



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Planning Committee
From: Cathryn Volkering Carlile
 General Manager, Community Services
Re: 2013 Child Care Grants

Date: January 9, 2013

File:

Staff Recommendation

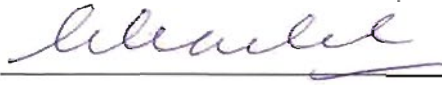

That, as per the report from the General Manager of Community Services, dated January 9, 2013, Child Care Grants be awarded as follows:

1. Child Care Capital Grants be awarded for the recommended amounts, and cheques disbursed for a total of \$49,998.53, and
2. Child Care Professional and Program Development Grants be awarded for the recommended amounts, and cheques disbursed for a total of \$15,000.

Cathryn Volkering Carlile
General Manager, Community Services

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE			
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Budgets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 	REVIEWED BY CAO	INITIALS:

REPORT CONCURRENCE			
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Budgets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
REVIEWED BY SMT SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 	REVIEWED BY CAO	INITIALS:

Staff Report

Origin

The purpose of this report is to recommend the expenditure of \$64,998.53 for Child Care Grants.

This report supports the following Council Term Goal Statement regarding Community Social Services:

To develop and implement an updated social services strategy that clearly articulates and communicates the City's roles, priorities and limitations with respect to social services issues and needs.

Findings of Fact

The City has established two Child Care Reserve Funds:

- The Child Care Development Reserve Fund, established in 1994 for capital expenses including providing grants to non-profit societies for capital purchases and improvements, such as equipment, furnishings, renovations and playground development, and
- The Child Care Operating Reserve Fund, established in April 2012 to assist with non-capital expenses including grants to non-profit societies to support child care professional and program development within the City.

To offer both capital and non-capital grants this year, Council approved an expenditure of \$20,000 from the 2011 Surplus Appropriation for Professional and Program Development Grants as no funds had yet accrued in the newly established Child Care Operating Reserve Fund. Council had previously approved the expenditure of \$50,000 from the Child Care Development Reserve Fund for Capital Grants in the 2012 Capital Budget. Combined, a total of \$70,000 was made available for 2013 Child Care Grants.

In September 2012, a call for applications was posted on the City Page, City Website, and circulated by the Richmond Child Care Resource and Referral Centre, as well as Richmond Health Services Child Care Licensing, with a deadline for submissions of November 2, 2012. A total of 8 applications were received as outlined in **Attachment 1**.

Analysis

A Child Care Grants subcommittee was mandated by the Child Care Development Advisory Committee (CCDAC) to review applications. The subcommittee met to discuss the merits of each application and sought further information to clarify some of the requests, as well as to receive information regarding a previously awarded Child Care Grant.

At the January 2013 CCDAC meeting, the subcommittee report (**Attachment 2**) was reviewed and the recommendations endorsed. All applicants were recommended for a grant, and all except one were recommended to receive the full request.

Staff support the rationale and recommendations proposed by CCDAC.

Financial Impact

The recommended grants are within previously approved expenditure amounts, as outlined in Findings of Fact, above.

Conclusion

Staff recommend CCDAC's proposed expenditure of \$64,998.53 in Child Care Grants to support the provision of quality, affordable and accessible child care throughout Richmond.



Lesley Sherlock
Social Planner
(604-276-4220)

LS:ls

2013 Child Care Grant Applications

Summary Table

Applicant	Program	Purpose	Request	Recomm.
Capital Requests				
Brighthouse United Church Daycare and Nursery Preschool	35 Preschool and 25 Group Day Care (3 – 5 year-olds)	Painting interior walls of preschool (\$1,937.50) Replacing fluorescent lights and painting of daycare (\$3,031.00)	\$4,968.50	\$4,968.50
East Richmond Community Association	126 Preschool and 94 Out-of-School Care spaces	Outdoor Play Space Expansion	\$5,723.20	\$5,723.20
Hamilton Community Association	62 Out-of-School Care and 20 Preschool spaces	New Playground	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Richmond Society for Community Living	25 Group Day Care (3 – 5 year-olds)	Laminate flooring for Treehouse	\$5,892.49	\$5,892.49
Society of Richmond Children's Centres	Projected: 12 Infant, 12 Toddler, 25 (3 – 5), 20 Preschool, 20 Out-of-School Care	Equipment for West Cambie Infant/toddler program	\$5,104.34	\$5,104.34
Tapestry Christian Preschool Society	25 Group Day Care (3 – 5 year olds)	New flooring (\$11,250) Four tricycles (\$800)	\$12,050.00	\$8,310.00
Total Requested/Recomm.			\$53,738.53	\$49,998.53
Total Available				\$50,000.00
Remaining				\$1.47
Professional and Program Development Requests				
Richmond Society for Community Living	Supported Child Development Program for inclusion of children with disabilities in child care settings	"Supporting Children with Autism in Child Care Settings" Training Series for child care providers	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Volunteer Richmond Information Services	Child Care Resource and Referral Services, providing training, resources and services for child care providers and parents	Child Care Resource and Referral Professional development and training (\$5,000) and Circles of Caring Conference (\$5,000)	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Total Requested/Recomm.			\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Total Available				\$20,000.00
Remaining				\$5,000.00

2013 Child Care Reserve Fund Grants

CCDAC Recommended Allocations

Background

The Child Care Development Advisory Committee (CCDAC) Grants Sub-Committee reviewed the applications received in response to the 2012 call for applications. There were six applications requesting Capital Grants with a total requested amount of \$53,738.53. Two applications were submitted for Professional and Program Development Grants with a total of \$15,000.

