Agenda – Executive Policy Committee – July 10, 2013

REPORTS

Item No. 4 Aboriginal Scholarship and Community Service Award Program

WINNIPEG PUBLIC SERVICE RECOMMENDATION:

That the City of Winnipeg continues to offer an Aboriginal Scholarship and Service Award Program in partnership with the Winnipeg School Division and expand it to include all grade 7-12 schools located in Winnipeg.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: Aboriginal Scholarship and Community Service Award Program

Critical Path: Executive Policy Committee, Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
J. Halliburton / R. Forgues	L. Burch	M.Ruta	D. Joshi COO

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City of Winnipeg continues to offer an Aboriginal Scholarship and Service Award Program in partnership with the Winnipeg School Division and expand it to include all grade 7-12 schools located in Winnipeg.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

City Council has the authority to approve the expansion of the Aboriginal Scholarship and Service Award Program.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

As the scholarship program objectives aligns with the mandate of the City of Winnipeg's Aboriginal Youth Strategy – Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak (OAN), OAN will administer the program and provide funds for the scholarships through the existing approved OAN annual budget.

Departmental partners will be sought, through the Aboriginal Relations Leadership Team, to provide 14 scholarship winners (2 students per school division), with employment developmental opportunities through summer positions currently included in existing departmental budgets.

HISTORY

On October 26, 2005, Council approved the creation of an Aboriginal Scholarship and Community Service Award Program. The program was limited to students from grade 6 to grade 12 attending the Winnipeg School Division and involved the departments of Planning Property and Development and Corporate Support Services.

Since 2006, scholarships have been made available from the City of Winnipeg, Planning, Property and Development Division, for Aboriginal students in Grades 6 -12 in the Winnipeg School Division showing a combination of academic performance, community leadership and an interest in working with the City of Winnipeg.

The Aboriginal Scholarship program was designed to encourage Aboriginal students attending school in Winnipeg's inner city to stay in school and consider post-secondary education in the area of municipal planning and related careers such as: City Planner; Architects; Landscape Architects; Urban designers; Inspectors (Building, Mechanical and Electrical); Civil Engineers; Drafting Technologists; Real Estate Appraisers.

The scholarship offered $250.00 to one Aboriginal student in each the middle and junior high grades of 6, 7, 8, and 9, one $400.00 scholarship to high school students in grades 10 and 11, and one $1,500.00 award to a grade 12 student who successfully graduated and enrolled in post-secondary education. In addition to the new scholarships awarded each year, students were eligible to have their scholarships each subsequent year if they continued to meet the criteria. Each year up to two students were also eligible for summer employment.

From 2006 to 2012, there have been 88 scholarships awarded totaling $31,650.00. There were six summer jobs provided over this same time period totaling $21,300.00.

Over the years, several informal inquiries and requests were made to expand the boundaries to include all school divisions in Winnipeg. In 2012, the Wellness and Diversity Branch received a formal request from the Louis Riel School Division to expand this opportunity to other Aboriginal young people across the city.

Expansion of the Program to include all school divisions

Expansion to all schools in Winnipeg regardless of the school division is more equitable. The original intent to target the program to Aboriginal Youth in the inner city is no longer required as Winnipeg's Aboriginal population continues to grow across the city and Aboriginal youth can be found attending all the schools in Winnipeg within the seven different school divisions.

In order to expand the program some changes to the program are necessary. The revised eligibility and program guidelines are attached as Appendix A. The main differences from the previous program are: the program will be expanded to include all schools located within Winnipeg; awards will be available to Aboriginal students only in grades 7 to 12; and the awards will no longer be automatically renewed.

Cost of the Program

Each year the program is offered there will be a total of 36 awards granted for students in Grades 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 ($10,850.00) and another 7 post-secondary awards ($7,000.00). The total annual cost for the awards will be $17,850.00. Up to 14 summer jobs totaling approximately $60,000.00 will be funded through various Departments using their existing seasonal/summer hiring budgets.

Funding for the scholarship and service awards will be through the City of Winnipeg's Aboriginal Youth Strategy/Oshki Annishinabe Nigaaniwak (AYS/OAN) which is included every year in the annual current budget.

This program aligns with the mandate of AYS/OAN by supporting education and literacy and provides training towards a more representative Aboriginal workforce.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date:

Project Name:

First Year of Program **2013**

Aboriginal Scholarship and Community Award Program

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Capital					
Capital Expenditures Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budgeted Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Funding Sources:					
Debt - Internal	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Debt - External	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Reserves, Equity, Surplus	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Total Additional Capital Budget Required	$ -				
Total Additional Debt Required	$ -				
Current Expenditures/Revenues					
Direct Costs	$ 77,850	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ 77,850	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	77,850	-	-	-	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments:

1. The above Direct Costs represents 36 scholarship awards ($10,850), 7 post-secondary scholarship awards ($7,000) and up to 14 summer jobs ($60,000) totalling $77,850.

