

To: Members of the Accessibility Advisory Committee

From: Sarah Mackillican, Communication Coordinator

Meeting Date: June 7, 2023

Subject: Access Fund Request, Report AAC23-019

Purpose

A report to seek approval for an Access Fund Request that will enhance accessibility at City-run summer camps in 2023.

Recommendations

That the Accessibility Advisory Committee (AAC) approve the recommendations outlined in Report AAC23-019 dated June 7, 2023, of the Communication Coordinator as follows:

- a) That a presentation by Karen Rennie, Art, Culture and Heritage Director, regarding Access Fund Request 2023-003 be received for information; and
- b) That Access Fund Request 2023-003, totalling \$15,000, be approved.

Budget and Financial Implications

Following the AAC's approval of Access Fund Request 2023-001 and Access Fund Request 2023-002 at their meeting in April 2023, the Access Fund has a total of \$19,033.41 available. With the approval of Access Fund Request 2023-003 in the amount of \$15,000, the balance of the Access Fund for 2023 would be \$4,033.41.

Background

Access Fund Request 2023-003

Access Fund Request 2023-003, received May 31, 2023, proposes a short-term solution to reduce systemic barriers related to registration and participation in City-run day camp programs for children with disabilities.

This Access Fund Request would cover the cost of a training consultant that specializes in inclusive education and support for children with disabilities to deliver specialized inclusive training for camp staff. It would also allow Recreation Services to hire registered childcare providers as day camp support staff to provide one-on-one support where required. Any unused funds will be reimbursed to the Access Fund.

From the application:

The City recently received feedback from a resident and a local school board about systemic barriers related to registering and attending day camp programs. Community Services is working with various staff, including the Accessibility Compliance Specialist and Diversity and Equity and Inclusion Advisor, to investigate long-term solutions to make day camp programs more inclusive for children with disabilities. Community Services is also aiming to implement incremental changes and a pilot program for the upcoming 2023 summer day camp programs, as part of an effort to minimize systemic barriers in the short term.

Additional information about the request is provided in Appendix A.

Submitted by,

Sarah Mackillican Communication Coordinator

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Attachments:

Appendix A: Access Fund Request 2023-003