Recommendations

There is \$50,000 allocated for Capital requests and \$20,000 allocated for the Professional and Program Development Requests for 2013 Child Care Grants. Most of the applications were well drafted and contained all of the required support materials. A few of the applicants were asked to clarify extra information in order to be eligible to receive the funds. These applicants were contacted and the clarification was obtained.

Prior to evaluating the applications, the CCDAC Grants Sub-Committee reviewed the principles that were recommended and supported by the CCDAC last year. These included:

- that the children in our City would be at the center of our decision making, and
- that priority would be given to applications that supported the broader childcare community.

At this time the CCDAC recommends that the City of Richmond release a total of \$64,998.53 of which \$50,000 is to support the six Capital Request applications received and \$15,000 is to support two Professional and Program Development Request applications received. Priority was given to applicants who fit the principles addressed above. Unlike past years, since the remaining applicant requests were only slightly over the allocated funds, the sub-committee is pleased to be able to support all applicants this year, almost all to the full amounts requested.

Capital Requests

Brighthouse United Church Daycare and Nursery Preschool

Funds requested: \$4,968.50 (\$1,937.50 for Painting interior walls of Nursery Preschool; \$3,031.00 to replace fluorescent lights and paint interior walls of Daycare)

Recommended Allocation: \$4,968.50 as requested

Rationale: The center has requested funds to help paint the interior walls of their nursery preschool, as well as to paint and replace the fluorescent lights in the daycare. We have chosen to support this request because we believe children are happier when they are in a nicer environment and we believe that the appearance of the classrooms will be a noticeable improvement to their existing programs.

East Richmond Community Association

Funds requested: \$5,723.20 for Outdoor Play Space Expansion

Recommended Allocation: \$5,723.20 as requested

Rationale: The center has requested funds to help enhance their playground. We have chosen to support this request because this center serves children of all ages from several schools in its neighborhood, many of them from lower socio-economic levels.

As well, outdoor play space is very important in a child's development, therefore, we believe this is a good project to help fund.

Hamilton Community Association

Funds requested: \$20,000 for New Playground

Recommended Allocation: \$20,000 as requested

Rationale: The center has requested funds to help develop their new community playground. We have chosen to support this request because the center serves a broad community that is growing. As well, outdoor play space is very important in a child's development, therefore we believe this is a good project to help fund.

Richmond Society for Community Living

Funds requested: \$5,892.49 for laminate flooring for Treehouse Early Learning Centre

Recommended Allocation: \$5,892.49 as requested

Rationale: The center has requested funds to change the laminate flooring. We have chosen to support this request because we believe children are happier when they are in a nicer environment and we believe that the appearance of the classrooms will be a noticeable improvement to their existing programs.

Society of Richmond Children's Centers

Funds requested: \$5,104.34 for equipment for West Cambie Infant-Toddler program

Recommended Allocation: \$5,104.34 as requested

Rationale: The center has requested funds for equipment in their West Cambie infant-toddler program. We have chosen to support this request because creating warm, nurturing and beautiful spaces for children is important. In addition infant-toddler programs have been identified as a priority by the last Needs Assessment report. Therefore, to help with the newly built space is important.

Tapestry Christian Preschool Society

Funds requested: \$12,050.00 (\$11,250.00 for new flooring +\$800.00 for 4 tricycles)

Recommended Allocation: \$8,310.00 (\$7,510.00 for new flooring + \$800.00 for 4 tricycles)

Rationale: The center has requested funds for new floorings for their child care center and four heavy-use tricycles. We have chosen to partly support this request because we believe children are happier when they are in a nicer environment and we believe that the appearance of the classrooms will be a noticeable improvement to their existing programs.

However we have found the suggested flooring quote higher than similar requests, and were not able to support it with the full requested amount.

Therefore the \$7,510 grant money for the flooring will be recommended for the applicant, with the condition that it receives the rest of the amount from other sources, and finishes the project within one year of grant approval. Full funding (\$800) is recommended for the tricycles.

Professional and Program Development Requests

Richmond Society for Community Living

Funds requested: \$5,000.00 for Supporting Children with Autism in Child Care Settings Training Series

Recommended Allocation: \$5,000.00 as requested

Rationale: The CCDAC supports this application, as RSCL will be using these funds to provide training for members of the community who support children with Autism in a child care setting.

Volunteer Richmond Information Services

Funds requested: \$10,000 for Professional development/training workshops and Circles of Caring Conference.

Recommended Allocation: \$10,000 as requested (\$5,000 for workshops; \$5,000 for the Conference)

Rationale: The CCDAC supports this application, as the CCRR is providing childcare resource services to the entire child care community. The workshops and conference will be attended primarily by members of the community. The conference, for child care providers, is planned in partnership with the Richmond Child Care Training Committee. The funding will support the Keynote address and allow for a larger venue to accommodate more participants, as a lengthy waitlist developed last year.

Prepared by

CCDAC Child Care Grants Subcommittee

January 2013