



DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER
750 17TH STREET, WEST VANCOUVER BC V7V 3T3

COUNCIL REPORT

Date:	April 4, 2023
From:	Doti Niedermayer, Senior Manager, Cultural Services
Subject:	2023 Community Grants Recommendations: Arts, Culture & Heritage and Community & Social Services Grants
File:	0116-20-CGC1

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Community Grants Committee’s recommendations for 2023 Arts, Culture & Heritage and Community & Social Services grants allocations, attached as Appendix A to the April 4, 2023 report titled 2023 Community Grants Recommendations: Arts, Culture & Heritage and Community & Social Services Grants, be approved.

1.0 Purpose

To obtain Council approval for the 2023 Community Grants allocations (**Appendix A**) for operational and project funding for Arts, Culture & Heritage and Community & Social Services grants as recommended by the Community Grants Committee.

2.0 Legislation/Bylaw/Policy

The Community Grants Program’s policies are outlined in the District of West Vancouver’s (District) 2017 Community Grants Program Policy Framework (2017 Framework) (**Appendix B**). The current recommendations for the Arts, Culture & Heritage and Community Services & Social Services grants were reviewed by the Community Grants Committee (CGC) and evaluated based on the 2017 Framework.

The District’s 2017 Blueprint for Social Responsibility & Change (**Appendix C**) identifies social action plans and strategies to advance community connections and well-being in West Vancouver through innovative leadership, sustainability of social responsibility and inclusion. This ensures that resources distributed through the District are meaningful and relevant to residents of all ages in West Vancouver.

3.0 Council Strategic Objective(s)/Official Community Plan

Council Strategic Plan

Council’s Strategic Objectives support the pursuit of excellence in community engagement, consultation and communication, and leveraging technology as set out under Strategic Goal 5, Objective 3.

Official Community Plan

The District's 2018 Official Community Plan supports demographic and cultural diversity as well as enhancing public facilities and spaces through the following policies:

- 2.8.1 Anticipate and meet community needs as demographic changes occur, through short and long-term strategies for the delivery of services.
- 2.8.7 Support the delivery of programs, services, events and activities that celebrate the full spectrum of cultural and ethnic diversity of the District and promote intercultural and intergenerational connections.
- 2.8.15 Support an expanded variety of community activities ranging from community-wide events and smaller private events through policy, facilities and grants, as appropriate.

4.0 Financial Implications

Funding for the District's Community Grants Program is included in the District's annual operating budget. The 2023 budget for the Community Grants Program is \$275,028.

5.0 Background

5.1 Previous Decisions

Council, at its June 27, 2022 regular meeting, passed the following resolution:

THAT the Community Grants Committee's recommendations for 2022 Arts, Culture & Heritage and Community & Social Services grants allocations, attached as Appendix A to the report dated June 9, 2022 and titled 2022 Community Grants Recommendations: Arts, Culture & Heritage and Community & Social Services Grants, be approved.

Council, at its September 26, 2022 regular meeting, passed the following resolution:

THAT the Community Grants Committee's recommendations for 2022 Arts, Culture & Heritage and Community & Social Services grants allocations, attached as Appendix A to the August 30, 2022 report titled 2022 Community Grants Recommendations: Arts, Culture & Heritage and Community & Social Services Grants – Round 2, be approved.

5.2 History

The District's Community Grants Program provides funding to not-for-profit community organizations serving the needs of West Vancouver residents. The grants support programs and services that reduce social, economic, or physical disadvantage; improve quality of life; support and promote arts, culture & heritage initiatives, community & social services initiatives, and

community vitality & environment initiatives; and are based on a full year of funding. Youth grants are supported through the Local to Global Youth Initiatives grant stream with no application deadline, and once all the budget has been allocated for the fiscal year, no additional applications are considered.

