

Granting Requests for Parents Engaged in Education and 5n2 Kitchens

Date: November 16, 2021

To: Economic and Community Development Committee

From: Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration

Wards: All

SUMMARY

Staff from Social Development, Finance and Administration have pursued the direction from Toronto City Council to seek external funding for the work of Parents Engaged in Education and 5n2 Kitchens. Conversations with Provincial and Federal programs and other community funders are ongoing.

The Scheinberg Foundation, which provided a total of \$920,000 to the City's TO Supports Investment Fund in 2020 to support community food programs, is now working with 5n2 Kitchens to support re-allocation expenses at a new location, once it is identified, and to strengthen the organization through the development of a social enterprise.

Additionally, Toronto City Council directed \$450,000 in funding from Reserve Account XR2007 for 5n2 Kitchens to undertake renovations and create a proper food preparation area at 705 Progress Avenue should tenancy be secured to support renovating space to accommodate expanded services.

In 2020, the City received and disbursed \$7.75 million in one-time funding to support the needs of vulnerable populations affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. One-time funding from the Province of Ontario's Social Service Relief Fund, the Canadian Medical Association Foundation, and The Scheinberg Foundation were leveraged by the Social Development, Finance and Administration Division to create the TO Supports Investment Fund to invest in strategic partnerships with social services agencies to address urgent needs of vulnerable Toronto residents as a result of COVID-19. The funds were not intended to meet long-term recovery needs. The City has continued to advocate to the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada for greater funding to support the emergency and recovery needs found within Toronto communities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. The Economic and Community Development Committee receive this report for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact resulting from the adoption of the recommendation in this report.

DECISION HISTORY

On November 9, 10 and 12, 2021, City Council directed the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to grant an allocation of \$450,000 to 5N2 Food for All to undertake renovations and create a proper food preparation area at 705 Progress Avenue should tenancy be secured with funding coming from Reserve Account XR2007.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.GL26.7>

The Economic and Community Development Committee, at their meeting on September 22, 2021, directed a report back from the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration on the review of the Community Space Tenancy and Granting Request for Parents Engaged in Education and on the review of the Community Space Tenancy and Granting Request for 5n2 Kitchens in Scarborough Southeast.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.EC24.10>

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.EC24.11>

On May 26, 2021, the Economic and Community Development Committee requested the Executive Director, Corporate Real Estate Management and the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to apply the City of Toronto's Community Space Tenancy Policy and the appropriate granting process to Councillor Paul Ainslie's request on behalf of Parents Engaged in Education and to report back in September 2021.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.EC22.7>

On May 26, 2021, the Economic and Community Development Committee requested the Executive Director, Corporate Real Estate Management and the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to apply the City of Toronto's Community Space Tenancy Policy and the appropriate granting process to the request on behalf of 5n2 Kitchens in Motion MM32.9 and to report back in September 2021.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.EC22.8>

At its meeting on May 5 and 6, 2021, City Council referred Motion MM32.15 regarding Parents Engaged in Education to the Economic and Community Development Committee. This Motion recommended that City staff locate a City-owned site for occupancy in Scarborough, and work with the Provincial Government and the Provincial Ministry of Education to secure financial support for Parents Engaged in Education.

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2021/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-166363.pdf>

At its meeting on May 5 and 6, 2021, City Council referred Motion MM32.9 regarding 5n2 Kitchens to the Economic and Community Development Committee. This motion requested staff to work with 5n2 Kitchens to locate a City-owned site for occupancy no later than November 30, 2021 and to request, and work with, the Provincial government and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to offer financial support to 5n2 Kitchen

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2021/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-166282.pdf>

COMMENTS

Parents Engaged in Education

City Council, at its meeting on October 1 and 4, 2021, requested the Province of Ontario, the Ministry of Education and the Federal Government to fund Parents Engaged in Education and non-profit organizations providing technology and other supports to students that enable them to excel in school. City Council also requested the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to provide an update to the December meeting of the Economic and Community Development Committee on actions taken.

