



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Committee
From: Jane Fernyhough
Re: Disability Resource Centre/Therapeutic Equestrian Society

To: Parks, Rec & Culture - Aug 26, 2003
Date: July 28, 2003
File: 1085-01 / 1085-20-RTEQ1

Staff Recommendation

1. That funding for the Disability Resource Centre in the amount of \$70,000 per annum be included in the additional level requests for 2004.
2. That funding for the Richmond Therapeutic Equestrian Society in the amount of \$23,000 per annum be included in the additional level requests for 2004.

Jane Fernyhough
Jane Fernyhough
Manager of Heritage and Cultural Services
(4288)

Att. 5

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Budgets	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>H. Spence</i>
Law	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	

Staff Report

Origin

At the Council meeting of March 25, 2002 resolution R02/6-13 was adopted including:

(1) *That:*

(a) a pilot partnership project be initiated with the Disability Resource Centre

(b) core funding be approved for two years to the Disability Resource Centre of \$70,000 per annum;

A partnership agreement was developed including terms and conditions of the funding and a series of performance measures.

At the June 10, 2002 Council meeting, the following motion was adopted:

(1) *the Agreement for funding of the Disability Resource Centre between the Richmond Committee on Disability and the City be approved and that staff be authorized to proceed with the signing of the agreement.*

(2) *staff report on the Pilot Project in September 2003.*

At the June 9, 2003 Council meeting, staff were directed to include the Therapeutic Equestrian Society in that report. Staff were also requested to include in the report, information on:

- (1) the mandate/role of each of the organizations;
- (2) the compatibility of the Committee on Disability with the Disability Resource Centre and the Therapeutic Equestrian Society;
- (3) the appropriateness of having the Committee on Disability administer the funds for the Therapeutic Equestrian Society, and if it was not appropriate under the current arrangement, the steps which could be taken to make it appropriate.

Analysis

Disability Resource Centre Pilot Project

The Richmond Committee on Disability (RCD) is a registered non-profit society that operates in Richmond. One of the programs of the RCD is a Disability Resource Centre (DRC) a not-for-profit community based resource centre. It offers a variety of specialized information, resources and programs that assist people with disabilities/chronic health problems to achieve greater control over the decisions that affect their lives and to achieve the goal of living independently or more independently.

After several requests to Council for funding of the DRC, Council approved funding for a two-year pilot project which included a contribution agreement with detailed evaluation criteria. (**Attachment 1** has a summary of the statistical evaluation of the criteria.)

Regular contact and meetings were held with DRC staff to ensure that the Disability Resource Centre was meeting the agreed upon performance measures.

Overall, the pilot project has proven to be a success both in terms of meeting residents' needs and generating spin-off revenue in the community. Highlights of the performance measures from the evaluation criteria include:

- Information/Referral and Website (Attachment 1, point 1)
- Pan West Networking Engagement for Entrepreneurs with Disabilities (Attachment 1, point 12)
- Accessibility Study (Attachment 1, point 3)

DRC staff also assisted with the Tall Ships Festival by conducting site visits, providing information on accessibility, promotions, ticket distribution and provision of volunteers.

Future Planning - The major immediate goal for the DRC is to find a larger location. They are actively seeking space to increase their size from 1800 to approximately 5000 square feet. This will allow them to expand current programs, offer more support to community and parent groups, and provide new program and service opportunities. They are working with City staff to find off-site locations to run some of their programs.

Their multicultural co-ordinator who is developing their multi-cultural program has increased participation at the centre from families who struggled with language in their attempts to find out about service. This program is currently working with Canadian Heritage - Multiculturalism Canada, who have encouraged the DRC to submit a proposal to develop a Canada-wide model designed to attract people from multicultural and First Nations communities to access services available in their first language at Independent Living Centres and social service agencies across Canada.

The RCD is also trying to bring the Canadian Association of Independent Living Centres (CAILC) conference back to Richmond in 2004. Richmond hosted this conference in 2001 and it was attended by 130 participants from across the country.

