

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: CHAIR AND MEMBERS
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

DATE: 2019 Sep 26

FROM: DIRECTOR FINANCE

SUBJECT: BURNABY ARTS COUNCIL GRANT REQUEST

This memorandum is provided in response to a request from the Burnaby Arts Council (BAC) for an additional \$50,000 community grant per year.

On 2019 June 06, the BAC made a presentation to the Executive Committee requesting the following:

- 2019: additional \$50,000 for a total annual funding of \$75,000;
- 2020: \$100,000 annual funding and implementation of one annual payment in January of each year moving forward; and
- 2021 \$100,000 annual funding.

Subsequently, the BAC presented again to the Executive Committee on 2019 September 3 revising their request to seek an additional \$50,000 to expand their programming with their growth for 2019 onwards. Attachment 1 provides further details of their request.

The BAC's mandate is to promote, support and expand the arts development in the City of Burnaby. With a volunteer-based Board of Directors, one part-time administrator, a membership of 140 individual members and 20 member groups, the BAC operates their offices and the Deer Lake Gallery in Deer Lake Park. The BAC facilitates monthly community arts exhibitions, special events and programs in support of its mandate. The BAC has requested an increased contribution for operating costs, which the City has supported annually at the \$25,000 level since 2000. The BAC operating grant has been grandfathered under the new Community Granting Policy as endorsed by Council on 2019 April 08. As a result, the BAC continues to receive \$25,000 rather than the capped amount of \$10,000 under the new policy.

In addition to the operating grant, the BAC has used the City owned building at 6584 Deer Lake Avenue for over 20 years as their office and program space and to operate the Deer Lake Gallery. Use of this house on Deer Lake Avenue was formalized in 2005 with a standard license agreement which allows the BAC use of the building, along with custodial, gardening, maintenance and utility support provided by the City and valued at approximately \$33,000 annually.

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Furthermore, the BAC receives \$4,000 from the Festivals Burnaby grant program to support the annual Deer Lake Craft Festival and \$5,000 from the Festivals Burnaby grant program to support the annual Summer Arts Festival.

The following is a summary of the grant funding provided to the BAC in 2019:

Grant	Amount
Use of 6584 Deer Lake Avenue	\$33,000
Community Grant (operating)	\$25,000
Festivals Burnaby - Summer Arts Festival	\$ 5,000
Festivals Burnaby - Deer Lake Craft Festival	\$ 4,000
Total	\$ 67,000

The BAC continues to receive a substantial amount of funding and support from the City in comparison to other organizations.

The Community Granting Policy is intended to provide financial support to numerous eligible Burnaby-based non-profit societies that deliver specific programs and services that benefit the community. Rather than using City resources as an indefinite funding source, the program has always encouraged organizational long-term self-sufficiency. Although the community grant budget was increased in 2019 by \$100,000 to accommodate operating grant applications from Burnaby-based non-profit societies, there are numerous eligible Burnaby-based non-profit societies that may apply in the future for such assistance.

In order to ensure consistency, equity, fairness and inclusivity for all eligible organizations that apply for community grants, staff recommend that the Executive Committee of Council maintain the BAC operating funding at \$25,000 through the Community Grant Program, as grandfathered in the recently approved policy, and review any subsequent applications from the BAC for programs and festivals within policy limits.



Noreen Kassam, CPA, CGA
DIRECTOR FINANCE

NK / jk

Attachment: 1 - Burnaby Arts Council - Community Arts Development Presentation

Copied to: City Manager
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Burnaby is located on ancestral, unceded, and shared Coast Salish territory, including the Katzie, Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations. These are Hənqəminəm speaking communities, with the exception of Squamish who speak Skwxwu7mesh snichim.

50 YEARS OF HISTORY

The Burnaby Arts Council has a long history of creating a presence for the Arts in the City of Burnaby. The organization started in the late 1960s when local art groups organized and advocated for a permanent home for the fledgling Burnaby Art Gallery and later instrumental in the building of the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts. Since those early years, the BAC has seen many changes in the cultural life of the City of Burnaby and has itself evolved to become a dynamic community orientated cultural organization with many successful arts programs and projects to its credit.

