



City of
Peterborough

To: Members of the Arts Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee

From: Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services

Meeting Date: June 11, 2015

Subject: Report ACHAC15-023
Division Manager's June Report

Purpose

A report to provide information and seek direction on Library Refresh/Expansion, Artspace funding, Canada's 150th Anniversary Celebrations Committee, Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program, Public Art Projects, and Pan Am Games Torch Relay Community Celebration.

Recommendations

That the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Advisory Committee (ACHAC) approve the recommendations outlined in Report ACHAC15-023 dated June 11, 2015 of the Director of Community Services as follows:

- a) That a presentation by Jennifer Zoethout, Library Manager/CEO on the Library Renovation and Expansion Project Design be received for information;
- b) That the recommendation that Artspace be funded from the City's Community Service Grant program commencing in 2016 at a recommended amount of \$35,000 be endorsed;
- c) That the information relating to the formation of the local Canada's 150th Anniversary Celebrations Committee be received;
- d) That the information relating to the Canada 150 Community Infrastructure be received;

- e) That the verbal update on Public Art Projects by Committee Chair, Bruce Stonehouse, be received.
- f) That the information relating to the Pan Am Games Torch Relay Community Celebration be received.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budget or financial implications with the adoption of this report.

Background

Peterborough Public Library Renovation and Expansion Project

At the June 1st, 2015 Committee of the Whole, the Project Architects from the Ventin Group Limited presented the proposed renovation and expansion design concept for approval so that they could proceed to the detailed design and preparation of tender documents. (Appendix A). Library Manager/ CEO Jennifer Zoethout will present the Architect's findings for information.

Artspace Funding

Through this year's annual Community Investment Grant application, Artspace advised the City of the loss of 10% of its annual operating grant from the Ontario Arts Council in 2016. As one of the oldest and most successful artist-run centres in the province, they requested that the City consider their eligibility for the City's Service Grant Program since it provides a higher level of municipal funding support than the Investment Grant program. This potential was discussed at the Grant Advisory Committee sub-committee level.

Based on the quality of the 2015 application and the competitive nature of the process, the Committee ultimately recommended that Artspace receive an Investment Grant of \$10,500 for 2015. This represents a \$4,500 decrease over the previous year.

As a result of Report CSD15-008, dated May 11, 2015, Committee of the Whole and ultimately Council approved the recommended allocation. They also approved the following recommendation:

That staff be directed to prepare a report to assess whether or not Artspace should be considered for a Community Service Grant in 2016.

On May 19th, 2015, Artspace Board Chair, Patrick Moore, appeared in delegation to Council to appeal the 2015 award. During his presentation (Appendix C) and subsequent discussion, he expressed concern that the 30 percent reduction in the 2015 grant could

adversely affect their annual applications to other funding bodies like the Canada Council and the Ontario Arts Council. He outlined Artspace's programming and community accomplishments, which culminated in an annual audience of 17,000. He expressed some frustration with the City's process for determining which organizations get moved into the Service Grant Program.

The City's Service Grant Program was formalized as a result of Report CSD07-003, dated April 2, 2007, in which Council agreed "to establish Community Service Grant Agreements for all NFP's (Not For Profit organizations) currently receiving City funding through transfers, operating grants, or designated as Municipal Capital Facilities". Council also approved the following recommendation:

Review the role and activities of all NFP's that are eligible for the Community Investment Program or that received Community Grants in the past, during the term of Council, to determine which organizations should be considered for funding through the Community Service Grant Program.

The level of funding for Service Grants is typically \$15,000 and up; not to exceed 25% of the organization's total operating funding. As implied in the title, most organizations in the Service Grant Program provide a specific service that the City would be expected to otherwise provide, but the NFPs can do so more effectively and efficiently.

Organizations cannot apply for entry into this program. Since the base year, from time to time, the Grant Advisory Committee has identified organizations on a case by case basis through the annual Grant Approval process. Several organizations that have become ineligible for Investment Grants because their funding from senior levels of government has exceeded the 80% threshold have also been moved into this funding program so that they can continue to leverage their federal and provincial support.