Funding of not-for-profit community organizations through the Community Grants Program has the following objectives:

- to support diverse not-for-profit organizations that respond to a broad spectrum of community needs and interests
- to provide local government sponsorship for community organizations to better attract funding from senior levels of government, donors, and foundations
- to encourage civic engagement, service, and volunteerism

6.0 Analysis

6.1 Discussion

The total budget for the 2023 Community Grants Program is \$275,028. The current recommendations are shown as follows:

Community & Social Services	\$ 203,690
Arts, Culture & Heritage	\$ 67,896
Local to Global Youth Initiatives	\$ <u>3,442</u>
TOTAL	\$ 275,028

Recommendations for the 2023 allocations of Arts, Culture & Heritage (ACH) and Community Services & Social Services (CSSS) grants involved the following review process:

- a review of the accountability form for organizations partway through their funding cycles and CGC recommendations for repeat funding
- assessment of remaining funding and evaluation of new applications
- CGC recommendations for new grants and new funding cycles

The funds budgeted for Local to Global Youth Initiatives are reviewed by the CGC throughout the year.

The CGC formed two subcommittees to conduct a detailed review of the applications. The reviews were based on an evaluation of how applicants met the stated criteria in the 2017 Framework.

ACH and CSSS grants may be recommended for one-year or three-year funding cycles. A three-year funding cycle provides consistent and stable funding and reduces administrative costs for both the applicants and the

District as organizations only need to submit a full application every three years. Three-year funding is subject to an annual review conducted by the CGC, availability of District funds, and Council approval. Occasionally, organizations may be recommended for a two-year funding cycle.

In the ACH grant category, there were 29 applications for funding from 24 organizations.

In the CSSS grant category, there were 43 applications for funding from 39 organizations.

Applications were received from organizations for previously funded programs with funding cycles that end in 2023, and from organizations that had not previously been funded or that were submitting funding requests for new initiatives. There was a slight increase in the number of applications received in 2023 over 2022. The CGC reviewed all these applications in detail based on the following key questions:

- Did the application meet the evaluation criteria as set out in the 2017 Framework?
- Did the application respond to an issue or need that warrants support in 2023?

Appendix A provides a list of 2023 grant amounts recommended.

Appendix D provides a list of grant requests that are not recommended for funding.

In addition to the ACH and CSSS grant budgets, the Community Grants Program budget for 2023 also includes \$3,442 for Local to Global Youth Initiative grants established to empower young people to impact their communities. These grants recognize youth who act as ambassadors of West Vancouver or require assistance to initiate projects of interest to the community. As per the 2017 Framework, applications for funding from the Local to Global Youth Initiatives are reviewed by the CGC throughout the year and approved by the Director of Parks, Culture & Community Services.

6.2 Sustainability

The Community Grants Program provides financial assistance to not-for-profit organizations to address social issues and/or promote community engagement and development to affect positive change for West Vancouver individuals and for the community at large. This assistance promotes a healthy, caring community where residents have access to services that maintain or improve their quality of life; and promotes full participation in community life.

6.3 Public Engagement and Outreach

The CGC was established by Council in March 2009 to review and make recommendations on all community grant requests.

6.4 Other Communication, Consultation, and Research

Information about the Community Grants Program is posted on the District's website and other municipal publications, and is promoted through various newsletters and media channels.

7.0 Options

7.1 Recommended Option

THAT the Community Grants Committee's recommendations for 2023 Arts, Culture & Heritage and Community & Social Services grants allocations, attached as Appendix A to the April 4, 2023 report titled 2023 Community Grants Recommendations: Arts, Culture & Heritage and Community & Social Services Grants, be approved.

7.2 Considered Options

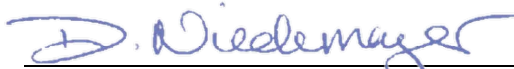
Council may:

1. direct staff to proceed with any or all of the recommendations in this report;
2. request further information; and/or
3. not approve the recommendations.

8.0 Conclusion

This report seeks Council's approval for the recommended allocations for Community Grants in 2023.

