

**Regular Council
July 14, 2020
On-Table Items**

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Maple Leaf Medley

Community Art Engagement Project led by Resident Artist, Sara Graham

Art at Council

Tuesday, July 14

The City recently held our virtual Canada Day celebration. Traditionally there is a community public art engagement component as part of the day's activities, so it was important to come up with a project where the community could participate online. The final artwork, led by Resident Artist, Sara Graham, is a digital mosaic titled *Maple Leaf Medley*, and was officially unveiled by Mayor Vagramov on July 1.

The outreach to the community was key to the success of the final piece. In early June the City asked the community to submit still-life images of red and white objects found in their homes. Sara also reached out to Port Moody school principals, and connected with community associates and organizations, and her personal contacts to spread the word and encourage individuals to share this project.

A total of 56 submissions were received and Sara began compiling the images on June 22. Sara spent the next week working with the images to create the final cohesive artwork.

One of the challenges Sara faced in the process is that without physical engagement it was harder to express the excitement of the project to the community.

The one highlight is the support received by Adrian Walker, an art teacher from École Moody Middle School for the Arts, where 15 submissions were received from his class alone.

A big thank you goes out to everyone that participated in *Maple Leaf Medley*.



Report to Council

From the Office of Councillor Amy Lubik

Date: July 13, 2020
Subject: Application for Community Connectedness grant to support cultural sharing through food security

Purpose

To present for Council's consideration an opportunity to apply for funding offered by Plan H to support community connectedness and anti-racism work through food sharing "The Tri-Cities Food & Diversity Stories Project."

Recommendation

THAT staff be directed to apply for funding for a Community Connectedness grant through Plan H, as recommended in the report dated July 13, 2020 from Cllr. Amy Lubik - regarding Application for Community Connectedness grant to support cultural sharing through food security.

Background

In September 2020, the Province of British Columbia released details regarding poverty reduction funding available to municipalities (which the City of Port Moody had requested through UBCM). Because the Tri-Cities are highly entwined in food security because of the overlapping nature of organizations, roundtables, and activities regarding housing, poverty, and food security, and because we are currently establishing a food security working group out of the Healthy Communities Partnership, a regional grant to assess and plan for food security and sovereignty activities and policies makes logical sense, which was applied for and received, work to begin soon.

The Tri-Cities Food Security working group is continually working to understand food security and understand the very important part that food plays in human connection. As we try to understand the needs of our diverse community, it became very clear we need representation from all our community members and to incorporate the meaning of food and food security of all cultures that make up the Tri-Cities, including Indigenous traditional knowledge and food systems. In essents, we want to make sure we include [racial justice](#) with [food justice](#).

At the same time, our partners at the Tri-Cities Local Immigration Partnership are doing inspiring work on understanding racism in our communities, which has escalated during COVID-19 and been brought to light by recent events in the US and Canada. Representatives from the Tri-Cities Food Security Working group and The Tri-Cities Local Immigration Partnership have come together to put in a grant to further both causes through the [Plan H Community Connectedness Grants](#).

The background on this grant is as follows:

This stream is focused on supporting people to feel connected to one another. Social connectedness is the personal or subjective experience of feeling close to other people and having a sense of belonging within a community. It is an essential human need, but loneliness, isolation and alienation are on the rise. Canadians with a strong sense of belonging to community are over twice as likely to report good health compared to those who have a weak or very weak sense of community. A connected community is a place where people know their neighbours, build relationships with others and contribute to the creation of social networks that last over time. This requires spaces and events for people to gather, create connections and get involved, even during public health emergencies calling for folks to be physically apart. Connected communities support strong citizen engagement. Local governments play a role in fostering social connectedness by creating strong social environments that help all community members thrive.

Examples of potential projects addressing social connectedness include:

- Supporting design standards and policy for new developments to include spaces for public use and social interaction;*
- Including social connectedness as a part of the goals, objectives, and strategies in an Official Community Plan;*
- Developing community-level projects that incorporate training on culturally appropriate gatherings to talk about mental health, addiction and well-being;*
- Convening recreation and transportation providers to drive newcomer attendance to programs;*
- Articulating partnership agreements between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities that foster respect and mutual understanding.*
- Addressing the mental, social and emotional dimensions of community resilience in the wake of public health emergencies such as COVID-19*

One of the mental, social and emotional aspects that works against community resilience is racism and further cultural divisions, which has been worsened during this time. At the same time, nothing brings people together and helps us understand each other better than food. This is the impetus of this application. We are asking Port Moody to be the grant holder, as it must be a community, understanding that community members would do most of the work for this grant

(which is in itself small). Applying for this grant is entirely inline with the objectives of the grant, which is to further partnerships and support community organizations doing the important on the ground work. In a time when there is less understanding our communities, it is an opportunity to defend diversity, at the same time as understanding and deepening the multicultural collaboration that must be a part of building a resilient community.

