

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

SUBJECT: FESTIVALS BURNABY GRANT - 2ND INTAKE 2024

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the disbursement of the Festivals Burnaby Grant totaling \$54,600 for the second intake this year, as outlined in Attachment 2 of the report titled “Festivals Burnaby Grant – 2nd Intake 2024” of the Open Executive Committee of Council meeting, dated December 4, 2024, be approved **AS AMENDED**.

REPORT

The Executive Committee of Council, at its meeting held on December 4, 2024, received the attached report seeking Council approval for the second intake recommendation of the Festivals Burnaby Grant Program.

Arising from discussion the Committee amended four (4) of the recommended amounts as follows:

- Scandinavian Community Centre - \$12,000 (additional \$2,000)
- Heights Merchants Association - \$14,300 (additional \$1,050)
- Chinese Taoism Kung-Kuan Association in Canada - \$10,000 (additional \$2,000)
- Eurofest BC Society - \$5,000 (additional \$1,000)

The original disbursement of \$48,550 was adjusted to reflect the total of \$54,600 awarded.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of
Council,

Councillor Sav Dhaliwal
Chair

Councillor P. Calendino
Vice Chair

TO: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL (ECC)
FROM: GENERAL MANAGER PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE
SUBJECT: **FESTIVALS BURNABY GRANT – 2ND INTAKE 2024**
PURPOSE: To seek Council approval for Festivals Burnaby Grant Program 2nd Intake recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the disbursement of the Festivals Burnaby Grant totaling \$48,550 for the second intake this year, as outlined in Attachment 2 of the report titled “Festivals Burnaby Grant – 2nd Intake 2024”, dated December 4, 2024, be approved.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

The provision of Festivals Burnaby Grants is aligned with the following Council-adopted policies, plans and strategies: *Burnaby Economic Development Strategy* (2007); *Social Sustainability Strategy* (2011), *Healthy Community Policy* (1991), *Corporate Strategic Plan* (2017) and the *Benefits Based Approach* (2024) that identifies the importance of a sense of belonging, inclusion and high quality of life

2.0 BACKGROUND

Since 2011 the Festivals Burnaby Grants have supported special events that enhance community well-being, pride and sense of belonging through cultural expression and diverse celebrations in public spaces. Eligible applicants are local or regional non-profit or charitable organizations producing festivals that take place in Burnaby. Applications for Medium and Large festivals are accepted through intake processes that occur annually in the spring and fall. Small scale and new events are accepted year-round, a minimum of 3 months before the event date.

In 2024 new Council-approved program guidelines and criteria are in place. A high-level evaluation and any recommended adjustments will be brought forward in the spring.

This report reflects the small and new applications received recently and evaluated using the Council approved new program guidelines and criteria.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

An adjudication panel made up of staff from Culture, Finance, Public Affairs, and Engineering (Transportation) reviewed application documents and supported the proposed recommendations from the staff program facilitator. Eight eligible applications were received for this report, summarized in Attachment 1.

Adjudication Panel Feedback:

Applications were evaluated using a scorecard reflecting the program criteria:

- community participation, benefit and overall impact;
- community collaboration, partnerships and engagement;
- alignment with the City's Strategic Priorities and Plans;
- capacity to implement the project; and
- the need for financial assistance.

Funding recommendations reflect alignment to the program criteria and historical funding. High level comments from the panel are as follows:

Vancouver Cantonese Opera (Grant File #24-L-013) requested \$7,500 for The Bamboo Theatre – Cantonese Opera Extravaganza to be held on April 26, 2025, at the Michael J. Fox Theatre and a pre-show workshop to be held at a Burnaby Public Library on April 13th. The panel noted the unique cultural expression and artform for the community and free public engagement at the library along with support from other levels of government and funders. The panel recommended \$5,000.

Scandinavian Community Centre (Grant File #24-L-014) requested \$25,000 for the annual Scandinavian Midsummer Festival to be held on June 21 and June 22, 2025, at the Scandinavian Community Centre. The panel noted strong earned revenues and support from other levels of government and funders that have resulted in consistent net positive balance in the budget. Encouraging the Society to make the festival more accessible. The panel recommended \$10,000.

Heights Merchant Association (Grant File #24-L-015) requested \$26,300 for the annual annual Hats Off Day to be held on June 7, 2025, on Hastings Street between Boundary and Gamma. The panel noted support from sponsors and potential from other funders and a legacy partnership between the Association and City that also provides significant in-kind contributions from City Departments such as Engineering and Community Safety. The panel recommended \$13,250.

Chinese Taoism Kuan-Kung Association in Canada (Grant File #24-L-016) requested \$25,000 for the annual annual TJ Fest to be held on May 3 and May 4, 2025, at the Tian Jin Temple and Avondale Park. The panel noted strong earned revenues and support from sponsors and funders. The panel recommended \$8,000.

Eurofest BC Society (Grant File #24-M-004) requested \$11,300 for the European Festival to be held on May 24, 2025. The Society is still being rebuilt after an organizational change prior to the pandemic. Their special events have been small in the past three years to align with their limited capacity, finances and resources. The

panel recommended \$4,000.

Mali Kurdistanian Society (Grant File #24-M-005) requested \$8,240 for the Newroz Festival (Kurdish New Year) to be held on March 16, 2025. The celebration features musicians and singers with family activities and accessible to the public. The Society has limited capacity, finances and resources. They will be encouraged to strengthen alignment of their festival with the program guidelines. The panel recommended \$2,500.

Open World for Kids Foundation (Grant File #24-SN-012) requested \$2,600 for “*Who is Santa?*”, a traditional Russian Christmas and New Year celebration to be held on December 28, 2024, at the Serbian Centre (Burnaby Hall). The celebration features theatrical performances with family activities. The Society has some capacity and resources and will be encouraged to strengthen alignment of their festival with the program guidelines. The panel recommended \$1,800.

North America Artist Association (Grant File #24-SN-013) requested \$4,000 for Burnaby Spring Festival to be held on February 9th, 2025, at the Delta Hotel Conference Centre. The panel noted the potential sponsorships including the Delta Hotel and the cultural performances in celebration of the Lunar New Year. They will be encouraged to strengthen alignment of their festival with the program guidelines. The panel recommended \$4,000.

Specific details for the applicants are outlined in Attachment 2.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Successful applicants for the Festivals Burnaby Grant program must acknowledge the City’s financial assistance on all the program’s communications and promotional materials, including brochures, posters, advertisements, websites, news releases, signs, etc.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The City’s annual Festivals Grant allocation is \$250,000 for 2024, which contributes towards eligible expenses for special event organizers including programming, marketing and promotions, and venue and equipment rental. These festivals make our community vibrant, strengthen our sense of pride and belonging and draw both local audiences and visitors.

At the September 2024 Executive Committee meeting, \$1,500 was approved for an eligible applicant and their upcoming festival. If the recommendation in this report is approved, \$42,950 will be the remaining balance.

2024 Festivals Burnaby Budget:	\$250,000
Amount awarded year-to-date:	\$168,500
Adjustment (University Community Association Festival Cancellation)	\$10,000
Balance Available:	\$91,500
Eligible Request in this Report:	\$108,340
Panel Recommendation	\$48,550
Balance if Recommendation Approved:	\$42,950

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morrison-Clark, General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Applications Summary – 2nd Intake 2024

Attachment 2 – Grant Summary Chart

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

This report was prepared by Yvonne Chui, Arts Service Manager, and reviewed by Emmaline Hill, Director Culture.