Author:



Doti Niedermayer, Senior Manager, Cultural Services

Concurrence:



Lea Shepherd, Acting Community Services & Community Development Manager



Jill Lawlor, Senior Manager of Community Services

Date: April 4, 2023

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From: Doti Niedermayer, Senior Manager, Cultural Services

Subject: 2023 Community Grants Recommendations: Arts, Culture & Heritage and
Community & Social Services Grants

Appendices

Appendix A: Funding Recommendations for 2023 Arts, Culture & Heritage and
Community & Social Services Grant Allocations

Appendix B: District of West Vancouver Community Grants Program Policy
Framework (2017)

Appendix C: District of West Vancouver Blueprint for Social Responsibility &
Change (2017)

Appendix D: Community Grants Program: List of Grant Requests Not
Recommended for 2023 Funding

Funding Recommendations for 2023 Arts, Culture & Heritage and Community & Social Services Grant Allocations

Arts, Culture & Heritage Grants

ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM	2023 Recommendation
Belweder North Shore Polish Association	Operating	\$1,500
Blackout Art Society	STAND Festival	\$3,500
Blackout Art Society	Documentary Night	\$1,000
Coho Society	Operating	\$2,500
Deep Cove Chamber Soloists Society	Operating	\$1,000
Dundarave Festival of Lights Society	Operating	\$1,500
Gleneagles Scottish Country Dance Society	Operating	\$500
Laudate Singers Society	Operating	\$4,000
Lions Gate Sinfonia	Operating	\$4,500
North Shore Artists Guild	Operating	\$4,500
North Shore FolkFest	2023 North Shore FolkFest	\$1,000
North Shore Light Opera Society	Operating	\$1,500
North Shore Music Academy	NSMA Summer Chamber Music Program	\$525
NV Community Arts Council	Art Crawl	\$1,000
NV Community Arts Council	Culture Compass	\$2,000
NV Community Arts Council	Art in the Garden	\$2,000
Pacific Spirit Choir Society	Operating	\$1,500
Pandora's Vox Vocal Ensemble	Operating	\$3,500
Presentation House Theatre	Operating	\$3,000
Vancouver Chamber Music Society	Operating	\$2,750
Vetta Chamber Music Society	West Van Concert Series	\$3,000
West Vancouver Community Arts Council	Art Walk & Community Art Project	\$2,000
West Vancouver Fire Museum & Archives Society	Operating	\$2,500
West Vancouver Fire Museum & Archives Society	No. 31 1954 AWIT Thibault Pumper Truck	\$1,500
West Vancouver Theatre Company Society	Operating	\$5,000
West Vancouver Youth Band Society	Operating	\$10,621
TOTAL:		\$67,896

Community & Social Services Grants

ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM	2023 Recommendation
Athletics for Kids Financial Assistance (BC) Society	Youth Sports Granting Program	\$3,500
Avalon Recovery Society	Operating	\$12,000
BC Pets and Friends	Operating	\$2,500
Canadian Liver Foundation	2023 LiveRight Health Forum	\$1,000
Canadian Mental Health Association (North Shore)	Operating	\$14,490
Capilano Community Services Society	Operating	\$3,000
Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention Society of BC	Operating	\$5,000
Enhance West Van	Youth Leadership Conference	\$4,000
Family Services of the North Shore	Operating	\$13,000
Green City Farm Society	Operating	\$500
Growing Chefs Society	Classroom Gardening & Cooking Program	\$3,000
Harvest Project (Change the World)	Operating	\$3,000
Highlands United Church	Shelter To Home	\$2,500
Hollyburn Community Services Society	Operating	\$15,000
Immigrant Link Centre Society	From Pollution to Solution	\$1,000
Lionsview Seniors' Planning Society	Operating	\$6,200
Lookout Housing and Health Society	Operating (for the North Shore Shelter)	\$15,000
Marine Life Sanctuaries Society	Celebrating 30 years of Marine Conservation	\$4,000
North Shore Community Resources Society	Operating	\$5,000
North Shore ConneXioNorth Shore Society	Operating	\$4,000
North Shore Crisis Services Society	Operating	\$10,000
North Shore Disability Resource Centre Association	Mobile Multi-Sensory Room	\$500
North Shore Disability Resource Centre Association	Information & Advocacy Program	\$1,000
North Shore Disability Resource Centre Association	Summer Bursary Program	\$2,500
North Shore Keep Well Society	Operating	\$3,000
North Shore Multicultural Society	Operating	\$10,500
North Shore Neighbourhood House	Operating	\$10,000
North Shore Safety Council	Operating	\$1,500
North Shore Stroke Recovery Centre	Operating	\$7,000
North Shore Volunteers for Seniors	Home Safety Kits	\$1,000
North Shore WomeNorth Shore Centre	Operating	\$10,000
Pathways Serious Mental Illness Society	Operating	\$10,000
PLEA Community Services	TCO2 Prevention Workshops	\$2,000
Sharing Abundance Association	Operating	\$4,000
Special Olympics BC	Operating	\$5,000
Spinal Cord Injury BC	Peer Support Program	\$1,500
Volunteer Cancer Drivers Society	West Vancouver Cancer Patient Transportation	\$1,500
West Vancouver Marine Rescue Society	Operating	\$5,000
TOTAL:		\$203,690

