

**TO:** MAYOR & COUNCIL  
**FROM:** EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL  
**SUBJECT:** **FESTIVAL BURNABY GRANTS**  
**PURPOSE:** To seek Council approval of the Festival Burnaby Grant applications received.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **THAT** the following Large Scale Festival Burnaby Grants be approved:

- 23-L-007 - The Philippine Cultural Heritage Society for their Philippine Cultural Heritage Festival on August 26, 2023 - \$8,000;
- 23-L-008 - The Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre for their Nikkei Matsuri Family Festival 2023 on September 2-3, 2023 - \$15,000;
- 23-L-009 - The Multicultural Drum Festival Society for their Burnaby Multinational Drum Festival on July 8, 2023 - \$10,000;
- 23-L-010 - The Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha (Vancouver) for their annual Nagar Kirtan Parade on July 22, 2023 - \$10,000; and
- 23-L-012 - The UniverCity Community Association for their SFU StreetFest @ UniverCity on September 15, 2023 - \$12,000.

2. **THAT** the following Small Scale Festival Burnaby Grants be approved:

- 23-S-004 - The Bulgarian-Canadian Society of British Columbia or their Kanatitza Festival on September 22-24, 2023 - \$5,000; and
- 23-S-005 – The Huaren Choir Vancouver Society for their 7<sup>th</sup> Mid-Autumn Festival Concert on September 17, 2023 - \$5,000.

**1.0 POLICY SECTION**

The grant application requests being received in this report are aligned with the following Council-adopted policies, plans and strategies:

- *Burnaby Economic Development Strategy (2007); Social Sustainability Strategy (2011), and the Corporate Strategic Plan (2017)* that identifies the importance of a sense of belonging, inclusion and high quality of life.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

The Executive Committee of Council, at its Open meeting held on June 7, 2023, received a staff report outlining Festival Grant applications received and adopted the recommendations as noted above. This report seeks Council approval of the Festival Grants as recommended.

**3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Large Scale Event Grants:**

**Philippine Cultural Heritage Society**

Large Scale Event:	Grant File # 23-L-007
Title of Event:	Philippine Cultural Heritage Festival
Application Received:	March 15, 2023
Project Budget:	\$60,900
Eligible Amount Requested:	\$15,000
Previous Support:	2022 Large Scale \$8,000.00 2019 Large Scale \$8,000.00

An application request for \$15,000 eligible amount has been received from the Philippine Cultural Heritage Society for their Philippine Cultural Heritage Festival on August 26, 2023 at Swangard Stadium. The festival attracts between 2,000 and 4,000 visitors.

The Philippine Cultural Heritage Festival is a celebration of the Philippine Culture and heritage featuring cultural dances, food, music and arts. The free of charge, family oriented event will encourage community participation, promote community spirit and camaraderie between Burnaby’s diverse communities. The festival will host programs and activities with the intent to create opportunities for positive interactions between cultural, religious and ethnic communities. Grant funds are requested to support: venue/equipment rental, insurance, posters, flyers and banners. Other revenues are pending from corporate and business sponsors and vendor fees.

The Philippine Cultural Heritage Society has organized this festival for a number of years. They involve volunteers and community partners for their festival. The society’s main purpose is to organize this festival.

**Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre**

Large Scale Event:	Grant File # 23-L-008
Title of Event:	Nikkei Matsuri Family Festival
Application Received:	March 15, 2023
Project Budget:	\$234,660.78
Eligible Amount Requested:	\$25,000
Previous Support:	2022 Large Scale \$15,000.00 2019 Large Scale \$15,000.00

2018	Large Scale	\$11,000.00
2017	Large Scale	\$11,000.00
2016	Large Scale	\$11,000.00

An application request for \$25,000 eligible amount has been received from Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre (NNMCC) for their 11th Annual Nikkei Matsuri Family Festival on September 2-3, 2023 at the Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre. The festival has grown over the years and attracts approximately 10,000 people each year.

This festival is a two-day celebration of Japanese culture promoting multiculturalism that is open to the public and free of charge. The community will come together and celebrate with family-friendly events and entertainment, local arts and heritage performers, children’s game zone, Japanese food from an array of vendors, beer-garden, talent show, craft artisans and cultural displays. The NNMCC has professional staff to implement the festival with the support of volunteers.

