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July 27, 2017

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

From: Augusto Mathias, Agency Review Officer, Community Funding Unit

C.C.: Costanza Allevalo, Director, Community Resources
Barbara Powell, Manager, Community Funding
John Smith, Manager, Community Development
Mini Alakkatusery, Supervisor, Community Funding

Re: **Delegated Authority to Approve Grants for 2017 Neighbourhood Micro Grants Program**

Please find below the request for delegated approval for the Phase 1 of the 2017 Neighbourhood Micro Grants Program:

- Approval of 51 resident-led groups recommended by the Resident Advisory Panel, Neighbourhood Micro Grant Program (Appendix A);
- \$51,000 to Social Planning Toronto to disburse \$1,000 each to the 51 recommended resident-led groups;
- \$55,000 to Social Planning Toronto to be the Capacity Builder/Administrative Partner and trustee to the 51 Neighbourhood Micro Grant recipient groups, and to provide capacity building training to grant recipients.

The Neighbourhood Micro Grant is first of three new Community Investment Funding programs approved by Council on March 28, 2017 with a goal to encourage resident engagement and leadership development. The new grant programs are a result of a comprehensive review conducted in 2016.

The total 2017 approved budget for the Neighbourhood Micro Grant Program is \$250,000. The balance of the funds will be allocated to recommended grant recipient groups selected from the Phase 2 intake in September, 2017 and to be forwarded for delegated approval in December, 2017.

Delegated Authority Approval by Council

On March 28, 2017¹ City Council approved delegated authority to the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration to approve, issue and enter into agreements for neighbourhood micro-grants to selected proponents and report back to the Community Development and Recreation Committee on awards made to the selected grant recipients.

Neighbourhood Micro Grant Program & Process

In 2014, the City of Toronto approved the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy 2020 (TSNS 2020). TSNS 2020 is the City of Toronto's action plan for making sure that each of our 140 social planning neighbourhoods can succeed and thrive. Residents and agencies from 31 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs) and 8 Emerging Neighbourhoods have come up with a list of changes they want to see – called the TSNS Actions. As a response, the Neighbourhood Micro Grants of \$1,000 are for use by resident-led groups to support those TSNS Actions in local communities.

In the first round of grants, up to two (2) groups from each of the 39 neighbourhoods are eligible to be funded for events that advance TSNS 2020. Funded events are to be held between August and December 31, 2017. Over the course of the year, each NIA and Emerging Neighbourhood can be funded up to \$5,000 (five projects).

¹ <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.CD18.5>

A call for applications from resident-led groups was launched on April 19, 2017. Approximately 25 information sessions were held at Neighbourhood Tables across the four districts. A total of 77 applications were received by the deadline date of June 21, 2017.

The following is the distribution of the 77 applications received:

- No applications received from 15% or 6 out of the total 39 neighbourhoods
- 23% or 9 neighbourhoods received 1 application each
- 33% or 13 NIAs/EN received 2 applications each
- 14% or 6 NIAs/EN received at least four applications (for a maximum allocation of 2 per NIA)

A Neighbourhood Micro Grant Resident Selection Panel of seven members recruited from TSNS 2020 Resident Advisory Committee (six members) and the Poverty Reductions Lived Experience Advisory Group (one member) reviewed the 77 eligible applications for program fit, feasibility and TSNS alignment. The Selection Panel are recommending 51 applications totalling \$51,000. Their recommendations were secondarily reviewed by City staff at a District Table meeting. No changes to the Resident Selection Panel's recommendations were made.

The following are the distribution of the 51 projects recommended for delegated approval:

- Nearly half of the NIAs (49% or 19) have two grant recipients (there can be a maximum of 2 per NIA in the first round)
- 31% or 12 NIAs have one grant recipient
- 21% or 8 NIAs does not have any grantee

Recommended project ideas include:

- Youth-led event to share seven ethnic breads that reflect the cultures in Scarborough Village
- Food handling certifications for youth volunteers
- Back to school events for families
- A community bike ride to discover bike trails and a bike 'rodeo'
- Sport demos and instructions (e.g. 'karate in the park')
- A community garden event to plant mixed, edible, native shrubs and perennials with a First Nations blessing ceremony in Malvern.