District Of West Vancouver Community Grants Program Policy Framework (2017)

SECTION A: DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER OVERVIEW

West Vancouver Vision

West Vancouver will inspire excellence and lead by example. Collaborative government and a spirit of personal civic commitment will power the innovations that shape our shared future. The strength of this relationship will secure our treasured quality of life and will be the measure of our success as a community.

West Vancouver Mission

We champion the opportunities that demonstrate our deep commitment to:

- foster a sense of shared and individual responsibility for community well-being, inclusion, social unity and respect for our full heritage;
- protect, restore and defend our natural environment; legislate efforts to effect positive change;
- encourage diversity in housing, land use and innovative infrastructure within our distinct neighborhoods to meet changing needs;
- enrich community vitality, health and understanding through integrating arts, learning, inter-cultural experiences and physical activity into our daily lives; and
- maximize the potential of our economic base and services, and balance the effective, long-term use of resources for current and future generations.

West Vancouver Strategic Objectives

Mayor and Council have determined eight priorities for the District to focus on throughout their term. For 2014 to 2018, these priorities are:

- Ambleside: Waterfront and town centre;
- built form, housing and neighbourhood character;
- fiscal sustainability and municipal services;
- natural environment and climate action;
- Official Community Plan review;
- arts, culture and heritage;
- Police services and Municipal Hall project (formerly the Public Safety Building); and
- traffic and transportation.

The District of West Vancouver, through Council, community and staff, develops strategies and priorities for implementing strategic objectives that align with the District's vision and mission. Implementation may include partnerships with not-for-profit organizations doing work in the community and for the benefit of West Vancouver residents.

SECTION B: COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

1. West Vancouver Community Grants Program

The District established the Community Grants Program to support not-for-profit organizations that deliver important social, arts, cultural and community services in, or for citizens of West Vancouver. Through the Community Grants Program, individuals and groups of West Vancouver youth may apply for financial support through the Local to Global Youth Initiatives Fund.

The Community Grants Program supports the District's commitment to civic responsibility, community life and economic stability. Council appoints citizen volunteers to the Community Grants Committee (CGC) to provide independence in the adjudication process for Community Grants. Guided by the Blueprint for Social Responsibility and Change, CGC members evaluate applications and make recommendations to Council on requests from not-for-profit organizations for financial support to do their work in the community. Local to Global Youth Initiatives Fund grant applications are reviewed by the CGC, with recommendations forwarded to the Director of Parks, Culture & Community Services.

2. Community Grants Program Purpose

The Community Grants Program benefits residents of West Vancouver by:

- supporting diverse not-for-profit organizations that respond to a broad spectrum of community needs and interests;
- providing local government sponsorship for community organizations to better attract funding from senior levels of government, donors and foundations; and
- encouraging civic engagement, service and volunteerism.

3. Community Grants Program Funds

There are four distinct funds within the Community Grants Program:

- a) Local to Global Youth Initiatives
- b) Arts, Culture & Heritage
- c) Community & Social Services
- d) Community Vitality & Environment

Council determines the budget for the Community Grants Program through the District of West Vancouver's annual budget process.