We have a long history of working with the City of Burnaby. The City have generously donated the space in which the Deer Lake Art Gallery and the Burnaby Arts Council offices are located. We have an amazing front and back yard that we extensively utilize for many of our community events. At the recent Blues & Roots Festival the City provided the Arts Council with the opportunity to sell 50/50 tickets and helped raise \$3500 for our events & programs. In September 2019 the City is replacing our back deck and in January 2020 the City is expanding the Gallery space. Many thanks for your continued support of the Burnaby Arts Council!

MANDATE & MISSION

The Burnaby Arts Council hosts and sponsors a wide variety of cultural activities throughout the year. From art exhibitions, dance, theatre, poetry, to music performances, the BAC provides a community based outlet for people of all ages to engage in the arts and express their creativity. The Arts Council makes art accessible to everyone in the community.

Mandate: The Burnaby Arts Council is committed to serving the community by creating a vibrant and diverse presence of the Arts in the City and to actively advocate for the importance of the Arts.

Vision: To inspire a life-long curiosity and appreciation for the Arts. Our vision for ongoing arts development in Burnaby is built upon the recognition that cultural diversity is a tremendous asset to the arts. Inclusion, diversity, equity and access are critical priorities to the Burnaby Arts Council. Our new 3 year strategic plan strives to build a culture of participation, appreciation, inclusion, and diversity.

OPPORTUNITY & CHALLENGES

The Arts Council plays a vital role in the City of Burnaby. The Arts Council is unique, whereby no other organization in the City does what we do. In the last 20 years we have witnessed our community double in size. Our capacity as an organization reflects and continues to engage with the growing diversity of the community.

Challenge: The community of Burnaby consists of 4 quadrants that include Metrotown, Brentwood, Lougheed and Edmonds/Deer Lake covering over 98.60 square kilometers. The City's population has grown rapidly in the last 20 years. In 1986, the population was 145,161, 2016 ~ 232,755 (last census), and in 2019 based on historical population growth Burnaby is expected to reach 252,373. The Arts Council's biggest challenge is having the capacity as an organization to meet the needs of our vast and growing community. Our goal is to develop programming to better serve our growing community and the many segments of the population: seniors, new citizens, youth, artists, families, and many others.

We are aware of the fact that our events and activities are not accessible to all individuals and the main reason is our critical organizational capacity.

Opportunity: The Arts Council are positioned to take on a deeper level of community arts development within the City.

The Arts Council is positioned to take the lead on creating content that will attract more diverse audiences, donors, and other key stakeholders to achieve programmatic, financial, and operational success.

In 2019 the Arts Council launched a new 3 year strategic plan. In the last two years, the Arts Council has focused our time on developing diverse and innovative arts programs, including a thriving Indigenous Cultural Engagement program. The new strategic plan is our commitment to begin a renewal process. We are rebuilding the organization from the ground up, which involves investing in skillful staff to support and grow our outreach and develop new revenue sources.

Challenge: A current challenge is having enough space to showcase our events, activities and gallery exhibitions. Presently the current size of the art gallery is 400 sqf. We are looking to expand the cultural space for community activities to continue and grow, more space and greater accessibility is needed. The space is not only for art exhibitions, but for other activities including live music performances, literary arts events, and Indigenous Cultural Engagement programs that include a diverse offering of artist talks, storytelling, open conversations and workshops.

The upcoming January 2020 renovation of the Gallery space will allow the Arts Council to accommodate additional artists to exhibit as well as providing more seating, and gathering space for our extensive events. We are not simply an arts council running a gallery but a Burnaby arts centre!

Opportunity 1: The City of Burnaby is exceptionally supportive of our programming, and is working with us to expand our current space

Opportunity 2: One objective of our programming in 2020 is outreach and community engagement. We would like to create alternative venues for the community to engage and experience art outside of the Deer Lake Art Gallery. As well as explore and facilitate opportunities for artists to exhibit their work throughout the community by sourcing alternative venues such as corporate offices, businesses, and community spaces.

Strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Only non-profit art service organization in Burnaby- Well-developed existing programming- Solid reputation in the arts community- Strong relationship with the City of Burnaby- Growing interest from artists wanting to exhibit at the Deer Lake Gallery
Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Events and programs are not currently accessible to all individuals- Currently lacking the operational capacity to meet the needs of the growing community
Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Burnaby's growing population will open up new possibilities for cultural engagement- Build on current programming and create new events and activities that can attract more diverse audience- Gallery renovations will allow greater capacity as an event and exhibition space- Expand programming to alternative venues beyond the Deer Lake Gallery to increase outreach

COMMUNITY ARTS DEVELOPMENT

Our proposal contains three major aspects of developing deeper community engagement and outreach. We are seeking an additional \$50,000 with a total annual contribution of \$75,000. The increase will enable us to grow with the City's population.

