



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Community Recreation Investment Program (CR) – 2012 Allocation Recommendations

<b>Date:</b>	May 29, 2012
<b>To:</b>	CPIP Appeals Sub-committee
<b>From:</b>	Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

#### SUMMARY

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This report recommends allocations for funding under the 2012 Community Recreation Investment Program. Of the 69 applications received 22 are recommended for funding of \$471,085.00. An amount of \$28,915.00 has been held for appeals.

Community Recreation provides short-term funding to projects that contribute in a meaningful way to the City's goal to improve access for all Torontonians to recreation services that support social and physical development. By working through community based organizations, the City is able to improve access for those with the greatest need, including ethno-cultural communities and equity seeking groups, than it would be able to offer on its own.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council approve the 2012 Community Recreation Investment Program allocations totalling \$471,085.00 to 22 organizations as recommended in Appendices A and B;
2. An amount of \$28,915.00 be held for appeals;
3. This report be forwarded to the Community Development and Recreation Committee for consideration at its meeting of June 26, 2012.

## **Financial Impact**

The recommendations in this report will have no impact beyond what has already been approved in the current year's budget.

The 2012 Approved Operating Budget for Social Development, Finance and Administration includes funding of \$378,700.00 for the Community Recreation Investment Program (formerly Minor Recreation), and funding of \$121,300.00 (a portion of the Major Recreation funding program) for a total of \$500,000.00.

This report recommends allocations for 22 organizations totalling \$471,085.00, and an appeal fund of \$28,915.00.

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

## **DECISION HISTORY**

The City of Toronto provides support to the not-for-profit sector through funding programs 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**

Community Recreation Investment program (CR) provides short-term funding to projects that contribute in a meaningful way to the City's goal to improve access for all Torontonians to recreation services that support social and physical development, particularly those with the greatest need. By working through community-based organizations, the City is able to improve access for those with the greatest need, including ethno-cultural communities and equity seeking groups, than it would be able to offer on its own.

Funding applications were solicited from organizations that have identified a local recreation service gap or need, and have designed a local response to address the gap or need that is practical, leverages other resources and involves volunteers and participants in the project activities.

## **COMMENTS**

Community Funding staff worked in partnership with staff from Parks, Forestry & Recreation in developing the 2012 Community Recreation Investment (CR) criteria and promoting the funding opportunity to community groups. The City of Toronto's Recreation Service Plan, to be released in 2012, will guide the 2013 Community Recreation Investment Funding Program.

## **Program Funding Model**

Starting in 2012, the Community Recreation program model focused funding on short-term projects. Prior to this, the allocation pattern of the program was to provide small grants to a large number of organizations on a year-over-year basis. The change to short term funding aligns the program with the City's Investment program model and provides opportunities for new communities to respond to service gaps and issues.

As part of the shift in the CR program focus, some previously funded activities have been rationalized and transferred to other funding programs (Community Service Partnerships) or other City programs (Children's Services summer camp program). Previously funded groups that received small grants under \$10,000.00 were informed that ongoing activities were no longer eligible. Organizations that had been funded for amounts over \$10,000.00 are eligible in 2012 for one year of transition funding in order to support their services while they determine alternative funding plans or required program adjustments.

The CR program considers projects for one year funding or for multi-year activities (2 or 3 years) with a funding cap of \$50,000.00 per year. Multi-year project requests are assessed on the multi-year plan, and each year's allocation is assessed based on an annual submission and the previous year's performance and success in meeting project milestones.

## **Application Process**

Guidelines and on-line registration for the 2012 Community Recreation were available in February with a submission deadline of March 29, 2012. Three information sessions on the purpose and process for the funding program were provided during February and March and attended by 60 people. Applicants were also able to speak with Community Resources staff by telephone or schedule meetings to ask questions or get help with their applications.

The Community Recreation Investment Program (CR) forms were provided for the first time in 2012 through the Corporate Grants Information System, the City's online funding database. Applicants were required to register for a username and password, which then provided internet based access to the required forms from any internet based computer. The online funding system is part of the City's plan to manage funding program requests and grant recipient reporting more efficiently.

A total of 141 groups registered for access to the Community Recreation online application. Ten online training sessions were delivered to over 80 participants. Sixty-nine organizations (69) completed and submitted the Community Recreation application by the deadline date.

CR and three other investment programs were managed on-line in 2012 and drew 325 organization registrations. In order to help assess the impact of the online process for applicants, registered organizations were asked to complete a survey on their experience and suggestions. Of the 63 organizations that have completed the survey to date, most indicated they were satisfied with the experience. Staff will use the detailed survey responses to continue improvements to the on-line process for the 2013 funding cycle.

## Assessment of Applications

A total of 69 applications were submitted. In order to be considered for funding, applicants must meet common eligibility criteria which are provided in the CR program guidelines <http://www.toronto.ca/grants/community-recreation/index.htm> . Core eligibility requirements include: non-profit status, demonstrated financial accountability, willingness to work with a trustee organization if they are not incorporated, and located in the City of Toronto.

