

Access, Equity and Human Rights Investment Program (AEHR) – 2012 Allocation Recommendations

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

SUMMARY

This report recommends allocations for funding under the 2012 Access, Equity and Human Rights Investment Program (AEHR). Of the 86 applications received, 23 are recommended for funding of \$783,400.00. An amount of \$20,770.00 has been held for appeals.

The Access, Equity and Human Rights Investment Program investment funding program helps the City of Toronto achieve its social, economic and cultural goals by working to achieve a positive race relations and human rights climate in Toronto and promoting community participation by equity-seeking groups. Equity-seeking groups are those facing individual and systemic discrimination and disadvantage because of shared characteristics such as immigration status, gender, age, sexual orientation and disability.

The funding provided through the AEHR program supports the capacity of community organizations and residents to act on human rights, accessibility, equity, discrimination and hate crime concerns in their neighbourhoods and communities. By providing funding to community organizations, the City is able to promote access, equity and respect for human rights in more ways than it would be able to accomplish on its own.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council approve the 2012 Access, Equity and Human Rights Investment Program (AEHR) allocations totalling \$784,300.00 to 23 organizations as recommended in Appendices A and B;
2. An amount of \$20,800.00 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 \$ 805,100.00 for the Access Equity and Human Rights Investment program. This report recommends allocations for 23 organizations totalling \$784,300.00 and an appeal fund of \$20,800.00.

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

The City's motto is "Diversity is our Strength". Toronto is a growing and changing community and its diversity has been celebrated as a key factor in ranking the city as a desirable place to live, visit and do business. While Toronto is well-respected as a welcoming city for diverse groups, there is need for continuing attention to ensure equity-seeking groups are able to participate fully in the social, economic and civic life of the community.

This AEHR program was initiated in 1981 with a focus on community support for addressing racism and discrimination issues. In 2004, City Council expanded the program mandate to address human rights issues related to the Aboriginal community, women and gender issues, disability issues, sexual orientation, literacy and language equity. The program is open to applications each year for community-based activities that respond to the priority needs of a diverse population. The community investment provided through the AEHR program supports

the capacity of not-for-profit organizations and residents to act on human rights, accessibility, equity, discrimination and hate activity in their neighbourhoods and communities. Each year, funding applications are solicited from organizations that have designed a local response that is practical, leverages other resources and involves volunteers and participants in the project activities.

By providing funding to community organizations, the City is able to promote access, equity and respect for human rights in more ways than it would be able to accomplish on its own.

COMMENTS

Program Funding Model

Starting in 2012, the Access, Equity and Human Rights (AEHR) program model focused funding on short-term projects. Prior to this, the allocation pattern of the program was to provide both short term investment funding as well as ongoing program support within the same funding envelope. The focus on short term funding aligns the program with the City's Investment program model. As part of the shift in the AEHR program focus, some ongoing activities previously funded within AEHR will be eligible for support through another City funding program that provides ongoing program funding (Community Service Partnerships program).

The AEHR 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 Access Equity and Human Rights Investment program (AEHR) were available in February with a submission deadline of March 27, 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.

For the first time, the AEHR forms were provided 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 138 groups registered for access to the AEHR online application. Ten online training sessions were delivered to over eighty participants. Eighty-six (86) completed and submitted the Community Safety application by the deadline date.

AEHR and three other investment programs were managed online 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 86 applications were considered for assessment. One submitted application was withdrawn by the applicant organization. One application submitted to the Community Safety Investment Program was identified as being a better fit with the criteria for AEHR and has been transferred for assessment within AEHR.

All applications recommended for funding must meet common eligibility criteria including the applicant organization must be a not-for-profit organization. The criteria is provided to all applicants in the Funding Program Guidelines <http://www.toronto.ca/grants/aehr/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. 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 AEHR program's key priority areas:

- **Increase community participation by members of equity-seeking groups** by providing information, skills and/or supports that help individuals and communities overcome barriers related to access, equity and human rights issues. Projects are expected to achieve specific results in terms of community participation by members of equity-seeking groups. Community participation can be defined as participation in economic, social, civic, education and/or volunteer opportunities.
- **Increase the capacity of communities to eliminate barriers** faced by members of equity-seeking groups through advocacy and community engagement. Barriers include those at an individual, community and/or systemic level based on age, ancestry, citizenship, creed

(religion), colour, disability, ethnic origin, family status, gender identity, level of literacy, race, receipt of public assistance, record of offences, sex, sexual orientation or any other personal characteristics. Projects focused on advocacy and community engagement are expected to achieve positive changes in public awareness, community engagement, partnerships, attitudes, policy discussions and/or practices within systems and institutions.

