

July 10, 2019

To: Members  
Executive Committee

Re: 2019 Special Event Major Grants – 2nd Deadline

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### RECOMMENDATION

1. That the following Special Events Major funding totaling \$35,000 be approved:
  - a) \$20,000 for the Young Women's Christian Association of Regina for *Mamawe! Mekowishwewin* - Being Together Gives Us Solace funded by the approved 2019 General Operating Budget allocated for Other Executive Committee Grants; and
  - b) \$15,000 for transit service for Canadian Western Agribition consisting of \$2,700 funded by the approved 2019 General Operating Budget allocated for Other Executive Committee Grants and \$12,300 funded by a withdrawal from the Community Investment Grants Reserve-Executive Committee.

### CONCLUSION

Administration is recommending that \$20,000 in funding be approved for the *Mamawe! Mekowishwewin* - Being Together Gives Us Solace event and that \$15,000 in funding be approved for transit service for Canadian Western Agribition (CWA).

*Mamawe! Mekowishwewin* - Being Together Gives Us Solace supports the City of Regina's (City) Social Development priorities of building a welcoming and socially inclusive community and delivering programs and services that align with the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action. Further, with the release of the final report from the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Inquiry, this event allows for timely engagement and discussion on the Inquiry's 231 calls for justice.

Support of CWA aligns with the Special Event Major program priorities of continuing support to events that have a history of receiving in-kind City services. CWA is a major economic generator and tourism attraction for Regina and is a high-profile event that celebrates this community's agricultural and indigenous culture and heritage.

### BACKGROUND

The Special Event Major Grant Program supports non-profit organizations to produce events that build community pride and spirit. The Special Event Major Grant Program complements funding provided through the Community Investment Grants Program's (CIGP) Culture, Sport and Recreation, and Social Development funding streams that are aligned with the City's objectives and priorities, by providing funding for:

- (i) One-time or first-time events that celebrate, preserve, and enhance Regina's identity by commemorating notable people, places and events, symbols and anniversaries; or
- (ii) Local events that promote the values of citizenship and identity on nationally recognized days (including Canada Day, National Indigenous Peoples Day, and Remembrance Day); or
- (iii) Re-occurring events that have an established history of City-service support (e.g., transit services).

Applications are received and adjudicated by Administration, and recommendations on funding are made to the Executive Committee.

One application has been received for an event to be held in October of 2019. Young Women's Christian Association of Regina (YWCA) has requested \$50,000 for *Mamawe! Mekowishwewin - Being Together Gives Us Solace* (Appendix A). The application qualifies for funding under the eligibility criteria.

The City has also been asked to consider funding support for CWA. The City has provided support to CWA in past years through a budget overseen by the Finance and Administration Committee. From 2009 to 2013, CWA received \$45,000 to assist with operating costs associated with running the event. In 2014, in response to the limited amount of parking available on site, CWA instituted a park and ride shuttle service. Regina Transit Service provides the shuttle service through a charter negotiated with CWA. In response to this new service, from 2014 to 2016, CWA's funding was increased to \$60,000, consisting of \$45,000 for operating costs and \$15,000 to partially offset the cost of the shuttle service. The Finance and Administration Committee budget was eliminated in the 2017 Budget, and in 2017 and 2018 CWA received a reduction of \$24,000 in the rate for their charter service. In 2019 funding is being recommended from the budgets for Executive Committee Grants and the Community Investment Grants Reserve-Executive Committee, and future requests will be directed through the Special Events Major grant application and adjudication process.

## DISCUSSION

### **YWCA - *Mamawe! Mekowishwewin - Being Together Gives Us Solace***

Administration convened an adjudication panel to provide an assessment of the YWCA application. Within that panel included staff with culture, inclusion, sport and recreation, and granting expertise. The panel met to assess the applications against the program's criteria: organizational strength, program merit, community need, community impact, accessibility and financial need. The panel also made recommendations on funding amount based on strength of alignment and past practice.

The following table provides a summary of the YWCA request and recommendation.

Organization	Community Partner funding	Event	2018 Special Event Grant	2019 Total Eligible Expenses	2019 Funding Requested	2019 Funding Recommended
Young Women's Christian Association of Regina (YWCA)	N/A	<i>Mamawe! Mekowishwewin</i> - Being Together Gives Us Solace	N/A	\$388,041	\$50,000	\$20,000

*Summary:* The YWCA has requested \$50,000 for a three-day event directed at families and community impacted by the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in Regina and across Saskatchewan. The event is focused on healing, building understanding, and recognition of the enormity of the issue and its effect on the local Indigenous community.

*Organizational Strength:* The YWCA Regina is a strong, long-standing organization that exists to support women and families in being safe, secure, and free from gender-based violence, and ensuring they have access to safe, affordable, and stable housing. The YWCA has strong alignment to the City of Regina's Community Investment Grant Program Social Development priorities, specifically through the work they do in addressing access to safe housing, food security, and their overall contribution to safe neighbourhoods.

*Program Merit:* The *Mamawe! Mekowishwewin* - Being Together Gives Us Solace event is a collaborative project being led in partnership with the YWCA, All Nations Hope Network, and the families of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) of Saskatchewan. The three-day gathering will give families and the larger community the opportunity to engage in meaningful dialogue around the issues and concerns that exist as a result of the violent history towards Indigenous women and girls. The focus of the event is education, awareness, and ultimately reconciliation while moving forward to healing and hope together.

