Minute No. 534
Report – Executive Policy Committee – September 21, 2020

Item No. 14 24/7 Safe Space Grant Program

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

1. That 24/7 Safe Space Grant Program funding be awarded to:

   A. Ka Ni Kanichihk in the amount of $150,000 each year for four years (2020-2023);

   B. Spence Neighbourhood Association for The West End 24 Hour Safe Space, in the amount of $100,000 each year for four years (2020-2023).

2. That upon the approval by Council of individual grants, the City enter into, execute and deliver multi-year agreements with the recipients of grants approved by Council, and that authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to manage, negotiate, and approve the terms and conditions of agreements with grant recipients, in accordance with this report and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the Director of Legal Services and City Solicitor to protect the interests of the City.

3. That within 90 days following the end of year 2 (2021) and year 4 (2023) the Community Services Department report back to Executive Policy Committee with an update on program outcomes provided by successful grant recipients.

4. That the Proper Officers of the City be required to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Report – Executive Policy Committee – September 21, 2020

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by His Worship Mayor Bowman,

That the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee be adopted.

The motion for adoption of the item was put.

His Worship Mayor Bowman called for the yeas and nays which were as follows:

Yea: His Worship Mayor Bowman, Councillors Allard, Browaty, Chambers, Eadie, Gillingham, Gilroy, Klein, Lukes, Mayes, Nason, Orlikow, Rollins, Santos, Schreyer and Sharma. 16

Nay: 0

and the motion for the adoption of the item was declared carried.

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On September 21, 2020, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and submitted the matter to Council.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Title: 24/7 Safe Space Grant Program

Critical Path: Executive Policy Committee - Council

AUTHORIZATION

Author	Department Head	CFO	CAO
C. Brens	C. Fernandes	P. Olafson, Interim CFO	M. Ruta, Interim CAO

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides recommendations for the Executive Policy Committee (EPC) and Council on successful grant applicants for the distribution of $1,000,000 of funding, over four years, to support the 24/7 Safe Space Grant Program (the "Program").

This report provides a summary of the creation of the Program, an overview of the selection and review process, and a list of recommended grant recipients.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council award 24/7 Safe Space Grant Program funding to:
   A. Ka Ni Kanichihk in the amount of $150,000 each year for four years (2020-2023); and
   B. Spence Neighbourhood Association for The West End 24 Hour Safe Space, in the amount of $100,000 each year for four years (2020-2023).

2. That upon the approval by Council of individual grants, the City enter into, execute and deliver multi-year agreements with the recipients of grants approved by Council, and that authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to manage, negotiate, and approve the terms and conditions of agreements with grant recipients, in accordance with this report and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the Director of Legal Services and City Solicitor to protect the interests of the City.

3. That within 90 days following the end of year 2 (2021) and year 4 (2023) the Community Services Department report back to EPC with an update on program outcomes provided by successful grant recipients.

4. That the proper officers of the City be required to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

REASON FOR THE REPORT

On June 26, 2020, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee and adopted the following:

1. That the 24/7 Safe Space Grant Program be approved as outlined in this report.

2. That upon the approval by Council of individual grants, the City enter into, execute and deliver agreements with the recipients of grants approved by Council, and that authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to manage, negotiate, and approve the terms and conditions of agreements with grant recipients, in accordance with this report and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the Director of Legal Services and City Solicitor to protect the interests of the City.

3. That the City of Winnipeg enter into a grant agreement in the amount of $150,000.00 with Ka Ni Kanichihk to provide 24/7 safe space programming criteria within the City of Winnipeg, subject to meeting the evaluation criteria of the program, in accordance with Recommendations 1 and 2.

4. That the Proper Officers of the City be required to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The 24/7 Safe Space Grant Program will provide core funding to Ka Ni Kanichihk and Spence Neighbourhood Association for four years.

HISTORY/DISCUSSION

In December 2018, Mayor Bowman, Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister Cameron Friesen, and Member of Parliament for Winnipeg Centre Robert-Falcon Ouellette announced the creation of the Illicit Drug Task Force. The goal of the Task Force was to identify recommendations to reduce the use and effect of illicit drugs in Manitoba.

In June 2019, the Illicit Drug Task Force published its report entitled *"Recommendations to Reduce the Use and Effects of Illicit Drugs within Manitoba's Communities".* The report identified 11 recommendations. Of these, the third recommendation of the report called for the improved management of mental health and addictions through 24/7 safe spaces.

In response to this recommendation, in July 2019, EPC passed a motion to bring forward options in the 2020 multi-year budget process to fund additional 24/7 safe spaces in Winnipeg through the Community Services Department. End Homelessness Winnipeg (EHW) was asked to provide a brief scan of existing services, resources, gaps, and capacity for new or expanded 24/7 services.

