

Mayor and Council  
District of Lake Country

January 14, 2025

I am writing on behalf of the Winfield Memorial Hall Association - WMH. Over the years the district has provided a fund that the 3 Lake Country halls could draw upon if repairs or upgrades were required to the hall's infrastructure. Although this has worked in the past, we have reached a point where the halls require annual funding as to plan for the future of the buildings. The WMH is in the processes of selecting a vendor to do a depreciation report on the building which will give us a clear understanding of what is required to maintain the building and costing looking forward 25 years.

Currently we are aware of the need to replace the hall roof, facia and gutters within 5 years at an estimated cost of over 120K, interior painting of 25K, floor refinishing 20K, entry doors 35K. I could go on listing needs that will be needing funding but I think we can agree that the amounts moving forward will be hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The halls are community property worth approximate 10 million dollars and the district / taxpayers have a responsibility to fully fund repairs and maintain these assets.

Today I am asking for an annual funding amount of \$50,000 for the WMH, this will give the board surety that we will be able to do our due diligence in regards to hall maintenance.

Without annual funding I see no way forward. The hall board is comprised of dedicated volunteers contributing hundreds of hours yearly but we are aging and it will be hard if not impossible to attract new members without a plan in place to at least fund the necessary repairs.

I did request the opportunity for the halls to present to council but for whatever reason this was not possible.

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your time and I look forward to having a discussion about this request.

[REDACTED]


Don Rae


WMH Director

January 12, 2025

Dear Mayor and Council,

Representatives of the three DLC Community Halls had hoped to present a case to you for an increase of funding to the Community Hall Grant Program. As your schedule does not permit a presentation, the Community Hall Association of Okanagan Centre and Winfield Memorial Hall Association are endorsing the letter that you received from Oyama Community Club (see below). The Boards of the three Halls are united in the request that Council consider increasing the budget allocation to the Community Hall Grant Program.

  
Barbara Rutherford, Director  
Community Hall Association of Okanagan Centre

  
Don Rae, Director  
Winfield Memorial Hall Association

October 23, 2024  
Mayor and Council  
District of Lake Country  
10150 Bottom Wood Lake Road  
Lake Country, BC V4V 2M1

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing on behalf of the Oyama Community Club to advocate for the increase in the Community Hall Grant. This essential support helps sustain the vital work of our community clubs. As you are aware, the rising costs of running these clubs have placed significant financial strain on our operations, making it increasingly challenging to deliver the services and activities that greatly benefit the residents of Lake Country.

For the past two years, this matter has been discussed during council meetings, with both the Mayor and Council acknowledging the need for an increase in the grant. We sincerely appreciate the recognition of this issue and the support provided through the contingency fund, which has allowed all four community clubs to meet their grant requests. However, using the contingency fund as a stopgap measure is not a sustainable solution.

To ensure the long-term viability of our community clubs and the programs we provide, we respectfully request that district staff engage in discussions regarding appropriate budget allocations for the Community Hall Grant before the upcoming fiscal year's budget approvals. Securing this funding will enable us to effectively plan and continue making essential capital improvements to our aging infrastructure and offer a diverse array of events, programs, and services that greatly benefit our community.

We understand the complex budgeting process, and we are grateful for your ongoing support. We hope that by working together, we can secure the necessary funds to allow our community clubs to thrive and continue serving the residents of Lake Country.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Nick Clements  
President  
Oyama Community Club  
