

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
Date: 7/24/2023 6:39:57 PM
Subject: Grant reports - questions

Good afternoon Mayor and Council,

I am writing in follow up to a number of questions we have received regarding the grant-related reports that are included on the Regular Meeting agenda for tomorrow (July 25). The questions and responses provided by the staff team are set out below.

Q: My memory is that when the Renters Office was closed last Winter, there was direction to instead increase grants to tenant serving organizations? Is that correct, and are those new grants falling within Community Service and Other Social Grants? Or are they being allocated in another way? Can we get more information on what's happened in response to that council direction?

A: Council recently approved a \$500,000 allocation from the remaining Renter Office Funds to run the 2024 Renter Services grants program. That program is administered by Housing and Homelessness Services.

Q: What is the VSB doing with the new food program funding from the province? Is it going toward expanding the VSB's food program? Or is it replacing the funds the VSB has been receiving from the City?

A: We will provide a memo to Council on VSB food program given their recent allocation of over 5M from the Province. Council may wish to continue the City's support or discontinue it now that there is a senior government funded program. There is currently a multi-year grant in place for this grant.

Q: Is the idea of creating and implementing a Destination Festivals and Special Events Fund and Program something that staff are already planning on exploring? Or does it need Council direction in order to have staff explore it?

A: Staff are considering this concept given Council's interest in activation and events. If Council directs the exploration, then staff can move forward with greater confidence that this is something Council is interested in supporting.

Best,
Paul

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x^wməθkɪy̓əm (Musqueam), Snw̓xəlú7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətəł (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.