In September 2019, EHW provided their report "*24/7 Safe Spaces in Winnipeg: A Brief Review of Existing Reports and Services".* Within this report EHW recommended that Winnipeg City Council consider funding, through a multi-year grant, 24/7 safe space services provided by an existing agency, or agencies, whose mandate it is to work with one or more of the following priority populations: Indigenous people, women, people who use drugs, youth, 2SLGBTQ+, and sexually exploited girls and women. EHW also recommended that the grant should ensure that the successful applicant(s) be able to satisfy identified best practices including:

- Provide services 24 hours a day
- Identify as an Indigenous organization or provide Indigenous led services
- Offer a harm reduction and trauma-informed approach to the service
- Hire and retain staff within the organization with lived experience
- Provide access to on-site skilled mental health and addictions services

In response to EHW's report on March 20, 2020 with the adoption of the 2020 budget, Winnipeg City Council directed the Public Service to draft a report outlining the creation of a grant program to support the delivery of $1,000,000 in new funding over four years to provide 24/7 safe space supports and services in Winnipeg. Through this Program, up to $250,000 in funding would be available each year for four years, beginning in 2020 and ending in 2023.

On June 18, 2020, an Administrative report entitled *'the 24/7 Safe Space Grant Program'* which outlined the creation of the Program, was reviewed and adopted by EPC. At this time, EPC also approved an additional motion that stated:

> "The City of Winnipeg enter into a grant agreement in the amount of $150,000.00 with Ka Ni Kanichihk to provide 24/7 safe space programming within the City of Winnipeg, subject to meeting the evaluation criteria of the program, in accordance with Recommendations 1 and 2." Following EPC, the report and creation of a grant program was passed by Council on June 26.

On June 26, 2020, the above noted Administrative Report, with the additional motion, was adopted by Council. A call for applications took place between July 12 and 31, 2020, with an application review taking place between August 2 and 13, 2020.

This Grant Program aligns with the 2017 report of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), entitled *Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces: Global Results Report.* As a Champion City of the Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces initiative, the Program positions Winnipeg as a leader in supporting key priority populations including women and sexually exploited women and girls.

In addition to the above, the grant program also aligns with the recommendations of the Kíkinanaw Óma: Strategy to Support Unsheltered Winnipeggers released in June 2020, which calls on the City of Winnipeg to implement a 24/7 Safe Spaces grant program.

Eligibility and Application Criteria

As part of the Council approved 24/7 Safe Space Grant Program, applicants needed to demonstrate how they met the following eligibility criteria:

Eligibility Criteria

- Program applicants must be an incorporated community organization.
- Funded activities must take place in the City of Winnipeg.

In addition to the above, applicants needed to demonstrate how they met the following application criteria:

Application Criteria

- Applicants must demonstrate how they will use grant funding to support at least one of the following:
    - Expand hours of service to provide full 24/7 safe space services
    - Enhance existing 24/7 safe space service operations
    - Create a new 24/7 safe space service in partnership with one or more partnering agencies.

- Applicants must demonstrate how they satisfy at least one of the following:
    - Provide services 24 hours a day
    - Provide services in the winter, specifically between November and March
    - Identify as an Indigenous organization or provide Indigenous-led services
    - Offer a harm reduction and trauma-informed approach to service
    - Hire and retain staff within the organization that have lived experience
    - Provide access to on-site mental health and/or addiction support services
    - Expand areas of expertise or services to enhance mental health and/or addiction supports for clients

- Applicants must demonstrate how they will directly support at least one of the following priority populations:
    - Indigenous people
    - Women
    - People who use drugs
    - Youth
    - 2SLGBTQ+
    - Sexually exploited girls and women

- Applicants must demonstrate how they align with End Homelessness Winnipeg's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness.

Selection Process

As per the Council approved Administrative Report noted above, in July 2020, a call for applications was completed, followed by a review of applications between August 2 and August 13. A total of 5 applications were received. The review of applications was led by the Community Services Department and was completed by a review committee consisting of:

- Two representatives from the Community Services Department
- One representative from EHW
- Three representatives from three different community based organizations who work directly with vulnerable populations. These included: Sunshine House, Aboriginal Youth Opportunities and the Manitoba Harm Reduction Network.

- Two of the above representatives were Indigenous

Additionally, the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority and an individual with lived experience were also invited to participate, but were unable to take part in the review session. Throughout the sessions all review committee members were required to identify possible conflicts of interest, ensure confidentiality and recuse themselves from the review process if necessary. Committee members who were participating on their personal time (i.e.: not being paid by their organization to take part in the selection committee) were provided with an honorarium to recognize their time and expertise.

Applications were reviewed using a two part scoring matrix and a consensus decision making model. This review method was developed by the Community Services Department, and validated by the Review Committee. To select successful applicants each application was scored against the application criteria noted above. Following this, reviewers were asked to provide an overall ranking from 1 to 7 related to the following question: *To what extent does this proposal meet community need and have the greatest potential impact in supporting priority populations?* In this exercise, 7 referred to "greatest impact", while 1 referred to "minimal impact". The scores from parts 1 and 2 of the scoring exercise were then added together to create a list of the highest ranked and lowest ranked applications.

Following the scoring of applications, the review committee then completed a round table discussion exercise using a consensus decision making model. Each application was reviewed one at a time. Through this process the group collectively confirmed which applications would move forward. Following the identification of successful applicants, the group again used a consensus decision making model to identify funding amounts for each applicant based on their applications, proposed program, and the application criteria noted above. This process enabled for the identification of data bias and allowed the committee members to share more information about each of the applications.

