

**TO:** CITY MANAGER **DATE:** 2019 November 27

**FROM:** DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING **FILE:** 13000 02

**SUBJECT:** APPLICATION TO THE UBCM COMMUNITY CHILD CARE SPACE  
CREATION PROGRAM

**PURPOSE:** To seek Council's support of a funding application to the Union of BC  
Municipalities Community Child Care Space Creation Program for the  
development of the Stride Avenue child care facility.

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#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council support an application to the Union of BC Municipalities Community Child Care Space Creation Program for the development of the Stride Avenue child care facility, outlined in Section 3.0 of this report.
2. **THAT** Council resolve to undertake overall grant management if the City is awarded a UBCM Community Child Care Space Creation Program grant.

### REPORT

#### 1.0 BACKGROUND

At its meeting on 2019 April 29, Council authorized the use of Community Benefit Bonus funds in the amount of \$4,000,000, inclusive of GST, to fund the design and construction of a child care facility on the City-owned Stride Avenue School Park site at 7054 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The facility is being built as a part of the 2014 Burnaby School District and City of Burnaby Memorandum of Agreement for Child Care Facilities. The agreement established the basis for up to twelve child care centres to be built in partnership with the School District on sites throughout the city.

Since Council authorization was received, the UBCM announced a Community Child Care Space Creation Program to award up to \$1 Million to local governments to create new licensed child care spaces within their own facilities for children ages 0 to 5, with a focus on spaces for infants and toddlers. The funding is provided through the BC Ministry of Children and Family Development under the Canada-British Columbia Early Learning and Child Care (ELCC) Agreement.

The deadline to apply for the UBCM funding was 2019 November 22. Staff have submitted an application for the funding. Consistent with the grant requirements, this report seeks Council's support for the application and its commitment to undertake overall grant management should funding be received.

## **2.0 POLICY CONTEXT**

The City's initiatives in child care are guided by its Child Care Policy, adopted in 1994 and revised in 2000. The Policy's vision states that the City is committed to:

- assisting with the creation of a comprehensive and inclusive child care system in Burnaby;
- supporting families and children in their search for child care options; and,
- working with the Board of Education, government ministries, child care providers, community service providers, and others in pursuing the City's child care objectives.

The creation of quality child care spaces is also identified as a key objective in the City's Social Sustainability Strategy, adopted in 2011. The Strategy recognizes the role child care plays in people's economic security and its contribution towards the development of complete communities (communities with a range of housing, services, transportation options and amenities within their own boundaries). Similarly, the City's Environmental Sustainability Strategy supports the development of complete communities that are walkable, bikeable and transit-supported. City policies recognize that while the provision and regulation of child care is the responsibility of the Provincial government, the City can play a supportive role.

The availability of quality child care in the community also aligns with the Corporate Strategic Plan by supporting:

### ***A Connected Community***

- Partnership – Work collaboratively with businesses, educational institutions, associations, other communities and governments

### ***A Dynamic Community***

- Economic Opportunity – Foster an environment that attracts new and supports existing jobs, businesses and industries
- Community Development – Manage change by balancing economic development with environmental protection and maintaining a sense of belonging

### ***An Inclusive Community***

- Serve a diverse community – Ensure City services fully meet the needs of our dynamic community
- Create a sense of community – Provide opportunities that encourage and welcome all community members and create a sense of belonging

## **3.0 STRIDE AVENUE CHILD CARE FACILITY**

The Stride Avenue child care facility will provide 37 full-time child care spaces, 12 spaces for infant/toddlers and 25 spaces for children ages 30 months to school age. It is being developed on the City-owned park site adjacent to Stride Avenue Community Elementary School.

To: City Manager  
From: Director Planning and Building  
Re: Application to the UBCM Community Child Care  
Space Creation Program  
2019 November 27 ..... Page 3

Under the terms of 2014 City and School District Memorandum of Agreement, the City is responsible for the capital costs of developing child care centres, the School District provides land (where possible) and manages the ongoing relationships with the non-profit child care operators. Initially the School District intended to accommodate the Stride Avenue child care facility on the Stride Avenue school site. However, due to a seismic upgrade project of the Stride Avenue Community school building, a portion of the adjacent City-owned park site will be used to accommodate the child care facility.

As noted above, Council authorized the use of up to \$4 Million in Community Benefit Bonus funds for the design and construction of the Stride child care facility. Design of the facility has been completed and construction is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2020, with completion of the facility expected in 2020 December. Eligible costs covered through the UBCM funding include construction and related infrastructure costs, site development costs, project contingency, capital purchases (furnishings), and related consulting fees. Eligible costs can only be incurred from the date of the submission of the grant application. If UBCM funding is received, this funding would be used towards remaining construction-related costs and capital purchases.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

The UBCM has announced Community Child Care Space Creation Program grants of up to \$1 Million to assist local governments to create new licensed child care spaces within their own facilities for children ages 0 to 5 years, with a focus on spaces for infants and toddlers. The deadline to apply for the UBCM funding was 2019 November 22. Staff have submitted an application for the UBCM funding to support the development of the Stride Avenue child care facility that was approved by Council at its meeting on 2019 April 29.

It is recommended that Council support the City's application to the UBCM Community Child Care Space Creation program for the development of the Stride Avenue child care facility.

It is further recommended that Council resolve to undertake overall grant management, should funding be received, as required by the UBCM Community Child Care Space Creation program.

Staff will advise Council if grant funding is received.

  
E.W. Kozak, Director  
PLANNING AND BUILDING

MM:sa

cc: Director Corporate Services  
Director Finance  
City Clerk

Assistant Director – Civic Building Projects  
Director Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services