



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Community Safety Investment Program (CSI) 2007 Allocations

<b>Date:</b>	May 1, 2007
<b>To:</b>	Community Development and Recreation Committee
<b>From:</b>	Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration Division
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

#### SUMMARY

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This report presents the recommendations for the organizations that applied for municipal support under the 2007 Community Safety Investment program. Of the 63 applicants, 26 are recommended for funding totalling \$669,820, of which \$18,820.00 has been held for appeals.

The Community Safety Investment program enables a wide variety of community organizations to participate in making a safe city safer by providing education and prevention activities, building community capacity, reaching vulnerable groups, addressing systemic issues and developing effective models of community-based service. The 2007 recommendations provide communities with important opportunities to address their priority prevention issues.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

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**Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration Division recommends that:**

1. Community Safety Investment allocations, totalling \$651,000.00 to 26 applicants as recommended in Appendices A and B of this report be approved; and an amount of \$18,820.00 be held for appeals; and
2. this report be forwarded to the Community Development and Recreation Committee; and

3. the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

There is no financial impact beyond what has been approved in the 2007 Approved Operating Budget.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

The Community Safety Investment (CSI) program supports non-profit organizations across the City of Toronto for project activities that support community-based efforts to increase community safety and prevent violence. The funding is provided under the general authority for making municipal grants provided in Section 83 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* (S.O. 2006, c.11).

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

This report provides the recommended allocations to applicants requesting support under the 2007 Community Safety Investment program. The attached appendices provide information on the specific recommendations to organizations: Appendix A – Grant requests and recommendations to organizations; Appendix B – Detailed Organization Recommendations – Summary Sheets; and Appendix C – Descriptions of 2007 Recommended Projects.

## **COMMENTS**

The 2007 CSI Mission, Priorities and Goals:

The mission of the Community Safety Investment (CSI) program is to create safe communities for people in Toronto. CSI's two primary goals are to increase access for communities to information, skills and supports that prevent violence and increase safety, and to increase the capacity of communities to address systemic causes of violence.

The CSI recognizes that not everyone is equally affected by violence. The experiences and perceptions of safety vary for individuals and communities, depending on age, gender, income levels, race, access to information, available resources and a variety of other circumstances. Communities have a range of different assets and different structural issues to address. In order to ensure that the CSI projects will have a significant impact, funding is directed to vulnerable communities.

CSI allocations give priority to projects addressing safety and violence prevention needs of:

- Children and youth
- Women and girls
- People with disabilities
- Seniors
- Aboriginal community
- Neighbourhoods
- Immigrants and refugees
- Gay/Lesbian/bisexual/transgender/transsexual community.

Each year, CSI applications are reviewed in the context of emerging issues and strategic directions of the City of Toronto. In keeping with Council's Strong Neighbourhoods strategy and the Community Safety Plan, 2007 CSI recommends funding to projects that serve the 13 priority neighbourhood areas; develop community capacity, increase skills for crisis response, support youth leadership; and address the violence prevention needs of low-income women of colour, immigrants and refugees and seniors.

### **2007 CSI Outreach and Support:**

For 2007, organizations were able to access a variety of supports to prepare a CSI application. Four information sessions were held to provide applicants with an overview of the program, information on priorities, lists of projects funded in the past and information on preparing an application. Two workshops were organized to help applicants prepare the logic model workplan in the CSI application. Agency Review Officers provided consultations for applicants to address agency-specific questions and technical support related to criterion clarification.

Applications for the 2007 process were available in hard copy and through the City of Toronto web-site at [www.toronto.ca/grants/csi](http://www.toronto.ca/grants/csi). Notices were mailed to organizations to inform them of the availability of the application. The web-site provides the full application package including fact sheets, organization self-assessment forms, application form, guidelines, contact information and lists of previously funded projects. Most organizations used the web site to access the application package: 17 organizations requested packages through the mail.

### **Application and Review Process:**

The assessment process for each applicant includes a review of documents such as program descriptions and data, project logic model work plans, evaluation plans, financial statements, organisation by-laws, letters patent and audited financial statements to assess the capacity of the applicant to undertake the proposed work, and to determine the fit of the project proposal with the CSI goals, priorities and criteria. The review of applications included contact with applicants for additional information if needed,

consideration of other community resources and programs, and consultation with other services and funding providers.

