

Heritage Community Investment Program Operational Grant Results 2021

Recommendation

That Community and Public Services Committee recommend to City Council:

That the recommendations, as outlined in the January 20, 2021, Edmonton Heritage Council report EXT00217, be approved.

Executive Summary

The City of Edmonton and the Edmonton Heritage Council support Edmonton heritage organizations through the Heritage Community Investment Program (HCIP), addressing key aims in *Connections & Exchanges: A 10 Year Plan for Transforming Arts & Heritage in Edmonton*, which is aligned with City Plan and ConnectEdmonton strategic goals for a Healthy City, Urban Places, Regional Prosperity and Climate Resilience.

\$205,575 in total funding (Alberta Aviation Museum & Société historique francophone de l'Alberta) requires City Council approval, in accordance with City Policy C211H, for individual grant recommendations of \$30,000 or more. This amount is included in a total allocation of \$303,308.25 in 2021 Operational grants for seven organizations.

Applicant Name	Recommended Amount
Alberta Aviation Museum	\$168,710
Société historique francophone de l'Alberta	\$36,865
SUBTOTAL	\$205,575
Alberta Genealogical Society	\$26,964
Alberta Labour History Institute	\$9,399
Alberta Pioneer Railway Association	\$19,790
Edmonton Chinatown Chinese Library	\$23,720
Edmonton Radial Railway Society	\$17,860.25
TOTAL	\$303,308.25

Also included in this report for information is further detail on substantial changes to the Heritage Community Investment Program in 2020 and details on funded 2021 Project and 2020 Project Accelerator and Travel/Online Learning applications (Attachments 1 and 2).

Report

Operational Grants are accepted annually for funding to support the next calendar year's operations. Operational Grants fund eligible organizations to 25 per cent of eligible operating expenses. For 2021, EHC broadened the definition of eligible expenses to include ongoing program costs and digital systems maintenance.

Applications for 2021 Operational grants were accepted at the Edmonton Heritage Council up to 4:00 PM on September 25, 2020. Eight applications were received. Seven applicants are recommended for funding.

Applications were reviewed and analyzed by Edmonton Heritage Council staff to verify applicant eligibility and eligible expenses. When deemed necessary, more information or clarity was sought from the applicants. Financial analysis of the organization's detailed schedule of expenses and annual statements was conducted by an external financial advisor.

A Peer Jury was appointed in accordance with Edmonton Heritage Council Board Policy. The Peer Jury considered the applications and made funding recommendations to the Edmonton Heritage Council Board of Directors, which were approved on December 2, 2020. The recommendation included the decision to fund seven of the eight applications submitted, as one organization had failed to submit required financial information for the third year in a row. Details on all 2021 Operational Grant recipients are included in Attachment 1.

Additional Heritage Community Investment Program Updates and Information

In 2020, the Heritage Community Investment Program introduced changes in response to community feedback and the need for greater accessibility in the face of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

HCIP's Project Accelerator Grant was refined to focus on digital heritage experiences and individual seed funding. Digital Heritage Experience Grants were designed to support individuals and organizations in new initiatives that share Edmonton's stories through digital and virtual media. Individual Seed Grants supported individual heritage practitioners in preliminary planning or research towards a larger heritage project.

HCIP's Travel Grant was also reimagined as an Online Learning Grant, providing opportunities for heritage practitioners to continue to develop their skills and knowledge through online coursework, conferences, or other training opportunities. A full recap of 2020 Project Accelerator and Travel/Online Learning Grants are included in Attachment 2 for information.

To address the Action in *Connections & Exchanges* to "provide change capital to cultural organizations to retool and reorganize to meet the needs of a rapidly changing

city,” the EHC launched a new Change Capital Project Grant for 2021. This grant provides funding to heritage organizations to undertake projects that develop internal capacity and new strategies that build resilience within the heritage sector.

The Change Capital Project Grant was offered alongside a Community Project Grant stream, which supports non-profit organizations undertaking projects to preserve, research, document, interpret, and raise awareness of the history and heritage of Edmonton.

Applications for 2021 Project Grants were accepted at the Edmonton Heritage Council up to 4:00pm on October 2, 2020. Twelve applications were received. Seven projects are recommended for funding. Details on the funded projects are included in Attachment 1 for information.

Corporate Outcomes and Performance Management

As noted above, this investment is aligned with the Ambitions, Aims, and Actions of *Connections & Exchanges* (Edmonton’s 10 Year Arts & Heritage Plan) and its alignment with City Plan objectives, particularly with Healthy City indicators on Sense of Community, Arts and Culture and Personal Wellness, and

Corporate Outcome(s): Edmontonians are connected to the city in which they live, work and play.			
Outcome(s)	Measure(s)	Result(s)	Target(s)
Grant funding is available to heritage organizations and consultants, for the purpose of connecting Edmontonians to the city’s heritage.	Number of applications per grant per deadline	A total of 99 applications were received in 2020	A total of 40 HCIP applications per year
	Number of new applicants	48% of applications were from new applicants in 2020	25% of all applications will come from new applicants
	Provide funding to diverse and under-served heritage communities	21 out of 40 funded applicants (53%) were organizations or individuals who represent diverse or under-served communities	25% of all funded applications go to organizations or individuals who represent diverse or under-served communities
	Dispersion of HCIP funds	103% of 2020 HCIP funds have been allocated*	All HCIP funds are allocated annually

*Additional resources such as new monies from Edmonton Community Foundation and previous HCIP surplus funds allowed for allocating more than 100% of grant dollars in 2020

Attachments

1. 2021 Operational and Project Grants
2. 2020 Project Accelerator and Travel/Online Learning Grants