2. Funding for scholarship awards available through Corporate Support Services, Aboriginal Youth Strategy. Summer jobs will be funded through various Departments existing seasonal/summer hiring budgets. Positions will only be filled when budget is available.

original signed by Radhika Abeysekera

Radhika Abeysekera
Manager of Finance (Campus)
Corporate Finance Department

CONSULTATION

In preparing this report there was consultation with:

Departmental Human Resource Managers

SUBMITTED BY

Department:	Corporate Support Services Aboriginal Relations Division / Wellness and Diversity Branch
Prepared by:	R. Forgues and J. Halliburton
Date:	June 26, 2013
File No.	

City of Winnipeg
Aboriginal Scholarship and Service Awards Program

1.1 The City of Winnipeg offers a scholarship and service award program for Aboriginal (First Nation, Metis and Inuit) students attending schools located in Winnipeg within all the school divisions (Winnipeg School Division; St. James-Assiniboia; Pembina Trails; Seven Oaks School Division; Division Scolaiare Franco-Manitobaine, River East Transcona; Louis Riel.

Benefits

- The program is designed to encourage students to stay in school and to consider post-secondary education in careers found at the City of Winnipeg (Public Service).
  - Some of the careers are: Planners; Architects; Engineers; Technologists; Librarians; Accountants; Information Technology Specialists; Police Officers; Paramedics; Firefighters;
- Provides opportunity to explore career interests through a variety of ways such as attending events to learn about careers, job shadowing, professional mentorship and paid summer employment for students age 16 or older who display interest and capacity in Public Service careers.
- Serves as recruitment strategy to attract qualified candidates to positions within the Public Service.

Eligibility

The awards are open to all Aboriginal students attending school full time within the seven school divisions in Winnipeg in grades 7 to 12 with preference being given to students who are experiencing social or financial hardship. Students must be nominated by a teacher or administrator who is familiar with the student's academic performance, family situation and extracurricular activities.

Selection

Scholarship recipients will be selected on a competitive basis through an evaluation of students' demonstrated academic achievement, teacher recommendations, extracurricular activities, and career interests.

Middle Schools and Junior High School Scholarships

$250 Scholarships will be awarded at the end of the school year to one Aboriginal student in grade 7, 8 and 9 in each school division who has successfully completed their school year and demonstrated academic achievement and community leadership.

The scholarships will be awarded based on the following:

- Student must be enrolled full time and have good attendance;
- Preference will be being given to students who are experiencing social or financial hardship;
- A combination of academic performance and community leadership.

Senior High School Program

$400 Scholarships will be awarded to one Aboriginal Student in each school division in Grade 10 and 11 who have successfully completed their school year and have demonstrated academic achievement and community leadership.

The scholarships will be awarded based on the following:

- Student must be enrolled full time attendance and have good attendance;
- Preference being given to students who are experiencing social or financial hardship;
- A combination of academic performance (75% or higher in English, Math and Science) and community leadership.

Post-Secondary Entrance Scholarship
One student in each school division enrolled in post-secondary education at a recognized university or community college will be awarded $1000 towards their first year tuition expenses.

The scholarship will be awarded based on the following:

- Student must be a graduate of High School with preference being given to students who are experiencing social or financial hardship;
- A combination of academic performance (75% or higher in English, Math and Science) and community leadership;
- Student participated in the programs offered to explore career interests and/or completed a summer work placement with the City of Winnipeg.

Career Exploration Opportunity
Each student who receives a scholarship will be provided an opportunity to explore career interests; For example this may include attending a career week program in the summer or a job shadow opportunity.

Summer Work Placement Program (Service Award)
Two full time summer jobs will be awarded to students in each school division who have participated in the scholarship service awards program.

- Students must be at least 16 years of age or older and expressed interest in civic career opportunities;
- Those students interested in summer employment will be notified of the type of jobs available and will be interviewed to determine suitability.

Application Process
Be sure to include the following with your application.

- Completed and signed application. (student and teacher or principal)
- For Grade 12 graduates wanting to be considered for the $ 1000 post-secondary award – proof of enrollment into a post-secondary institution or forward as soon as possible.
- Resume (only if interested in a summer job and at least 16 years of age).

The Timeline

March:	Deadline for submitting the application is March 31 of each year.
May/June:	Students interested in a summer job will participate in an interview.
June:	Students will be advised if they are receiving an award.
July:	Students selected for summer employment will start work.
August	Career week for those students selected to attend.

Mail, fax or email completed applications to:
Insert name, address, email and fax.

Questions related to this program may be addressed to: insert name, ph # and email