Neighbourhood Micro Grant Resident Selection Panel

The selection process was enhanced by the recruitment of residents from two City program advisory groups who participated in the recommendations of grants. Members of the TSNS 2020 Resident Advisory Committee and the Poverty Reductions Lived Experience Advisory Group volunteered over 10 hours each ensure the grants selected were of the best quality and would make an impact to the identified neighbourhoods.

Phased Approach

For Round 1 (current phase): Funding will be available for events that take place in the 31 Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIA) and the 8 Emerging Neighbourhoods. In the first round of grants, up to two (2) groups from each of the 39 neighbourhoods will be funded for events that advance TSNS 2020.

Round 2: Call for proposals will be launched on September 11, 2017 for activities held February 1, 2018 – July 1, 2018. Up to 3 groups in each NIA and emerging neighbourhood can be supported. A total of \$144,000 is available for funding in this phase.

Neighbourhood Micro Grant Capacity Builder/Administrative Partner

A call for proposals seeking applications from Community Services Partnership (CSP) funded organizations was released on May 18, 2017. The purpose was to provide funding to an organization to conduct capacity building training workshops to support grant recipients, provide trusteeship services, inform the evaluation of the grant program, provide reporting and administer grant funds. After a review and interview process, Staff are recommending Social Planning Toronto as the grant recipient for a grant of \$55,000.

Grant Recommendations for Approval:

1. The Resident Advisory Selection Panel recommends 51 resident-led groups for your delegated approval for grants of \$1,000 each for a total of \$51,000. The list of recommended groups are provided in Appendix A.
2. Resident Advisory Selection Panel recommends a grant of \$51,000 to the Social Planning Toronto to disburse to the 51 approved Neighbourhood Micro Grant recipients.
3. Staff recommends a grant of \$55,000 to the Social Planning Toronto for the Neighbourhood Micro Grant Capacity Builder/Administrative Partner program for the following deliverables from August, 2017 – February, 2018:
 - Disbursing \$1,000 Neighbourhood Micro Grants to up to 195 approved resident-led groups (Grant Recipients) from across the City over two phases (51 grants in August/September, 2017 and up to 145 grants in January/February 2018).
 - Developing and implementing capacity building workshops to resident-led groups approved for Neighbourhood Micro Grants over the term of the grant. Training workshops include guidance on topics such as applications, budgeting, reporting requirements, project and volunteer management, etc.
 - Plan and implement one celebration event for up to 195 grant recipients in Spring, 2018.
 - Assist in gathering information to support a process evaluation.

It is anticipated that these Micro Grants will help resident-led groups inspire their neighbourhoods with events to be held between August and December, 2017.

Approved by:


