

MEETING TYPE: Regular Council Meeting
MEETING DATE: June 4, 2024
AUTHOR: Reyna Seabrook, Director of Corporate Services
DEPARTMENT: Corporate Services
ITEM TITLE: 2024 Grant-in-Aid Applications | GIA2024-002, GIA2024-003, GIA2024-004
DESCRIPTION: Applications from Lake Country Community Fridge, Lake Country Judo and Martial Arts and Spartan Wrestling Club

PURPOSE

To consider Grant-in-Aid Applications from the Lake Country Community Fridge, Lake Country Judo and Martial Arts Club, and the Spartan Wrestling Club.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Grant-in-Aid request from Lake Country Community Fridge in the amount of \$2,000 to assist with ongoing costs including food, structure needs and maintenance, be approved;
 AND THAT the Grant-in-Aid request from Lake Country Judo and Martial Arts in the amount of \$999 to support athletes that attended the BC Provincial Judo Championships from April 5 – 7, 2024 be approved;
 AND THAT the Grant-in Aid request from the Spartan Wrestling Club in the amount of \$1500 to purchase wrestling mats, not be supported;
 AND THAT staff be directed to bring back an amended Grant-in-Aid Policy that establishes criteria for applicants from sports organizations and clarifies language and deadlines for operating grant applications.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

Council has an annual Grant-in-Aid budget (Grants to Community Organizations) of \$7,000. Funds are allocated to recipients with standing resolutions for annual grants and then on a first come, first serve basis. Annual recipients receive \$2,000 to 3,000 (depending on the Rotary Fundraiser amount) each year leaving \$4,000 to \$5,000 for distribution.

2024 ANNUAL RECIPIENTS	AMOUNT	RESOLUTION
GESS Dry Grad	\$500	07.05.235
Rotary Fundraiser Facility Rental (varies each year, maximum \$1500)	\$1500	08.11.506
Oyama Fun Days	\$500	10.05.226
Lake Country Native Association (LCNA) Pow Wow	\$500	05.05.198
TOTAL USED	\$3,000	
AVAILABLE FOR DISTRIBUTION	\$4,000	

In 2023 Council approved 4 Grant-in-Aid applications in addition to the annual grant recipients:

FILE NUMBER	RECIPIENT	AMOUNT	RESOLUTION
GIA2023-001	Team Kees Taekwondo	\$1,000	2023.03.059
GIA2023-002	Gregor Burton & Donavin Scott (ADCC Canada Open Submission Wrestling Championship)	\$600	2023.04.067
GIA2023-003	PAC Lake Country Dance Company	\$1,000	2023.06.122
GIA2023-004	Lake Country Community Fridge	\$2,000	2023.06.122
GIA2023-005	Lake Country Food Bank	\$1,000	2023.09.152
TOTAL		\$5,600	

Three (3) grant-in-aid applications have been received to date for the 2024 funds. The Lake Country Community Fridge is requesting \$2,000 to assist with the ongoing costs of the project, including food, structure needs and maintenance. The Lake Country Judo and Martial Arts Club is seeking \$999 to help support athlete's attendance at the BC Provincial Judo Championships that were held in Prince George from April 5 to 7 and the Spartan Wrestling Club located which is located in Kelowna but provides service to participants in the Okanagan including Lake Country, is requesting \$1500 to help purchase mats and allow the group to grow membership and host tournaments.

FILE NUMBER	RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
GIA2023-002	Lake Country Community Fridge	\$2,000
GIA2023-003	Lake Country Judo and Martial Arts Club	\$1,000
GIA2023-004	Spartan Wrestling Club	\$1,500
TOTAL REQUESTED		\$4,500

Grant-in-Aid Policy 175, 2019 specifies that applications are intended to provide funding for a program, short-term undertaking with a completion date or an event with a start and finish date (and can be an annual event). When initially contemplated, such grants were generally intended for events such as the Lake Country car show or a community event such as Oyama Fun Days or the GESS Dry Grad. The policy requires programs or events to be within District boundaries, open to the general public and have free or nominal admission. Nonetheless, section 1.3 of the policy allows Council to approve applications that do not adhere to the policy but have merit in terms of community value and involvement.

Both the Lake Country Community Fridge and Lake Country Judo and Martial Arts Club are located within Lake Country and support Lake Country residents. The request from the Lake Country Judo and Martial Arts Club was received on March 5, 2024, for an event that was scheduled for April 5, 2024 and the event date passed prior to staffs ability to present the request to Council. The Spartan Wrestling Club is located within the City of Kelowna boundaries and staff have therefore recommended the application be denied, although the group does support Lake Country participants.

The total amount requested for 2024 Grant-in-Aid applications to date is \$4,500. There is \$4,000 remaining in the grant-in-aid budget of \$7000.

