



## Attachment 8

*2025 Budget Departmental Memo -*

*Office of the CAO*

## Memorandum

To: Lisa Spitale  
Chief Administrative Officer

Date: November 25, 2024

From: Hanieh Berg  
Corporate Officer  
*on behalf of the Department*

File:

**Subject: 2025 Budget – Corporate Services: Office of the Chief Administrative Officer and the Mayor’s Office**

### **OVERVIEW**

Corporate Services includes the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer and the Mayor’s Office. This memo provides updates for the following divisions:

1. Indigenous Relations
2. Legal Services
3. Legislative Services
4. Mayor’s Office & Intergovernmental Relations

### **2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

In support of Council’s Strategic Priorities Plan, Corporate Services has advanced a number of initiatives and a summary of key achievements is provided below:

#### **Indigenous Relations**

In 2024, the City of New Westminster has taken meaningful steps to strengthen relationships with the six identified regional First Nations, Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem, Musqueam, Qayqayt, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh, as part of the Year of Truth initiative. This has included Council-to-Council discussions fostering collaboration and relationship building.

The City recognizes that it is on an evolving journey of truth-seeking and reconciliation. By fostering dialogue and relationship-building, the City of New Westminster hopes to strengthen partnerships with First Nations in ways that honour the rich histories, cultures, and rights of Indigenous Peoples connected to the land known as New Westminster.

### Legal Services

In May 2024, Council appointed a new Ethics Commissioner. The Ethics Commissioner is an independent officer, who performs advisory, investigative and educational services to support fair and transparent governance in relation to the Council Code of Conduct bylaw. Council held its first Code of Conduct Hearing and with the support of Legislative Services, Legal Services managed the implementation of a new forum for Council as seated in an adjudicative capacity with transparency and accountability at the forefront of the new process.

### Legislative Services

Accomplishments include:

- Executed the statutory responsibilities of the Corporate Officer as legislated under the *Community Charter*;
- Completed 20 Regular Council meetings and 23 Workshop meetings, totaling over 175 staff reports and 83.25 hours of meetings;
- Administered and certified bylaws and executed legal documents on behalf of the City
- Processed 74 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy requests, totaling 3,501 pages of records
- Processed over 50 Privacy Impact Assessments

### **Mayor's Office & Intergovernmental Relations**

#### Grant Funding

The Intergovernmental Relations division continues to secure funding to support the City's strategic initiatives, particularly those advancing infrastructure, community health, environmental, and housing priorities. Between 2020 and 2024, the City and its partners secured over \$101 million in combined federal, provincial, and other funding.

Grant applications totaling approximately \$6,048,494 have been recently submitted for projects including road and transportation upgrades, asset management, urban reforestation, the Crisis Response Pilot Project, and age-friendly communities. These applications are currently under review by senior levels of government, with decisions pending. Please see Memos "Pursuing Senior Government Grant Funding Opportunities to Resource the Implementation of the Strategic Plan" and "Funding/ Grants Received 2020 – 2024" below for more information.

#### Youth Climate Action Fund and the Mayor's Youth Climate Leadership Team

The City of New Westminster was selected as one of 100 cities worldwide and six in Canada to participate in the Bloomberg Philanthropies Youth Climate Action Fund. The

program provided \$50,000 USD in funding to support youth-driven climate initiatives that address local environmental challenges. Through the Youth Climate Action Fund Micro-Grant Program, young people aged 15-24 were encouraged to develop and submit applications for projects aligned with the City's Seven Bold Steps for Climate Action. Grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$6,800 CAD were made available for project submissions.

The City has awarded funding to ten innovative youth-led projects that reflect our climate priorities. These include a high school garden supporting food studies, a revamped youth-focused community garden in Queens Park, a sustainable agriculture program for youth, workshops on mitigating climate change impacts for newcomers, and education campaigns led by young activists. Other initiatives include climate-themed murals promoting awareness, biodiversity and habitat support for brown bats, and efforts to control invasive species threatening local ecosystems.

Additionally, the Mayor's Youth Climate Leadership Team, which will develop further strategies for environmental action, begins in November 2024 and runs for a one-year term. This initiative reflects New Westminster's commitment to engaging youth in creating impactful, community-based solutions to climate change. The team, comprised of 13 youth, Mayor Johnstone and City staff, will meet monthly for hands-on sessions focused on learning, brainstorming, and implementing climate initiatives.

### Building Safer Communities Fund Program

As a result of funding from Public Safety Canada, the City received \$1.7 million over four years to deliver new programming and resources until March 31, 2026.

