

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)  
To: ["Kirby-Yung, Sarah" <Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca)  
Date: 5/16/2022 5:51:37 PM  
Subject: RE: Question ahead of Tuesday Council - Cultural Grants Report

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Good afternoon Councillor,

Thank you for the question. We concur entirely that transparency is very important in the administration of City grants. Please find below information from ACCS staff:

The Chinatown Cultural Trust feasibility study is a community-led initiative that has been proposed by the Council-appointed Chinatown Legacy Stewardship Group (LSG). As is common with community-led projects, a non-profit sponsor (Dr. Sun-Yat Sen Gardens Society of Vancouver) has agreed to administer the grant on behalf of the LSG. There are checks and balances to ensure no individual members of the LSG or the non-profit sponsor would personally benefit from this grant. This includes entering into an agreement with the City on the grant, managing the funds, and implementing the project as per the project proposal. Staff require capital grants of this scale to receive a minimum of three quotes to proceed. In this instance, staff will be requesting within the grant agreement an additional step that the procurement of the consultant(s) be an open transparent process, and ensure all standards are upheld. As with all grants, the grant recipient is expected to deliver the project as per the proposal, maintain accurate project records including invoices and receipts, and deliver a final report to the City upon completion of the project. Funds will also be delivered in phases including a hold back until completion and submission of both a final report and the consultant report.

The Chinatown LSG is a Council-appointed advisory committee, and as such, members are expected to respect the City's advisory committee code of conduct.

I hope that helps answer the questions as to what staff would expect in terms of conduct by SYSG in its implementation of the project should the grant be approved.

Best,  
Paul

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**From:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah <Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 15, 2022 5:37 PM  
**To:** Mochrie, Paul <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>; Fry, Pete <Pete.Fry@vancouver.ca>  
**Subject:** Question ahead of Tuesday Council - Cultural Grants Report

Paul,

In the course of reviewing agenda items for the upcoming Council sessions this week, I have a question with respect to the 2022 Cultural Grants (CASC, Cultural Spaces) and Community Services Grants Report.

I note that Recommendation C proposes a grant of \$106,000 from the Chinatown Cultural Partnership Program Capital Budget towards work on a potential Chinatown Cultural Trust. Some time ago, Councillor Fry and myself took a meeting at the request of Sonny Wong to share his idea for this with us.

Given that Sonny Wong is a sitting member of the Chinatown Legacy Stewardship Group and I understand him to be the author of this proposal, as well as the potential recipient of the grant funds, I have a few questions:

§ given that LSG members are such to the City's applicable Code of Conduct, can members of the LSG directly receive funds and personal financial benefit or would they be in breach of the code of conduct for doing so?

§ is Sonny Wong or his company envisioned to be the one doing this work?

§ given the Council report does not provide detail on the process for allocating the work to consultants or vendors, can you advise if the

City's established processes for open and transparent procurement apply? What are the checks and balances in place to ensure?

I wanted to flag these questions in advance of Tuesday's meeting, and given the importance of maintaining public trust in our committees and in the use and allocation of public funds. I appreciate a response ahead of the meeting if possible.

Thanks in advance,

Sarah

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I am humbly thankful that I live and work on the territories of the x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm ([Musqueam](#)), Skwx\u817\_wú7mesh ([Squamish](#)) and səlwətaʔ / səlwituh ([Tsleil-Waututh](#)) Nations.