Options available to council:

1. **(Recommended) Provide core funding for the DRC on an annual basis in the City's operating budget.**

This would provide ongoing and stable base funding for the DRC. It will allow for the continued provision of services for people with disabilities. It should be noted that this may serve as a precedent to other social service groups and they may request the same type of support from the City.

2. Complete the pilot project and refer the DRC back to the grants program.

The RCD has applied through this process in the past and not been successful due to declining grants budgets and increasing applications. This does not provide ongoing or stable funding, and the group does not know until the beginning of the year if and how much funding it might receive.

3. Do not support the DRC with City funding.

City Council has the option of denying the request for further funding for the operation of the DRC. This would not satisfy the RCD request for City support for persons with disabilities.

Requested information on the Richmond Committee on Disability (RCD), the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) and the Richmond Therapeutic Equestrian Society (RTES)

Mandates of the Organizations:

RCD: The mission is to give people with disabilities the opportunity to participate in the community to the fullest extent of their ability and to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities by working for: Inclusion, Independence and Empowerment.

The RCD has served a role as the official committee advising Council on issues affecting persons with disabilities in Richmond since 1988. Over that time, the RCD has advised and worked with the City on issues such as housing, recreation, transportation, and most recently the Olympic bid. For this role, they receive funding from the City in the amount of \$9600 annually.

Activities that the RCD has on their current work plan include housing design, parking, awareness and accessibility training, audible signals, social and recreational opportunity development and transportation. The DRC is the major ongoing program of the RCD.

DRC: The DRC offers a variety of specialized information, resources and programs that assist people with disabilities/chronic health problems to achieve greater control over the decisions that affect their lives and to achieve the goal of living independently or more independently.

RTES: RTES is an incorporated society that operates in Richmond providing a therapeutic horseback riding program for children and youth with disabilities. The program provides an environment which helps participants achieve their full development potential, and encourages their integration with non-disabled people where possible. The activity provides a recreational opportunity for children and youth who may have limited or no other recreational activities available to them, and has long term physical, social and emotional benefits to the individuals and their families.

Compatibility of the RCD and RTES organizations

By the nature of the clients that are served, the organizations would be considered to be compatible. The RCD is a supporter of the RTES program. Through the DRC they provide support to RTES by providing bookkeeping at a nominal cost as well as some in-kind clerical

support associated with RTES fundraising banquet. The DRC steers volunteers to RTES for both the fundraising luncheon and throughout the year. The DRC and RTES offer a joint summer riding program at Twin Oaks Farm.

In the past the two organizations have shared their property insurance, however, a recent change in coverage for the DRC has blocked the ability for RTES to be part of the policy.

Appropriateness of the RCD administering any City funds to the RTES

The RCD and RTES are two separate societies with different, albeit complementary, mandates.

From a legal standpoint, it would be possible for the City to grant money to one society for distribution to another. (**Attachment 2** is the legal opinion from the Staff Solicitor.)

This however would not be recommended for several reasons. Providing funds to one group for distribution to others would give control over how much is distributed to each program to that group and not the City. If Council were to attach conditions to the City grant, then the distribution has already been decided so there is no advantage to granting to one organization for other organizations. In the past, organizations that distribute funds to other groups have applied through the grants program and been turned down. One of the criteria for ineligibility of grants are organizations that primarily fund other organizations.

Amalgamation of the two organizations would not be a viable option for either group. The RCD and RTES, as separate non-profit societies, both apply for casino funding that forms a significant part of their budgets. They also have some of the same corporate and individual funding sources which may be put at risk if they were the same organization. From the perspective of RTES, the ability to attract donors who have an individual interest in their organization would be lost without their individual profile.

Therefore, while these two organizations work very closely together, it is recommended that the City continue to treat them as two separate organizations and that the RCD not be the recipient of all City funding targeted for the operations of both the DRC and the RTES.

Funding for the RTES

This recreation program has long term physical, social and emotional benefits to the individuals and their families and in many cases is the only, or one of very few, recreational opportunities available to them. **Attachment 3** shows some of the parent comments.