The City of New Westminster launched the Building Safer Communities Fund (BSCF) Program to support youth aged 12-25 and provide alternatives to gang involvement. By educating youth and offering prevention strategies, BSCF aims to reduce gang and gun violence through proactive community engagement and partnerships with non-profits, youth, and other stakeholders.

In 2024, BSCF initiated several key programs, including the mobilization and activation of the New Westminster Situation Table. This table brings together multiple agencies to provide vulnerable youth with rapid support through a risk-based triage model.

Other initiatives supported this year by BSCF include the New West Youth Hub, which is operated by the Lower Mainland Purpose Society, providing a safe space for youth to access services and peer connections, and Dan's Diner Social Enterprise Café, operated by Dan's Legacy, which helps vulnerable young people build job skills in the food service industry while receiving clinical support.

The BSCF is also focused on awareness raising community initiatives about gang and gun violence. The City provided workshops to educate parents, stakeholders and youth themselves in partnership with School District 40 and Safer Schools Together.

## **2025 CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

### **1. Indigenous Relations**

Over 2024, City Council continued their commitment to engage with First Nations in Council-to-Council meetings. The issue of capacity funding available to support Nation's involvement in City initiatives was raised. In 2025, Indigenous Relations will support City departments in developing fair and equitable budgets that support First Nations wishing to engage with the City on its projects. Please see Memo "Indigenous Capacity Funding" below.

In 2018 the City chose to use UNDRIP as a framework for truth and reconciliation. As such, the City established engagement protocols that ensure First Nations self-determination in projects affecting their lands; including the establishment of fee structures. Not all nations have developed such structures, which may create a barrier for some to engage with the City. The City needs to address this with a fair and equitable system that develops project budgets that accurately estimate the costs of Indigenous engagement. To build this system, known costs from previous engagements, such as the West End Sewer Separation and Biodiversity Strategy, will be used as a baseline, reflecting values set by the nations themselves.

### **2. Legal Services**

Legal Services will continue to provide advice to City Council and staff regarding the City's legal rights and obligations, including the preparation of various legal documents for a range of activities and initiatives. The division will continue to coordinate the needs of the organization for expertise with external counsel. Moreover, the City Solicitor will continue to monitor the overall functionality of the Council Code of Conduct bylaw to ensure it meets the needs of Council and its constituents for the responsible conduct of elected officials.

### **3. Legislative Services**

With the permanent appointment of a new Corporate Officer, Legislative Services is focused on improving current internal processes and implementing a number of new operational changes. This direction is in support of Council's strategic priorities for organizational effectiveness and to further enhance good governance through transparency, accountability, and accessibility.

Legislative Services will examine ways to increase access and convenience of corporate reports, including options for capturing and extracting Council voting records. A number of internal updates will be implemented to modernize and better reflect the City's evolving needs, including best practices for legislative reporting. Further, there is a need to better monitor and review corporate policies and procedures to ensure they are current, relevant and applied consistency throughout the organization. An interdepartmental staff group, led by Legislative Services, is anticipated to carry out this work and report to Council with recommendations at various intervals. Legislative Services will also begin planning for audio/visual upgrades to the Council Chamber as the current system is becoming obsolete and unreliable; preliminary planning for the 2026 General Local Election will also commence. Finally, the Council Procedure bylaw is 20 years old and while it has been amended over the years, a new procedure bylaw is needed to better reflect how the City currently conducts its business while ensuring statutory requirements and meeting best practices are met.

#### **4. Mayor's Office & Intergovernmental Relations**

##### Intergovernmental Relations – Funding Opportunities and Strategies

The upcoming year will be an opportunity to advance several key municipal projects based on the funding priorities of senior levels of government. The 2025 Federal election may provide an opportunity to highlight these priorities ahead of key government announcements.

In 2025, the City will seek additional funding opportunities aligned with Council's strategic priorities. Key projects under consideration include urban reforestation, crisis response, transportation, and age-friendly community initiatives. Ongoing grant applications focus on advanced metering and climate risk assessment, with future submissions planned for strategic energy initiatives, active transportation, affordable housing, and disaster mitigation. As with all government funding, applications require fully developed projects, and funding approval is not guaranteed. The City remains committed to working with senior governments to secure resources for these initiatives, all of which advance Council's strategic goals.

##### Youth Climate Action Fund and Mayor's Youth Climate Leadership Team

The Youth Climate Action Fund projects are expected to be completed by the end of 2024, with youth grant recipients recognized at a wrap up event in January 2025.

