



Report to: General Committee

Report Date: December 3, 2014

SUBJECT: Approval of First Quarter 2015 Celebrate Markham Grants
PREPARED BY: Andrea Tang, Manager, Financial Planning

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That the report entitled “Approval of First Quarter 2015 Celebrate Markham Grants” be received;
- 2) And that the following Celebrate Markham events: Chinese New Year Celebration (\$10,000), Black History Month (\$3,000), and the Tamil New Year Celebration (\$4,000) be approved at the 2014 funding level;
- 3) And that Staff to bring forward the remaining 2015 Celebrate Markham Grant requests at a future Budget Sub Committee meeting;
- 4) And that Staff will bring forward a report to General Committee in January 2015 outlining a proposed approach for administration of the Celebrate Markham grant process with implementation commencing in 2016;
- 5) And that Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

PURPOSE:

To obtain budget approval at the 2014 funding level for the following three Celebrate Markham events totaling \$17,000: Chinese New Year Celebration (\$10,000), Black History Month (\$3,000), and the Tamil New Year Celebration (\$4,000).

BACKGROUND:

Celebrate Markham grants are funds provided to community groups/organizations that enhance and promote the City, and are committed to building the community by celebrating the artistic and cultural uniqueness of Markham.

In June 2014, Council passed a resolution authorizing a payment totaling \$24,000 to Markham Arts Council (MAC). \$5,000 was funded from the 2014 operating budget and the remaining \$19,000 was an advance of MAC’s 2015 Celebrate Markham grant allocation. As well, in September 2014, Council further approved an amount of \$15,000 per quarter beginning in 2015.

In addition, Council approved an amount of \$23,000 to Kindred Spirits Orchestra (KSO) for 2014 and an amount of \$15,000 per quarter beginning in 2015.

In total, \$30,000 has been committed to MAC and KSO for the first quarter in 2015. Staff will be report back by the end of Q1 2015 to address further funding.

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:**First Quarter 2015 Grants Allocation**

The following events; Chinese New Year Celebration, Black History Month, and the Tamil New Year Celebration will take place in the first quarter of 2015. Therefore, it is recommended that funding will be allocated to these events: Chinese New Year Celebration (\$10,000), Black History Month (\$3,000), and the Tamil New Year Celebration (\$4,000) at the 2014 funding level.

Staff will bring forward a report to General Committee in January 2015 outlining a proposed approach for administration of the Celebrate Markham grant process with implementation planned to begin in 2016.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS AND TEMPLATE: (external link)

The Celebrate Markham grant budget is \$250,000 and the total amount recommended for approval at this time is \$17,000 for the following events: Chinese New Year Celebration at \$10,000, Black History Month at \$3,000, and the Tamil New Year Celebration at \$4,000.

The remaining grant allocations of \$214,000 (after allocation for the recommended pre-approval for the three events in the amount of \$17,000 and the prepayment of the 2015 grant allocation to MAC in the amount of \$19,000) will be discussed and decided at a future Budget Sub Committee meeting.

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Not applicable

RECOMMENDED BY:

09/12/2014

09/12/2014

X 

Joel Lustig
Treasurer

X 

Trinela Cane
Commissioner, Corporate Services