

NO: **R226**

COUNCIL DATE: **December 12, 2011**

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## REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **December 7, 2011**

FROM: **General Manager, Parks, Recreation  
and Culture**

FILE: **1850-20**

SUBJECT: **Application for a Grant under the UBCM Age-Friendly Community Planning &  
Project Program**

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## RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Department recommends that Council:

1. approve an application for a grant in the amount of \$20,000 from the UBCM's **2012 Age-Friendly Community Planning & Project Program** for the implementation of two initiatives as described in this report focused on enhancing the well-being of seniors in Surrey; and
2. request that the City Clerk to forward a copy of this report and the related Council resolution to the Surrey Seniors Planning Table and to the Social Planning Advisory Committee as information.

## INTENT

The purpose of this report is seek Council approval for the City to make application for a grant under the *Seniors' Housing and Support Initiative (SHSI)* for two initiatives focused on enhancing the well-being of seniors in Surrey. Council approval of such an application is a requirement of the SHSI application criteria.

## BACKGROUND

The SHSI was created in 2004 by way of a \$2 million grant from the Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development. In the fall of 2008, SHSI offered the first round of grants under the Age-friendly Community Planning grants to local governments. This was followed by a second round in the spring of 2009 and a third round in 2010.

In February 2010, the City in consultation with the Seniors' Planning Table, submitted a grant application to UBCM under the SHSI Program. As a result of the application the City received

\$20,000 to assist in planning and developing a Seniors' Resource and Referrals Hub in the Fleetwood Community Centre that provides services to seniors on a citywide basis.

The 2012 round of SHSI Program grants is intended to assist local governments in BC to support aging population by developing and implementing policies, plan and projects that facilitate the creation of age-friendly communities to allow seniors to age in place.

## DISCUSSION

Staff in partnership with Surrey/White Rock Comeshare Society and DiverseCity Community Resources Society has prepared an application for funding in the amount of \$20,000 from the SHSI 2012 *Age-Friendly Community Planning & Project Program* with a view to undertaking the following the initiatives:

1. the development of an Integrated Mobile Outreach Program for Seniors; and
2. the organization and hosting of a conference for seniors, themed around "Aging in Place".

Each of these initiatives is described in more detail in the following sections:

1. Integrated Mobile Outreach Program for Seniors

The Seniors' Mobile Outreach Program will provide necessary resources to help connect isolated and vulnerable seniors to services and programs that are available locally. The Seniors' Mobile Outreach Program would provide an integrated approach to the delivery of information about resources and services that are available for seniors across Surrey. This program will include both the preparation and delivery of such information such as home care services and active living programs, among other programs and services. Seniors' services volunteers would be coordinated so that they would be available to provide the information to and assist seniors at various locations across the City including local libraries, recreation facilities, parks and residential locations.

2. Conference for Seniors – "Aging in Place"

A conference for seniors, themed around "Aging in Place", will be a collaboration of community agencies, businesses, residents and volunteers. The intention of the Conference is to present information from diverse sources on various topics and issues relevant to seniors, particularly focused on allowing seniors to "age in place".

Information from the United Way Seniors Vulnerability Report 2011 and feedback from previous workshops will assist in the development of the Conference program, which will include key note speakers and structured workshops.

These initiatives will provide Surrey seniors with information about opportunities to continue to live an independent, healthy and active life in their own community.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council approve an application for a grant in the amount of \$20,000 from the UBCM's **2012 Age-Friendly Community Planning & Project Program** for the implementation of two initiatives as described in this report focused on enhancing the well-being of seniors in Surrey.

Laurie Cavan  
General Manager  
Parks, Recreation and Culture