

ACTION REQUIRED

September 4, 2009

To: Board of Governors of Exhibition Place

From: Finance and Audit Committee

Subject: **Grant to Canada's Sports Hall of Fame for 2010**

Summary:

At its meeting of September 4, 2009, the Finance and Audit Committee considered this report and recommends the continuation of the same level of grant funding for the Canada's Sports Hall of Fame for 2010 paid in equal quarterly installments provided Canada's Sports Hall of Fame and the Board reach an agreement on the extension of its lease within Stanley Barracks and provided that the Sports Hall of Fame continues to be on the grounds.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board provide a grant to Canada's Sports Hall of Fame for the year 2010 in the amount of \$53,200 (less a deduction for utilities of \$18,700), which grant will be paid in equal quarterly installments provided Canada's Sports Hall of Fame and the Board reach an agreement on the extension of its lease within Stanley Barracks and provided that the Sports Hall of Fame continues to be on the grounds.

Financial Impact:

The adoption of the recommendation in this report will result in a net cost to the Board of \$34,500 which is fully provided for in the 2010 operating budget. This cost will be prorated in the event that Sports Hall of Fame moves to their new home in Calgary, Alberta.

Decision History:

This report provides background information on the purposes, activities and current status of this organization and recommends a level of financial assistance in the form of a grant to the Canada's Sports Hall of Fame for the period from January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010.

Issue Background:

The Board has provided a grant to Canada's Sports Hall of Fame since 1975 and this grant has been as high as \$180,000. However, in the early 1990s, the grant was gradually reduced until it stabilized to \$84,750 in 1998, 1999, 2000 & 2001 and to \$53,200 from 2002 to 2009. At the same time the Sports Hall of Fame were required to reimburse the Board for utility costs associated with the museum/office space (estimated at \$18,700 annually). The Sports Hall of Fame relies heavily on the Board grant as one of its major sources of operating funding. Other sources of revenue are the annual induction dinner and annual golf tournament.

Comments:

Canada's Sports Hall of Fame has submitted an Application for a Grant to Exhibition Place in a format similar to that used by the City. Canada's Sports Hall of Fame was founded in 1955 to preserve the record of Canadian sports achievements and to promote a greater awareness of Canada's heritage of sports. Pursuant to these objectives, the Sports Hall of Fame recognizes and honours persons who have brought distinction to Canada in the advancement of sport and athletic endeavours and collects and preserves a collection of artifacts relating specifically to its honoured members. It is a not-for-profit, charitable organization, which is operated by a volunteer board of governors.

As part of the construction of the new soccer stadium at Exhibition Place, the Halls of Fame building was torn down requiring the Sports Hall of Fame and its exhibits and collection to relocate to the Stanley Barracks building. At the same time this was happening, the Sports Hall of Fame issued an RFP for proposals from cities to provide it with a new home. As a result, the Canada Sports Hall of Fame has an agreement with the City of Calgary, the Province of Alberta and the Government of Canada to build a new dedicated Hall and Museum at Canada Olympic Park in Calgary which is scheduled to be completed near the end of 2010.

This report recommends the continuation of the grant from the Board in the amount of \$53,200 for 2010 200 (less a deduction for utilities of \$18,700) in equal quarterly installments provided that the Sports Hall of Fame continues to be on the grounds. This grant will assist the Canada's Sports Hall of Fame to continue as a financially viable organization as it plans its move to a new permanent home in Calgary for its future operations. The grant will be prorated based on the number months occupancy in the event that Sports Hall of Fame move to their new home in Calgary, Alberta

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