



RESORT MUNICIPALITY OF WHISTLER

4325 Blackcomb Way TEL 604 932 5535
Whistler, BC Canada V8E 0X5 TF 1 866 932 5535
whistler.ca FAX 604 935 8109

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENTED: December 20, 2022 **REPORT:** 22-152
FROM: Legislative Services Department **FILE:** 1850-20-3004
SUBJECT: 2022 COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM FINAL REPORT

RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

That the recommendation of the General Manager of Corporate and Community Services be endorsed.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

That Council receive this Information Report No. 22-152, including all of the 2022 Community Enrichment Program Grant Reporting Forms, attached as Appendix A.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to share how the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) 2022 Community Enrichment Program (CEP) grant recipients used their awarded CEP, and for Council to receive the information contained in each Grant Reporting Form provided by the recipient organizations.

Information Report Administrative Report (Decision or Direction)

DISCUSSION

Background

Council Policy A-7: *Community Enrichment Program* (CEP Policy) was adopted in 2004. Since then, each year, the RMOW has been financially supporting local not-for-profit organizations and societies that benefit the community by offering CEP grants funds (CEP Grant) to selected organizations.

The amount provided varies, but cannot be more than 50 per cent of an organization's total operating budget for the year.

To qualify for a CEP Grant, applicants must operate in one of the following categories:

- 1) Environment
- 2) Social Service
- 3) Community Service
- 4) Recreation and Sport; or
- 5) Arts and Culture

This year, Council allocated the CEP Grant funds as follows:

Community Foundation of Whistler	\$3,250.00
Howe Sound Women Centre - PEACE	\$8,000.00
Howe Sound Women Centre - Whistler Women's Centre - Drop-in	\$13,000.00
Pathways Serious Mental Illness Society	\$5,000.00
Sea to Sky Community Services Society - Better at Home	\$4,500.00
Sea to Sky Community Services Society - Whistler Playgroup	\$5,000.00
Whistler Community Services Society - Counselling Assistance program	\$14,000.00
Whistler Institute of Learning Society	\$2,500.00
Whistler Mature Action Community	\$2,000.00
Whistler Multicultural Society - Multicultural Community Kitchen	\$6,274.00
Whistler Multicultural Society - Resilience BC Anti-Racism Network	\$3,000.00
Zero Ceiling Society of Canada - Work 2 Live Program	\$6,000.00
Whistler Farmer's Market	\$3,000.00
Association of Whistler Area Residents for the Environment (AWARE)	\$3,000.00
Whistler Naturalists Society	\$3,276.00
BC Luge Association	\$2,000.00
Sea to Sky Nordics	\$3,000.00
Whistler Adaptive Sports Program	\$7,000.00
Whistler Blackcomb Freestyle Ski Club	\$4,000.00
Whistler Gymnastics Club	\$2,500.00
Whistler Minor Hockey Association	\$4,000.00
Whistler Mountain Ski Club	\$3,000.00
Whistler Nordics Ski Club	\$3,000.00
Whistler Sailing Association	\$2,500.00
Whistler Sea Wolves Swim Club	\$3,000.00
Whistler Skating Club	\$4,000.00
Whistler Slo Pitch Association	\$2,500.00
Whistler Sport Legacies Society	\$2,000.00
Whistler Youth Soccer Club	\$5,000.00
Axemen Rugby	\$1,250.00
Whistler Field Hockey Club	\$3,100.00
Yoga Buggy	\$1,000.00
The Point Artist-Run Centre Society	\$4,000.00
The Whistler Writing Society	\$2,500.00
Whistler Singers	\$1,650.00
Whistler Valley Quilters' Guild Society	\$2,000.00
Whistler Chamber Music Society	\$1,000.00
Whistler Secondary Scholarships	\$6,000.00
Total	\$151,800.00

The successful applicants were announced at the Regular Council meeting on April 26, 2022.