Discussion

The objectives of this project marry well with Port Moody's goals of a healthy city, and this project would help us further projects toward supporting social connectedness and defending diversity, as well as embracing food and racial justice.

Details of the application are as follows:

PROJECT OVERVIEW & PROJECT PLAN

This section is about your goals for the project and the activities you intend to carry out during the grant period. We are also interested in learning more about the changes you expect to see, and how you will know if you are on the right track in reaching your outcomes.

9) What is the name or proposed title of your project?

The Tri-Cities Food & Diversity Stories Project

10) What is the broad goal or vision of your project? Please describe the impact you hope your project will make. If there is a target population(s) for this project, please explain who that is and why this decision was made.

The Tri-Cities Food & Diversity Stories Project aims to:

- Enhance community connectedness and build welcoming neighbourhoods by promoting inclusivity, diversity and equity through storytelling and using the universal language of food
- Raise awareness, generate knowledge and celebrate the diverse cultures and stories of Tri-City residents to foster social environments of belonging and inclusion
- Generate social connectedness and healthy behaviours across diverse populations by promoting the healthy habit of eating together and increasing food literacy on culturally diverse meals.
- Foster a healthier community where leaders recognize equity, inclusion and social connectedness as important determinants of health and where residents of all backgrounds feel connected, welcome and engaged

Impact:

- A stronger sense of community connectedness and ownership where people see themselves as creators and contributors within their community, feeling connected to one another, and experiencing a sense of closeness to themselves, their community and society by in large
- Cultivation of new partnerships between community partners that fosters deeper understanding, respect and mutual benefits that promote health and wellness
- Improve awareness and understanding of anti-racism, diversity & inclusion, reconciliation and cultural safety amongst members within the Tri-Cities.
- Increased community co

Target Population:

All citizens who reside in the Tri-Cities (including Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody), Village of Anmore and Belcara with particular interest engaging populations from diverse cultural and lived experiences: Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) community, recent immigrants, refugees, seniors, people living with disabilities and LGBTQ+ groups.

11) What will you do? Please describe the activities you plan to complete with this grant and how these will increase social connectedness in your community. Please be as specific as possible.

For more information on social connectedness, refer to the [grant application guide](#).

The Tri-Cities Food & Diversity Stories project will enhance community connectedness by using culturally diverse foods to engage the broader community around inclusion, belonging and equity.

The City of Port Moody, the Tri-Cities Food Security Council, the Tri-Cities Local Immigration Partnership, Fraser Health and the Public Health Association of B.C. will collaborate to host a series of engagement opportunities where Tri-City residents from culturally diverse backgrounds have the opportunity to share recipes, food and personal stories with the broader community. Representatives from these organizations will establish a Steering Committee and hire a Project Coordinator to plan, implement and evaluate a series of 4-6 dialogue and storytelling events centered around food, culture, inclusion and wellbeing.

The Steering Committee will empower local residents with diverse cultural backgrounds and lived experiences to share personal stories, recipes and samples of their cultural foods at local community events, notably the 2021 Port Moody and Coquitlam Farmers Markets. Using storytelling through food, local residents will have the opportunity to take on a leadership role in raising empathy, compassion and sense of belonging across the broader community. Community members will have the opportunity to engage in dialogue around these issues and learn how social connectedness, equity and inclusion can contribute to their health and wellbeing and to the wellbeing of the community. The recipes and accompanying stories will be made available on partner websites and through social media platforms. Messages and information on the importance of anti-racism, inclusion and diversity will also be shared to raise awareness on the importance of creating welcoming communities.

Following these events, the Steering Committee will engage project participants to learn about their experiences with storytelling through food and identify opportunities for the community to continue to engage in dialogue around connectedness, equity and inclusion. Key learnings, reflections and insights from the project will be shared in a presentation to Port Moody City Council, as well as to the Tri-Cities Food Security Council and Tri-Cities Local Immigration Partnership. Through dialogue with these community partners, learnings from the Project will inform future community efforts in anti-racism, inclusion, equity and social connectedness and the role they play in fostering healthy, resilient communities.

12) How will you foster (encourage) community involvement and inclusivity in your project?

Community involvement and inclusivity are central factors in the Tri-Cities Food & Diversity Stories project. In using existing structures, such as the Immigrant Advisory Table of the Tri-Cities Local Immigration Partnership, Steering Committee members will engage local residents from culturally diverse backgrounds who are more likely to experience lower levels of social connectedness. This project will foster inclusivity by encouraging representation from all community members and to incorporate the meaning of food and food security of all cultures that make up the Tri-Cities, including Indigenous traditional knowledge and food systems. By leveraging existing platforms with broad community reach, such as the Port Moody and Coquitlam Farmers Markets, this project will reach a broad range of local residents.