#### 2007 Applications Overview:

A total of 63 applications were received for the 2007 CSI, requesting a total of \$2,486,642.00, almost four times the CSI approved budget of \$669,820.00.

The 2007 applications show an increase in the number of funding requests for multi-year projects as well as an increase in the size of the average request. The average size of the 2007 requests is \$39,470.00 (2006: \$34,292.00, 2005: \$33,333.00). These changes are consistent with the direction arising from the 2003 community consultations that emphasized the need to support larger, longer and more complex projects, and the implementation of 2 and 3 year project options for applicants since 2004.

In 2007, 42 applications are from new organizations that had not received funding in 2006: twelve of these are recommended for funding. Thirteen applications are from reapplying organizations that had received a one-year project grant in 2006 and have requested funding for another project in 2007: six of these are recommended. Eight applications are from returning organizations that were approved for a multi-year project in 2006, six are now requesting a second year of funding, and two are requesting a third year of funding for their approved project plan: all eight are recommended.

The number of proposals that demonstrated a strong fit with the CSI goals, priority areas and funding criteria was larger than could be recommended within the total amount of funds available in the program. Allocation recommendations were made for those proposals that demonstrated the strongest fit and address the range of priorities in CSI. In order to fund all the applicants that demonstrated their fit with the CSI program, an additional amount of \$538,421.00 would be required.

#### Allocation issues:

In 2007, the average size of requests increased and 46% of the applications are for multi-year projects (2006:53%, 2005: 41%). The average funding recommendation size has increased to \$25,038.46 (2006: \$24,289.63, 2005: \$22,655.00) and the overall number of grants has decreased to 26 (2006: 27, 2005: 29). Thirteen (13) grants (2006: 8, 2005: 12,) are provided for one-year projects, and 13 (2006: 19, 2005: 17) are for multi-year projects.

These allocation patterns reflect the direction established through the CSI program review in 2003 to fund a smaller number of larger, more complex projects.

#### 2007 Allocation Recommendations:

The allocation recommendations for 2007 are included in Appendix A, which lists all applicants and their requested project amounts. Detailed information on individual

applicants and the proposed project is included in Appendix B. Appendix C provides a project description for all recommended applicants. Applicants have been notified of the recommended allocation and have been informed about the appeal process.

Factors considered in the development of the 2007 CSI funding recommendations include: the need to support projects in various parts of the city, addressing emerging violence issues, reflecting the diversity of CSI priority communities and responding to the range of projects and organizations requesting support.

As directed by Council, CSI has given priority for funding to violence prevention projects for youth in the 13 priority neighbourhoods of Jamestown, Jane/Finch, West-Mount Dennis, Lawrence Heights, Westminster-Branson, Crescent Town, Flemington Park-Victoria Village, Steeles-L'Amoureux, Dorset Park, Eglinton East-Kennedy park, Scarborough Village, Malvern and Kingston/Galloway. Ten recommendations are for youth projects in these neighbourhoods, for a total of \$243,000.00.

#### 2007 Allocation Summary:

Status with the CSI grants program:

Number of new applicants:	42	New applicants recommended:	12
Number of re-applying applicants:	13	Re-applying applicants recommended:	6
Number of multi-year applicants:	8	Multi-year applicants recommended:	8

Recommended projects by priority area:

Children and youth:	10
Women and girls:	5
Seniors:	3
Aboriginal community:	1
Neighbourhoods:	4
Immigrants and refugees:	3

Recommended projects by timeline:

Year 1 of 1:	13 projects
Year 1 of 2:	1 projects
Year 1 of 3:	4 projects
Year 2 of 2:	3 projects
Year 2 of 3:	3 projects
Year 3 of 3:	2 projects

## CONTACT

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## **SIGNATURE**

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## **ATTACHMENTS**

Appendix A: Community Safety Investment Program 2007 Recommendations  
Appendix B: Detailed Organization Recommendations – Summary Sheets  
Appendix C: Descriptions of 2007 Recommended Projects