



Staff Report for Committee of the Whole Meeting

Date of Meeting: January 22, 2018

Report Number: SRCS.18.02

Department: Community Services
Division: Recreation and Culture Division

Subject: 2018 Community and Cultural Grant Program

Purpose:

This report is to present Staff's analysis of the 2018 Community and Cultural Grant Program applications and recommendations for approval by Council.

Recommendation(s):

1. That the Community and Cultural Grant applications listed in Appendix "A" be received; and
2. That Community and Cultural Grants totaling \$65,000 be provided to the following organizations and individual artists
 - Elgin West Seniors Association - \$2,000
 - Home on the Hill Supportive Housing - \$3,500
 - ImprovAbility! - \$2,100
 - Richmond Hill Canoe Club - \$3,500
 - Richmond Hill Lawn Bowling Club - \$1,400
 - The Amici Circle of Friends - \$2,800
 - York Region Senior Tamils' Centre - \$3,000
 - Andrea End - \$1,400
 - Bindu Shah - \$3,000
 - Habon Jibril - \$1,000
 - Josephine Vaccaro-Chang - \$600
 - Lilita Tannis - \$2,500
 - Oleg Samokhin - \$1,500
 - Artucate Canada - \$3,000
 - Association of Iranian Canadians For Nowruz Festivals - \$2,000
 - Chorus York - \$4,000
 - High Notes Avante Productions - \$3,500
 - International Watercolour Society - \$4,000
 - Opera York - \$4,500
 - Richmond Hill Centennial Pipe Band - \$1,500
 - Richmond Hill Concert Band - \$1,500

- Richmond Hill Group of Artists - \$1,500
- Richmond Hill Philharmonic Orchestra - \$3,000
- Shadowpath Theatre Productions - \$3,000
- Toronto Chinese Ai Yue Philharmonic Arts Center - \$2,500
- York Region Chamber Music - \$2,700

Contact Person:

Karin Ash, Manager Cultural Services, (905) 508-7012 ext. 225

Darlene Joslin, Director of Recreation & Culture, ext. 2423

Report Approval:

Submitted by: Shane Baker, Commissioner of Community Services

Approved by: Neil Garbe, Chief Administrative Officer

All reports are electronically reviewed and/or approved by the Division Director, Treasurer (as required), Town Solicitor (as required), Commissioner, and Chief Administrative Officer. Details of the reports approval are attached.

Background

In February 2015, Council approved the new Community and Cultural Grant Program with an annual funding allocation of \$65,000. The purpose of the program is to provide project funding to community and cultural organizations and individual artists whose projects support a more vibrant Richmond Hill through the delivery of programs, services or activities.

The program has two distinct project funding streams, one for the cultural sector and one for the community organizations sector. It is designed to support incorporated not-for-profit organizations and non-incorporated collectives that operate on a not-for-profit basis as well as individual artists.

The maximum grant per project is 50% of the project budget up to a maximum of \$5,000.

The eligibility criteria are outlined in the Community and Cultural Grant Program Guidelines, attached as Appendix “B”.

The Community and Cultural Grant Program is administered through the Community Services Department. The Community Development Coordinator administers applications submitted under the Community Project stream and the Cultural Services Coordinator administers applications submitted under the Cultural Projects stream.

2016 and 2017 Community and Cultural Grant Program and Results

Council approval of the grant program was announced at the 2015 Cultural Summit and the first round of funding was available to the community in 2016 with subsequent rounds of funding available on an annual basis. Since 2016, Council approved funding for a total of 40 applicants for a total funding allocation of \$103,770.

A summary of the 2016 and 2017 Community and Cultural Grant projects are attached as Appendix “C” and Appendix “D”.

29 of the 40 organizations/individuals that received funding in 2016 and 2017 have submitted final reports, which accounts for \$69,881 of the total recommended funding allocation. Based on a review of the final reports received to date it is estimated that the funds leveraged the following:

- 111 public engagement activities
- 17,878 direct participants in funded projects
- 546 volunteers engaged in funded projects
- 12,897 volunteer hours

The balance of the final project reports from 2017 will be submitted 90 days following the end of the project as outlined in the Community and Cultural Grant Program Guidelines.

2018 Community and Cultural Grant Program

The deadline to submit applications for the 2018 Community and Cultural Grant Program was November 3, 2017. Prior to the deadline, the applications were made available to the public for an eleven week period and an information session was held on September 26, 2017. All community and cultural organizations as well as the general public were notified through direct mail, email, social media channels, and Bulletin Board ads in the Liberal. A total of 31 applications were received with a combined request of \$132,773 of which \$117,712 is considered eligible based on the criteria outlined in the program guidelines.

Analysis and Recommendations

Applications submitted under the Community Projects stream were reviewed by a Community Projects Review Team, which is comprised of staff. Applications submitted under the Cultural Projects stream were reviewed by a Cultural Project Review Team, which was comprised of staff and three citizen members. Each review team assessed the applications based on the criteria outlined in the Community and Cultural Grant Program Guidelines.

A summary of the application requests, analysis and recommendations is attached as Appendix "A".

The Community and Cultural Grant Program Guidelines document is attached as Appendix "B".

Next Steps:

Upon approval of this report and funding allocations, staff will follow up with applicants to inform them of the decisions related to their applications. Staff will follow up with the approved recipients throughout the period of their specific project and will ensure final project reports are submitted in a timely manner as per the expectations outlined in the application process.

Financial/Staffing/Other Implications:

The Community and Cultural Program Grant Budget is \$65,000. Based on review of the 31 applications received, the Community and Cultural Project Review Teams are recommending 26 of the 31 applications receive funding in the total amount of \$65,000.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan:

The Community and Cultural Grant Program aligns with the Goal 1 of the Strategic Plan “Creating Better Choice” by removing “barriers to effective participation for all people in the community”, and encouraging “more participation in Town-wide and community events”; Goal 2 of the Strategic Plan “Better Choice in Richmond Hill” by promoting “opportunities for people to volunteer and share their talents with the community” and Goal 3 of the Strategic Plan, “A More Vibrant Richmond Hill”, supporting activities that allow people to “celebrate natural and cultural diversity, foster creativity, exchange ideas and appreciate the arts”.

This Community and Cultural Grant program also aligns with Goal 1, recommendation 5 of the Cultural Plan, specifically, “To replace the Mayor's Endowment Fund for the Arts with a permanent Richmond Hill Cultural Funding Program”.

Conclusion:

This report recommends that approval of 26 applications for a total funding amount of \$65,000.

Attachments:

The following attached documents may include scanned images of appendixes, maps and photographs. If you require an alternative format please call contact person listed in this document.

- Appendix A 2018 Community and Cultural Grant Application Recommendations
- Appendix B Community and Cultural Grant Program Guidelines
- Appendix C 2016 Community and Cultural Grant Project Status
- Appendix D 2017 Community and Cultural Grant Project Status

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	SRCS.18.02 Community and Cultural Grant Program for the Jan 22 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting.docx
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Appendix A CCGP Applications 2018.xlsx- Appendix B 2018_CCGP_Grant_Guidelines.pdf- Appendix C CCGP Project Status 2017.xlsx- Appendix D CCGP Project Status 2016.xlsx
Final Approval Date:	Jan 8, 2018

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Darlene Joslin - Jan 4, 2018 - 9:45 AM

Shane Baker - Jan 4, 2018 - 11:29 AM

Neil Garbe - Jan 8, 2018 - 3:27 PM