

NO: F005

COUNCIL DATE: MARCH 10, 2014

FINANCE COMMITTEE

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **March 4, 2014**

FROM: **General Manager, Finance & Technology** FILE: **0290-20**

SUBJECT: **Assignment to the Surrey Foundation of the “Honey Hooser Scholarship Award” Program**

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager, Finance & Technology recommends that the Finance Committee recommend that Council assign to the Surrey Foundation, the administration of the “Honey Hooser Scholarship” Program as outlined in this report for a two year pilot, being 2014 and 2015, after which the effectiveness of this approach is to be evaluated and a report, complete with recommendations, is to be forwarded to Council.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to discuss the merits of assigning the administration of the “Honey Hooser Scholarship” Program (the Program), to the Surrey Foundation and to recommend such an assignment on a 2-year pilot basis.

BACKGROUND

In 1985, the Honey Hooser Scholarship Fund was established in honour of Honey Hooser, a noted Surrey craftswoman who gave much of her time to hand weaving and other needlecraft. When the Program was established, one scholarship of \$500 per year was awarded to a disabled person or a student graduating from a Surrey senior secondary school who had shown particular interests in local arts and crafts. The purpose of the scholarship has been to encourage an interest in the study of craft work, especially weaving.

In 1994, the Program was amended to award a \$250 scholarship annually to a qualified community member and award \$250 annually to the Peach Arch Weavers and Spinners Guild. In the absence of a qualified community member, the full \$500 would be awarded to the Peach Arch Weavers and Spinners Guild. A qualified community member is defined as a disabled person with an interest in arts or crafts or a student graduating from a Surrey Senior Secondary School with an interest in arts or crafts. An interest in arts would include visual, graphic, performing or the development of tools to make these art forms possible.

In 2008, the scholarship amount was increased to provide a \$500 scholarship annually for a qualified community member and a \$500 annual award to the Peach Arch Weavers and Spinners Guild.

In 2013, Council requested that staff work with the Surrey Foundation, to assign them the selection of the scholarship recipient.

DISCUSSION

The Surrey Foundation was created in 1994. Since that time, it has granted over \$1.0 million to local charities and programs. The Foundation is a volunteer-driven organization that plays a leadership role in building social capital by developing partnerships within the charitable sector and business community.

The Foundation's Grant Program currently awards foundation grants with a total value of approximately \$30,000 per year and makes recommendations for the award of the City's "Other One Time Grants" Program. By having the same organization review all grant requests, available funding from both the City and the Foundation is more evenly distributed to organizations and programs in the community.

The Surrey Foundation is prepared to review the Honey Hooser Scholarship applications, in conjunction with the review of their own grant applications, creating efficiencies and consistency in the recommendations of scholarship awards. The Foundation will then make recommendations to Council, on the awards of the Honey Hooser Scholarship to a qualified applicant.

This opportunity will be piloted for a two year period beginning with the 2014 Honey Hooser Scholarship award. At the end of the 2 year pilot an evaluation would be undertaken and a further report complete with recommendations would be provided to Council. The Foundation is supportive of this process.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that the Finance Committee recommend that Council assign to the Surrey Foundation, the administration of the "Honey Hooser Scholarship" Program as outlined in this report for a two year pilot, being 2014 and 2015, after which the effectiveness of this approach is to be evaluated and a report, complete with recommendations is to be forwarded to Council.

Vivienne Wilke, CGA
General Manager,
Finance & Technology