



Heritage Community Investment Program Operational Grant Results 2022

RECOMMENDATION

That Community and Public Services Committee recommend to City Council:

That the recommendations for grant funding, as outlined in the January 17, 2022, Edmonton Heritage Council report EXT00885, be approved.

Report Purpose

Council decision required

Council is being asked to approve grant funding for amounts exceeding \$30,000, in accordance with City Policy C211H - Community Investment Grants to Organizations and Individuals, for the Alberta Aviation Museum (\$168,710) & Société historique francophone de l'Alberta (\$38,426), totalling \$207,172.

Executive Summary

- The Heritage Community Investment Program (HCIP) is a City of Edmonton funded program, administered by the Edmonton Heritage Council (EHC) which provides funding for Edmonton's heritage organizations, individual heritage practitioners and communities to support a more vibrant heritage sector.
- HCIP addresses key aims in *Connections & Exchanges: A 10 Year Plan for Transforming Arts & Heritage in Edmonton*, which is aligned with the City Plan and ConnectEdmonton strategic goals for a Healthy City, Urban Places, Regional Prosperity and Climate Resilience.
- There are six streams of funding available through HCIP: Operational Grants, Change Capital, Research and Planning, Project Accelerator, Community Project and Career Development.
- **Through HCIP Operational Grants two organizations received individual grant recommendations of \$30,000 or more, which requires Council approval, in accordance with City Policy C211H - Community Investment Grants to Organizations and Individuals.**

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- These two organizations are the Alberta Aviation Museum (\$168,710) & Société historique francophone de l'Alberta (\$38,426), totalling \$207,172 for Council approval.
 - This amount is included in a total allocation of \$325,055 in 2022 operational grants for nine organizations. All other recommendations for funding fall below the \$30,000 threshold.
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REPORT

Applicant Name	Recommended Amount
Alberta Aviation Museum	\$168,710
Société historique francophone de l'Alberta	\$38,426
SUBTOTAL	\$244,867
Alberta Genealogical Society	\$26,964
Alberta Labour History Institute	\$9,399
Alberta Pioneer Railway Association	\$22,995
Edmonton Chinatown Chinese Library	\$23,720
Edmonton and District Historical Society	\$8,094.59
Edmonton Radial Railway Society	\$16,074
Société Généalogique du Nord Ouest	\$10,765.75
TOTAL	\$325,055

EHC recommends \$325,055 in operational Grants be disbursed to nine heritage organizations operating in Edmonton in 2022. Of that amount, \$207,172 is recommended for dispersal to the two heritage organizations that are eligible for support exceeding the City's \$30,000 threshold for Council approval (City Policy C211H). Both organizations, Alberta Aviation Museum and Société historique francophone de l'Alberta, have long standing relationships with EHC and have demonstrated progress towards internal improvements to their operations during this challenging year.

Typically, operational funding is offered to a maximum of 25 per cent of organizations' eligible operating and programming expenses. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Edmonton Heritage Council provided an opportunity for organizations that were successful in the previous

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year to apply for the same funding as they received in the year previous in order to help heritage organizations recover financially post-pandemic.

Edmonton Heritage Council also used the operational grants as an opportunity to test a new online application portal. Applicants reported that it provided an easier application experience and administrators believe that the question based application has allowed for clearer more directed responses from applicants.

In addition to the operating support EHC provides through these grants, staff provides guidance and support to operational recipients through coaching, providing \$106,685 in Change Capital grants, as well as other professional development opportunities.

Change Capital grants were introduced in 2021 as a response to an action under aim eight in *Connections and Exchanges: A 10-Year Plan to Transform Arts and Heritage In Edmonton*, to provide funding for organizations to build internal capacity. Additionally, through the winter of 2020-2021 EHC offered a free workshop series called Wide Angle Lens, encouraging operational recipients to attend and participate in developing heritage skills and exploring perspectives in engaging with diverse communities.

Highlights of 2022 Grant Requests

- Operational grants account for 48 per cent of funds distributed each year through HCIP
- Organizations receiving operational funding cover a wide range of subjects including: labour history, Chinese language preservation, genealogy, rail and aviation history.
- Operational grants activate one of eight aims in *Connections and Exchanges: A 10-Year Plan to Transform Arts and Heritage In Edmonton*, a commitment to support existing and develop new organizational capacity that enables innovation to build resilience in the heritage sector.
- All applications were submitted through EHC's new grants portal system which allowed for a more straightforward application process with clear questions and answers. Eventually, this new system will enable EHC to develop greater insight into trends within HCIP and streamlining the process for applicants.
- Due to COVID-19 related closures, many organizations reported substantially lower revenues in 2020-2021.
- EHC committed to renewing funding based on 2019 financials as a way of providing some recovery stimulus to organizations looking to rebuild in 2022.
- Applications were reviewed by EHC grants staff to verify completeness and eligibility of funding requests. Extended financial review was conducted by an external accountant who analysed detailed schedules of expenses and comparative financial statements.
- Assessment of applications was conducted in accordance with EHC Board of Directors policy. EHC Board of Directors ratified those decisions and supported the recommendations based on a vote at the December 1, 2021, meeting of the board.
- Operational grants are accepted annually to support the next calendar year's operations.

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- This year, EHC requested that applicants comment on development of equity policies, approaches to creating more sustainable governance practices, and organizational responses to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action that relate to the heritage sector.
- Information about our other grants and the projects that were funded by each of them is provided in Attachments 1, 2, and 3.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Heritage Community Investment Program (HCIP) Results - Project Accelerator Grants 2021
2. Heritage Community Investment Program (HCIP) Results - Research and Planning Grants 2021
3. Heritage Community Investment Program (HCIP) Results - Other Grants