The assessment process includes a review of the organization's documents, progress reports, administrative and human resource capacity, audited financial statements and evidence that the project budget is viable and reasonable. Parks, Forestry & Recreation staff were consulted on project models, and provided input on local recreation service gaps and needs to inform the assessment.

The assessment process may include site visits, telephone calls or meetings with applicants, with particular attention to new applicants and applications from emerging communities. Assessment of previously funded applicants considers their track record in providing progress and final reports on the implementation and outcomes of previously funded activities. Staff may also attend annual general meetings and other programs offered by organizations as well as contact other funders for budget or project related information.

The assessment process determines the extent to which proposed events are feasible, leverage other resources (including in-kind sources and partnerships), involve volunteers and participants in the activities, and have the potential to achieve specific results in the CR programs key priority areas:

- **Outreach and Participation** Projects in this category increase access to recreation by addressing service gaps and barriers to participation. Examples of projects in this category include new outreach and partnership strategies or building the capacity of a group to reach isolated and/or at-risk people not currently participating in recreation activities, or developing and acquiring the resources to deliver a new recreation activity or program.
- **Training and Skills Development** Projects in this category build on simple participation in a recreation activity to achieve social wellbeing and community connectedness outcomes for participants such as leadership roles (i.e. coaching), certification, volunteering (referee), or employment (lifeguard) as well as life skills. This category does not include training participants to compete at an elite level.
- **Summer Games 2012 and Pan Am / Para Pan Games 2015** In support of Toronto's role as host of the 2015 PanAm and ParaPan Games, projects that help participants and communities connect to the Games through;
  - Community based sport development projects that support the creation of new programming and/or other one-time training and development activities that align with the Ontario Summer Games 2012 and Pan Am/Para Pan Games 2015.

- Supporting the 2012 Ontario Summer Games and the 2105 Pan Am/Para Pan Games through skills development training for volunteers.

## 2012 Allocations Recommendations

Of the 69 applications received, 22 are recommended for funding and 47 are not recommended for support.

Seven (7) of the recommended allocations are for new organizations and 15 of the recommendations are for organizations that received funding in 2011. The average grant size in the program is \$21,412.00. Of the 22 projects recommended, 10 will be delivered in a priority neighbourhood, 8 will work in other neighbourhoods and 4 have a city-wide focus. The CR investment for new applicants (excluding organizations recommended for transition funding) will leverage an additional \$100,000.00 in funding from other sources. The 22 recommended projects will be delivered with the assistance of approximately 1,400 volunteers and activities will include more than 15,000 participants.

The recommended allocations will support projects that connect residents to a range of sport and recreation activities including cycling, tennis, and cricket. One project will provide high risk youth with opportunities to obtain certifications in coaching or as lifeguards. One project will help build volunteer skill capacity ahead of the 2015 Pan Am / Para Pan Games.

2012 Allocations by Focus Community	# of Recommended Allocations
Youth (including At-Risk and Newcomer / Racialized Youth)	13
People with Disabilities	4
Seniors	2
GLBTTT Community	1
Neighbourhoods	2

The recommended allocations are included in Appendix A, and the detailed summaries of all applicants are provided in Appendix B.

**CONTACT**

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**SIGNATURE**

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Chris Brillinger, Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration

**ATTACHMENTS**

Appendix A: Community Recreation Investment Program – 2012 Allocation Recommendations

Appendix B: Community Recreation Investment Program – Detailed Project Summaries

**Appendix A**  
**Community Recreation Investment Program**  
**2012 Allocation Recommendations**

	<u>Applicant Organization</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>2011 Approved Allocation</u>	<u>2012 Amount Requested</u>	<u>2012 Recommended Allocation</u>
1	519 Church Street Community Centre, The	27	n/a	\$49,632.96	\$35,000.00
2	Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services	20	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
3	Albion Gardens Community Tennis Club	1	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$40,000.00
4	Anne Johnston Health Station (AJHS), The	16	n/a	\$12,928.85	\$0.00
5	Art Starts	16	n/a	\$17,813.00	\$0.00
6	ArtHeart Community Art Centre (ArtHeart)	28	\$3,200.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
7	Bangladeshi-Canadian Community Services (BCS)	31	\$2,900.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
8	Belka Enrichment Centre/Caribbean Global Missions	8	n/a	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
9	Bikes Without Borders	18	n/a	\$16,875.00	\$16,800.00
10	Boundless Adventures Association	21	\$5,200.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
11	Braeburn Neighbourhood Place	2	\$5,500.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
12	Cabbagetown Youth Centre Inc., The	28	\$130,000.00	\$120,000.00	\$80,000.00
13	Canadian Centre for Women's Education and Development	35	n/a	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
14	Canadian Tamil Youth Alliance	38	n/a	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
15	Cecil Community Centre	20	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00
16	Christie Ossington Neighbourhood Centre	17	\$6,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
17	Community Outreach Programs in Addictions	20	n/a	\$32,170.44	\$32,100.00
18	Community Association for Riding for the Disabled (CARD), The	10	\$15,300.00	\$15,300.00	\$7,500.00
19	Community Centre 55	32	\$12,300.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00

