

From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"

CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"
"Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>

Date: 9/24/2019 11:19:03 AM

Subject: Memo - Vancouver Board of Education (VBE) school food program

Attachments: ACCS – GM – Memo (Council) – VBE School Food Program (2019-09-20).pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Attached you will find a memo update from the General Manager of Arts, Culture, and Community Services on the Vancouver Board of Education (VBE) school food program. Highlights include:

- VBE received their final consultant's report in the spring of 2019;
- VBE will be consulting with stakeholders in the fall of 2019 regarding the report's recommendations;
- There will be no change to the VBE's school food program until the 2020/2021 school year;
- City staff will recommend in the 2020 budget process maintaining existing level of funding for 2020 and will return with recommendations for future support once VBE has finalized their revised school food program for 2020/2021 school year.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Sandra Singh directly at sandra.singh@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Sadhu

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Pronouns: he, him, his



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

MEMORANDUM

September 20, 2019

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager
Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Rena Kendall-Craden, Communications Director
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Alvin Singh, Communications Director, Mayor's Office
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Mary Clare Zak, Managing Director, Social Policy and Projects
Sarah Carten, Social Planner

FROM: Sandra Singh
General Manager, Arts, Culture and Community Services

SUBJECT: City of Vancouver Funding for School Meals

PURPOSE

In Council's February 26, 2019 motion, staff were asked to report back with recommendations for City support of the Vancouver School Board (VBE) meal program.

BACKGROUND

Since fall 2015, the City has provided \$320,000/year to the Vancouver Board of Education (VBE) and \$80,000/year to Strathcona Community Centre Association (CCA) for their school meal programming. Other City funding has also been provided to non-profit organizations for school food projects, including one-time funding to Fresh Roots, a local non-profit, to pilot a universal meal program that launched in May 2019. Please see appendix A for details about these programs and the funding received.

In 2017, VBE commissioned an independent food services review, and the recommendations are intended to increase the number of children who benefit from their free meal programs. VBE received the report in the spring of 2019 and will be using the report recommendations to engage with trustees, the student and wellbeing committee, and other stakeholders in fall 2019 to determine their meal program plans for the 2020-21 school year.

The BC Chapter of the Coalition for Healthy School Food is hosting a public information sharing and engagement event on November 14, 2019, providing an opportunity for further learning.

NEXT STEPS

City staff plan to:

- Recommend no changes to VBE meal program funding allocation for September 2019-June 2020, while VBE determines their approach for the 2020-21 school year.
Therefore, staff plan to:
 - recommend renewing Strathcona \$80K grant, through a report to Council in October 2019 and
 - recommend \$320K for the VBE School Food grant in the 2020 in the operating budget.
- Continue to gather information from Fresh Roots' pilot universal meal model.

Once VBE's approach for food services 2020-21 is known, staff will determine a funding allocation recommendation and return to Council for direction.

If there are any further questions or Councillors need for additional information, please feel free to contact me directly at sandra.singh@vancouver.ca.



Sandra Singh
General Manager, Arts, Culture and Community Services
604.871.6858 | sandra.singh@vancouver.ca

Appendix A

Table 1 Meal programs, funding received, and description

Program name	Funding received from CoV	Program description	Other program information
VBE Food4Schools	\$320,000 annually since 2015	A healthy delivered lunch program.	<p>Daily delivered lunches for 212 elementary students at 17 schools.</p> <p>Meal costs in 2018/19 were \$8.64 /lunch for food, supplies, labour, and delivery; and are anticipated to increase to \$9.08 for 2019/20.</p> <p>Menus comply with provincial school food/beverage guidelines.</p>
Strathcona CCA Breakfast Program	\$80,000 annually since 2015	A hot nutritious breakfast for the students of Strathcona elementary and their families.	<p>Breakfast is served Monday to Friday through the school year and summer to 100-200 members of the community each morning.</p> <p>Funding also supports two other integrated programs that involve student leadership opportunities and capacity building.</p>
Fresh Roots Urban Farm Society	\$59,000 one time funding provided Dec. 2018	LunchLAB! A Universal Meal Program - Students grow and cook for themselves and each other	<p>Provides lunch for 150 elementary school students 2x/week and 50-75 alternate school students 2x/week.</p> <p>All students can participate and those unable to pay for the lunch will have the cost covered.</p> <p>Aiming for meal costs <\$5/meal.</p> <p>www.lunchlab.ca</p>