
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 23, 2007
File No.: 8100-20
To: City Manager
From: Sport & Recreation Manager
Subject: 2007 BC Special Olympics Sport Event Development Grant

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT City Council approve \$5,000.00 from the Sports Event Development Grant as support towards the 2007 BC Special Olympics Winter Provincials to be held in Kelowna from February 15-18, 2007.

BACKGROUND:

The Sport Event Development Grant was established as an incentive and financial support avenue for local sport organization in hosting new and/or expanding existing sport events. \$35,000 is budgeted annually with unspent funds from one year carried over and added to the next year's available allotment. A funding formula exists that is based on a per head registration from out of town participants with a ceiling amount based on the level of event. The event categories consist of Invitational, Regional, Provincial, Western Canadian, National and International/World.

The approval process for SED Grants allow staff to approve requests up to \$3,000 (Western Canadian Championships) with higher funding requests requiring City Council approval.

In 2006, 21 grants were approved for a total amount of \$30,863 with these events generating an estimated economic impact of \$4.1M. Based on the policy of carrying over unused funds, the total funds available for 2007 is \$56,813.

DISCUSSION:

Kelowna will play host to the 2007 BC Special Olympics Winter Provincials from February 15-18. This is a 3 day multi-sport competition where athletes from 8 regions across the province compete in cross-country skiing, alpine skiing, snow shoeing, floor hockey, speed skating, figure skating, and curling. The following points will provide additional information on the Games.

- The host society is striving for a balanced budget of approximately \$400,000 (includes in-kind services). The grant is intended to support general operating expenses for staging the Games.
- The Games are held over a 3 day period and is expected to draw 750 out of town participants (coaches, athletes and officials). The age of the participants is 13 years and older.
- Staging the Games will require in excess of 400 volunteers.

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- The Games Village is being established at both Rutland Senior Secondary and Rutland Middle Schools.
 - The athletes are able to advance to the National Special Olympic Games in Quebec City.
 - Economic impact estimated at \$728,500.
 - Any surplus from this event will be left in Kelowna as a Games Legacy.

The Sport Event Development Grant does not specifically identify multi-sport Games as a funding area. Funding support for Games has usually occurred through the City's budgeting process and becomes an annual contribution leading up to the Games. An example is our current contribution of \$60,000 annually for 2006, 2007 and 2008 towards hosting the 2008 BC Summer Games. However, the request from the 2007 BC Special Olympics is limited and can be supported through the Sport Event Development Grant.

The recommendation is brought forward on behalf of the SEDG Review Team.

Jim Gabriel, Sport & Recreation Manager

Cc: Director of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Services
Event Development Coordinator