In the Fall/Winter/Spring of 2002/3 RTES provided riding opportunities for 41 riders per season. They are planning to offer spaces for 60 riders per season starting in the Fall. RTES is now informing doctors, physiotherapists, schools, hospitals and community organizations that they are able to take new applicants.

Over the past two years, RTES has applied for grant funding from the City and in both years has appealed the initial grant funding recommended. In 2002, they requested \$26,964 and initially received \$2000 through the grant process. They made an appeal to the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Committee and received an additional \$18,000 from casino funds.

In 2003, they requested \$30,585 and received \$1500 through the grant process. They appealed to Finance Select Committee and were awarded an additional \$22,000 from funds that had remained unallocated within the grants budget. A summary of recent funding for the RTES is included as **Attachment 4**.

An additional level request was submitted for consideration in the 2002 operating budget, however that request was not approved.

RTES relies heavily on external funding to enable the program to continue. They do a significant amount of fundraising on an ongoing basis. BC Gaming funds are the single largest revenue source currently in their budget. RTES has been verbally informed by Ministry staff that concrete City support to the program is becoming a more important criteria. RTES has also found in recent funding bids that individuals and groups ask whether the City is a supporting partner. RTES is developing increased sponsorship opportunities and continues to seek additional revenues to allow the program to serve more children and their families.

It appears that the RTES budget (**Attachment 5**) has little room for expense cutting and the only possibility to increase revenue would be to charge the riders more per hour. The current rider fees are in line with other programs throughout BC. RTES would be very reluctant to increase fees, as it may be a deterrent to some parents who already face significant daily challenges.

RTES has significant community involvement in this program both through funding support and volunteerism. Over 10,000 hours are contributed annually by volunteers as each rider requires 1 to 3 volunteers.

Options available to council:

1. **(Recommended) That an amount of \$23,000 (based on the City contribution in 2003) be included as an additional level request for inclusion in the base level operating budget starting in 2004.**

This would provide ongoing and stable base funding for the RTES; remove RTES from the grants process; and, show City support as an incentive for other funders to this important recreational activity for children with disabilities.

2. **Encourage RTES to continue to submit their request through the city grant process.**

As has been seen in the past two years the amount of funding available within the grants budget is limited and that allocated has resulted in an appeal by RTES for further funding. An increased amount has been made possible by Casino funding (2002) and unallocated grants funding (2003) but this may not be possible in future years.

3. **The City inform RTES they will not fund any of their operating costs.**

Should this be the chosen option the program may have to be discontinued leaving participants with few other recreational opportunities. While the City funding in the past two years amounts to approximately 15% of their operating costs it does provide an incentive and show of support for both BC Gaming funding and private donors to

contribute significant amounts. RTES will most likely continue to submit grant applications.

Financial Impact

The funding amounts would be submitted as two separate additional level requests beginning in 2004.

The \$70,000 annual request for the RCD is based on the amount that had been provided by the City during the two year pilot project. This was initially based on a portion of the lease costs for the space, utilities and a portion of staffing costs. It should be noted that should the DRC find larger premises with increased lease costs the City funding would not automatically increase. Any increase in annual funding would be future additional level requests and at Council discretion.

The \$23,000 annual request for RTES is based on the level of City funding they received in 2003 from the grants program.

Conclusion

During the two year pilot project the DRC has exceeded the performance measures outlined in the contribution agreement. It has demonstrated that there is significant need in the community and has provided a valuable service to persons with disabilities. It is recommended that the City continue to support the operation of the DRC by including a base level of funding in the operating budget.

RTES has value in the community in providing a therapeutic recreational opportunity to children with disabilities whose other recreation opportunities are limited. It has demonstrated an ability to fundraise a large portion of their operating budget and a small amount of stable funding for this operating expenses would help with fundraising from other agencies and citizens.



