Fraser Valley Regional District Hope & District Arts Council (HDAC) Grant-in-Aid Application 2019

Statement as to eligibility to apply for Grant-In-Aid funds:

HDAC is a local, registered, non-profit Community Arts & Cultural organization providing a variety of programs and events regularly attended by residents of Hope, Yale, Sunshine Valley, Laidlaw and surrounding areas. HDAC Notice to Reader financials, required by the BC Arts Council, Province of BC and Government of Canada are available upon request. We are run by a board of eight 8 directors. We employ one part-time paid administrator as well as 8 part-time paid art instructors.

Project or purpose for which you require assistance:

Your financial assistance will help us to continue offering year round arts and crafts programming at The Art Machine community arts facility in Hope, BC while keeping costs to participants as low as possible – some free of charge. This allows residents from all ages and income brackets to attend. While the BC Arts Council reinstated our funding back to previous levels last year, we have lost approximately \$3,600.00 in funding from the Kinder Morgan Foundation this year. They now only fund large communities close to Vancouver and Calgary. HDAC has had difficulties adjusting to these shortfalls forcing us to find other avenues to make up for this loss either from grants or fundraisers. HDAC recently completed the renovation project of the new Art Machine community arts facility last fall. As anticipated, we have reduced some of our overhead costs with the goal/intention of addressing significant cash flow issues, especially related to ongoing monthly programming expenses.

Statement as to how these funds will benefit the community, or an aspect of the community:

We believe the arts are essential to the health and well being of individuals and the community at large. The Art Machine community arts program offers arts and cultural awareness, education and opportunities for socialization and sharing to all community members. A grant in aid of \$2,000.00 will help us to continue The Art Machine programming for children and adults of all ages while keeping costs at a minimum. The funds will be spent on arts/craft materials, instructor's wages, facility rent and utilities, etc. The new Art Machine facility has been open and operating since last October 2018 and ultimately benefits the whole community. Hope and area is unique in that we have community arts programming such as The Art Machine, rarely seen in small communities. Support from local government such as the District of Hope and the FVRD show community support and help HDAC to acquire funding from other available Federal, Provincial and private sources.

A 2018 report was sent to FVRD in February 5, 2019. The HDAC 2019 AGM was held on April 10, 2019 and our 2018 financial Notice to Reader report was completed in April and is available upon request. Please do not hesitate to ask for any other information you require.

Update re: AM/Hope Arts Gallery renovation update – The renovation to the Art Machine facility is now totally complete. HDAC is now working on renovating/upgrading the interior and exterior of the Hope Arts Gallery and grounds surrounding the 2 buildings. Our goal is to have an arts and cultural complex that residents can access and be proud of for years to come.

Special note:

HDAC has recently been notified by the Federal New Horizons for Seniors program that HDAC and Hope, BC have been chosen to represent small town Canada for best practices of our use of their funding and mobilizing volunteers in our community. A description of our recent Art Machine renovation project will be used on their website along with the upcoming grant applications – not sure exactly when...... HDAC is so grateful for funding we receive to improve our community and for this honour.