##### Building Safer Communities Fund Program

Looking ahead to 2025, the sustainability of all the programs and partnerships will be a priority as the City works to ensure the long-term success of BSCF initiatives beyond the grant cycle, which ends in March 2026. The ongoing collaboration among local



## NEW WESTMINSTER

organizations and stakeholders will be crucial in maintaining the momentum of these youth-focused programs. To ensure the long-term sustainability of key initiatives, the BSCF program is focused on financial and resource projections that account for ongoing operational costs, potential revenue streams, and future funding needs. These projections will help identify potential funding gaps, inform strategic planning, and guide decision-making to maintain program effectiveness and growth over time.

**Memorandum**

To: Lisa Spitale,  
Chief Administrative Officer

Date: November 25, 2024

From: Tamara Scott, Intergovernmental  
Relations Coordinator  
Sophie Schreder, Executive Assistant  
to the Mayor

File:

**Subject:** Pursuing Senior Government Grant Funding Opportunities to Resource the Implementation of the Strategic Plan

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this memo is to provide a review of funding secured to date and outline potential funding from senior levels of government for 2025.

**BACKGROUND**

**A. Senior Government Funding Received 2020 to 2024**

There are numerous federal and provincial programs available for municipal governments to advance local priorities. From 2020 to 2024, the City and its partners have secured approximately **\$101,335,597** from senior levels of government (see below). Not all funding goes directly to the City as is the case for the Provincial funding for the Peer Assisted Care Team or the Federal and Provincial Funding for the supportive housing project at 68 Sixth Street.

Year	Federal Funding	Provincial Funding	Metro Vancouver or other	Yearly Total
2020	\$173,950.00	\$7,107,000.00	\$4,374,000	\$11,654,950
2021	\$1,917,493.40	\$1,718,591.00	\$19,577,600.00	\$23,293,684.40
2022	\$3,241,530.00	\$1,192,55.99	\$539,000.00	\$4,973,095.99
2023	\$32,202,713.40	\$23,206,187.50	\$3,148,800	\$58,557,700.90
2024-Current	\$1,000,000.00	\$1,185,385.000	\$670,780.54	\$2,856,165.54
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$38,615,686.80</b>	<b>\$34,409,729.49</b>	<b>\$28,310,181</b>	<b><u>\$101,335,597</u></b>

A report of funding received is included for information (attachment 1). This does not include yearly funding from the Starlight Casino and other miscellaneous grants.



## **B. Government of Canada Funding Programs**

The Federal Government has numerous funding programs available to offset municipal costs. The full list of funding available by Ministry can be found at the following link: <https://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/plan/funding-financement-eng.html>. These programs are based on the changing priorities of the Federal Government.

Key ministries and funding programs include:

1. Infrastructure Canada (IC):
  - a. Active Transportation Fund
  - b. Disaster Mitigation Adaptation Fund
  - c. Homelessness Partnering Strategy
  - d. Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (provincial & federal)
  - e. Zero Emission Transit Fund
  - f. Natural Infrastructure Fund
  - g. Green and Inclusive Communities Buildings Program
  - h. Canada Healthy Communities Initiatives
  - i. Canada Infrastructure Bank
  - j. Codes, Guides and Specifications for Climate Resilient Public Infrastructure
2. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Programs:
  - a. Community Capacity and Innovation Funding Stream
  - b. Housing Accelerator Fund
  - c. Rapid Housing Initiative
  - d. Co-investment Fund
3. Natural Resources Canada Programs:
  - a. Electric Vehicle and Alternative Fuel Source Infrastructure
  - b. Emerging Renewable Power Program
  - c. Energy Efficient Buildings
4. Transport Canada:
  - a. Transportation 2030: a strategic Plan for the Future
  - b. National Trade Corridors Fund
  - c. Rail Safety Improvement Program
5. BC Builds

## **C. Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Funding Programs**

The Federal government funds FCM programs for cities across the country to shape the direction of new and innovative initiatives. Programs change based on federal priorities and numerous funding programs, resources and educational opportunities are available to local governments. Project feasibility studies are often funded by FCM Green Municipal Fund and act as a gateway to set the stage for further federal capital funding.