They are partnering with several organizations in Burnaby including the volunteer Auxiliary Committee, an active group of around 100 seniors, the Gladstone Japanese Language School, the Centre’s students in many disciplines and the Greater Vancouver Japanese Canadian Citizens Association on festival programming. Other revenue includes pending support from Federal and Provincial governments, local businesses including media (Global TV, Nikkei TV, Shinpo Japanese newspaper, Japanese Bulletin, Richmond News, Vancouver Sun), individual donors and earned revenue from vendor fees, games and sales. Grant funds are requested to support eligible expenses including artists/performers fees, equipment rental, public safety, administration and volunteer expenses.

Since September 2000, NNMCC has provided the public with cultural, educational and recreational programs. It is a meeting place with a proximity to the Highland Park Line Trail and the Edmonds skytrain station that allows residents and visitors to regularly utilize the Centre’s traditional Japanese garden as a place of repose, in addition to offering cultural, educational, and recreational programs.

**Multicultural Drum Festival Society**

Large Scale Event:	Grant File # 23-L-009
Title of Event:	Burnaby Multicultural Drum Festival
Application Received:	March 15, 2023
Project Budget:	\$55,000
Eligible Amount Requested:	\$15,000
Previous Support:	N/A (New)

An application request for \$15,000 eligible amount has been received from Multicultural Drum Festival Society for their inaugural Burnaby Multicultural Drum Festival on July 8, 2023, taking place at the Brentwood Mall Plaza. The event will draw approximately 3,000 people.

The Multicultural Drum Festival is a one-day free celebration of cultural diversity through music, specifically drums that is common in many cultures and traditions. Twenty teams from ten ethnic backgrounds will come together and have a multicultural dialogue and exchange through drums. In addition, there will be a special appearance by an international team. The Multicultural Drum Festival highlights the spirit of multiculturalism and acts as a platform for local artists to showcase their talent and art. They intend to welcome a diverse audience from Burnaby and the Greater Vancouver area at the festival and Brentwood Mall location. Grant funds are requested to support eligible expenses: artists/performers fees, venue/equipment rental, administration, and marketing/promotions. Other revenues are pending from sponsors.

The Multicultural Drum Society is a newly formed society in 2020 for the sole purpose of organizing this festival. The planning committee is made up of prominent community leaders with different ethnic background. As it is a new organization and first time producing the festival, additional details are not available.

**Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha (Vancouver)**

Large Scale Event: Grant File # 23-L-010  
Title of Event: Nagar Kirtan Parade  
Application Received: March 15, 2023  
Project Budget: \$115,000  
Eligible Amount Requested: \$25,000  
Previous Support: 2019 Small Scale \$10,000.00

An application request for \$25,000 eligible amount has been received from the Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha (Vancouver) for their Nagar Kirtan Community Parade on July 22, 2023 at 7271 Gilley Avenue in Burnaby. They anticipate approximately 5,000 people to attend.

The event celebrates the teachings and birthday of Shri Guru Ravidas Ji and includes a parade with floats through the neighbourhood, hymns and music, food and presentation of key teachings of the Guru and Punjabi Indian Culture. The free of charge festival is dedicated to spreading the message of inclusivity, diversity, uplifting those in need and charity through volunteer work and donations. It will attract members of their organization as well as neighbours and other communities in Burnaby. Grant funds are requested to support public safety, artists/performers fees, venue/equipment rental, administration and marketing/promotions. Other revenues are pending from donations and sponsorships.

The Shri Guru Ravidass Sabha (Vancouver) is a non-profit organization serving the community in Burnaby since 1982. They provide social, educational and recreational activities for the community while also serving as a hub and place of worship.

**UniverCity Community Association of British Columbia**

Large Scale Event: Grant File # 23-L-012  
Title of Event: SFU StreetFest @ UniverCity 2023  
Application Received: March 15, 2023

Project Budget:	\$87,000
Eligible Amount Requested:	\$15,000
Previous Support:	2022 Large Scale \$12,000.00
	2019 Large Scale \$8,000.00

An application request for \$15,000 eligible amount has been received from the UniverCity Community Association of British Columbia for their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual SFU StreetFest @ UniverCity 2023 on September 15, 2023 at University High Street, Burnaby Mountain. The annual special event draws approximately 4,000 people.

The annual SFU StreetFest @ UniverCity is an all-ages, free of charge street festival with performers, art and culture, artisan kiosks, food trucks and activities to bring the community together and to celebrate the start of Fall on Burnaby Mountain. UniverCity residents, Simon Fraser University and Fraser International College students, faculty and staff, University High Street merchants and others are anxious to reconnect after the summer break. It is a community collaboration between the UniverCity Community Association, SFU Community Trust, Simon Fraser University, Fraser International College, University Highlands Elementary School, the SFU Childcare Society, merchants and others. Grant funds are requested to support venue/equipment rental such as tents, portable toilets, stage and set up/tear down. Other revenues are pending from the Provincial government, SFU and business sponsors and vendor fees.