The deadline for the grant is July 15th and the application has been written by representatives from the Tri-Cities LIP, Food Security Working group, and has letters of support from the TCLIP, The Public Health Association of BC, and Fraser Health Authority, with a TCLIP completing one this evening.

Other Option(s)

That the report regarding Application for a Community dated July 13, 2020 be received for information.

Financial Implications

Some staff time for administration if the grant is received.

Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

Provide information for external communication and civic engagement.

Council Strategic Plan Objectives

Healthy City: Ensure plans and programs take into account the diverse needs of residents and factors related to age and other demographics such as income, languages, housing types, and abilities

Environment: Broaden the City's sustainability programs

Resilience: we respond to challenges, adapt to change, and help others.

Compassion: we believe in kindness, caring, and helping others

Service: Strengthen relationships with other levels of government, First Nations, community groups, and partners

Attachment(s)



Report to Council

From the Office of Councillor Steve Milani

Date: July 13, 2020
Subject: COVID-19 Related Business Licence and Permit Fees

Purpose

For Council to consider amending relevant bylaws so that existing Port Moody businesses seeking to expand outdoors or occupy new commercial space in order to facilitate physical distancing in response to COVID-19 will not be required to pay additional licence or permit fees, aiding with their recovery and survival in the wake of the pandemic.

Recommendation

THAT Staff be directed to prepare amendments to relevant bylaws exempting current Port Moody businesses from paying any additional fees to the City so that they may expand outdoors, move into a larger space or add-on a secondary physical location, allowing for proper physical distancing to help combat the spread of COVID-19, as recommended in the report dated July 13, 2020, from the Office of Councillor Steve Milani regarding COVID-19 Related Business Licence and Permit Fees;

AND THAT any monies already paid out by businesses for COVID-19 related expansion, as stated in this report, be refunded in full.

Background

The purpose of this report is to help ease the financial burden incurred by local businesses as a direct result of having to implement physical distancing to help combat the spread of COVID-19.

Discussion

On Tuesday, March 17, 2020, the British Columbia government declared a provincial state of emergency to support the province wide response to the COVID-19 pandemic. One of the most important ways to help slow down the spread of the disease is through social/physical distancing. However, adhering to recommended physical distancing guidelines can result in a loss of operational space for businesses, requiring them to seek additional space in order to ensure the safety of their workers and/or customers their ability to remain viable. This extra space is an added expense that was not factored into business plans, resulting in a direct loss of revenue and lessening the probability that the business will survive the aftermath of the pandemic.

The City's current business licencing Bylaw 3000, Section 5:10 (see below) describes how a business licence is tied to its physical location. This means that for a business to use a new larger or secondary add-on space, not only will they have to pay more towards rent, insurance and utilities but they will also have to pay the City for additional inspection and licence fees. While the value of these fees will vary, one local sewing business that is currently adding a

second physical location to allow for the proper physical distancing of those participating in their classes is paying approximately \$300.00 to the City in additional fees. These fees mainly go towards Fire and Building inspections. The goal is to eliminate the additional fees. The inspections will still take place.

The City has launched an assistance program to expedite the permitting process for the addition of outdoor patio space for restaurants, cafes, breweries, etc. so that physical distancing between customers can be achieved. However, a permit fee is still payable to the City, as was the case recently with a local pub. They recently added an outdoor patio space to increase their seating capacity so they could maintain physical distancing. While the owners maintain that City Staff did a commendable job expediting the process, the business was required to pay a Special Event Permit Bylaw Fee of \$211.00. No on-site inspections were required in this particular case. This hardly qualifies as a Special Event as the addition of this additional space is merely an attempt to survive during these trying times. Permits for the temporary use of outdoor space are only valid until October 31 of this year.

The City of Port Moody can help its businesses adjust to this new reality by eliminating 'additional' licence or permit fees that they are currently required to pay in order for them to expand into a larger space or add-on a secondary location during the reopening and recovery phase. Businesses will still be required to pay for their business licence each year.

Supporting local businesses during their reopening and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic is crucial to help ensure their viability moving forward during this unprecedented time.

Bylaw 3000

A Bylaw to provide for the licensing and regulation of businesses in the City of Port Moody.

5.10 All applications for licences shall give a full description in detail of the premises in or upon which the applicant intends to carry on a business for which he/she has made the application, and no person to whom the licence has been granted shall carry on a business upon any premises other than those set forth in the said application without first making an application under this section for a new licence, or for a transfer of such licence as provided in this Bylaw.

Financial Implications

Staff time to prepare the bylaw amendment(s). Loss of inspection, license, and permit fees.

Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

There are no communications or civic engagement initiatives.

Council Strategic Plan Objectives

Assisting local businesses aligns with Council's Strategic Priority of Economic Prosperity. "Foster an environment where businesses can thrive..." "Be proactive in identifying and responding to emerging industries and recognizing challenges to existing industry."