2012 Allocations Recommendations

Of the 86 applications received, 23 are recommended for funding and 63 are not recommended for support.

Seven (7) of the recommendations are for organizations that received funding in 2011, and 16 are for new applicants. The average grant size in the program is \$34,100.00. Of the 23 projects recommended, 7 will be delivered in a priority neighbourhood, 5 will work in other neighbourhoods and 11 have a city-wide focus. The AEHR investment of \$767,400.00 will leverage an additional \$532,000.00 in funding from other sources, as well as the participation of 500 volunteers. The recommended project activities are expected to involve more than 8,000 participants.

2012 Allocations by equity seeking group	# of Recommended Allocations
Racialized and Newcomer Groups (except youth)	9
LGBTTT community	4
People with Disabilities	4
Youth (includes racialized and newcomer youth)	3
Aboriginal community	1
People with Record of Criminal Offense	1
Women	1

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

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

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: Access, Equity and Human Rights – 2012 Allocation Recommendations

Appendix B: Access, Equity and Human Rights – Detailed Project Summaries

Appendix A
Access, Equity and Human Rights 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	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
2	Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services	20	n/a	\$46,800.00	\$46,800.00
3	Afghan Women's Counselling and Integration Community Support Organization	26	\$15,600.00	\$16,790.00	\$0.00
4	African Canadian Social Development Council	20	n/a	\$25,000.00	\$0.00
5	Amadeusz	1	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
6	Arab Community Centre of Toronto, The	3	\$25,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
7	Asian Arts Freedom School	27	n/a	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
8	Bangladeshi-Canadian Community Services (BCS)	31	n/a	\$15,220.00	\$0.00
9	Belka Enrichment Centre/Caribbean Global Missions	8	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
10	Birchmount Bluffs Neighbourhood Centre	36	\$18,200.00	\$23,891.25	\$0.00
11	Black Daddies Club	42	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
12	Canadian Tamil Youth Alliance	38	n/a	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
13	Centre for Community Learning and Development (CCL&D)	28	n/a	\$40,500.00	\$0.00
14	Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation	19	n/a	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
15	Centre for Independent Living in Toronto (C.I.L.T.) Inc.	27	n/a	\$32,232.00	\$32,200.00
16	Centre for Spanish Speaking Peoples	9	\$22,500.00	\$26,277.40	\$25,000.00
17	Chinese Canadian National Council Toronto Chapter	20	\$0.00	\$37,098.00	\$37,000.00
18	Chinese Canadian National Council Toronto Chapter	20	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
19	Community Living Toronto (CLT)	20	n/a	\$25,454.00	\$0.00

	<u>Applicant Organization</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>2011 Approved Allocation</u>	<u>2012 Amount Requested</u>	<u>2012 Recommended Allocation</u>
20	Community Social Planning Council of Toronto (Social Planning Toronto)	27	\$17,300.00	\$30,792.00	\$0.00
21	Confessions from the Streets	1	n/a	\$0.00	\$0.00
22	Council of Agencies Serving South Asians	35	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$0.00
23	CultureLink Settlement Services	14	\$23,000.00	\$23,000.00	\$0.00
24	Delta Family Resource Centre	9	n/a	\$34,979.00	\$0.00
25	Doorsteps Neighbourhood Services	7	n/a	\$44,000.00	\$0.00
26	East Scarborough Storefront/Tides Canada Initiatives	43	n/a	\$16,500.00	\$0.00
27	Elsbeth Heyworth Centre for Women	8	\$11,470.00	\$31,820.60	\$0.00
28	Epilepsy Toronto	27	\$0.00	\$49,844.00	\$0.00
29	Eritrean Youth Coalition	19	n/a	\$45,995.82	\$0.00
30	Ethiopian Association in the Greater Toronto Area and Surrounding Regions	31	\$0.00	\$47,460.00	\$0.00
31	Ethno-Racial People with Disabilities Coalition of Ontario	20	\$20,600.00	\$46,296.00	\$46,000.00
32	Etobicoke Services for Seniors	2	n/a	\$28,000.00	\$0.00
33	Evangel Hall Mission (ehm)	20	n/a	\$25,000.00	\$0.00
34	Evergreen	29	n/a	\$49,920.00	\$49,900.00
35	Facing History and Ourselves	20	\$0.00	\$7,320.00	\$0.00
36	Family Service Toronto	1	n/a	\$8,336.00	\$0.00
37	FCJ Refugee Centre	17	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
38	Findhelp Information Services	20	n/a	\$49,731.45	\$45,000.00
39	For You Telecare Family Service (FUTFS)	25	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
40	For Youth Initiative in Toronto (FYI)	12	n/a	\$49,428.90	\$0.00
41	Friends In Trouble Youth Initiative	9	n/a	\$31,900.00	\$31,900.00