Consistent with the CEP Policy, successful applicants were required to submit their Grant Reporting Form and required documentation (financial breakdown and copies of receipts showing how the CEP grant money was spent) by December 1, 2022. All 37 organizations submitted their Grant Reporting Forms on time. These reporting forms and associated documentation are attached as Appendix A. To adhere to the *Freedom of Information and Protection Privacy Act*, some personal information has been redacted.

Two organizations, the Howe Sound Women's Centre Society and Whistler Community Services Society, received over \$10,000 in CEP grant money. Therefore, as per the CEP Policy, they are presenting to Council at the December 20, 2022 Regular Council Meeting to report back on how the CEP funds were used and to answer any questions Council may have in regard to the grant use, including the impact on the organization and the community.

Included in the CEP budget of \$151,800, as part of *Council Policy A-7 Community Enrichment Program*, is \$6,000 awarded as scholarships to Whistler Secondary School grade 12 graduating students. These awards were announced by Mayor Crompton at the Whistler Secondary School graduation ceremony on June 11, 2022 and recipients are not required to provide any subsequent related reporting.

Analysis

The 2022 recipients showed a high level of dedication in providing programs and/or services that are necessary or desirable for the Whistler community. Most organizations spent the funding on equipment, general operations, expenses to transition or update their programs and salaries to fund additional coordinators, counsellors, experts and other key individuals to keep their programs running.

A few organizations were unable to spend the entirety of their awarded funds during the 2022 calendar year due to the specific needs or timing of their programs or delays due to processing times. In those cases, the organizations have documented how and when they will be spending the 2022 CEP grant in their reporting forms. Refer to Appendix A for associated detail.

Many recipients expressed their appreciation and gratitude for the RMOW's support.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Relevant Council Authority/Previous Decisions

The CEP is guided by *Council Policy A-7: Community Enrichment Program*.

Corporate Plan

The RMOW Corporate Plan is updated annually and articulates strategic direction for the organization. This section identifies how this report links to the plan.

Council Focus Areas

Community Balance

*Effectively **balance resort and community needs** through deliberate planning, partnerships and investment*

Climate Action

*Provide leadership to **accelerate climate action and environmental performance** across the community*

Housing

*Advance strategic and innovative initiatives to enable and **deliver additional employee housing***

Pandemic Recovery

*Leadership and support for **community and tourism recovery and sustainability** – priority focuses are where recovery needs intersect with other Council focus areas*

Not Applicable

Corporate Goals

Community character and mountain culture is reflected in municipal initiatives

Municipal decision-making supports the effective stewardship of natural assets and ecological function

Corporate policies and operations ensure continuous excellence in infrastructure, facility and program management

A high level of accountability, transparency and community engagement is maintained

Corporate financial health is optimized to ensure long-term community success

A vibrant local economy and safe, resilient resort community is effectively reinforced by organizational activities

Community Vision and Official Community Plan

The Official Community Plan (OCP) is the RMOW's most important guiding document that sets the community vision and long-term community direction. This section identifies how this report applies to the OCP.

The CEP is consistent with Whistler's Vision and OCP. The vision statement highlights that Whistler is "...a place where our community thrives", and through the CEP process, Council awards funding to not-for-profit organizations and societies that benefit the community.

Given the wide nature of the sectors in which CEP applicants must operate, this program supports many of the goals, policies and objectives outlines in the OCP.

Chapter 7 "Natural Environment" is about protecting, monitoring and restoring the natural environment in Whistler. Chapter 10 "Climate Action and Energy" speaks to confirming the community's belief that climate change is real, that reducing GHG emissions is beneficial to our broader well-being and that governments should act promptly to mitigate negative impacts of climate change. Both are supported by the CEP funds awarded to non-for-profit organizations falling into the environment category.