Current funding programs include:



- Green Municipal Fund
- Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program
- Municipal Asset Management Program
- Pilot Project: Retrofit or new construction of sustainable affordable housing

**D. Provincial Funding Programs**

The Province offers funding based on current priorities. Funding is comprised of provincial funding only, distributed through an arms-length organization such as BC Hydro/ UBCM or bilaterally funded (provincial and federal funds). Current funding programs include:

- Clean BC
- Municipal Affairs - various including Growing Communities Fund
- Complete Communities Fund
- BC Hydro Electrification Fund
- Active Transportation Fund
- BC Housing Affordable Housing Funding
- UBCM: Emergency Preparedness Fund – Various Streams
- UBCM Community to Community Funding for First Nations and cities

**OVERVIEW AND CONTEXT FOR 2025**

The upcoming year will be an opportunity to advance several key municipal projects based on the funding priorities of senior levels of government. The 2025 Federal election may be an opportunity to advance priorities ahead of key announcements by the government.

As is usual practice, the city and its partners submit projects on an ongoing basis to senior levels of government for funding consideration.

The following projects, valued at approximately **\$6,048,494**, are currently under review by senior levels of government. Decisions on the submitted applications are still pending.

Projects Under Review	Federal	Provincial	Other	Fund
Various transportation and road upgrade projects			\$3,269,080	Translink
Phase 2: Urban Reforestation to Save Lives and Mitigate the Impacts of Climate Change in New Westminster	\$959,414			Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) - Growing Canada's Community Canopies (GCCC)- Green Municipal Fund (GMF) - Trees Canada
Crisis Response Pilot Project (CRPP)	\$1,770,000			Heath Canada - Emergency Treatment Fund (ETF)
2024 UBCM Asset Management - City Works		\$25,000.00		Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)



# NEW WESTMINSTER

BC Healthy Communities 2024 Age-friendly Communities Grant		\$25,000.00		Ministry of Health (MoH); BC Healthy Communities (BCHC)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>Federal</b>	<b>Provincial</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$2,729,414</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>	<b>\$3,262,080</b>	<b>\$6,048,494</b>
<b>Grant Applications in Progress -To be Submitted</b>	Federal	Provincial	Other	
Next Generation 911		TBA		Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)
EOI for Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)	TBA			Resources Canada-Smart Renewables and Electrification Pathways Program (SREP) - Utility Support Stream (USS)
Climate Risk Assessment - Climate Ready Plans and Processes	TBA			Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) - Green Municipal Fund (GMF) - Climate Ready Plans and Processes (CRPP)

In addition to the above granting opportunities, the City will continue to actively seek affordable housing funding streams and work with partners to meet the provincial housing targets.

As with any submission to senior levels of government, there is no guarantee the city will be successful. Timing of city projects must align with calls for submission from senior governments. Municipal projects must be funding ready (all prerequisites completed including feasibility and suitable design completed) ahead of funding announcements and the city must be willing to wait for government contracts to be signed prior to project spending. The city will continue to work with senior governments.

### **ALIGNMENT WITH THE STRATEGIC PLAN**

All projects align with Council’s strategic priorities.

**City of New Westminster Funding/ Grants Received 2020 – 2024**

**Funding received in 2020:**

Project	Federal Funding Received	Provincial Funding Received	Metro Vancouver or Other	Funding Program	Year
NW Museum and Archives	\$91,450			Federal Covid 19 Emergency Fund	2020
Sapperton District Energy System – Financial Modeling	\$82,500			Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) – Green Municipal Fund (GMF)	2020
68 Sixth Street Supportive Housing Project		\$7,000,000		Supportive Housing Fund	2020
Aquatic Centre NWACH – Electricity Study		\$15,000		BC Hydro Clean BC Province of BC	2020
NW Police Department: SIU special victim service worker		\$70,000		Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General – Province of BC	2020
BC Parkway Upgrade Stewardson Way			\$3,200,000	TransLink	2020
Aquatic Centre Electrification with Clean BC			\$550,000	BC Hydro	2020
COVID-19 Utility Subsidy through decreased demand charge			\$250,000	BC Hydro	2020
Food Security			\$100,000	COVID-19 Response Funding Vancouver Foundation & Canadian Red Cross	2020
Emergency Program Evacuation Route Planning		\$22,000		UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF)	2020
WITT Allocated - MRNB Upgrade & BICCS & WITT Program			\$274,000	Translink	2020
<b>Sub-totals:</b>	<b>\$173,950.00</b>	<b>\$7,107,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,374,000</b>	<b>\$11,654,950</b>	<b>2020</b>