Sean Davies
Diversity Services Coordinator
(4390)

SD:sd

Disability Resource Centre Performance Measures

Informing and Educating:

1. The DRC will operate and maintain their information website containing relevant and current information concerning people with disabilities. *Performance Measures will include:*

	Mar 02	Apr 02	May 02	Jun 02	Jul 02	Aug 02	Sep 02	Oct 02	Nov 02	Dec 02	Jan 03	Feb 03	Mar 03	Apr 03	May 03	Jun 03	Jul 03
# of hits to the website	6520	13220	7900	7360	7398	7480	7240	4400	5800	7960	9033	22,334	35,959	30,452	22,806	23,586	19,209

The growth in number of hits over the term of the agreement.

The growth is shown in numbers. There was a transition in the database counting system in January 2003 and that is reflected in the significant growth from that time. Initially, only hits on their information database were counted. In January, all website hits were able to be tracked.

Whether information is kept up to date.

Staff made regular checks on the website to ensure that information was current and kept up to date. The information was regularly updated and their webmaster had a schedule for ensuring information was current.

2. The DRC will provide information to consumers through their information and referral program. *Performance Measures will include:*

	Mar 02	Apr 02	May 02	Jun 02	Jul 02	Aug 02	Sep 02	Oct 02	Nov 02	Dec 02	Jan 03	Feb 03	Mar 03	Apr 03	May 03	Jun 03	Jul 03
# of consumers served	170	218	318	332	351	467	565	493	525	504	698	941	1271	1256	1044	1091	1577
# of referrals from other sources	51	53	62	31	21	44	43	58	90	69	118	115	239	157	120	103	100

City referrals were not formally tracked although it was generally considered to be less than 5 each month.

The DRC has provided an important source of specialized information for Richmond residents. Since the start of the project, there has been significant growth in the number of users both of the information and referral service and the website.

3. The DRC, with Tourism Richmond, will hire a student in the summer of 2002 to research restaurants and tourist sites for customer accessibility. A report containing a summary of this information will be shared with local businesses, the City of Richmond, Tourism Richmond as well as being located on the DRC website.
Performance measures will include:

A listing of the businesses who had made changes or improvements to increase accessibility based on the findings of the report.

This project is not yet completed. It will be finished in 2004. A student was contracted to report on the accessibility of local restaurant and tourist sites. The student conducted site visits at 161 locations throughout Richmond.

It involves a three step process of which only Step 1 (on-site assessments) has been completed. The DRC are currently addressing Step 2 which is informing those visited of their findings to give them an opportunity to consider changes that may improve accessibility for people with disabilities. Step 3 will be to complete the final report and distribute the information to the City of Richmond, Tourism Richmond and located on the DRC website. The DRC also has plans to list the information on the accessibility of Richmond on the Access-Able Travel website, an international travel website for people with disabilities, listing Richmond as an accessible city.

This study and follow up will help in promoting the City of Richmond as an accessible community. It will also help raise awareness of local businesses and hopefully help them with improvements they can make to be more accessible to all people including people with disabilities, seniors and parents with strollers.

4. The DRC will produce multi-lingual brochures designed to reach audiences whose first language is not English.
Performance measures will include:

How many languages were brochures published in?
2 English/Chinese

How many residents approached the centre in response to the brochures and what opportunities did that contact create for the individual.
60 residents
Created opportunities to contact social service and other service providers for children and created links to parent support groups.

5. The DRC will offer basic computer skills courses to their consumers.
Performance measures will include:

	Mar 02	Apr 02	May 02	Jun 02	Jul 02	Aug 02	Sep 02	Oct 02	Nov 02	Dec 02	Jan 03	Feb 03	Mar 03	Apr 03	May 03	Jun 03	Jul 03
# of users	14	14	13	12	no classes	no classes	16	17	15	13	20	20	22	22	22	22	22
# Richmond residents	14	14	13	12			16	17	15	13	20	20	22	22	22	22	22

12 regular drop-in participants also come in to practice their computer skills.

6. The DRC will offer programs designed to improve opportunities for socialization and improve social skills.
Performance measures will include:

	Mar 02	Apr 02	May 02	Jun 02	Jul 02	Aug 02	Sep 02	Oct 02	Nov 02	Dec 02	Jan 03	Feb 03	Mar 03	Apr 03	May 03	Jun 03	Jul 03
# of programs offered	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
# of participants	12	14	14	16	15	16	17	16	16	24	18	18	18	18	18	18	36
# of Richmond residents	12	14	14	16	15	16	17	16	16	24	18	18	18	18	18	18	36

Anecdotal information from parents and participants.

