

**DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

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Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Council for the District of North Vancouver held at 6:04 p.m. on Monday, September 28, 2015 in the Committee Room of the District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Present: Mayor R. Walton
Councillor R. Bassam
Councillor M. Bond
Councillor J. Hanson
Councillor R. Hicks
Councillor L. Muri

Absent: Councillor D. MacKay-Dunn

Staff: Mr. D. Stuart, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. B. Bydwell, General Manager – Planning, Properties & Permits
Ms. N. Deveaux, General Manager – Finance & Technology
Ms. C. Grant, General Manager – Corporate Services
Mr. G. Joyce, General Manager – Engineering, Parks & Facilities
Ms. H. Turner, Director of Recreation & Culture
Mr. D. Milburn, Deputy General Manager – Planning & Permits
Mr. J. Gordon, Manager – Administrative Services
Ms. L. June, Manager – Community Recreation Services
Ms. M. Welman, Manager – Strategic Communication & Community Relations
Mr. J. Rice, Cultural Services Officer
Ms. S. Dale, Confidential Council Clerk
Mr. F. Donnelly, Research Assistant

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1. September 28, 2015 Committee of the Whole Agenda

MOVED by Councillor MURI

SECONDED by Councillor BASSAM

THAT the agenda for the September 28, 2015 Committee of the Whole be adopted as circulated, including the addition of any items listed in the agenda addendum.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Nil

3. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OR STAFF

3.1. North Vancouver Recreation & Culture Commission Arts and Culture Grants Review

File No.

Ms. Heather Turner, Director of Recreation & Culture, provided an update on the North Vancouver Recreation & Culture Commission Arts and Culture Grants review. Ms. Turner advised that a review of the existing Arts and Culture Grants Program was undertaken in 2014. A consultant was hired to conduct a review and provide suggestions for change. The grants review included stakeholder input, a best-practices review and discussions between the Consultants and applicable staff.

Ms. Turner acknowledged that while the grant programs have been relatively successful, the following issues were identified through the review process:

- Arts and culture grants are managed as one bi-municipal program but are governed by five separate policies, some District and some City. These policies have inconsistent and conflicting content;
- Grant policies and funding criteria are not aligned with the Official Community Plan;
- Authority to approve grants lies with the two Councils which compromises a joint grant program and exposes Councils to lobbying and criticism by applicants;
- Application and reporting procedures, especially for small grants, are too cumbersome and time consuming for applicants, reviewers and staff; and,
- Multi-year funding is desirable and provided by both the District and City for Community Grants but has not been applied in the arts and culture grant programs.

Ms. Turner noted that the following recommendations would address the above challenges:

- Replace the existing policies with one policy for arts and culture grants, approved by both Councils and administered by the Commission. The policy language and grant criteria would be aligned with the relevant portions of the two Official Community Plans and the mandate of the NVRC;
- Authority to approve grants in accordance with Council approved policies be delegated to the NVRC. The NVRC would receive advice from a Commission appointed Grants Review Committee and would inform Councils annually on the allocation of grant funding;
- Revise the grant categories into the following: Operating Assistance; Program & Project Assistance; Community Public Art Assistance; and, Events & Celebrations Assistance;
- Support the provision of multi-year funding where feasible to increase efficiency for grant recipients, staff, the Grants Review Committee and the Commission; and,
- Simplify the application and follow-up reporting requirements.

Ms. Turner advised that the inclusion of a sunset clause is not recommended to be included in the policy statement. Ms. Turner noted that more definitive

eligibility criteria will be established for the Grants Review Committee and the Commission including the need for the applicants to, within a reasonable time frame, reduce reliance on municipal funding for programs, projects, festivals and events. This will send a clear message to applicants within these grant categories that funding is to support initiation and development, and they are expected to become more self-sufficient over time.

Staff are preparing a policy for consideration by Councils and the main changes are targeted to come into effect for the 2016 grant programs and the administrative changes will be phased in over the next year.

Council discussion:

- Spoke in support of the proposed Arts and Culture Grants policy;
- Commented that applicants need to be aware that the funding is to support initiation and development with the understanding that they are expected to become more self-sufficient over time;
- Opined that there should be a major review of the policy every four years to align with the term of Council;
- Commented that Canada Day and Remembrance Day are unique and should have their own criteria;
- Commented on the need to simplify the grant application process;
- Spoke in support of multi-year funding;
- Noted that the municipal arts and culture grants support the impact that arts and culture organizations have on the vibrancy of community life in North Vancouver; and,
- Opined that Council should approve the final recommendations of grants.

MOVED by Councillor MURI

SECONDED by Councillor BOND

THAT it be recommended to Council:

THAT

1. Council adopt a single policy for arts and culture grants with the following grant funding categories: Operating Assistance, Program & Project Assistance, Community Public Art Assistance and Events & Celebrations Assistance;
2. Authority to approve grants in accordance with Council approved policy be delegated to the North Vancouver Recreation & Culture Commission; and,
3. Multi-year funding be provided where feasible to increase efficiency for grant recipients, staff, the Grants Review Committee and the Commission.

CARRIED

3.2. Council Procedures

File No.

Mr. David Stuart, Chief Administrative Officer, continued discussions with Council regarding possible changes to the Council Procedures Bylaw.

Council requested that residents wanting to speak during the thirty minute public input session at the beginning of Council meetings be given two minutes instead of the current three minutes to allow for more speakers. Council suggested that priority be given to those speaking to an agenda item and if time permits at the end of the meeting residents will have an opportunity to speak to non-agenda items.

Council agreed that Notice of Motions are not required and are comfortable with working with staff when submitting a Report to Council. Council questioned if there are any limitations to topics when submitting a Report to Council. Staff advised that they will report back at a future meeting.

Mr. James Gordon, Manager – Administrative Services, provided an update on the Councillor's Outlook calendars advising that agenda items can be viewed by clicking on the meetings in the calendar. Mr. Gordon noted that agenda items will be listed for each meeting for a three month period and will be refreshed every Wednesday.

Mr. Stuart emphasized the importance of Councillors advising the Clerk if they plan to be absent for a meeting. This will be noted in the Council calendar and staff can prepare agendas accordingly.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Nil

5. RISE AND REPORT

MOVED by Councillor HANSON

SECONDED by Councillor BASSAM

THAT the September 28, 2015 Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED
(6:54 pm)

Mayor

Municipal Clerk