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EXHIBITION PLACE

ACTION REQUIRED

September 9, 2008

To: Finance Committee

From: Dianne Young, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: **Grant to Canada's Sports Hall of Fame for 2009**

Summary:

This report recommends the continuation of the same level of grant funding for the Canada's Sports Hall of Fame for 2009 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.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board provide a grant to Canada's Sports Hall of Fame for the year 2009 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.

Financial Impact:

The adoption of the recommendation in this report will result in a net cost to the Board of \$34,500.

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, 2009 to December 31, 2009.

Issue Background:

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.

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 2008. 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.

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. Stanley Barracks is considered to be an interim location for the Sports Hall of Fame organization and it is actively looking for a more permanent location for its operations. However, in the meantime staff has been occupied with cataloging and digitizing the collection and exhibits and improving and updating its website.

This report recommends the continuation of the grant from the Board in the amount of \$53,200 for 2009 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 seeks a new permanent home for its future operations.

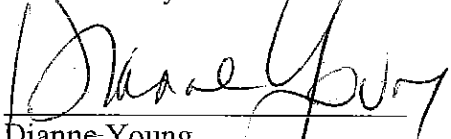
Comments:

This report outlines the objects and current status of Canada's Sports Hall of Fame at Exhibition Place and recommends the continuation of a grant from the Board to the Hall of Fame at the level of \$53,200 (less a deduction for utilities of \$18,700) in 2009.

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Submitted by:


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