

NO: F032

COUNCIL DATE: **SEPTEMBER 9, 2013**

FINANCE COMMITTEE

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **September 9, 2013**

FROM: **General Manager, Planning and Development** FILE: **5080-01**
General Manager, Finance & Technology

SUBJECT: **Community Forum to Assist in the Implementation of the
Poverty Reduction Plan**

RECOMMENDATION

The Planning and Development Department and the Finance & Technology Department recommend that Council:

1. Receive this report as information; and
2. Approve a grant to Vibrant Surrey in the amount of \$5,000 from the Council Initiatives Fund in support of the event "*Let's Make THIS Happen: a community forum to tackle poverty in Surrey*" that is being held on November 7, 2013, as generally described in this report.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to provide a grant to Vibrant Surrey in support of the second annual *Let's Make THIS Happen: a community forum to tackle poverty in Surrey* (the "Forum") that is planned for November 7, 2013. The Forum will assist in the implementation of the recommendations of the Surrey Poverty Reduction Plan. The grant will be used to cover the costs associated with hiring event facilitators and covering the cost of materials.

BACKGROUND

In July 2012, Council considered Corporate Report No. R160;2012 regarding a Poverty Reduction Plan for Surrey titled "*this is How We End Poverty in Surrey: Surrey Poverty Reduction Plan*" (the "Plan") and subsequently adopted the Plan. The Plan provides a comprehensive set of recommendations directed at eradicating poverty in Surrey.

As part of the development of the Plan, a community forum was held in March 2012. Over 100 people attended the event and participated in discussions to identify strategies for addressing poverty in Surrey.

DISCUSSION

The implementation of the Plan is being guided by the Surrey Poverty Reduction Coalition (SPRC). Co-chaired by Councillor Judy Villeneuve, the SPRC includes representatives from:

- Children's Partnership Surrey-White Rock;
- City of Surrey, Social Planning;
- City of Surrey Social Policy Advisory Committee;
- Progressive Intercultural Community Services Society;
- Community Members;
- Fraser Health Authority;
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University;
- Pacific Community Resource Society;
- Sources Community Resource Society;
- Surrey Board of Trade;
- Surrey Homelessness and Housing Task Force;
- Vancity Community Foundation/Surrey Homelessness and Housing Society; and
- Vibrant Surrey.

Let's Make THIS Happen: a community forum to tackle poverty in Surrey

The goal of the 2013 Forum is to mobilize the community to take action with respect to the recommendations in the Plan and inspire engagement in poverty reduction in Surrey. The Forum is being coordinated by Vibrant Surrey on behalf of the SPRC.

The Forum is being held on November 7, 2013 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Conference Centre in the Surrey Campus of Kwantlen Polytechnic University. Contributions to the event have been confirmed from each of Kwantlen Polytechnic University and the Vancouver Foundation.

The Forum will include a nationally recognized keynote speaker, a variety of Pecha Kucha presentations highlighting inspiring poverty reduction initiatives in Surrey, and a facilitated Design Jam.

The Design Jam is an interactive, fun, fast and creative brainstorming session intended to create a range of diverse visions that will address specific recommendations in the Plan. The Vancouver Design Nerds, a non-profit social enterprise consultancy, will facilitate the Design Jam portion of the Forum. The recommended grant will specifically support the Design Jam portion of the Forum's agenda.

Status of the Council Initiatives Fund

Appendix "A", attached to this report, provides the current status of the Council Initiatives Fund assuming that Council adopts the recommendations of this report.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

Let's Make THIS Happen: a community forum to tackle poverty in Surrey will assist in achieving the objectives of the City's Sustainability Charter; more particularly, the scope action item SC5: Improve the social well-being of residents.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council approve a grant to Vibrant Surrey in the amount of \$5,000 from the Council Initiatives Fund in support of the event "*Let's Make THIS Happen: a community forum to tackle poverty in Surrey*" that is being held on November 7, 2013, as generally described in this report.

Original signed by
Jean Lamontagne
General Manager,
Planning and Development

Original signed by
Vivienne Wilke
General Manager,
Finance & Technology

MM:saw

Attachment:

Appendix "A" Status of Council Initiatives Fund



2013 FINANCIAL PLAN COUNCIL INITIATIVES

Description	Amount	Allocation	
		to date	Remaining
Carried Forward from Prior Year	253,126		
2013 Approved Budget	<u>250,000</u>		\$ 503,126
Arts Umbrella Surrey (3rd year of 3-year program)	25,000		
2013 Women's BC OPEN Water Polo Tournament	5,000		
Comedy Courage Sponsorship	5,000		
Surrey Community Summit	25,000		
Sponsorship Appreciation Event	10,000		
Clayton Heights Enhanced Programming	85,000		
Cloverdale Skating Club	5,000		
Early Childhood Development (ECD) Smarter Cities Funding	50,000		
2013 Flavours of Surrey Event	22,000		
Cities Fit for Children Summit	10,000		
Newton BIA	33,600		
Block Watch Society - RCMP Musical Ride	1,000		
Phoenix Society - Street Fair Celebrating Healthy Living	3,000		
Vibrant Surrey - Let's Make THIS Happen	5,000		
Allocations for 2013		<u>\$ 284,600</u>	<u>\$ 218,526</u>