Policy Amendments

In the last several years there has been an increase in the number of applications to support athletes' attendance at tournaments. The current policy does not provide guidance or criteria for such requests and in reviewing other municipalities policies, staff recommend the existing policy be amended to include criteria that may assist Council and athletic groups when applying for grants-in-aid. For example, the City of Kelowna has an [Athletic Excellence Grant](#) that sets out very specific criteria for funding individual athletes or organizations attending various levels of championship tournaments. Staff recommend a reduced version of sporting event criteria could be included in the existing policy. For example, Council may wish to ensure applications for sporting events are from a locally based team that has been in operation for at least 6 months, establish a maximum amount per athlete or per team per calendar year and identify that funds are only to be used for event travel related expenses including: registration, transportation, meals, accommodation.

In addition to increased sporting event applications staff have received several requests for Operating Grants from start-up groups and societies in amounts varying from \$20,000 to \$60,000. Operating Grants are multi-year funding to assist with a group's general operating expenses such as facility development, administrative costs or program-related expenses. Operating Grants are a separate funding mechanism from grants-in-aid and must be approved through budget deliberations or Council resolution. Operating Grants are secured through an agreement with the recipient and are intended to provide on-going funding for continuing organizations that Council determines provide benefit to the community. Following is a list of current operating grants:

ANNUAL OPERATING GRANT	AMOUNT	RESOLUTION
ArtWalk	\$2,000	05.07.288
Lake Country Arts Council	\$10,000	2022-01-005
Youth Restorative Justice Program (through Boys and Girls Club)	\$1,000	13.03.066
Citizens Patrol-Community Policing (vehicle)	\$6,000	Budget
Lake Country Art Gallery	\$90,000	19.12.331
Lake Country Heritage and Cultural Society (Museum)	\$57,500	2023.01.020
Okanagan Boys and Girls Club	\$30,000	00/05/265
Rotary Club of Lake Country (Canada Day)	\$4,000	22.01.05
TOTAL	\$200,500	

Historically, operating grants have been provided to groups and organizations that have been established and have a proven ability to operate for a period of time prior to requesting funding from the District. In addition, recipients generally have a funding model in place to ensure they are not solely reliant on the municipality to continue operations. Staff recommend the existing policy be amended to provide clear language on the criteria for organizations to apply for an operating grant (must be established and operating in the community for a period of time and must be able to provide evidence of viable financing without assistance from the District). In addition, staff recommend the policy identify a deadline for receipt of Operating Grant applications that coincides with budget deliberations.

If Council supports the above noted amendments to the exiting policy, the recommendation within this report directs staff to bring a draft policy back to Council with the proposed amendments for Council's consideration.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION, BYLAWS AND POLICY

Grant-in-Aid Policy 175, 2019 (Attached) establishes guidelines for grants provided by the District. Several of the key principles and eligibility requirements include:

- Council, at its discretion, may provide grants to groups or organizations that Council considers enhance or contribute to the projects, residents or facilities of Lake Country.
- Council may not provide any form of assistance to a business.
- Council may consider applications that do not adhere to this policy but have merit in terms of community value and involvement.
- Receipt of a grant does not guarantee funding in the future.
- applications for grants-in-aid over \$1,000 must be from a Registered Organization with proof of registration.

Section 8 of the *Community Charter*, Fundamental Powers sets out that a municipality has the right to provide assistance except to a business. Business is any undertaking, professional, personal, or other services for the purpose of gain or profit.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None Budget Previously Approved Other (see below)

The Grant-in-Aid budget contains \$7,000.00. Recipients with standing resolutions are allocated their funds first. Annually these allocations approximately amount to \$3,000.00, leaving approximately \$4,000.00 left for Grant-in-Aid application allocations.

ALIGNMENT WITH COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Create and Support Opportunities for a Healthy, Active and Inclusive Community

OPTIONS

- A. THAT the following Grant-in-Aid requests be approved;
(as identified by Council)
AND THAT staff be directed to bring back an amended Grant-in-Aid Policy that establishes criteria for applicants from sports organizations and clarifies language and deadlines for operating grant applications.

Respectfully Submitted,
Reyna Seabrook, Director of Corporate Services

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	2024 Grant-in-Aid Application-GIA2024-002, GIA2024-003, GIA2024-004.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment A-2024 Grant-in-Aid Applications-Grant in Aid Policy 175, 2019.pdf - Attachment B-2024 Grant-in-Aid Applications-LC Community Fridge.pdf - Attachment C-2024 Grant-in-Aid Applications-Lake Country Judo and Martial Arts.pdf - Attachment D-2024 Grant-in-Aid Applications-Spartan Wrestling Club.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Jun 10, 2024

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Trevor James, CFO, Director of Finance & Administration - Jun 7, 2024 - 10:19 AM

Paul Gipps, Chief Administrative Officer - Jun 10, 2024 - 8:41 AM