	<u>Applicant Organization</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>2011 Approved Allocation</u>	<u>2012 Amount Requested</u>	<u>2012 Recommended Allocation</u>
42	Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies	23	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
43	Harmony Movement/National Movement of Harmony in Canada	25	n/a	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
44	Healthcare Interpretation Network	20	n/a	\$49,604.00	\$0.00
45	Heritage Skills Development Center (HSDC)	44	n/a	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
46	Hispanic Development Council	20	\$25,500.00	\$25,500.00	\$0.00
47	Jane-Finch On The Move	8	\$15,200.00	\$12,700.00	\$0.00
48	Jumblies Theatre	28	n/a	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
49	Kababayan Community Service Centre Inc	14	\$16,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
50	Kiwi Seminars for Internet Safety Inc.	n/a	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
51	Madbakh Women Initiative Inc	3	\$20,000.00	\$26,000.00	\$0.00
52	Malvern Family Resource Centre	42	\$20,000.00	\$39,000.00	\$0.00
53	Manantial Neighbourhood Services Inc.	9	\$16,900.00	\$20,234.80	\$20,200.00
54	Miizwe Biik Development Corp	27	\$10,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
55	MUJER	20	n/a	\$34,302.00	\$0.00
56	NAP: Community-based Governance Project Strategy Work Group	35	n/a	\$68,670.00	\$0.00
57	Native Child and Family Services of Toronto	27	\$15,000.00	\$46,275.00	\$0.00
58	North American Muslim Foundation	40	n/a	\$40,000.00	\$0.00
59	Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI)	16	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
60	Ontario Justice Education Network/Reseau Ontarien D'Education Juridique	27	n/a	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00
61	Our Place Community of Hope Centre (Metropolitan Toronto)	17	n/a	\$19,452.28	\$0.00

	<u>Applicant Organization</u>	<u>Ward</u>	<u>2011 Approved Allocation</u>	<u>2012 Amount Requested</u>	<u>2012 Recommended Allocation</u>
62	Parkdale Activity-Recreation Centre (Toronto)	14	n/a	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
63	Parkdale Intercultural Association	14	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$0.00
64	Passerelle Integration et Developpement Economique, La	27	\$0.00	\$41,900.00	\$41,900.00
65	Rexdale Women's Centre	1	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00
66	Roma Community Centre	14	n/a	\$38,850.00	\$0.00
67	Scadding Court Community Centre	20	\$25,000.00	\$43,013.30	\$0.00
68	Senior Peoples' Resources in North Toronto (SPRINT)	22	n/a	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
69	Serbians-Citizens of the World	6	n/a	\$35,000.00	\$0.00
70	Serve Canada Youth Service Organization	28	\$25,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
71	SKETCH Working Arts	18	\$15,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0.00
72	South Asian Women's Centre	18	n/a	\$35,000.00	\$0.00
73	St. Stephen's Community House	20	n/a	\$49,765.00	\$0.00
74	Stop Community Food Centre, The	17	\$14,200.00	\$19,720.00	\$0.00
75	Support Enhance Access Services Centre (S.E.A.S. Centre)	28	\$10,800.00	\$10,800.00	\$0.00
76	Tamil Eelam Society of Canada (Tesoc Multicultural Settlement Services)	37	\$0.00	\$18,648.00	\$0.00
77	Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Office (TNO)	26	\$24,300.00	\$43,272.00	\$0.00
78	Toronto ACORN	29	\$15,000.00	\$33,000.00	\$0.00
79	Toronto Coalition for Better Child Care	19	\$0.00	\$15,600.00	\$15,600.00
80	Toronto Community & Culture Centre	20	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$0.00
81	Toronto Tamil Seniors Association	28	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
82	Toronto Women's City Alliance	15	\$31,400.00	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00
83	Urban Alliance on Race Relations	20	\$41,000.00	\$46,166.00	\$0.00

<u>Applicant Organization</u>		<u>Ward</u>	<u>2011 Approved Allocation</u>	<u>2012 Amount Requested</u>	<u>2012 Recommended Allocation</u>
84	Vietnamese Women's Association Toronto	17	n/a	\$27,534.00	\$27,500.00
85	Workers' Action Centre	20	\$20,000.00	\$36,845.66	\$36,800.00
86	Youth Action Network	19	\$38,500.00	\$39,500.00	\$39,500.00
Grand Total:				\$2,706,938.46	\$784,300.00
Appeal Fund:					\$20,800.00
2012 Approved Budget:					\$805,100.00