

DATE: September 16, 2021

FILE: 1850-20/2021

TO: Chair and Directors
Electoral Areas Services Committee

Supported by James Warren
Deputy Chief Administrative
Officer

FROM: James Warren
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

J. Warren

RE: 2021 Rural Community Grant Considerations – September 2021 Intake

Purpose

To review the additional Rural Community Grant (RCG) applications submitted since August 2021.

Recommendations from the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer:

1. THAT the 2021 Rural Community Grants be awarded for the amounts to the organizations as follows:

Note: Appendix A in the staff report dated September 16, 2021 will be used by the committee to confirm the funding awards for this resolution.

2. THAT the 2021 Rural Community Grant request for the amount of \$20,000 to the Hornby Housing Society be denied;

AND FURTHER THAT consideration be given to the potential establishment or inclusion of Hornby Island in an affordable housing service to be initiated with a letter to Islands Trust to review options and jurisdictional considerations.

Executive Summary

- The Comox Valley Regional District completed a review of all its grant funding programs and services in 2020 in an effort to standardize processes, establish more formalized criteria and ensure increased transparency and clarity to both the public and any non-profit organizations seeking or receiving funding.
- The RCG program was launched in January 2021; any non-profit community organization may apply for funding that benefits the general community.
- In April 2021 the board awarded a significant portion of the RCG funding by considering RCG applications received to the end of March 2021.
- Additional applications received since August 2021 are listed in Appendix A for consideration.
- RCG applicants will receive written notice on the status of their funding request once the Elector Area Directors have met and completed their adjudication and funding allocations and following board approval.
- Funding awards will be dispersed after August 1, 2021, unless otherwise stipulated.
- Electoral Areas Services Committee (EASC) members are asked to review the attached listing of submissions and advise of their funding commitment.

Of particular interest is the request from Hornby Housing Society for septic upgrades. This application is similar to Denman Island Housing Association funding options considered by the EASC in April 2021 ([Dyson SR Denman Affordable Housing Funding Options](#)). The EASC concluded:

THAT the funding request from the Denman Island Housing Association to assist with pre-development costs for the Denman Green affordable housing project not be supported;

AND FURTHER THAT consideration be given to the potential establishment or inclusion of Denman Island in an affordable housing service to be initiated with a letter to Islands Trust to review options and jurisdictional considerations.

Prepared by:

D. DeMarzo

Doug DeMarzo
General Manager
of Community Services

Concurrence:

K. Douville

Kevin Douville
Manager of Financial Planning

Enclosure: Appendix A - 2021 Rural Community Grant Application
 Appendix B - 2021 Rural Community Grant Funds Summary to Date (Prior to
 Current Requests)

Appendix A - 2021 Rural Community Grant Application

Organization	Purpose	Electoral Area	Requesting
Macaulay Road and Area Neighbourhood Association (MRANA)	To assist with creating a new website and purchasing informational materials	C	\$1,000.00
Anderton Therapeutic Gardens Society	To assist with repairs and maintenance to the sprinkler system	B	1,500.00
Mountaineer Avian Rescue Society (MARS)	To assist with transportation costs for 15 – 20 classrooms and seniors groups to visit MARS and the cost of administering this program	C	\$5,000.00
Merville Community Association	To assist with providing entertainers for the Comox Valley Wide Park Party	C	\$700.00
Hornby Island Housing Society	To assist with septic system upgrades	HI	\$20,000.00

Appendix B – 2021 Rural Community Grant Funds Summary to Date (Prior to Current Requests)

2021 Rural Community Grants	Denman Island	Hornby Island	Part Area A (Baynes Sound)	Electoral Area B	Electoral Area C	Totals
2021 Funds Available	\$14,388.00	\$20,686.00	\$38,466.00	\$54,900.00	\$114,459.00	\$242,899
Funds Allocated to Date	(\$13,250.00)	(\$8,500.00)	(\$38,466.00)	(\$37,091.50)	(\$87,542.50)	(\$184,850)
Funds Remaining to Date	\$1,138.00	\$12,186.00	\$0	\$17,808.50	\$26,916.50	\$58,049