The Association is a volunteer-run organization, founded in 2002 to advocate for the interests of the UniverCity community, keeping residents informed, connecting people with each other through hosting events, Town halls, community Cleanup Days and more.

**Small Scale Event Grants:**

**Bulgarian-Canadian Society of British Columbia**

Small Scale Event:	Grant File # 23-S-004
Title of Event:	Kanatitza Festival
Application Received:	March 15, 2023
Project Budget:	\$30,000
Eligible Amount Requested:	\$12,000
Previous Support:	2014 Small Scale \$2,500.00
	(Note: different festival called “Bulgarian Food and Dance Festival)

An application request for \$12,000 eligible amount has been received from the Bulgarian Canadian Society of British Columbia for Kanatitza Festival to be held on September 22-24, 2023. The festival aims to showcase the cultural heritage of the Bulgarian community. The family oriented, three-day festival will feature a concert at Michael J Fox Theatre, traditional needlework exhibition, ethnic cuisine, Bulgarian rose planting, parade, movie screenings and children’s activities. Attendance is estimated at 300 people.

Numerous folklore groups around North America will be invited to participate in this open and inclusive event (free admission). The festival name “Kanatitza” represents family/village and peace and unity. Grant funds are requested to support eligible expenses including artists/performers fees, venue/equipment rental, costumes, exhibits, marketing/promotions and administration. Other revenues are pending from fundraising activities and business sponsors. The Bulgarian government has confirmed its funding for this special event.

The Bulgarian-Canadian Society of British Columbia was established in 2002 and is a community driven organization dedicated to preserving and promoting Bulgarian heritage and culture. The Society organizes many festivals, concerts and exhibits of visiting and local artists.

**Huaren Choir of Vancouver Society**

Small Scale Event:	Grant File # 23-S-005
Title of Event:	7 <sup>th</sup> Mid-Autumn Festival Concert
Application Received:	March 15, 2023
Project Budget:	\$30,000
Eligible Amount Requested:	\$12,000
Previous Support:	N/A (new)

An application request for \$12,000 eligible amount has been received from the Huaren Choir of Vancouver Society for their 7<sup>th</sup> Mid-Autumn Festival Concert to be held on September 17, 2023 at the Michael J Fox Theatre. The Mid-Autumn Festival is the second biggest Chinese traditional festival that brings people together through harmony and happiness of music and dance. The Society’s special event will feature instrumental music, dance, solo and chorus performances and other programs, which is expected to attract approximately 600 people.

The Society has been organising the Mid-Autumn Festival since 2013. They have formed several community partnerships for performances and sponsorship, such as the Columbia Music Dance School, Vancouver Chinese Film Festival and BC Chinese Music Association and many others. Grant funds will support artists/performers fees, venue/equipment rental, publicity/promotions and administration. Other revenues are pending from fundraising activities, business sponsors and low cost ticket sales.

The Huaren Choir of Vancouver Society was founded in 2012 to develop and improve the level of chorus and enrich the cultural life of the community.

**4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

All individuals and organizations receiving funding from the Burnaby Festivals Grant Program must acknowledge the support in all promotional materials with the Festivals Burnaby Grant Program logo.

**5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The City’s annual Festivals Grant budget for 2023 is \$250,000 and is funded through the gaming reserve. The following table provides a financial summary of the grant program to date. There is sufficient funding available should all eligible requests included in this report be approved by the Committee and Council.

2023 Approved Annual Grant Budget:	\$250,000
Amount awarded year-to-date:	\$116,300
<b>Balance Available:</b>	<b>\$133,700</b>
Eligible Requests in this Report:	\$119,000
Balance Available for Remainder of 2023:	\$14,700

Applications for Neighbourhood scale festivals will continue to be submitted throughout the year (except July and August).

The last intake for small and large scale festivals is October 15, 2023 for festivals and special events taking place in January through June 2024. These applications are not processed and considered by Committee and Council until early 2024, therefore the funding for the small and large scale events from the October intake are part of the 2024 budget.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of Council,

Councillor Sav Dhaliwal, Chair

Councillor Richard T. Lee, Vice Chair

**REPORT CONTRIBUTORS**

This report was prepared by Kathryn Matts, Administrative Officer 2, and reviewed by Blanka Zeinabova, Senior Manager Legislative Services.