Chris Brillinger
Executive Director, SDFA


Date

Neighbourhood Micro Grants Investment Program

2017 Allocation Recommendations

	Neighbourhood Improvement Areas/ Emerging Neighbourhoods	2017 NMG Applicant Group	2017 Amount Recommended
1	2 Mount Olive-Silverstone-Jamestown	Jamestown and Orpington Community Group	\$ 1,000.00
2	2 Mount Olive-Silverstone-Jamestown	Sri Lankan Tamil Seniors Group of Etobicoke	\$ 1,000.00
3	6 Kingsview Village-The Westway	Kingsview - The Westway Residents for Family Success	\$ 1,000.00
4	6 Kingsview Village-The Westway	St. Andrews Community Group	\$ 1,000.00
5	21 Humber Summit	HEART (Healing, engagement, activism, recovery from trauma)	\$ 1,000.00
6	24 Black Creek	Shoreham Court Youth Council	\$ 1,000.00
7	24 Black Creek	Driftwood Parkette Residents Group	\$ 1,000.00
8	26 Downsview-Roding-CFB	Palisades Housing Co-operative Inc	\$ 1,000.00
9	28 Rustic	Rustic Neighbourhood Improvement Area (NIA)	\$ 1,000.00
10	28 Rustic	Youth In Charge	\$ 1,000.00
11	31 Yorkdale-Glen Park	Sunshine Healing Circle	\$ 1,000.00
12	32 Englemount-Lawrence	Parents that Cares	\$ 1,000.00
13	32 Englemount-Lawrence	Seniors on the Horizon	\$ 1,000.00
14	35 Westminster-Branson	Bathurst-Finch Joy Cooking Group	\$ 1,000.00
15	35 Westminster-Branson	Puppets for U	\$ 1,000.00
16	43 Victoria Village	Victoria Village Community Round Table	\$ 1,000.00
17	43 Victoria Village	Back to School Fun Fair	\$ 1,000.00
18	44 Flemingdon Park	Friends of Flemingdon Park	\$ 1,000.00
19	44 Flemingdon Park	Hijabi Ballers	\$ 1,000.00
20	55 Thorncliffe Park	GLAM (Girlz Leadership And Mentorship) Program	\$ 1,000.00
21	55 Thorncliffe Park	Thorncliffe Wellness Committee	\$ 1,000.00
22	61 Taylor-Massey (formerly Crescent Town)	Taylor-Massey and Oakridge community development group	\$ 1,000.00
23	72 Regent Park	CHYLL (Community Helping Youth Live Large)	\$ 1,000.00
24	72 Regent Park	Youth Gravity	\$ 1,000.00
25	91 Weston-Pelham Park	Weston Pelham	\$ 1,000.00
26	110 Keelesdale-Eglinton West	Centennial Youth Council	\$ 1,000.00
27	110 Keelesdale-Eglinton West	Yantics	\$ 1,000.00
28	111 Rockcliffe-Smythe	2490 St. Clair Avenue West Residents Eco-Chic Collective.	\$ 1,000.00
29	111 Rockcliffe-Smythe	Black Creek Alliance	\$ 1,000.00
30	113 Weston	Weston Kings & Queens	\$ 1,000.00
31	115 Mount Dennis	Foodies of Mount Dennis	\$ 1,000.00

32	116 Steeles	Kollin's Scarborough Block Party	\$ 1,000.00
33	117 L'Amoreaux	Jinping Cui	\$ 1,000.00
34	117 L'Amoreaux	Ping Ping Activity Centre	\$ 1,000.00
35	121 Oakridge	Shwasti	\$ 1,000.00
36	121 Oakridge	Community Advisory Group	\$ 1,000.00
37	124 Kennedy Park	GORDON RIDGE ENGAGEMENT GROUP	\$ 1,000.00
38	125 Ionview	BIRCHMOUNT COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL	\$ 1,000.00
39	126 Dorset Park	Because We Care	\$ 1,000.00
40	126 Dorset Park	Dorset Park Neighborhood Association (DPNA)	\$ 1,000.00
41	132 Malvern	42 Rides Youth steering committee	\$ 1,000.00
42	132 Malvern	Malvern Resident Engagement and Food Security Workgroup	\$ 1,000.00
43	135 Morningside	MORNINGSIDE MORNELLE COMMUNITY	\$ 1,000.00
44	136 West Hill	Playing for Keeps Ambassadors	\$ 1,000.00
45	136 West Hill	Soccer for KGO Residents	\$ 1,000.00
46	137 Woburn	Friends of Cedarbrook & Thomson Memorial Parks	\$ 1,000.00
47	137 Woburn	Project Susan	\$ 1,000.00
48	138 Eglinton East	Gilder 31	\$ 1,000.00
49	138 Eglinton East	Guyde Center	\$ 1,000.00
50	139 Scarborough Village	3190United	\$ 1,000.00
51	139 Scarborough Village	StArt Youth Presenting Arts	\$ 1,000.00
	Social Planning Toronto	Administrative Partner/Trustee fee	\$ 55,000.00

Total \$ 106,000.00

Total NMG Budget \$ 250,000.00

Held for Appeals \$ 0.00

Remaining NMG Budget \$ 144,000.00