“...For the past year, my daughter has participated in the Computer course and social skill program at the DRC. ... From the Social Skill Program, she has met friends and developed the ability to interact with various people. Since she started the programs, she has become much more independent and cheerful. She is enjoying her time at the DRC very much...”

Independent Living Skills

7. The DRC will provide a one on one service to empower individuals to help themselves. Participants will be educated on their rights and responsibilities, provided "how to" instructions and information that they may need to help them be their own advocate.

Performance measures will include:

The number of participants and the number of Richmond residents.

This has been a part of the DRC service with every individual they deal with on a daily basis. It is not a number that was collected and counted as it is so ingrained into their everyday work environment that it could not be counted individually without crossing over into other programs.

Supporting

8. The DRC will run parent and children's peer support groups.

Performance measures will include:

	Mar 02	Apr 02	May 02	Jun 02	Jul 02	Aug 02	Sep 02	Oct 02	Nov 02	Dec 02	Jan 03	Feb 03	Mar 03	Apr 03	May 03	Jun 03	Jul 03
# of groups established	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
# of participants	10	16	19	32	20	20	16	15	14	14	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
# of Richmond residents	9	15	18	31	20	20	14	14	13	13	16	16	18	18	18	18	18

Anecdotal stories.

"...Because of my son's condition of developmental delay, he has difficulty in communicating in English. ...I am grateful to the DRC for their provision of much demanded services in Chinese. This approach enables my son and our family to have a better understanding of the Canadian environment and benefit issues. My son has improved and flourished a great deal at the DRC, especially with the development of his self-esteem."

"I and other parents find the discussions and the sharing of information to be very useful. Furthermore, the sessions are held in Chinese, my mother tongue, which is accommodating to newer immigrants who have yet to become familiar with the English language; this in turn widens our circle and enriches our experiences."

977377

“These meetings provide we parents of the same ethnic group & cultural background very valuable chances to share our experiences and feelings. This is also the only meeting that we can discuss our problems in our own language. For some of the parents who do not speak or who speak very little English, this is especially vital.”

Programs

9. The DRC will run a Navigating the Waters Program that provides information and assistance to potential employees, employers, volunteers or individuals just seeking to be involved in the community.

Performance measures will include:

The # of participants - 60 people were part of the program over the over term of the agreement.

The # of Richmond residents - 54 of the participants were Richmond residents.

The types of activities that individuals seek assistance on and how the DRC was able to provide assistance. The main support provided for NTW consumers is pre-employment training. This involves computer training, mostly Microsoft Word, Excel and Windows. Additionally, they have developed an Office Assistant Training program, working with graduates of the computer studies to learn more office techniques and responsibilities. Participants learn to answer phones, switch customers to correct extensions, filing, greeting people etc. This is in the hope of finding office reception positions, either paid or volunteer.

10. The DRC will run a Parking Permit Program that will provide handicapped parking permits to Richmond residents.

Performance measures will include:

	Mar 02	Apr 02	May 02	Jun 02	Jul 02	Aug 02	Sep 02	Oct 02	Nov 02	Dec 02	Jan 03	Feb 03	Mar 03	Apr 03	May 03	Jun 03	Jul 03
# of participants	11	8	9	2	7	5	12	12	29	33	24	18	21	14	32	20	44

The growth over the agreement time period

As indicated, there has been a significant growth over the time period for a service that was formerly run at the SPARC office in Vancouver.

11. The DRC will offer a pre Self-Employment Skills Training program that will offer a more advanced computer training program, how to set up a business plan, marketing skills and how to develop a financial plan.
Performance measures will include:

The # of participants – There were 5 participants in this program.
How many graduated on to a bank loan program – 1 participant graduated onto a bank loan program.

12. The DRC will host a Pan Western Canada entrepreneurial workshop for people with disabilities.
Performance measures will include:

The number of participants including where they came from.

