City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Rec & Culture - Aug 26, 2003

To:	Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee	**Date:**	August 11, 2003
From:	Jane Fernyhough Manager of Heritage and Cultural Services	**File:**	1085-01
Re:	**Steveston Judo Club: Anniversary Book Funding**		

Staff Recommendation

That a one time grant of $5,500 be allocated to the Steveston Judo Club from the remaining balance of the 2003 Municipal Grant Account for the publication of their 50th Anniversary Memory Book.

Jane Fernyhough
Manager of Heritage and Cultural Services
(4288)

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Staff Report

Origin

At the General Purposes Committee meeting of July 21, 2003 the following referral was made:

> *"That the proposal to award a one-time grant to the Steveston Judo Club in the amount of $5,500 to finance the production of an Anniversary Memory Book, be referred to staff to examine the most appropriate way to provide funding in 2003 for the project, along with possible funding sources."*

During the discussion staff were also requested to contact the Steveston Judo Club on the timeline proposed for this book. They were also to comment on the criteria on the Grants Program and its applicability and timing for this project.

This report responds to this referral.

Analysis

Timeline

In discussions with the Steveston Judo Club they have indicated that the goal is to have the book published and ready for distribution in time for their annual banquet on November 8th which marks the end of their 50th anniversary year. They hope to have a final draft by the end of August. The editing and proofreading must occur in September with printing and binding of the 80 to 100 pages to occur in October.

Grant Criteria and Funding

This type of project might be eligible for grant funding under the projects category. These are defined in the policy as *"one-time-only projects which respond to health, social and cultural needs within Richmond, have a specific set of goals and objectives, and which have a defined start and finishing date."* However, with a limited amount of funding available for those who apply for grants; an increasing number of organizations applying for this funding; and no recent grants of this size allocated for project grants under the Cultural group category it is unlikely that the $5,500 would be granted under the grants program. Grant applications are due by the end of September with final allocations decided by Council early in the following year.

As with the Steveston Judo Club, many worthwhile community projects by groups that are not in the habit of applying for grants, particularly so far in advance, slip through the cracks of being able to access financial help from the City. With tight operating budgets there is currently no mechanism to respond in a flexible, timely manner to requests such as these except through the Council Contingency Account.

Appropriate Way to Fund and Possible Funding Sources in 2003

Currently, the only city program available to fund projects such as this other than Council Contingency is the grants program.

Finance has identified a small amount of funding remaining in the Municipal Grants account that could be used to fund this project.

Financial Impact

The General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services recommends that the $5,500 for the Steveston Judo Club 50th Anniversary Memory Book be taken from the Municipal Grants account.

Conclusion

Given the timing of this project for completion, the possible sources of funding within the city are limited. Two have been identified for Council consideration as possible sources for funding the Anniversary Memory Book commemorating the history of the Steveston Judo Club and the history and contributions of the Canadians of Japanese descent to the community of Richmond.

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