Social Development, Finance and Administration staff have worked with colleagues in Intergovernmental Affairs to identify two Federal Government programs that could support the work of Parents Engaged in Education. Staff have shared these resources with the agency. The agency already has a connection to the Provincial Minister of Education, and hosted a [visit from Minister Lecce on September 4, 2021](#). Staff are continuing discussions with Ministry of Education staff to convene a meeting with Parents Engaged in Education.

5n2 Kitchens

City Council, at its meeting on October 1 and 4, 2021, requested the Province of Ontario to continue to support community-driven and community-informed food security initiatives in Toronto like 5n2 Kitchens through the Government of Ontario's Social Services Relief Fund. City Council also requested the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to work with the Canadian Medical Association Foundation, The Scheinberg Relief Fund and other organizations with funding sources to explore extending their funding to Toronto-based food security organizations like 5n2 Kitchens.

The funders named in the Council direction provided one-time funding to the City of Toronto in 2020 to support the needs of vulnerable populations affected by the COVID-19 pandemic:

- In Spring 2020, the City of Toronto received provincial funding through the Social Services Relief Fund (\$39.2 million) to support COVID-related costs to support vulnerable residents. The Senior Leadership Team approved a 20% carve out of the Social Services Relief Fund to create the TO Supports Investment Fund to invest in strategic partnerships with social services agencies to support urgent needs of vulnerable Toronto residents. A total of \$7.75 million was provided to community agencies across three funding rounds of the City's TO Support Investment Fund.

- Through a strategic collaboration with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Canadian Medical Association Foundation is donated \$1.79 million directly to the municipalities to support our efforts to reach, protect and assist their most vulnerable residents — including those experiencing homelessness, food insecurity and mental health and substance use challenges. Toronto's allocation was \$1.79 million.
- The Scheinberg Relief Fund through the Better Toronto Coalition Fund at Toronto Foundation provided a total of \$920,000 to support community food programs through two rounds of allocations through the City's TO Support Investment Fund.

Through these one-time sources, the City has invested in 85 community-based agencies supporting vulnerable populations impacted by the pandemic. The funds were not intended to meet long-term recovery needs, and as such, the City has continued to advocate to the Province of Ontario and the Government of Canada for greater funding to support the emergency and recovery needs found within Toronto communities.

5n2 Kitchens received \$259,000 in funding in 2020 across two rounds of TO Support Investment Fund allocations (June and December 2020).

Staff have corresponded with the Canadian Medical Association Foundation and The Scheinberg Relief Fund to encourage their support for food security organizations in the city of Toronto, like 5n2 Kitchens. The Scheinberg Foundation has reported that they are committed to providing re-allocation expenses for 5n2 Kitchens once a new location is secured. Additionally, The Scheinberg Foundation is directing their investments to projects that strengthen the organisation and provide a medium to long term solution to the issue of food insecurity in Toronto. They are committed to working with 5n2 Kitchens to become more sustainable and grow, reducing its dependence on donations by establishing a social enterprise in line with the organisations aims and objectives. The Canadian Medical Association Foundation has responded that they have paused new granting activities while new strategic initiatives are being developed and are not accepting new applications. Intergovernmental staff are working with Mayor's Office and other municipalities to identify COVID-19 related funding needs that in the past have funded by the Social Services Relief Fund.

On November 9, 2021, City Council adopted directed the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration grant \$450,000 in funding for 5n2 Kitchens to undertake renovations and create a proper food preparation area at 705 Progress Avenue should tenancy be secured with funding coming from the Reserve Account XR2007, Parkland Acquisition – Pre 1999 (Scarborough)".

CONTACT

Barbara Powell, Manager, Community Funding, Social Development, Finance and Administration, 416-206-2224, Barbara.Powell@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Denise Andrea Campbell
Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration