

DRAFT – For Discussion Only

City of St. John's Corporate and Operational Policy Manual

Policy Title: Community Services Grants Policy	Policy #: TBD
Last Revision Date: N/A	Policy Section: TBD
Policy Sponsor: Deputy City Manager, Community Services	

1. Policy Statement

This policy establishes the City of St. John's Community Services Grants Program. The Program provides financial assistance to organizations and individuals whose applications align with the City's strategic directions.

The goals of the program are to:

- a) facilitate community enrichment and engagement;
- b) improve community well-being;
- c) encourage amateur and professional arts participation;
- d) assist with construction or renovation of facilities providing services to the City residents;
- e) assist Youth travel in sport, educational, cultural, or leadership initiatives; and
- f) assist Atlantic Canadian, national, or international meetings, conventions, and/or sporting events hosted in St. John's.

2. Definitions

"Grants" means financial assistance provided to organizations and/or individuals by the City of St. John's.

"Evaluation Committee" means an employee committee chaired and appointed by the Deputy City Manager (DCM), Community Services or their designate.

"Selection Jury" means a group appointed by the DCM, Community Services or their designate to review applications for individual artist grants.

“Youth” means persons up to and including 29 years of age who are registered and attending a secondary or a post-secondary educational institution.

3. Policy Requirements

3.1 Grant Categories

Organizations and individuals may apply for the appropriate Grant category detailed below:

- a) Community Grants:
 - i. Community Organizations: Organizations that provide programs and/or services to City residents that, in the sole opinion of the City, include, but are not limited to, education, multiculturalism, recreation, and/or inclusivity.
 - ii. Special Events and Festivals: Organizations that produce events that include, but are not limited to, in the sole opinion of the City, economic activity enhancement, cultural development, community life enrichment, and/or community engagement enhancement.
 - iii. Sporting Organizations: Organizations that are recognized by the governing body of their amateur sport and that primarily target the “youth” age divisions as identified by the particular governing body. The governing body shall be an active member of [Sport NL](#).
 - iv. Arts Organizations: Organizations that have programs and/or projects in categories established by the City.
- b) Capital Grants: Organizations seeking financial assistance for the construction, expansion, or renovation of a facility providing programs and/or services to City residents. The financial assistance shall assist in meeting a need in the areas of recreational, cultural, or other community service, in the sole opinion of the City.
- c) Meeting, Convention, and Sporting Event Grants: Organizations seeking financial assistance for Atlantic Canadian, national, or international meetings, conventions, and/or sporting events hosted in St. John’s.
- d) Youth Travel Grants: Individual Youth or teams of Youth.
 - i. Youth Sport Travel: Youth travelling out of the province who have won the right to participate in amateur championship sporting events (Atlantic Canadian, national, or international events).

- ii. Youth Non-Sport Travel: Youth travelling out of province to attend conferences, seminars, competitions, symposia, or other events in educational, cultural, or leadership areas which are deemed, in the sole opinion of the City, to broaden their horizons in these disciplines.
- e) Individual Artist Grants: Artists creating or producing projects in categories established by the City.

3.2 Eligibility Criteria and Requirements

- a) Eligible organizations shall be not-for-profit corporations or registered charities registered to carry on business and in good standing in Newfoundland and Labrador and shall provide any related documents as detailed in the application.
- b) Incomplete applications shall be considered ineligible for financial assistance.
- c) Financial assistance provided is a one-time payment. Granting of financial assistance in any one year shall not be a commitment by the City to continue such assistance in subsequent years.
- d) Grant recipients shall acknowledge the City's financial assistance, where possible, in print materials or speeches/remarks made at related events.

3.2.1 Community Grants and Capital Grants

- a) Organizations shall be based in St. John's and offer programs and/or services for City residents.
- b) Organizations shall demonstrate, to the sole satisfaction of the City, that they intend to use the financial assistance to make some or all of their programs and/or services available to City residents with minimal barriers to participation.
- c) Organizations shall provide documentation, to the sole satisfaction of the City, of volunteer involvement in the provision of their programs and/or services.
- d) Organizations receiving Grants shall not act in the capacity of a funding body for, or make Grants to, any other organization or individual.
- e) Organizations associated with a religious organization shall demonstrate via their financial statements that they have a separate

program or service budget for the program or service for which they are seeking assistance.

- f) Organizations receiving 80 percent or more of their funding from other levels of government shall be ineligible for a Grant.
- g) Educational institutions (schools, colleges, etc.) shall be ineligible for a Grant.
- h) The activities/expenses detailed in the **Community Services Grants Procedures** shall be considered ineligible.

3.2.2 Meeting, Convention and Sporting Event Grants

- a) Organizations shall be the primary host organization of the meeting, convention, and/or sporting event for which they are seeking financial assistance.
- b) Notwithstanding 3.2.2(a), an organization based in the province which meets the criteria in 3.2.(a) and is partnering with the primary host organization may apply for a Grant.
- c) The meeting, convention, or sporting event shall comply with and shall be eligible for up to the maximum level of financial assistance as detailed in the **Community Services Grant Procedures**.
- d) Local or provincial meetings, conventions, and/or sporting events shall be ineligible for financial assistance.

3.2.3 Youth Travel Grants

- a) Youth team members and/or individual Youth shall comply with and shall be eligible for up to the maximum level of financial assistance as detailed in the **Community Services Grant Procedures**.

3.2.4 Individual Artist Grants

- a) Applicants shall comply with the **Community Services Grant Procedures**.
- b) Only individual applicants shall apply for financial assistance. Collectives or partnerships are encouraged to select a single individual to apply as the applicant.
- c) Applicants shall only apply for one project per year.
- d) Applicants who have received financial assistance for a previous project shall, as part of their application, demonstrate, to the sole satisfaction of the City, that they have completed any projects from previous years.

- e) The activities/expenses enumerated in the **Community Grants Procedures** shall be considered ineligible.

3.3 Evaluation Process

- a) The Evaluation Committee shall oversee policy implementation.
- b) Applications shall be evaluated on a consistent and equitable basis using the evaluation criteria in the **Community Services Grants Procedures** and application forms, with the following groups or individuals providing recommendations:
 - i. Community Grants and/or Capital Grants: Evaluation Committee;
 - ii. Meetings, Conventions and Sporting Event Grants and/or Youth Travel Grants: Supervisor, Tourism and Special Events; and
 - iii. Individual Artist Grants: Selection Jury.
- c) The Evaluation Committee shall:
 - i. provide 30 clear days or more notice of the deadline to the public, for Grants with an annual application deadline (Community Grants, Capital Grants, Individual Artist Grants);
 - ii. accept applications for consideration 60 clear days or more in advance of the event for Meetings, Conventions, and Sporting Event Grants; and
 - iii. accept applications 14 clear days or more prior to the event for Youth Travel Grants.

3.4 Accountability and Oversight

- a) To ensure that financial assistance provided to Grant recipients is used for the purposes intended, Grant recipients shall provide an accounting of the financial assistance acceptable to the Evaluation Committee.
- b) If any component of a Grant recipient's project/programming is cancelled, postponed, or otherwise incomplete, the Grant recipient shall advise the City and may be required to return all or some of the Grant, at the sole discretion of the City.
- c) Where requested by the City Internal Auditor, the Grant recipient shall provide their financial records to ensure compliance with this and other City policies.
- d) The City shall keep documentation related to this program for a minimum of seven years and in compliance with the Records and Information Management Policy.

4. Application

This policy applies to financial assistance provided by the City for the Community Services Grants Program and includes:

- a) Community Grants
- b) Capital Grants
- c) Meeting, Convention, and Sporting Event Grants
- d) Youth Travel Grants
- e) Individual Artist Grants

This policy does not apply to any financial assistance provided by the City for the Housing Catalyst Fund and/or the Heritage Financial Incentive Program.

5. Responsibilities

5.1 City Council is responsible for:

- a) approving the financial assistance for organizations and individuals for the Community Grants, Capital Grants, and Individual Artist Grants as recommended by the Evaluation Committee and Selection Jury.
- b) approving the total annual financial assistance amount for the Meetings, Conventions, and Sporting Event Grants and the Youth Travel Grants.

5.2 The DCM, Community Services (as Evaluation Committee chair) is responsible for:

- a) managing the overall implementation of the policy and procedures;
- b) at their discretion, appointing designates to act on their behalf;
- c) appointing members of the Evaluation Committee and Selection Jury; and
- d) approving applications for the Meetings, Conventions and Sporting Event Grants and the Youth Travel Grants.

5.3 The Evaluation Committee is responsible for:

- a) reviewing applications for the Community Grants and Capital Grants and providing recommendations for Council approval.

5.3 The Selection Jury is responsible for:

- a) reviewing applications for the Individual Artist Grants and providing recommendations for Council approval.

5.4 The Supervisor, Tourism and Events is responsible for:

- a) reviewing individual applications for the Meetings, Conventions and Sporting Event Grants and the Youth Travel Grants and providing recommendations for DCM approval.

6. References

Community Services Grants Procedures

[01-04-01 Records and Information Management Policy](#)

7. Approval

- Policy Sponsor: DCM, Community Services
- Policy Writer: Supervisor, Tourism and Events; Special Projects Coordinator; Arts and Cultural Development Coordinator; Policy Analyst
- Date of Approval from
 - Corporate Policy Committee:
 - Senior Executive Committee:
 - Committee of the Whole:
- Date of Approval from Council:

8. Monitoring and Contravention

The Evaluation Committee chair or designate(s) shall monitor the application of the policy and procedures.

Any contravention of the policy or procedures may be brought to the attention of the Evaluation Committee and/or chair, Office of the City

Solicitor, and/or the City Manager for further investigation and potential follow up disciplinary or legal action.

9. Review Date

Initial Review: three years; Subsequent Reviews: five years

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