	Mailing List	# of Registered Attendees
Alberta	17%	29 (16%)
British Columbia	40%	126 (71%)
Manitoba	14%	10 (6%)
Saskatchewan	29%	9 (5%)
Other provinces	9%	4 (2%)
Total attendees		178

Spin-off benefits for local business/hotels

19 business exhibitors participated
 \$68-72K est. (utilizing estimate figures provided by Tourism Richmond)

Financial management of the event (debit/profit)

\$1200 profit.

This was a three-day conference at a local hotel and showed the ability of the Centre to organize such an event as well as the capability of the City of Richmond to host an event catering to a large number of people with disabilities.

The event also involved some significant partners including Coast Capital Savings, Western Economic Diversification Canada, and the Community Futures Development Association.

13. The DRC will explore additional partnership opportunities to expand and increase program delivery.
Performance measures will include:

How many opportunities are tried and developed.

Who the partnerships were with.

What benefit residents received out of this partnership agreement.

This was difficult to measure as partnership had no clear definition. Many things were done in co-operation with other agencies that may/may not fit under partnerships. In some cases, the partnerships were financial; Coast Capital, Royal Bank, Western Economic Diversification Fund.

DRC staff also sat on many committees including the 2010 Olympic Bid and Paralympic committees, RCSAC, and the Richmond Rehabilitation and Housing Committee just to name a few. They have worked with Volunteer Richmond to create opportunities for residents as well as organizing/supporting the Volunteer Richmond recognition dinner.

14. The DRC will offer opportunities for volunteer involvement.

Performance measure will include:

The number of volunteers – There was an average of 52 volunteers per month over the term.

Total of hours contributed by those volunteers – There was an average of 1118 hours per month or a total of over 19,000 hours over the term.

List of training opportunities provided for volunteers.

Orientation

How to work with people with disabilities (PWD)

How to develop a curriculum/program for PWD

Davies, Sean

From: Bittel, Rebecca
Sent: August 6, 2003 10:03 AM
To: Davies, Sean
Subject: RE: Non-profit Societies

Legally speaking, Council could make a grant to one Society and leave it to that Society to distribute the funds to other groups. However, this may not be appropriate for a number of reasons. First, if a sum of money is given to one group to distribute, that group will want to distribute as little as possible in order to hold onto more funds for its own purposes. Second, unless Council attaches conditions to the grant to the first Society, it will lose control over what happens to the funds (i.e. how much goes to who). If it does attach conditions re. how much goes to who, there is no point in giving it to the first Society to distribute in the first place since Council is deciding on the distribution up front.

It seems to me that if Council wants to entertain this type of structure, the funds should be given to a group with a broad mandate. There should be conditions on how the funds are distributed, a formula for deciding how much each group gets, and a requirement that a report be brought back to Council on how the funds were distributed. An appeal mechanism may also have to be introduced for groups who feel they were not given adequate consideration (even if no such mechanism is formally introduced, you know that Council is going to hear from these groups if they're not happy).

Those are my thoughts. Feel free to drop by to discuss.

Rebecca

December 3, 2002

To Whom It May Concern:

Our daughter Stephaney has cerebral palsy resulting in her entire right sided muscle control being compromised (hemiplegia). She also suffers from epilepsy as well as an as yet undiagnosed frequent and often prolonged accelerated pulse, further impeding her ability to function.

Five years ago at age 7, Stephaney started riding with RTES. She instantly fell in love with horses and riding. The RTES therapeutic riding program has provided and continues to provide very tangible benefits to Stephaney's life and well being. Specifically, we feel that Stephaney has benefitted in the following areas:

Physical development: Stephaney's riding has improved both her gait and her balance noticeably. Her right arm/hand have become stronger and more functional. The therapeutic riding program also provides an important indirect benefit by acting as a very strong motivator for Stephaney to try to strengthen her right side to be able to do all horse related activities better.

Self esteem and social development: Stephaney's multiple diagnoses sometimes makes her feel isolated and inadequate, and being able to master a physical activity which most typical children are not able to do has created a strong sense of pride and self worth. The regular interaction with the staff and volunteers at RTES, as well as the relationship with the horses, are also important parts of Stephaney's development.