	<u>Applicant Organization</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>2011 Approved Allocation</u>	<u>2012 Amount Requested</u>	<u>2012 Recommended Allocation</u>
20	Community Matters Toronto/St. James Town Family Literacy Services	28	n/a	\$30,859.00	\$0.00
21	Community Outreach Canada	38	n/a	\$8,682.00	\$0.00
22	Confessions from the Streets	1	n/a	\$22,500.00	\$0.00
23	Covenant House Toronto	27	n/a	\$10,438.00	\$0.00
24	Davenport-Perth Neighbourhood and Community Health Centre	17	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
25	Downsview Services for Seniors	10	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
26	East Scarborough Storefront/Tides Canada Initiatives	43	n/a	\$46,600.00	\$46,600.00
27	Evangel Hall Mission (ehm)	20	\$0.00	\$16,169.50	\$0.00
28	Evergreen	29	n/a	\$49,560.00	\$0.00
29	FCJ Refugee Centre	17	n/a	\$35,000.00	\$0.00
30	Friends in Trouble Youth Initiative	9	\$0.00	\$27,260.00	\$0.00
31	FutureWatch Environment and Development Education Partners	13	\$0.00	\$23,957.00	\$0.00
32	Geneva Centre for Autism	22	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
33	Ghanaian Canadian Multicultural Community Centre	3	n/a	\$47,923.00	\$0.00
34	Green Thumbs Growing Kids	28	\$14,809.00	\$15,000.00	\$7,500.00
35	Heritage Skills Development Center (HSDC)	44	\$15,300.00	\$21,987.00	\$7,500.00
36	Jane/Finch Community and Family Centre	8	n/a	\$24,512.00	\$0.00
37	Jessie's Centre/The June Callwood Centre...; for Young Women	28	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$0.00
38	Jumblies Theatre	28	n/a	\$16,000.00	\$0.00
39	Malvern Family Resource Centre	42	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
40	Moore Park Lawn Bowling Club	27	\$3,000.00	\$8,900.00	\$3,000.00



	<u>Applicant Organization</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>2011 Approved Allocation</u>	<u>2012 Amount Requested</u>	<u>2012 Recommended Allocation</u>
41	Neighbourhood Link Support Services	31	n/a	\$6,684.96	\$6,600.00
42	ParaSport Ontario	26	n/a	\$65,000.00	\$0.00
43	Project C.A.N.O.E./Creative and Natural Outdoor Experience, Inc.	19	\$16,500.00	\$16,500.00	\$8,000.00
44	Ralph Thornton Centre	30	\$5,700.00	\$19,900.00	\$0.00
45	Regent Park Community Health Centre	27	n/a	\$24,478.82	\$0.00
46	Rexdale Women's Centre	1	\$5,000.00	\$25,401.00	\$0.00
47	Scadding Court Community Centre	20	n/a	\$33,655.34	\$0.00
48	Serbians-Citizens of the World	6	n/a	\$10,760.00	\$0.00
49	Silent Voice Canada Inc.	21	n/a	\$34,673.00	\$0.00
50	Somali Canadian Association of Etobicoke	1	n/a	\$14,360.00	\$0.00
51	Sunshine Centres for Seniors	27	\$2,600.00	\$50,000.00	\$40,000.00
52	Tamil Eelam Society of Canada/Tesoc Multicultural Settlement Services	37	n/a	\$22,002.00	\$0.00
53	Toronto Chieftains Gaelic Football Club	34	n/a	\$26,500.00	\$26,500.00
54	Toronto Community & Culture Centre	20	\$3,100.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
55	Toronto Lords Community Association	20	n/a	\$8,000.00	\$0.00
56	Toronto Sports Council	19	n/a	\$49,560.00	\$0.00
57	Toronto Tamil Seniors Association	28	n/a	\$12,000.00	\$0.00
58	TRAILBLAZERS Tandem Cycling Club	3	\$2,000.00	\$8,285.00	\$8,285.00
59	Tropicana Community Services Organization	38	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
60	Urban Non-violent Initiatives Through Youth (UNITY)	16	n/a	\$29,640.00	\$0.00
61	Vanity Productions	34	n/a	\$0.00	\$0.00
62	Variety Village	36	\$30,900.00	\$30,900.00	\$30,900.00

<u>Applicant Organization</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>2011 Approved Allocation</u>	<u>2012 Amount Requested</u>	<u>2012 Recommended Allocation</u>
63 Victoria Park Cricket Club	38	\$10,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$5,000.00
64 Vietnamese Women's Association Toronto	17	\$2,100.00	\$24,173.00	\$0.00
65 Weston Minor Hockey League	11	\$12,500.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
66 YMCA of Greater Toronto	11	n/a	\$25,000.00	\$0.00
67 York-Fairbank Centre for Seniors	15	\$15,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
68 YouthLink	35	\$4,500.00	\$36,337.82	\$36,300.00
69 YouthLink	35	As Above	\$33,618.00	\$0.00
<b>Grand Total:</b>			<b>\$1,845,996.69</b>	<b>\$471,085.00</b>
<b>Appeal Fund:</b>				<b>\$28,915.00</b>
<b>2012 Approved Budget:</b>				<b>\$500,000.00</b>