



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

2016 Community Festivals & Special Events Investment Funding Program Appeals – Status of Applicant No. 53

Date:	May 4, 2016
To:	Community Development and Recreation Committee
From:	Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration
Wards:	Ward 11
Reference Number:	AFS# 23140

SUMMARY

Results of the 2016 Community Festivals and Special Events Appeals of applicant No. 53 is provided in this report as requested by City Council on March 31/April 1, 2016.

Grants help the City of Toronto achieve its social, economic and cultural goals for its residents. The City's goals are better achieved by supporting the work of organizations that are closer to the communities they serve.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. City Council receive the report (May 4, 2016) from the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration for information.

Financial Impact

This report has no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the 2016 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

On March 7, 2016 the Community Development and Recreation Committee referred two allocation recommendations from the 2016 Allocations Report for the Community Festivals and Special Events Investment Funding program for review: Application No. 9 and 53, with a view to potential reallocation of the funds.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2016.CD10.4>

On March 29, 2016 City Council approved allocations as originally recommended in the Investment Funding Programs – 2016 Allocation Recommendation for Community Festivals and Special Events, including application No. 9, Progress Place.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2016.CD10.4>

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2016/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-91669.pdf>

On March 31/April 1, 2016 City Council directed the applicant organization for Application 53, Mount Dennis Community Association complete the appeals process to ensure transparency, accountability and fairness and that Social Development, Finance and Administration staff report to City Council, through the Community Development and Recreation Committee, on the status of Applicant 53 once the appeal process is completed in April 2016.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2016.CD10.4>

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2016/cc/bgrd/backgroundfile-91669.pdf>

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Applicant organization for Application No. 53, Mount Dennis Community Association, was originally recommended for decline for the 2016 Community Festivals and Special Events program. Applicant No. 53 completed the Appeals process to ensure transparency, accountability and fairness.

Applicants who are not recommended for funding are provided with an option to appeal the allocations recommendation to the third-party Community Funding Appeals Panel. The Appeals meeting was held on April 12, 2016.

COMMENTS

Applicant No. 53, Mount Dennis Community Association, applied to the 2016 Community Festivals and Special Events Investment Funding program for \$8,480 for a community festival to be held in Eglinton Flats. Proposed festival activities includes a sporting event, a fishing competition, and a soccer game. The group aims to engage local restaurants and introduce their foods to the wider community at an affordable price by subsidizing costs for participants. The original request was not recommended for funding as other grant proposals were identified as higher priority for support.

Results of reviews: Staff conducted an additional review of Application No. 53, results of which confirmed the original staff recommendation for decline contained in the 2016 Allocations Report. The secondary review of Application No. 53 found that the:

- Project idea, project partners and roles, and the community development model used was found to be adequate;
- Work plan lacked significant detail, and did not provide timelines or measureable outputs;
- Ineligible budget items; and,
- Outreach and engagement model was limited.

Community Funding Appeals meeting: Applicant No. 53, Mount Dennis Community Association, appealed their recommendation for decline in person on April 12, 2016. A total of fifty-six (56) groups that applied to 2016 Community Festivals and Community Recreation funding programs appealed their funding recommendations on April 12, 2016 through verbal and/or written deputations.

Appeals Panel Recommendation and Decision: The Community Funding Appeals Panel did not recommend application No. 53 for funding.

The Panel was composed of staff from Toronto Employment & Social Services, Toronto Public Health Urban Health Fund and Ontario Trillium Foundation. Grants staff from Social Development, Finance and Administration (SDFa) were not involved in the Appeals Panel's decision-making process. The Executive Director, SDFa approved the Appeals Panel recommendations as per Council-approved delegated authority.

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SIGNATURE

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