



City of Merritt 2020 – 2024 Budget Deliberations

Oct 16, 2019



Overview

1. Budget Process and Timeline
2. Grant in Aid Policy Review
 - Amounts
 - Qualifying Organizations
 - Sponsorships and grants vs memberships
3. Other Items to Consider
 1. Scholarship for MSS/NVIT
 2. Permissive Tax Exemptions
 3. Ongoing funding line items



Grant in Aids – Three Year Activity

Year	Number of Applications*	Total Value of Requests	Number of Approved Grants	Amounts Applied for High/Low	Received Benefit from Permissive Tax	Approved Amounts High/Low
2019	38	\$233,000	31	\$48,000/\$284	5	\$10,000/\$284
2018	35	\$177,000	24	\$65,998/\$750	5	\$23,500/\$750
2017	30	\$ 71,000	26	\$10,000/\$500	5	\$10,000/\$500

* Application #'s and amounts do not include extraordinary grants considered by Council outside the regular grant intake

The trend is showing more grant requests each year with larger amounts of funding requested.

Grant Funding vs Service Agreements

- Service agreements currently in place
 1. Nicola Valley Heritage Society (Baillie House) \$51,111
 2. Nicola Valley Museum & Archives \$50,000
 3. Nicola Valley Women in Action (Victim Services) \$35,000
- Memberships need to be treated consistently
 - Chamber of Commerce Membership (is this a grant in aid?)

Items to Consider

- Policy Statement
 - Lists non-profit and community groups
 - Do we want to restrict it to official non-profit societies?
 - Other groups often don't have the required financial reporting in place
- Policy Objectives
 - Determining amount overall and individual limits
 - Clarifying tax funded functions (other levels of government)
 - Consider consolidating categories (Short term and Community Initiatives)
 - Do we want to have a smaller committee review and report back to Council?
 - Do we require attendance at the meetings?
 - Are capital type projects to be considered?

Next Steps

- Council to provide direction
- Staff to revise policy and application forms
- Revised policy to come to October 22, 2019 Regular Council Meeting for approval
- Notice to go out to public re: Application process
- Consideration of applications Feb 2020