

# Report

**City of Merritt**  
**Committee of the Whole**  
**February 4, 2020**

**File Number: 0363**

**To:** Scott Hildebrand, Chief Administrative Officer  
**From:** Sean Smith, Director of Corporate Services  
**Date:** January 31, 2020  
**Subject:** Chamber of Commerce Proposal

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT Council consider and debate the Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce request that the City provide \$25,000 to the Chamber.**

**Background:**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 the Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce presented to Council regarding their request that the City of Merritt support the Chamber by providing \$25,000 in funding.

Originally, this request was to be considered at the December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Regular Council Meeting, but the item was deferred to this Grant in Aid meeting, to be considered alongside other community organizations that have approached the City for funding.

If Council determined to support the Chamber of Commerce, it would not come from the Grant in Aid fund, as the request doesn't meet the criteria for Grant in Aid funding. As such, we have separated this item to be considered independently from Grant in Aid.

**Options / discussion**

1. **THAT Council provide \$25,000 to the Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce.**
  - a. Council could amend this option to provide funding in any other amount

2. **THAT Council request further information from the Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce and defer a final decision to a future meeting.**
3. **THAT Council deny the Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce request for additional funding.**

**Financial / Risk Implications:**

Any funds allocated to the Chamber would come from general tax revenue or from surplus. If \$25,000 is provided, it would represent approximately 0.31% of the municipal budget for 2020.

**Attachments:**

1 - Chamber of Commerce Proposal

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Sean Smith,  
Deputy CAO/Director of Corporate Services**