Using a community-based decision-making model was very successful. Community partners who took part in the selection committee provided valuable first-hand knowledge and understanding of both the needs of vulnerable residents and the community sector. Engaging these partners in decision making led to a more informed decision. It is worth noting that community partners would have liked to have more time for the decision making process to enable the group to follow-up with each of the applicants with questions related to their policies, hiring practices and approaches. This will be considered in future selection processes.

The following are the recommendations of the selection committee regarding grant recipients and associated funding levels. These recommendations reflect the decision-making process noted above as well as the perspectives of both the Public Service and community agencies participating on the review committee.

Recommended Grant Recipients

Of the 5 applications received and based on the methodology described above, two applicants are recommended to receive 24/7 Safe Space Grant Program funding:

Successful Grant Recipient #1

Organization Name: Ka Ni Kanichihk
Funding Amount: $150,000
Funding Frequency: Annually, each year for four years (2020-2023)
Program Description: Administered and overseen by Ka Ni Kanichihk, this initiative will be carried out in collaboration with the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Manitoba Coalition of Families, the 24/7 Safe Space Committee (or the Lived Experience Advisory Committee of Survivors), the Aboriginal Health and Wellness Centre, the Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre, End Homelessness Winnipeg and the West Central Women's Resource Centre. The proposed activity is to provide a 24/7 low barrier safe space for women trying to exit sexual exploitation, fleeing intimate partner violence or experiencing homelessness, with a focus on Indigenous women, girls and persons who identify as female in the city of Winnipeg. It will serve as a drop-in centre with culturally appropriate and trauma informed services, providing needed programming and support for vulnerable women.

Successful Grant Recipient #2
Organization Name: Spence Neighbourhood Association
Funding Amount: $100,000
Funding Frequency: Annually, each year for four years (2020-2023)
Program Description: The West End 24 Hour Safe Space (WE24) is currently an overnight safe space for youth ages 13-26 in the heart of the West End of Winnipeg. WE24 is run under the umbrella of the Spence Neighbourhood Association. WE24 works closely with Resource Assistance for Youth (RAY) to ensure that the unsheltered and vulnerable youth they serve have access to a range of services and supports. When open, WE24 operates from 11pm-7am, while the Spence Neighbourhood Association operates programming in the same location from 9am until 10pm. The remaining three hours of the day are used for cleaning, program preparation and food preparation. Currently WE24 operates 60% of the year. This funding will enable WE24 to operate for a greater period throughout the year, significantly enhancing access to service, particularly during the winter months.

Reporting

Within 90 days following the end of year 2 (2021) and year 4 (2023), the Community Services Department will report back to EPC with an update on program outcomes provided by successful grant recipients.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Financial Impact Statement

Date: August 21, 2020

Project Name:
24/7 Safe Space Grant Program

First Year of Program **2020**

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
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	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	$ -
Less: Incremental Revenue/Recovery	-	-	-	-	-
Net Cost/(Benefit)	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	$ 250,000	$ -
Less: Existing Budget Amounts	250,000	250,000	250,000	250,000	-
Net Budget Adjustment Required	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Additional Comments: There is no budget adjustment required as a result of the Recommendations of the Report that Council award 24/7 Safe Space Grant Program funding to Ka Ni Kanichihk in the amount of $150,000 each year for four years (2020-2023); and Spence Neighbourhood Association for The West End 24 Hour Safe Space, in the amount of $100,000 each year for four years (2020-2023). On March 20, 2020 Council adopted the 2020-2023 multi-year operating budget which includes annual grants of up to $250,000 in each of the years 2020-2023 to support the establishment of a 24/7 Safe Space grant program.

"Original signed by K. Lemoine"
Kelly Lemoine, CPA, CA
Manager, Finance and Administrative Services
Community Services Department

CONSULTATION

This report was prepared in consultation with:

- Aboriginal Youth Opportunities (AYO)
- End Homelessness Winnipeg (EHW)
- Manitoba Harm Reduction Network
- Sunshine House Winnipeg

OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

With a focus on supporting the homeless and vulnerable communities in Winnipeg, the 24/7 Safe Space Grant Program is in line with the following Our Winnipeg themes:

- Theme 3-1 - Opportunity:
    - Direction 3: Work with community partners to foster an inclusive and equitable community &
    - Direction 4: Work within municipal service areas as a collaborator on poverty reduction.

- Theme 01-2a - Collaborate to Make Safe Communities -
    - Direction 6: Take a broad-scaled, complete and collaborative approach to crime prevention.

- Theme 1-4 - Housing
    - Direction 3: Establish partnerships with the private, not-for-profit and government sectors to provide affordable housing throughout the city

WINNIPEG CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ALIGNMENT

N/A

SUBMITTED BY

Department: Community Services Department
Division: Community Development
Prepared by: Chris Brens, Manager, Community Development
Date: August 25, 2020
File No: CMS-2020-9