The very professional staff and volunteers at RTES have shown a high degree of sensitivity and respect for Stephaney's unique needs. She looks forward to each riding lesson with a great deal of anticipation and excitement. Stephaney's multiple conditions are quite debilitating at times, but as she has told us many times: "When I am on Jasper (her current mount) I forget all my problems."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee Schneider', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lee Schneider, father

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pat Sheoratan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Pat Sheoratan, mother

November 26, 2002

Max Read
Richmond Therapeutic Equestrian Society
13671 No. 3 Road
Richmond, BC
V7A 1X7



Dear Max,

On behalf of our Richmond Early Intervention Therapy Team at the Centre for Ability, I would like to express our appreciation for the excellent contribution your organization makes in the lives of children with special needs. As you know we work with young children with a wide variety of physical and developmental challenges. Many of our young clients have participated over the years in therapeutic riding and we have observed the many benefits that result. We also often hear wonderful comments from enthusiastic families who are so pleased to witness their child's success.

Children with disabilities experience physical, emotional and social benefits from the horseback riding. Not only does it help with coordination and balance, but the achievement of accomplishing a new skill offers a boost to self confidence while at the same time providing the excitement of participating in a highly esteemed activity.

We congratulate your organization for developing this wonderful resource in the Richmond community and wish you every continuing success. We will continue to encourage families to check out your program as this enables their youngsters a most splendid opportunity.

Wishing you the best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alison Brook', is written over a horizontal line.

Alison Brook, MSW
Social Worker

Vancouver Regional Office
2805 Kingsway
Vancouver, BC V5R 5H9
Tel (604) 451-5511
Fax (604) 451-5651

Burnaby Regional Office
1409 Sperling Avenue
Burnaby, BC V5B 4J8
Tel. (604) 444-5101
Fax (604) 444-5102

97

North Shore Regional Office
595 Burley Drive
West Vancouver, BC V8T 1Z3
Tel (604) 925-2133
Fax (604) 925-2144

Richmond Regional Office
#150 - 7000 Minoru Boulevard
Richmond, BC V6Y 3Z5
Tel (604) 272-7322
Fax (604) 272-1475

www.centreforability.bc.ca

The Centre for Ability is a registered charity. Our work is supported by government funding, donations, legacies and memberships.



Funding for Richmond Therapeutic Equestrian Society

Year	Casino Revenue	Grants	Recreation & Culture*	Total
2000		\$ 1,000	\$ 356	\$ 1,356
2001		\$ 1,500	\$ 182	\$ 1,682
2002	\$ 18,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 213	\$ 20,213
2003		\$ 23,500	\$ 307	\$ 23,807
Total	\$ 18,000	\$ 28,000	\$ 1,058	\$ 47,058

* Recreation & Culture figures are based on assistance to some individuals provided through the Working Poor Fund.

ATTACHMENT 5



RICHMOND THERAPEUTIC EQUESTRIAN SOCIETY
BUDGET April 1, 2003 - March 31, 2004

EXPENSES

Instructors Wages & Benefits	93,504.00 *
Space & Board	44,724.96
Utilities	5,700.00
Maintenance	720.00
Horse Care	2,000.00
Office Supplies	3,600.00
Insurance	1,567.00
Fundraising	4,000.00
Promotion	1,500.00
Contingency	4,000.00
Volunteer Assistants required	140,292.00 **
Total	301,607.96

REVENUE

B.C. Gaming	\$50,000.00
City of Richmond	23,000.00
Penta Homes	10,000.00
Lions, Firefighters, other Assoc.	10,000.00
Horse Show	4,500.00
Luncheon	15,000.00
Grants	8,000.00
General Donations	2,500.00
Riding Fees	12,500.00
Fundraising & Sponsorships	27,000.00
Volunteer Assistants - 10,068 hrs.	140,292.00 **
Total	\$302,792.00

*

Note: Instructors wages & benefits include 1 additional person part-time

**

Note: Based on \$10 per hour

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