- a. Build strong connections within the Indigenous community the Arts Council has created authentic long lasting relationships. Our Indigenous cultural engagement is part of our regular programming and integral to our organization and the community. We would like to be the driving force in Burnaby to take this relationship to a deeper level by initiating intercultural round tables and workshops.
- b. Significantly increase community outreach and develop programs to engage seniors, youth and people with disabilities which will make considerable impact on the health and wellbeing of our community.
- c. Expand upon our solid Gallery reputation by creating an artist outreach program. The number of submissions from Artists wanting to exhibit at the Deer Lake Gallery has increased significantly in the last four years. In 2018 we exhibited internationally known Coast Salish artist Susan Point, and in 2019 we were pleased to exhibit Coast Salish artist Kelly Cannell in her first solo exhibition. In 2020 we have confirmed Rande Cook will showcase his recent work by pushing the boundaries between

traditional indigenous techniques and contemporary art-making. We would like to leverage our solid reputation to create connections with corporations and businesses to explore and facilitate opportunities for artists in the community. Which in turn, invites the community to engage and experience culturally diverse artwork.

In the Burnaby Arts Council's 50th year, we plan to take our programming to a new level and champion a role in community arts development. With the additional funding we would be able to begin developing and expanding upon the following programs:

Indigenous Cultural Engagement - \$15,000

- Continue to grow and engage the community in authentic indigenous cultural experiences
- Create opportunities for open dialogue & conversations between the local community and Indigenous peoples of BC
- Our intent is to facilitate more access and opportunities to listen, question and understand other cultures

Music for Youth: Music Mentoring - \$13,000

- Youth Music Jam 2.0. Host regular occurring events for local youth
- Provide youth access to musical mentors to develop, empower and motivate local youth through music
- Create a pool of 'music mentors' to attend events, listen to youth performances and give motivational and constructive feedback to encourage further development
- Provide FREE, quality musical activities for youth regardless of their socio-economic status

People with Disabilities - \$8,000

- Provide access and opportunity to showcase artwork by people with disabilities
- Facilitate a month long art festival showcasing work by artists with disabilities
- Through art, bridge the gap between people with disabilities and community

Artist Outreach - \$9,000

- Explore and facilitate opportunities for artists in the community
- Source alternate venues to include community spaces, corporate offices and businesses, as well as work with the City secure permanent artist working spaces.

Intergeneration Connections: Seniors & Youth - \$5,000

- Seniors have unique knowledge and life experiences with many stories to share to our children and youth
- Create opportunities between generations to share stories, experiences, ethnic heritage, and shared customs
- Build connections and engagement, and provide an inclusive and safe environment for seniors living alone to get out and connect with our youth!

FAQS & OTHER INFO

- The Arts Council is a BC registered non-profit Society and a listed CRA Charity Organization since June 1970. By working together the Arts Council can leverage our charity status we have niche resources and access to alternative funds

- We provide access to the arts by bridging the gap between the community and accessibility. We are not in competition to the programs that the Shadbolt provide, in fact our organization complements and aligns with the City's strategic goals
- The organization has grown into an essential non-profit society. We have consolidated the City's arts relationships
- The programs we host and organize are NOT fee based, they are accessible to everyone in the community: youth, disabled, seniors, artists, families
- Represent diverse stakeholders
- The ONLY non-profit art services organization in Burnaby
- BC Arts Council has recognized the quality of work that we have developed and programmed in the last 4 years and responded by awarding us with additional funding
- The Arts Council are at a critical organization capacity

SUMMARY

The last 50 years, the Burnaby Arts Council has laid down a strong foundation for arts in the City. With a rapidly growing population, the Burnaby Arts Council has a vital need for more space and greater accessibility. In order to continue bringing quality programming to the community for another 50 years, we are proposing that the City invest in the Burnaby Arts Council. We are in an excellent position within the City to be the leaders in community arts development. WE are ready for another 50 years!