By investing in individuals, as well as grassroots community projects, Local to Global Youth Initiatives Fund grants empower young people to impact their communities. They recognize individual youth who act as ambassadors of West Vancouver by participating in competitions, tournaments, competitive festivals or civic events that are regional, provincial, national or international in scope or nature and those groups who wish to create these types of opportunities in West Vancouver. The purpose of grants from this fund is to provide one-time support for participation and event costs.

Arts, Culture & Heritage grants support the development of the cultural sector in West Vancouver for all categories of arts.

Community & Social Services grants support organizations working in collaboration to address and find solutions to community social issues that impact residents. This includes meeting the needs of vulnerable populations, respecting social diversity and promoting social integration and inclusion.

Community Vitality & Environment grants support organizations that may be working in collaboration with the District of West Vancouver on one-time projects to improve or enhance sense of community, green and healthy environments and engagement of West Vancouver residents through community initiatives.

4. Types of Community Grants

Operating grants support organizations for services provided on an ongoing basis, or to organizations that provide a single service, whether ongoing throughout the year or recurring annually. Only applications to the Arts, Culture & Heritage fund and the Community & Social Services fund are eligible for operating grants. Operating grants may be given on a multi-year basis. The intent of multi-year funding is to provide the organization with some certainty for planning, budgeting and attracting other sources of funding. Multi-year funding is subject to performance and may be withdrawn if the applicant does not perform or fails to provide documents to evidence performance.

Project grants support organizations to implement specific programs or projects with an identifiable end date. Applications to all fund categories (Arts, Culture & Heritage; Community & Social Services; Community Vitality & Environment; and Local to Global Youth Initiatives) are eligible for project grants. Project grants are generally not multi-year in nature.

Some organizations apply for funding for a variety of distinctly different services. In such cases, the CGC may consider multiple applications for each distinct service. An organization submitting multiple applications must be able to distinguish and differentiate all the required elements for the CGC to evaluate their applications.

With the exception of grant applications to the Local to Global Youth Initiatives Fund, the Community Grants Program does not recommend grants to individuals or for expenses incurred prior to the application date.

SECTION C: APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY AND GRANT ADJUDICATION PROCESS

1. Eligibility

Organizations seeking grants must meet specific eligibility criteria and provide complete information set out in the application form. During the grant adjudication process, other information may be requested so the CGC may fully consider the application.

With the exception of applications for the Local to Global Youth Initiatives fund, all applicants must be not-for-profit organizations in good standing and currently incorporated as a “society” under the BC Societies Act.

With the exception of grant applications made to the Local to Global Youth Initiatives fund, the annual deadline for all grant submissions is **January 31**.

The following is a list of types of applicants or purposes which **THE COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM DOES NOT FUND**:

- individuals or businesses
- fundraising projects or programs
- organizations that raise money to provide flow-through funds or grants to other organizations
- endowment funds, capital costs or start-up costs
- organizations without any operating history
- 100% of any operating or project costs
- debt retirement or reserves; mortgage pay-downs
- expenses incurred prior to the application date
- activities and events of religious, ethnic, cultural or political organizations that primarily serve their membership and/or their direct purposes
- groups that disparage others
- medical treatment or rehabilitation programs that are funded by the Medical Services Plan of BC
- organizations that do not demonstrate financial need
- services provided by or contracted by other levels of government.

2. Grant Adjudication Process

Applications for grants from the Local to Global Youth Initiatives fund are received, adjudicated and funded throughout the year; the CGC makes recommendations to the Director of Parks, Culture & Community Services for approval of these grants.

Applications to the Arts, Culture & Heritage; Community & Social Services; and Community Vitality & Environment funds are received and adjudicated once annually. The deadline for submission is **January 31**. The CGC makes recommendations to Council for funding, which takes place once in a calendar year and ties into the municipal budget process. Grant approvals are generally determined by June of each year.

In adjudicating applications, the CGC may take into consideration other benefits received by the applicant from the District, such as use of municipal facilities, receipt of services without charge or below ordinary cost and benefits derived through Permissive Tax Exemptions.

