

From: **"Singh, Sandra"**
To: **"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"**
Date: 1/14/2024 11:37:06 AM
Subject: Information re: City arts and culture granting guidelines

Good morning Mayor and Council,

Staff received a question from a Councillor regarding the City's grant funding to the PuSH Festival and City policy related to arts and culture grant program. Given this is an active topic in the media at the moment, I have included the response from the GM of ACCS Margaret Wittgens and the Cultural Services granting team below in advance of the next weekly Q&A.

Question: Council are also receiving emails asking about guidelines for City grant recipients, given PuSH receives money from the City. I'd appreciate a formal response back from staff with respect to the above, to enable Council to understand City policy and be equipped to be able to respond to enquiries.

Answer: City of Vancouver arts and culture granting processes and guidelines follow best practices and include: 1. Granting guidelines, set out in line with Council policy and priorities; 2. Application accompanied by a community-driven assessment processes; and, 3. Grant agreements for successful applicants. Eligibility requirements and standards are set out in information guides for applicants and include requirements for cultural diversity and equitable access. The information guides for each stream can be found online at <https://vancouver.ca/people-programs/cultural-grants-program.aspx>.

Successful applicants' grant agreements ensure that grant recipients are in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and guidelines, in delivering their work. Grant recipients are required, under their grant agreements, to demonstrate accommodation, welcomeness, and openness to people of all ages, abilities, sexual orientation, gender identities, ethnicities, cultural backgrounds, religions, languages, under-represented communities, and socio-economic conditions in their policies, practices, and programs. Aside from establishing the general parameters outlined in the grant application and agreements, the City has not sought to influence or control artistic programming of any program that it funds. This approach is not unique to the City and is a standard approach taken by other public funders in arts and culture granting.

If you have any further questions, please email GM of ACCS Margaret Wittgens and/or me and we will ensure follow-up information is provided.

Thank you,
Sandra

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The City of Vancouver acknowledges the unceded homelands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.