

To: Electoral Area Services Committee

Date: 2025-05-15

From: Kinga Al-Mubarak, Accountant

Subject: 2025 Grant-in-Aid Request – Chilliwack Vedder River Cleanup Society, Chilliwack River Valley Clean-up Fund

Reviewed by: Beth Klein, Controller/Deputy CFO

Kelly Lownsbrough, Director of Corporate Services & CFO

Jennifer Kinneman, Chief Administrative Officer

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board approve a grant-in-aid in the amount of \$3,900 to the Chilliwack Vedder River Cleanup Society, funded from the Chilliwack River Valley Clean-up Fund, for cleanup events and to expand the “Adopt-A-River” program in the Chilliwack River Valley.

BACKGROUND

The Fraser Valley Regional District (“FVRD”) received a one-time grant of \$200,000 from the provincial government to support operational costs related to the Chilliwack River Valley clean-up of abandoned encampments, including tipping fees for refuse, removal of destroyed vehicles, or rental of containers to remove debris.

The FVRD’s operational costs include providing Grant-in-Aid funding to the community and therefore require applications be eligible for funding under the Grant-in-Aid policy and provincial government funding requirements.

DISCUSSION

The Chilliwack Vedder River Cleanup Society (the “Society”) is a non-profit community group committed to their mandate of caring for the Chilliwack River Valley. The Society mobilizes volunteers and resources to remove garbage from the Chilliwack River Valley, including areas in the riparian zone of the Chilliwack River, illegal dumping areas, shooter galleries, and abandoned homeless camps.

The Society is requesting a grant-in-aid of \$3,900 to assist with costs related to the Spring and Fall cleanup events, as well as securing additional liability insurance for the events, and with signage costs to help expand the “Adopt-A-River” program in the Chilliwack River Valley.

The Chilliwack Vedder River Cleanup Society is considered financially and administratively sound as it is responsive to questions and has an active website with information about the group and opportunities for community involvement. There are no application restrictions noted with this request and these costs are not the responsibility of senior levels of government.

This request for funding is eligible under the Electoral Area grant-in-aid policy **“use of net approaches/techniques in solving community challenges” option.**

Please refer to the completed Grant-in-Aid application attached and note that financial statements/reports were not provided as the application is not greater than \$4,000.

Director MacAhonic is in support of this request for \$3,900.

COST

The \$3,900 cost will be funded from the Chilliwack River Valley Clean-up Fund, which has sufficient funds to support this request.

CONCLUSION

A grant-in-aid application has been received from the Chilliwack Vedder River Cleanup for cleanup **events and to expand the “Adopt-A-River” program in the Chilliwack River Valley.** The application is complete and meets eligibility criteria and approval criteria as outlined in the Policy. No application restrictions are noted and the Electoral Area Director is supportive of the full amount.