



WHISTLER

REPORT | ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT TO COUNCIL

PRESENTED: April 20, 2021

REPORT: 21-043

FROM: Corporate and Community Services

FILE: 3004

SUBJECT: 2021 COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM GRANT FUNDING AWARDS

COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the 2021 Community Enrichment Program grants funded from general revenue as follows:

Association of Whistler Residents for the Environment	\$3,000
Whistler Naturalists Society	\$3,000
Community Foundation of Whistler	\$3,000
Howe Sound Women's Centre – Prevention, Education, Advocacy, Counselling and Empowerment	\$8,000
Howe Sound Women's Centre – Whistler Women's Centre – Drop-In	\$13,000
Pathways Serious Mental Illness Society	\$6,000
Sea to Sky Community Services Society – Better At Home	\$4,500
Sea to Sky Community Services Society – Whistler Parent-Tot	\$5,000
Whistler Community Services Society – Counselling Assistance Program	\$14,000
Whistler Institute of Learning Society	\$5,000
Whistler Mature Action Community	\$2,000
Whistler Multicultural Society – Multicultural Community Kitchen	\$5,000
Whistler Multicultural Society – Resilience BC Anti-Racism Network	\$4,000
Whistler Waldorf School Society	\$2,000
Zero Ceiling Society of Canada – Work 2 Live Program	\$8,000
BC Luge Association	\$2,000
Sea to Sky Nordics	\$4,000
Whistler Adaptive Sports Program	\$7,000
Whistler Blackcomb Freestyle Ski Club	\$1,600
Whistler Disc Golf Club	\$1,000
Whistler Gymnastics Club	\$3,000
Whistler Minor Hockey Association	\$1,750
Whistler Mountain Ski Club	\$4,000
Whistler Nordics Ski Club	\$3,500
Whistler Sailing Association	\$4,000
Whistler Sea Wolves Swim Club	\$3,000
Whistler Skating Club	\$4,350
Whistler Slo Pitch Association – Batting Cage	\$5,000
Whistler Sport Legacies	\$4,100
Whistler Youth Soccer	\$6,000

The Point Artist-Run Society	\$4,000
The Whistler Writing Society	\$2,500
Whistler Singers	\$1,500
Whistler Valley Quilters' Guild Society	\$2,000
Whistler Secondary Scholarships	\$2,000
TOTAL	\$151,800

REFERENCES

Appendix A – *Council Policy A7: Community Enrichment Program*

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this Report is to request that Council approve the successful 2021 Community Enrichment Program (CEP) grant amounts as listed above in the staff recommendation.

DISCUSSION

Each year, through the CEP, the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) financially supports local not-for-profit organizations or societies that benefit the resort municipality.

To qualify for a grant through the CEP, applicants must operate in one of the following categories: Environment, Social Service, Community Service, Recreation and Sport, or Arts and Culture. The amount provided to each organization varies, but cannot exceed 50 per cent of a program's total cost.

Funding must contribute to the general interest and advantage of the Whistler community and is evaluated by Council in accordance with *Council Policy A-7: Community Enrichment Program*.

The RMOW received 34 CEP applications for 2021 requesting a total of \$256,314. The 2021 CEP budget is \$151,800. All of the applicant organizations have been recommended for at least partial funding. Included in the CEP budget, as part of *Council Policy A-7: Community Enrichment Program* is \$2,000 allotted to Whistler Secondary School for Scholarships.

Priority was given to the social service organizations as they are still providing enhanced services to the Whistler community due to Covid-19. It was noted that many of the sports and arts applicants cited increased costs due to Covid-19 measures, including enhanced cleaning or operating protocols and reduced coach to athlete ratios for the 2021 season. These factors, along with the reduced funding that many of the organizations received in 2020, were taken into consideration for the recommended 2021 CEP grants.

Council received copies of all applications, and presentations were made by the applicant organizations to Council during the Committee of the Whole Meeting on March 16, 2021. Council also reviewed RMOW Staff's CEP Advisory Group recommendations.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Official Community Plan

The CEP is consistent with Whistler's Vision and Official Community Plan ("OCP"). The vision statement highlights that Whistler is "[a] place where our community thrives" and the CEP, through the provision of funding to organizations that benefit the resort community, helps our community do just that.

Goals, Objectives and Policies

Given that CEP applicants must operate in one of the following categories of environment, social service, community service, recreation and sport, or arts and culture, this initiative supports many of the goals, policies and objectives outlined in the OCP. A few examples of how this is demonstrated are found in the following chapters:

Chapter 8 (Health, Safety and Wellbeing) focuses on ensuring that Whistler has strong community connections and social fabric. The following objectives are supported by providing funding to the various community services organizations:

- Promote and support connections to the natural environment (Objective 8.1.2);
- Improve access to preschool and childcare facilities and services (Objective 8.9.1);
- Promote initiatives for youth and young adults that support their developmental needs, health, well-being and social connections (Objective 8.10.1); and
- Promote initiatives for seniors that support their health, well-being and ability to be a valued part of the community (Objective 8.10.2).

Chapter 9 (Learning, Culture and Recreation) focuses on outdoor and indoor recreation and programs. The following goal, and supporting objective, is reinforced by providing CEP funding to the recreation organizations:

- Continue to work collaboratively with partner organizations to provide quality recreation and leisure amenities and experiences (Goal 9.6); and
- Non-profit third party recreations service providers thrive, complement resort offerings and contribute to the social well-being of residents and visitors (Objective 9.6.1).

Additionally, the following objective, and associated policy, is supported through the provision of funding to arts and culture organizations:

- Increase opportunities for education, participation and enjoyment of Arts, Nature and Heritage for residents and visitors (Objective 9.2.2); and
- Support non-profit and private sector efforts to increase opportunities for individuals to learn about and participate in Arts, Nature and Heritage (Policy 9.2.2.1).

Other Policy Considerations

Council may provide CEP funding to any not-for-profit organization or society pursuant to section 8(2) of the *Community Charter*: “A municipality may provide any service that the council considers necessary or desirable, and may do this directly or through another public authority or another person or organization”. Grants are issued on an annual basis and are subject to the availability of funds in the RMOW's current year's budget. Approval of a funding application in any year does not imply or suggest that approval will be received in subsequent years.

Council is guided by *Council Policy A-7: Community Enrichment Program*, attached as Appendix A, which outlines the requirements of organizations wishing to apply for financial assistance.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

The 2021 Operating Budget provides for \$151,800 for the CEP. Staff is recommending that Council award \$151,800 as outlined above.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

The whistler.ca/cep website is the main portal of communication which includes a calendar of important dates/timetable and *Council Policy A-7: Community Enrichment Program*. The 2021 application packages were also available to be downloaded from whistler.ca. Courtesy emails and phone calls were also made to all organizations who applied for CEP funding in the past two years.

Notices for the 2021 CEP application period were placed in the Pique Newsmagazine January 21, January 28, and February 4, 2021 editions.

Each organization requesting funding presented their application to Council at the March 16, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

SUMMARY

Through the CEP, the RMOW provides grants to local not-for-profit organizations or societies on a yearly basis. The 2021 application period generated 34 CEP requests. This Report requests approval of the recommended funding based on the applications and presentations from each applicant organization and Staff Advisory Group recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Wyn-Griffiths

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