SECTION D: GUIDELINES FOR OPERATING GRANTS

1. Guidelines for Applying for an Operating Grant

- a) Organizations must be in good standing, currently incorporated as a “society” under the BC Societies Act.
- b) Operating grants may be up to a maximum of \$15,000 annually.
- c) Organizations must demonstrate that the activities within their application meet the needs of West Vancouver residents and/or enhance residents’ quality of life.
- d) Organizations may apply for more than one operating grant if the requests are for distinct programs or services.
- e) Organizations may apply for operating grants for a single or multi-year basis. Applicants meeting the eligibility criteria must provide the service during the period, maintain a proven record of accountability and demonstrate the need for funding to sustain the service.
- f) Organizations receiving operating grants are not excluded from applying for project grants.
- g) Organizations receiving a Community Grant must acknowledge funding assistance on all print and web-based material relating to the organization with the following: *We gratefully acknowledge the support of the District of West Vancouver through their Community Grants Program.*
- h) Organizations receiving a Community Grant must submit a completed annual accountability form for each grant received.

2. Evaluation Criteria for Operating Grants

Applicants must use and fully complete the downloadable application form to apply.

Operating grant applications will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- organizations must be in good standing and currently incorporated as a “society” under the BC Societies Act
- services to be funded must be aligned with the purpose of the Community Grants Program
- applicants must show evidence of need for the service
- applicants must show evidence of financial need for a grant

SECTION E: GUIDELINES FOR PROJECT GRANTS

1. Guidelines for Applying for a Project Grant

- a) If the project is north shore-wide, a West Vancouver component must be identified.
- b) One-time-only special events, tournaments and anniversary celebrations will be considered.
- c) A group of individuals with support from a not-for-profit organization may apply for a project grant. If approved, the grant will be issued to the not-for-profit organization and it will be entirely responsible for all accountability requirements.
- d) The application must show either the completion of the project within one year, or an indication of what other sources of funding will support the activity in the future or to completion.
- e) Projects should build on the strengths of the community to respond to identified issues, needs and priorities.
- f) Projects that leave a legacy or demonstrate long-term benefits will be given preference.
- g) Special events that build awareness of an organization's activity will be considered for project grant funding. If the event is to be repeated, or become annual, it should be incorporated within the operating activities of the organization and an application should be made for an operating grant.
- h) Wherever possible, those affected by the project should be involved in its development, implementation and evaluation.
- i) Other funding sources for project grants should be sought and identified in the application.

2. Evaluation Criteria for Project Grants

Applicants must use and fully complete the downloadable application form to apply.

Project grant applications will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Organizations must be in good standing and currently incorporated as a "society" under the BC Societies Act.
- Services to be funded must be aligned with the purpose of the Community Grants Program.
- Applicants must show evidence of need for the project.
- Applicants must show evidence of financial need for a grant.

SECTION F: GUIDELINES FOR LOCAL TO GLOBAL YOUTH INITIATIVES GRANT

1. Guidelines for Applying for a Local to Global Youth Initiatives Grant

- a) Organizations, individuals and groups of youth may apply.
- b) Individuals applying may do so based on out-of-pocket costs to participate in competitions, tournaments, competitive festivals, conferences or leadership initiatives that are regional, provincial, national or international in scope.
- c) Applications from groups must be for initiatives held in West Vancouver or be able to demonstrate a significant benefit to West Vancouver's youth.
- d) Applicants must be West Vancouver residents aged 25 or younger at the time of the event.
- e) Individual applicants may make multiple applications for distinct events, however, the maximum grant for any applicant is \$500.

2. Application Process for Local to Global Youth Initiatives Grants

- a) Applicants must use and fully complete the downloadable application form to apply.
- b) Applicants must disclose actual out-of-pocket expenses directly incurred or anticipated, including competition, tournament or conference entry fees and transportation to the event.
- c) Applicants should include a description of their individual and/or group efforts to find additional sources of funding for the event through their own fundraising initiative and or sponsorship.
- d) There is no annual submission deadline for Local to Global Youth Initiatives grants. Applications may be made and will be received and considered at any point during the year. Applicants are urged to apply prior to the event, but may submit an application for a grant up to three (3) months after the event has completed.

