



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee **Date:** October 22, 2013
From: Cathryn Volkering-Carlile **File:**
 General Manager, Community Services
Re: **2014 Age-Friendly Community Grant Submission**

Staff Recommendation

1. That a letter be submitted to the Seniors Housing and Support Initiative to indicate Council's support for the City of Richmond's submission for a 2014 Age-friendly Community Planning and Project Grant and the City's willingness to provide overall grant management for the proposed project, as presented in the report from the General Manager, Community Services entitled "2014 Age-Friendly Community Grant Submission."

Cathryn Volkering-Carlile
 General Manager, Community Services
 (604-276-4068)

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Parks Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Recreation Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: DW	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

The Province of BC, through the Ministry of Health and the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) recently announced continued funding of \$500,000 for the Age-friendly Community Planning and Project Grant program. A grant application has been submitted under the program to enable the City to develop a plan to assist Richmond in its application for Age-friendly City designation from the World Health Organization. The program guidelines require that resolutions indicating Council support accompany each submission.

This report complies with Council Term Goal 2.1; “Completion of the development and implementation of a clear City social services strategy that articulates the City’s role, priorities and policies.” Further, it is consistent with Action 9.1 of the recently adopted Richmond Social Development Strategy which indicates the City will pursue the City of Richmond’s designation as an Age-friendly City, joining the World Health Organizations Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities.

Analysis

The Province of BC has advanced the age-friendly agenda since 2007, collaborating with UBCM and other key partners to engage and support local governments in preparing their communities to effectively serve an aging population. Age-friendly BC is built around three key components:

1. Support – Provision of grants (through UBCM) and staff support from the Ministry of Health
2. Recognition – The Ministry of Health will recognize and reward local governments that undertake appropriate steps to become more age-friendly
3. Information – Provision of a resource package and website with tools to assist local government staff.

The Ministry of Health announced that a maximum of 25 grants of up to \$20,000 are available for 2014 community planning initiatives or projects. The priority in 2014 is to engage communities that have not yet completed an age-friendly plan or undertaken a project focused on age-friendly communities.

To take advantage of the funding opportunity, staff prepared and submitted a grant application prior to the Province’s deadline of October 18, 2013. Tight timelines precluded inclusion of a Council resolution of support with the Richmond application. Grant administrators indicated, however, that a late resolution from Richmond City Council would be accepted.

Financial Impact

There is no funding impact at this time.

Conclusion

The Ministry of Health and UBCM have partnered to provide grant funding to BC municipalities for age-friendly community projects. Staff has prepared and submitted a grant application under the program with the intention of developing a plan to pursue Age-friendly designation for Richmond. It is recommended that a letter be sent to the grant administrators that indicates Council's support for the attached submission for a 2014 age-friendly community planning and project grant and the City's willingness to provide overall grant management for the proposed project.



Sean Davies
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