

To: Electoral Area Services Committee

Date: 2018-05-08

From: Kristy Hodson, Manager of Financial Operations

File No: 1850-20 / 007

Subject: Grant-In-Aid Request – Deroche Farmers Market, Electoral Areas “C” and “G”

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board approve a grant-in-aid to the Deroche Farmers Market Society in the amount of \$2,500, to be funded from the 2018 Electoral Area “C” grant-in-aid budget in the amount of \$1,500 and the 2018 Electoral Area “G” grant-in-aid budget in the amount of \$1,000 to help offset the costs associated with advertising, tent repairs, acquiring new signage, new tables and chairs for the market.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Support Healthy & Sustainable Community

PRIORITIES

Priority #4 Tourism

BACKGROUND

This request for funding is eligible under the “promotion of volunteer participation and citizen involvement” and “activities/ programs which are accessible to a large portion of the electoral area” options.

DISCUSSION

The Deroche Farmers Market Society is a non-profit community group that hosts a weekly farmer’s market at the FVRD Deroche Office. Their aim is to address the lack of fresh food available locally and to provide economic opportunities to showcase and/or purchase local “make, bake and grow” items.

The Society is requesting a \$2,425 grant to help offset the costs associated with expanding the market’s advertising efforts to attract more vendors with a larger variety of products as well as purchasing more tables and chairs to facilitate the increase in vendors.

A grant-in-aid of \$2,500 was issued in 2017 for the Deroche Farmers Market, and FVRD has since contacted the Society in regards to our Financial Accountability & Reporting section in our Grant In Aid

Policy which requires those who receive grants over \$1,000 to follow up with a letter to FVRD regarding usage of funds and their success, including pictures of the project/ event and any other supporting information. To date, we have not received any information on how the funds were used. Under the Eligibility section of our policy, one of the items is that an applicant may be excluded from applying due to not meeting the above reporting requirement for a previously awarded grant.

Director Niemi is in support of providing a grant-in-aid of \$1,500 towards their grant request and Director Stobbart is in support of providing an additional \$1,000.

COST

The \$2,500 cost will be funded from the Electoral Area "C" grant-in-aid budget (\$1,500) and the Electoral Area "G" grant-in-aid budget (\$1,000). Both of these budgets have sufficient funds to support this request.

CONCLUSION

A grant-in-aid application has been received from the Deroche Farmers Market Society seeking funds to help purchase advertising, tables, chairs, and signage.

COMMENTS BY:

Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services

Not available for comment.

Paul Gipps, Chief Administrative Officer

Reviewed and supported