3. Evaluation Criteria for Local to Global Youth Initiatives Grants

- a) Each application will be assessed on its own merits against the Local to Global Youth Initiative fund eligibility criteria and not compared to other applications.
- b) Applications are adjudicated by the CGC, and recommended applications are approved by the Director of Parks, Culture & Community Services.
- c) Each application is considered on a first-come, first-serve basis. Should the Local to Global Youth Initiatives fund be exhausted in a given year, remaining applications that are eligible and would otherwise be recommended will be placed in sequence for review and consideration in the following fiscal year. In this event, such applicants do not need to re-submit their application.

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BLUEPRINT FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY & CHANGE

FRAMEWORK FOR A SOCIAL ACTION PLAN FOR WEST VANCOUVER

District of West Vancouver Community Grants Committee (2017)



VISION | ADVANCE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND WELL-BEING
IN WEST VANCOUVER THROUGH INNOVATIVE LEADERSHIP,
SUSTAINABILITY OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY, AND INCLUSION

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

First introduced in 2008, the West Vancouver Blueprint for Social Responsibility and Change is a long-range strategic planning tool to address issues fundamental to the health and well-being of a vibrant community, such as equity, health, quality of life and social inclusion. The Blueprint helps to guide decisions and resource allocations on social matters to help create positive community change. Through this, many successful collaborative initiatives have advanced connections and well-being in West Vancouver.

The 2017 Blueprint for Social Responsibility and Change contains revised strategies that reflect current community needs and the District's commitment to ensuring that social issues are considered as an integral part of long-term planning and community sustainability.

- Imbed the importance of community social services in the District's culture
- Anticipate and meet community needs as demographic changes occur, through short and long term strategies for the delivery of social services
- Respond to and identify new directions and challenges through a social services delivery model that is both innovative and flexible
- Ensure a purposeful and accountable response to community needs by measuring, evaluating and monitoring progress
- Embrace the values of diversity, access, social inclusion, safety and adaptability in all District initiatives
- Proactively address social challenges by taking actions that ensure equal treatment of all citizens



1 RECOGNIZE THE DELIVERY OF COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES AS A VITAL MUNICIPAL PRIORITY

STRATEGY 1

Apply a 'social' lens to development and policy planning to ensure that the social priorities of the community are considered in municipal planning and processes.

STRATEGY 2

Ensure the municipal budget cycle is informed of social services needs.

STRATEGY 3

Provide training around awareness of barriers and accessibility for District staff.

STRATEGY 4

Continue support of recreation and leisure opportunities for the marginalized individuals through the District's Recreation Financial Assistance Program, and like programs available through not-for-profit organizations.

STRATEGY 5

Promote and support community skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights and anti-racism.



RECONCILIATION | We call upon federal, provincial, territorial, and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights, and anti-racism.

Call to Action #57

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action (2015)

2 ENSURE THE RESOURCES DISTRIBUTED THROUGH THE DISTRICT ARE MEANINGFUL AND RELEVANT TO WEST VANCOUVER RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES

STRATEGY 6

Ensure that the Community Grants process supports organizations that meet the needs of, and are accessible to, West Vancouver residents.

STRATEGY 7

Promote relationship-building and ongoing dialogue amongst residents.

STRATEGY 8

Ensure that municipal services are provided in a manner that respects the diversity of all residents.

STRATEGY 9

Continue to support and enhance child and youth engagement processes so that young people have an ongoing and meaningful role in providing input to District services and related policy development.

STRATEGY 10

Explore the potential for neighbourhood hubs based on community partnerships.



VULNERABILITY | People in West Vancouver are not always aware that challenges such as poverty, disability, and mental health issues exist here. We need to do more to reach out to those who are “invisible” and vulnerable in our community.

