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**TO:** Chair and members  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

**DATE:** 2020 Jan 23

**FROM:** DIRECTOR - PARKS, RECREATION &  
CULTURAL SERVICES

**FILE:** 02410-20

**SUBJECT:** FESTIVALS BURNABY GRANT PROGRAM - SMALL SCALE EVENT

**PURPOSE:** Grant Approval Request

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. **THAT** the Festivals Burnaby Grant request from the Mali Kurdistanian Society for their Kurdish New Year Nawruz on 2020 March 21 be received.

**REPORT**

Festivals and Special Events: Small Scale Event

Grant File # 20-S-001: Mali Kurdistanian Society

Application Received: 2020 January 13

Project Budget: \$15,000.00

Project Request: \$6,000.00

Previous Support: New Festivals Burnaby Grant Application

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

An application request for \$6,000.00 has been received from the Mali Kurdistanian Society for their Kurdish New Year Nawruz. It is held on 2020 March 21 at Barnet Marine Park, Burnaby. Nawruz is a traditional celebration of the upcoming spring and New Year for the Kurds across the world. More than 3,000 Kurds in the Metro Vancouver and environs centralize their celebrations at Mali Kurdistanian Society. This day-long festivities include dancing, singing, musical performances on different stages, poetry readings, a variety of original Kurdish and Kurdish-inspired foods and drinks, family activities and picnics. It is an event that welcomes different communities including Baloch, Persians and Afghanistan populations as well as non Kurdish Canadians.

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The goals of the Nowruz are to gather as a community, to share their heritage with children and families and to introduce their beautiful traditions to Canadians.

The Mali Kurdistanian Society, formerly known as the Kurdish House, is a non-profit organization founded in 2019. It has hosted the Nowruz event successfully for more than 10 years. Its mission is to encourage equality, social justice for all Canadians and to fight against racism.

## **2.0 POLICY SECTION**

### **Goal**

- A Connected Community
  - Social connection – Enhance social connections throughout Burnaby
- An Inclusive Community
  - Celebrate diversity – Create more opportunities for the community to celebrate diversity
  - 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 RECOMMENDATION**

The application has been completed in full. Festivals Burnaby funds would be allocated toward eligible project expenses related to programming, marketing/promotions and administration. It is recommended that the Festivals Burnaby Grant request from the Mali Kurdistanian Society for their Kurdish New Year Nawruz to be held on 2020 March 21, be received.



Dave Ellenwood  
DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES

DE:hb:km  
20-S-001 Mali Kurdistanian Society