Original organizations in the program included: Festival of Lights, Canadian Canoe Museum, PACAC, Showplace, Peterborough Green-up, Community and Race Relations, and Community Care. Subsequently, the following organizations have been moved into the Service Grant Program: Peterborough Historical Society/Hutchison House Museum and Kawartha Food Share, 2007; New Canadians Centre, YWCA (one year only) 2008; Market Hall, 2009; and Peterborough Aids Resource Network and Peterborough Native Learning Program, 2014.

Artspace should be considered for funding through the Service Grant Program for the following reasons:

- Artspace is an artist-run centre that assists emerging artists with the development and presentation of their work
- After 40 years, Artspace is one of the first, longest-running, and arguably one of the most successful artist-run centres in the country

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- It is a regional resource for artists across 5 counties and is the only artist-run centre between Toronto, Ottawa, Kingston, and North Bay
 - Artspace curates or hosts five main gallery exhibits of contemporary art annually, culminating in a local audience of over 17,000
 - Its media lab is an invaluable local resource for media arts production and training, especially for local youth
 - In partnership with Public Energy, it is expanding its mandate to include emerging performance artists
 - While it works closely with the Art Gallery of Peterborough, it does not compete. Its focus is on emerging artists at the start of their career
 - To retain the current level of programming in the face of “across the board” funding cuts from the Ontario Arts Council, Artspace needs secure funding to keep its two full-time professional staff positions
 - Artspace regularly partners with the City in support of City public art initiatives like: Artsweek, the Co-opportunity sculpture in Millennium Park, the Bus Wrap project featuring Jimson Bowler's Big Loon Portage; and currently the Hunter Street Bridge graffiti project
 - Artspace is a valued partner for a host of local arts, culture & heritage organizations across the City
 - The Municipal Cultural Plan advocates for a strong cultural presence downtown; Artspace is one of the cornerstones in that foundation
 - The City does not have a funding program specific to individual artists

The \$35,000 amount recommended is just under 25% of Artspace's 2015 operating budget.

Canada's 150th Anniversary Celebrations Committee

At the June 1st, 2015 Committee of the Whole, Council approved Report CSD15-013 recommending the establishment of a local committee and approval of its terms of reference (Appendix D). Representation from the Arts Culture & Heritage Advisory Committee is specifically identified. After the Committee Chair is appointed and the process begins to populate the Committee, they will request an ACHAC representative.

Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program

The federal government has announced several funding programs in support of the Country's Sequecentennial Celebrations in 2017. While the local 150th Anniversary Celebrations Committee and other community groups will be encouraged to apply for specific celebrations funding, the City has specifically identified three priority projects for consideration for the Infrastructure Program. (Appendix E). At this time, the infrastructure funding program does not encourage major capital or legacy projects on the scale of the 1967 Centennial Celebrations.

Public Art Project Updates

At its May 30th meeting, the City's Arenas Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee endorsed the proposed Public Art Project for the arches of the Hunter Street Bridge. This report generated considerable local media interest, including CBC Radio. Staff is planning a community meeting in the surrounding neighbourhood shortly. Bruce Stonehouse, Committee Chair will provide a verbal update on the Committee's activities.

Pan Am Games Torch Relay Community Celebration.

In early May 2014, the City was approached by the Pan Am Games organizers to see if the City would be interested in hosting a Community Celebration as part of the Torch Relay. A Committee was quickly formed under the leadership of the Director of Community Services. They held their first of many meetings on May 30th, 2014. The success of the torch's arrival in Peterborough on June 4th, 2015 is a testament to the committee and to the community's partnership approach in organizing unique events that reflect the culture and heritage of the community. Ken Doherty will provide a verbal report on the event.

Sincerely yours,

Ken Doherty
Director of Community Services

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Attachments:

Appendix A: Report CSD15-012 Library Renovation and Expansion Project Design and Precommitment

Appendix B: Report CSD15-007 Community Investment Grants

Appendix C: Correspondence from Patrick Moore, Artspace President, May 19th, 2015

Appendix D: Report CSD15-013 Canada's 150th Anniversary Celebrations Committee

Appendix E: Report CPFS15-026 Canada 150 Community Infrastructure Program

Appendix F: Report APRAC15-030 Proposed Public Art Project for James Stevenson Park