which may result in a change to the way funding is provided to all community groups in future years.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "D. Ellenwood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dave Ellenwood
DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES

DE:tc

P:/admin/tc/de/dn/BAC Operating Request – 2018 final