*Community Need:* This three-day gathering is being offered in partnership between the YWCA, All Nations Hope Network, and the families of MMIWG of Saskatchewan. This initiative will focus on bringing together community and families of the MMIWG of Saskatchewan, providing face to face engagement to assist with healing, building hope and empowerment, and providing a culturally relevant and safe forum for community and families to identify current issues, concerns, and solutions.

*Community Impact:* This event will aim to honor the lives and legacies of the MMIWG from Saskatchewan, by bringing together their families and the larger community in order to support healing, building hope, and empowerment. Ceremony and traditions will be in honor of the missing and murdered, and support will be available for families, children, and community. Upon completion of the event, a report will be created and shared with family members. Success of the event will be measured through the

development of an action plan that includes next steps for families, including the development of support networks, and extended services for the children of MMIWG.

*Accessibility:* Although the focus of this event is to bring together the families of the MMIWG, the event is open to the broader community, and welcomes those that wish to participate in the dialogue.

*Financial Need:* The recommended \$20,000 in funding from the City of Regina represents 5.15 per cent of eligible expenses for the event. The remainder of potential funding sources include a combination of federal government grants, private sector sponsorship, fundraising and in-kind contributions.

*Recommendation:* The Adjudication Committee has recommended \$20,000 in funding for this event. While \$50,000 was requested, \$20,000 is comparable to past Special Events Major Grants for events of similar size. The Adjudication Committee noted that the event is not focused solely on Regina, as it will bring families together from across the province. Support for this event is demonstrative of the commitment of the City of Regina and the broader community towards Reconciliation. These gatherings are vital in the acknowledgment of systems and structures that continue to oppress Indigenous communities and are the start to a process of healing for the community and for the families of the MMIWG.

### **Canadian Western Agribition (CWA)**

CWA occurs every year in November, and is the largest livestock show in Canada. It is a blend of agriculture sales, demonstrations, educational programming, Indigenous culture, and entertainment. It is an international hub of agriculture excellence hosting over 1,200 international guests from over 75 countries. In 2017, over 126,500 people attended the six-day event. CWA has recorded over 1,200 international visitors from over 86 different countries, and over 53,000 guests from outside Saskatchewan. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) impact to Regina was \$44 million. The event contributed \$4.46 million to regional GDP, generates \$1.1 million in trade show revenue, and \$1.1 million in livestock sales.

Administration is recommending that CWA receive a grant of \$15,000 in 2019, consistent with support provided between 2014 and 2016 to partially offset the cost of the transit shuttle service. 2019 will function as a transition year and Administration recommends that CWA submit an application for funding through Special Events Major program beginning in 2020. In future years, analysis of the CWA's submission against the program criteria and priorities may result in a recommendation for a different level of funding.

### **RECOMMENDATION IMPLICATIONS**

#### **Financial Implications**

The 2019 allocation for Other Executive Committee Grants is \$205,000. Of the approved \$205,000 total budget, \$122,700 is allocated to fund the Special Event Major program. \$100,000 has been expended to date.

If the recommended funding from Community Investment Grants Reserve-Executive Committee of \$35,000 is approved the budget will be exhausted and \$12,300 will be required from the reserve. That will leave \$155,400 in the reserve. The recommended maximum balance for this reserve is \$150,000. The recommended minimum balance for this reserve is \$nil.

There is one remaining deadline in 2019 to apply for a Special Events Major Grant. Administration is not aware of any requests for funding to be submitted to that deadline. Should such a request be received, and additional funding is required, Executive Committee can choose to access the Community Investment Grants Reserve-Executive Committee again.

#### Environmental Implications

There are no environmental implications with the recommendations of this report.

#### Policy and/or Strategic Implications

The mission of the City's Community Investment Grants Program (CIGP) is to fund community non-profit organizations to deliver programs, projects, and services that align with the City's priorities, to have a clear community impact and to respond to community needs.

The *Mamawe! Mekowishwewin* - Being Together Gives Us Solace event strongly aligns with the City's CIGP's Social Development Priorities of building a welcoming and socially inclusive community and delivering programs and services that align with the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action.

This event also supports the City's Official Community Plan, in particular, the goal of Social Inclusion, as it is a way to promote cultural awareness, and prevent and reduce bullying, racial tensions, and misunderstanding amongst diverse populations.

Support of CWA aligns with the Special Event Major program priorities to continue funding to events that have a longstanding history of receiving support for City services. CWA is a major economic generator and tourism attraction for the City and is a high-profile event that celebrates this community's agricultural and indigenous culture and heritage.

#### Other Implications

There are no other implications as a result of this report.

#### Accessibility Implications

None with respect to this report.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Grant recipients are required to recognize the City of Regina as a funding provider. The organizations will work with the Citizen Experience Department to arrange recognition and usage of the proper logo.

DELEGATED AUTHORITY

The disposition of this report is within the authority of Executive Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laurie Shalley".

Director, Parks, Recreation & Cultural  
Services

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Emmaline Hill".

A/Executive Director, City Planning & Community  
Development

Report prepared by:  
Emmaline Hill, Manager, Community & Cultural  
Development