



**CORPORATE POLICY MANUAL**

Section:	Finance	5
Sub-Section:	Grants	1850
Title:	MUNICIPAL COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANTS	2

**POLICY**

The *Local Government Act* authorizes the Council to grant monies "to any organization deemed by Council to be contributing to the general interest and advantage of the municipality" (section 176 1(c)).

**REASON FOR POLICY**

The Council recognizes that community non-profit organizations contribute to the well being of the citizens of the Municipality and to the improvement of their quality of life, and that financial support by Council may effectively promote additional funding from other sources.

**AUTHORITY TO ACT**

Retained by Council

**PROCEDURE**

1.0 Criteria for Grant Applications

Groups applying for grants must

- 1.1 meet the guidelines of section 176.1 (c) of the *Local Government Act*;
- 1.2 offer services to the citizens of the District of North Vancouver and justify the need for that service;
- 1.3 show evidence of on going, active volunteer involvement;
- 1.4 present proof of financial responsibility and accountability; and
- 1.5 be seen to be seeking monies from other funding sources, or contributing their own funds to the project.

It should be noted that program supplies are eligible for funding, but capital equipment and building costs are not eligible for community grants.

2. Applications

- 2.1. Application Form - The application form supplied by the Municipal Clerk must be utilized by all applicants for grants.
- 2.2. Completeness of Information Supplied - Unless all required information is supplied or a suitable explanation offered as to why this information cannot be supplied, the grant application will not be considered.
- 2.3. Deadline - The deadline of January 31 for applications in any year shall be strictly adhered to. Applications received after that date at any time throughout the year will only be considered if they meet the criteria under Section 2.4

2.4. Funding Requests throughout the Year - Funding requests received after the January 31 deadline will be considered if they meet the following conditions:

2.4.1. the application meets the community grants criteria as outlined in Section 1.0 of this policy;

2.4.2. the requirement for funding was not reasonably foreseeable at the date of the deadline for community grants for the current period;

2.4.3. adequate justification is provided for not meeting the deadline for community grants for the current period.

2.4.4. the requirement is not for sport and/or recreation travel grants; and

2.4.5. a community grant application form is completed.

Staff will review applications and provide recommendations to Council.

2.5 Material to Council - will receive the recommendations of the Community Services Advisory Committee; additional material, including completed applications, will be forwarded if Council specifically requests it.

### 3.0 Publication of District Grant Process and Criteria

3.1 The District Grant Process and Criteria will be publicized by posting a notice and placing an advertisement in the press each November advising the Community of the Grant process and criteria and any grant priorities consistent with Council policies.

3.2 Grants disbursed on a yearly basis will be publicized at the conclusion of the grant process.

### 4.0 Acknowledgement of District Grants

4.1 All recipients of grants from the District of North Vancouver are required to publicly acknowledge such donations.

4.2 This information is to be communicated to all beneficiaries, either in a local North Shore newspaper or through a letter, as well as, if applicable, in a prominent location in their publication.

### 5.0 Return of Unspent Funds

5.1 In the event that the funds are not used for the project or programs as described in the application, or if there are misrepresentations in the application, the full amount of the financial assistance may be payable forthwith to the District of North Vancouver.

5.2 If there are any changes in the funding of the project from that contemplated in the application, the District will be notified of such changes through the Community Planning Department.

5.3 Any unspent funds must be returned to the District at the end of the year or within 60 days of the completion of the project or event.

5.4 Where multiple sources of funding are received, any unspent funds will be returned pro rata to those contributing organizations that require refunds of grants.

6.0 Accountability

- 6.1 Accountability forms describing how the grant was spent must be signed by two officers of the society, and submitted to the District by December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year or within 30 days of completion of the project or event, except where the society is applying for a grant for the current year, in which case they will complete the accountability section of the application form and submit no later than January 31<sup>st</sup> of the grant year for which they are applying.
- 6.2 When applying for a municipal grant, or upon request, the applicant will supply an audited financial statement for the most recent fiscal year, or where audited financial statements are not available, the applicant will supply financial statements that have been verified as correct by two signing officers from the organization.
- 6.3 When applying for a municipal grant, the signing officers of the organization will provide written acceptance of the conditions as outlined in Sections 3.0 through 6.3 of the Municipal Grants Policy 5-1850-2.

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