



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee
From: Cathryn Volkering Carlile
 General Manager, Community Services
Re: 2014 Child Care Capital Grants

Date: January 13, 2014
File: 99-Community
 Services/2013-Vol 01

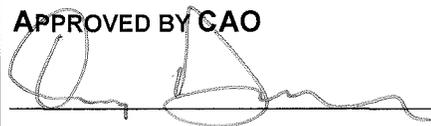
Staff Recommendation

That, as outlined in this report from the General Manager of Community Services, dated January 13, 2014, the Child Care Capital Grants be awarded for the recommended amounts, and cheques be disbursed for a total of \$26,869.



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

Att. 2

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

Staff Report

Origin

The purpose of this report is to recommend the expenditure of \$26,869.00 for Child Care Grants.

The report supports the following Council Term Goal:

2. 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 of Richmond.

Council had previously approved the expenditure of \$50,000 from the Child Care Development Reserve Fund for Capital Grants in the 2014 Capital Budget. However, insufficient funding has accumulated in the Child Care Operating Reserve Fund to enable professional and program development grants to be offered in 2014. As a result, only the Child Care Capital Grants were made available for the 2014 Child Care Grants program.

In October 2013, a call for applications was posted on the City Page and City Website. A notice about the grants availability was also sent to the Richmond Child Care Resource and Referral Centre, and Vancouver Coastal Health Child Care Licensing for sharing with their child care operator contacts. The deadline for submissions was November 22, 2013. A total of five applications were submitted through the City's new online web based grant application system (Attachment 1).

Analysis

A Child Care Grants subcommittee was convened by the Child Care Development Advisory Committee (CCDAC) to review the applications and supporting materials. The subcommittee met and discussed applications from the following organizations:

- Developmental Disabilities Association;

- Richmond Society for Community Living;
- Richmond Society of Children's Centres; and
- Thompson Community Centre Association

The proposed capital grant projects included: installing a security system for a front entrance, constructing a sandbox shelter, replacing a dishwasher, and purchasing furniture and play equipment.

The subcommittee recommended grants be allocated for amounts based on the applicants' requests. Staff supports the recommendations and rationale for funding as proposed by CCDAC (Attachment 2).

Financial Impact

The expenditure of \$26,869 is approved from within the existing 2014 Child Care Capital Projects which are funded from the Child Care Development Reserve.

Conclusion

Staff recommends CCDAC's proposed expenditure of \$26,869 for 2014 Child Care Capital Grants. Funding is available from the 2014 Capital Budget to support these grants which will enhance the provision of quality, affordable and accessible child care throughout Richmond.



Coralys Cuthbert
Child Care Coordinator
(604-204-8621)

CEC:cec

ATTACHMENT 1

2014 Child Care Capital Grants

Applicant	Program	Purpose	Request	Recommendation
Developmental Disabilities Association (Riverside Child Development Centre)	25 licensed spaces Group Care 30 months – School age	Install a security system to provide controlled entry at the front door	\$4,201.00	\$4,201.00
Richmond Society for Community Living (Treehouse Early Learning Centre)	25 licensed spaces Group Care 30 months – School age	Install a sandbox shelter to provide all year round weather protection	\$2,161.00	\$2,161.00
Richmond Society for Community Living (Youth Connection Program)	17 licensed spaces Group Care School Age	Purchase new dishwasher	\$828.00	\$828.00
Society of Richmond Children's Centres (West Cambie Children's Centre)	18 licensed spaces Group Care Under 36 months 24 Group Care 30 months to School Age (+ 20 spaces of Preschool to be added on 2 nd level in 2014)	Purchase equipment and furnishings	\$9,639.00	\$9,639.00
The Thompson Community Centre Association (Rompers Preschool)	36 licensed spaces Preschool (+ 15 spaces to be provided in a new classroom in 2014)	Purchase tables, chairs and play equipment to enable preschool expansion	\$10,040.00	\$10,040.00
TOTAL			\$26,869.00	\$26,869.00

**2014 Child Care Capital Grants
Child Care Development Advisory Committee's Recommended Allocations**

Background

The Child Care Development Advisory Committee (CCDAC) Grants Sub-Committee reviewed the applications received in response to the 2013 call for Child Care Capital Grant applications. There were five applications requesting a total amount of \$26,869.

Recommendations

There is \$50,000 allocated for capital requests for the 2014 Child Care Grants. The submitted applications all contained the required support materials. The CCDAC Grants Sub-Committee evaluated the applications based on the principle that the city's children would be at the centre of their decision making.

At this time, CCDAC recommends that the City of Richmond release a total of \$26,869 of the \$50,000 allotted for the Child Care Capital Grants Program to support the five grant applications.

Capital Requests

1. Developmental Disabilities Association - Riverside Child Development Centre

Requested Funds: \$4,201.00

Grant Purpose: To install a security system to provide controlled entry at the front door.

Recommended Allocation: \$4,201.00

Rationale: We have chosen to support this application as a secure and controlled entry is an important safety feature for a child care facility. Also, enhancing security for this City owned facility would be desirable. A security system to control the front door offers protection for the children and staff, and it reduces the opportunity for visitors to enter the facility unannounced. Another important consideration is it will help ensure children do not leave the centre unaccompanied by an adult.

2. Richmond Society for Community Living - Treehouse Early Learning Centre

Requested Funds: \$2,161.00

Grant Purpose: To install a sandbox shelter to provide all year round weather protection.

Recommended Allocation: \$2,161.00

Rationale: We have chosen to support this application because weather protection in outdoor play environments enhances children's use of the outdoors. This capital improvement will enhance a City owned child care facility. Taking the children into account, a sandbox shelter will offer protection from rain in the winter months and sun in the summer.

3. Richmond Society for Community Living -Youth Connection Program

Requested Funds: \$828.00

Grant Purpose: To Purchase a new dishwasher.

Recommended Allocation: \$828.00

Rationale: The current dishwasher for this licensed child care program serving children and young teens with developmental disabilities is not functioning properly. We support its replacement as this is an important health consideration.

4. Society of Richmond Children's Centres - West Cambie Children's Centre

Requested Funds: \$9,639.00

Recommended Allocation: \$9,639.00

Grant Purpose: To purchase equipment and furnishings for this new child care program.

Rationale: Creating a well furnished and equipped child care program is both a provincial licensing requirement and important in developing a welcoming environment for children. This is a relatively new child care service being delivered in a City owned facility. We support the application recognizing that outfitting an entire building in the first year of operation is costly.

5. The Thompson Community Centre Association - Rompers Preschool

Requested Funds: \$10,040

Recommended Allocation: \$10,040

Grant Purpose: To purchase tables, chairs and play equipment to enable a preschool expansion.

Rationale: We support the application recognizing that the preschool expansion at the Thompson Community Centre will require the purchase of equipment and furnishings in order to create a quality environment for the children.