Chapter 8 “Health, Safety and Well-being” is about ensuring Whistler has strong community connections and social fabric, is inclusive and affordable, and enjoys high levels of trust, community engagement and good governance. The provision of funding to the organizations within the social and community services categories support the following goals:

- Goal 8.1.: Promote, encourage and support initiatives that strengthen the community’s sense of place and sense of belonging.
- Goal 8.2.: Promote efforts to enhance the quality of life for all residents and employees.
- Goal 8.3.: Strengthen opportunities for social cohesion and connectedness for residents and visitors.
- Goal 8.4.: Encourage and strengthen a culture of inclusion and diversity.

Part of Chapter 9 “Learning, Culture and Recreation” focuses on recreation and leisure, which include outdoor and indoor recreation and programs. The following goal and objectives are supported by the recreation organizations recipients of the CEP grant:

- Goal 9.6.: Continue to work collaboratively with partner organizations to provide quality recreation and leisure amenities and experiences.
- Objective 9.6.2: Non-profit third party recreation service providers thrive, complement resort offerings and contribute to the social well-being of residents and visitors.

Another section of Chapter 9 focuses on “Arts, Nature and Heritage” (ANH) and how to enrich community life and the visitor experience by nurturing this sector. The provision of funding to arts and culture organizations supports the objective below and associated policies:

- Objective 9.2.2: Increase opportunities for education, participation and enjoyment of ANH for residents and visitors.
- 9.2.2.1 Policy: Support non-profit and private sector efforts to increase opportunities for individuals to learn about and participate in ANH.
- 9.2.2.2 Policy: Collaborate with the appropriate agencies and stakeholders to showcase local ANH initiatives.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

The RMOW awarded successful applicants a total of \$151,800.00 in 2022. This amount was entirely consistent with the 2022-2026 Five Year Financial Plan.

LÍLWAT NATION & SQUAMISH NATION CONSIDERATIONS

The RMOW is committed to working with the Lílwat People, known in their language as *L'il'wat7úl* and the Squamish People, known in their language as the *Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw* to: create an enduring relationship; establish collaborative processes for Crown land planning; achieve mutual objectives; and enable participation in Whistler’s resort economy.

The recipient organizations provided details on how the CEP grant promoted these relationships during the last year programming:

- Whistler Women’s Centre hosted three closed workshops for a group of N’quat’qua women to support diversity through art therapies and private healthy relationship programs (Appendix A - Page 43)
- Whistler Institute of Learning Society introduced the Intercultural Awareness Program. This program provided the opportunity to share the history and culture of the Lil’wat7ul Nation, assist local employers to recruit employees from the Lil’wat7ul Nation and create a welcoming workplace for employees from many cultures. (Appendix A - Page 137-138)
- For the first time, Whistler Naturalists presented four classes of the Fungus Among Us program at the Xetólacw Community School in Mount Currie. (Appendix A- Page 224)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Level of community engagement commitment for this project:

Inform Consult Involve Collaborate Empower

The CEP application period and processes were advertised on the RMOW website and published in the *Pique Newsmagazine* for three consecutive weeks in January 2022. In addition, social media posts announced the opening of the application period until February 15, 2022. As it is an annual funding opportunity, many organizations are routinely aware of the application period.

The grant recipients and amounts awarded were announced at the Regular Council meeting on April 26, 2022 and on the CEP webpage of the [whistler.ca website](http://whistler.ca).

Advertising for the 2023 CEP opportunity will begin in January 2023.

REFERENCES

Appendix A – 2022 Community Enrichment Program Grant Reporting Forms

SUMMARY

The 2022 CEP recipients have provided their reporting forms and demonstrated to Council how the funds were used in their programming. This report documents that information for Council.

SIGN-OFFS

Written by:

Pilar Mendieta
Administrative Assistant, Legislative Services

Reviewed by:

Pauline Lysaght,
Manager of Legislative Services and Corporate Officer

Ted Battiston,
General Manager of Corporate and Community
Services

Virginia Cullen,
Chief Administrative Officer