Vital Signs (2017)

West Vancouver Community Foundation

3 COLLABORATE AND MAINTAIN DIALOGUE WITH ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY THAT FILL SOCIAL NEEDS AND GAPS AND THAT FOSTER A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNITY WELL-BEING

STRATEGY 11

Conduct open forums with local service providers to discuss emerging issues and opportunities for collaboration.

STRATEGY 12

Liaise with community agencies, funders and businesses to identify opportunities for collaboration.

STRATEGY 13

Work with the Squamish Nation to find ways to collaborate to meet social service needs.

STRATEGY 14

Maintain and develop partnerships with local community groups and networks.

STRATEGY 15

Promote integrated school and community collaborations.

STRATEGY 16

Explore ways to foster citizen engagement.



COMMUNITY RESILIENCY | Supportive communities provide environments in which people are able to make decisions to improve their health and engage in healthy behaviors.

District of West Vancouver and Lions Bay Community Health Profile

My Health My Community survey

4 MAKE FAIR USE OF RESOURCES TO SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE THE LONG-TERM INDEPENDENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY OF COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICES

STRATEGY 17

Encourage, facilitate and accommodate activities organized by residents as a means to foster a sense of belonging to the community and support diversity.

STRATEGY 18

Review and make recommendations on the allocation of municipal resources to social services to determine if budget allocations adequately address community needs.

STRATEGY 19

Encourage volunteerism in West Vancouver.

STRATEGY 20

Conduct an annual review of the Community Grants budget to determine if budget allocations adequately address community needs and values.



VOLUNTEERISM | Service clubs and volunteer work should be encouraged. They do good for many in and around our community.

Participant, Phase 2 District of West Vancouver Official Community Plan Review (October 2017)

5 WORK WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS DELIVERING SERVICES TO WEST VANCOUVER RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS EMERGING COMMUNITY SOCIAL SERVICE NEEDS

STRATEGY 21

Continue to build partnership arrangements with West Vancouver School District around the use of public facilities to ensure effective use of all facilities and maximize community benefits.

STRATEGY 22

Strengthen relationships and communication with Coast Salish Peoples and provincial and federal government departments in areas where there are shared interests or overlapping jurisdiction.

STRATEGY 23

Participate in regional and tri-municipal planning tables and joint funding initiatives to share knowledge and implement sustainable strategies for addressing priority issues.

STRATEGY 24

Continue with and annually update the Healthy Communities Partnership agreement with Vancouver Coastal Health.



DIVERSITY | Diversity needs diversity. Diverse people want to live in diverse cities with culture, arts and sports that reflect such dynamic backgrounds, but also serve to unify through shared experiences.

Diversity Dividend: Canada's Global Advantage, Centre for International Governance Innovation, 2017

6 WORK WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS TO IDENTIFY WAYS OF BETTER LONG-TERM FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY SO THEY CAN DELIVER SERVICES RELIABLY

STRATEGY 25

Examine the Community Grants application processes on a regular basis to ensure service review, evaluation and adjustment meet municipal and community needs.

STRATEGY 26

Examine the permissive tax exemption application process on a regular basis to ensure service review, evaluation and adjustment meet municipal and community needs.



MUNICIPAL ROLE IN SOCIAL CONNECTEDNESS | Socially connected communities support strong citizen engagement and enhance the health and well-being of residents. Local governments can play a role in improving social connectedness and helping communities thrive by creating strong social environments and resilient neighbourhoods.

BC Healthy Communities (2017)

Community Grants Program: List of Grant Requests Not Recommended for 2023 Funding

Organization	Program	Funding Requested
Athletics for Kids Financial Assistance (BC) Society	Operating	\$2,500
Belweder North Shore Polish Association	Bridge Festival	\$1,000
Better Environmentally Sound Transportation Association	Operating	\$10,000
Har El The North Shore Centre for Jewish Life Society	Operating	\$15,000
Kay Meek Arts Centre	The Messiah	\$15,000
NS Womens Centre	VAWIR	\$5,000
The Cinderella Project Society	The Cinderella Project	\$15,000
WV Lawn Bowling Club	Operating	\$15,000
	TOTAL:	\$78,500

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