**Funding received in 2021:**

Project	Federal Funding Received	Provincial Funding Received	Metro Vancouver or Other	Funding Program	Year
Queensborough Community Learning Garden		\$329,000		Ministry Social Development and Poverty Reduction	2021
Urban Reforestation and Enhancing	\$1,396,990.40	\$349,248		Infrastructure Canada/ Municipal Affairs BC Investing in Canada – Covid-19 Resilience	2021
Sapperton DES - Electrification with Clean BC			\$500,000.00	BC Hydro	2021
Feasibility Study - Design of Residential Heat Pump – Joint application	\$154,400			Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)– Green Municipal Fund (GMF)	2021
Poplar Landing - Affordable Housing - Concept Plan SEED Funding	\$145,000.00			Canada Mortgage Housing Corporation (CMHC)	2021
NW Museum and Archives	\$91,451			Federal Covid 19 Emergency Fund	2021
Riverside Adventure Park	\$209,652			PacifiCan Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF)	2021
Flood Mitigation Update Study		\$150,000		UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF)	2021
WITT Allocated - MRNB Upgrade & BICCS & WITT Program -8 <sup>th</sup> St.			\$97,000	Translink	2021
Bus Speed and Reliability Program - Transit Priority Program Development			\$49,600	Translink	2021
Sapperton DES – Support for Heat Exchanger infrastructure			\$18,000,000	Metro Vancouver Board Approved	2021
COVID Recovery Management of various activities / projects as outlined in RTC 80-2021		\$390,343		Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)	2021
Agnes Greenway Active Transportation		\$500,000		Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI)	2021
MRNB Allocated -			\$318,000	Translink	2021

Stewardson Way Intersections					
BICCS Allocated – Moody Park MUP & 9th Street Bikeway			\$261,000	Translink	2021
BICCS Allocated - Grimston Park MUP			\$15,000	Translink	2021
MRNB Allocated - Boyd Street Multi-Use Path			\$337,000	Translink	2021
<b>Sub-totals:</b>	<b>\$1,997,493.40</b>	<b>\$1,718,591.00</b>	<b>\$19,577,600.00</b>	<b>\$23,293,684.40</b>	<b>2021</b>

**Funding received in 2022:**

Project	Federal Funding Received	Provincial Funding Received	Metro Vancouver or Other	Funding Program	Year
Riverfront Tugger –Community Gathering and Play Space	\$305,480			Government of BC: Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program (CERIP)	2022
Celebration and Commemoration Reopening Fund	\$126,000			Federal Canadian Heritage	2022
City-wide Quick Build All Ages and Abilities Active Transportation Network Plan	\$50,000			Infrastructure Canada – Active Transportation Fund (ATF)	2022
Improving Cycling and Green Infrastructure at Tipperary Park/City Hall	\$243,750			PacifiCan Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF)	2022
BSCF Program to Serve At-Risk Youth Anti-Gang	\$1,736,800			Public Safety Canada Building Safer Communities Funding	2022
Celebrate Canada – Events	\$17,000			Celebrate Canada	2022
Peer Assisted Care Team		\$345,000			2022
Family Place Donation 2023 to 2026			\$195,000	Community Donation	2022
Family Day Grant			\$7,000	British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA)	2022
Canadian Parks & Recreation Youth Grant			\$14,000	Canadian Parks & Recreation Association (CPRA)	2022
School Age Care Program 920 Ewen Avenue		\$47,565.99		Province of BC	2022
RSIP - Grade Crossing Improvement - Quayside Dr & Begbie St	\$262,500			Transport Canada	2022
RSIP - Braid MUP – Phase 1 - Grade crossing Improvement	\$500,000			Transport Canada	2022
Queensborough Dike Shoreline Protection Rehabilitation		\$800,000		UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF)	2022

McBride Blvd at Sangster PI Pedestrian Crossing			\$164,000	Translink	2022
Central Valley Greenway Upgrade (Hume Park to Brunette-Fraser Greenway)			\$159,000	Translink	2022
<b>Sub-Totals:</b>	<b>\$3,241,530.00</b>	<b>\$1,192,565.99</b>	<b>\$539,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,973,095.99</b>	<b>2022</b>



**Funding received in 2023:**

Project	Federal Funding Received	Provincial Funding Received	Metro Vancouver or Other	Funding Program	Year
West End Sewer Separation Project (2023)	\$5,705,595	\$4,754,187		Infrastructure Canada Investing in Canada Program – Green Infrastructure	2023
Peer Assisted Care Team 2023/2024		\$1,200,000		Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions Province of BC	2023
Situation Tables Collaborative Public Safety Programs		\$50,000		Ministry of Public Safety Province of BC	2023
Road Improvement - Various Locations (25 Speed Humps)			\$11,000	Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC)	2023
Road Improvement - Pedestrian Safety Improvements			\$28,300	Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC)	2023
Road Safety - Various Locations (14 Schools)			\$25,000	Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC)	2023
RSIP - Grade Crossing Improvements – Braid MUP / BFRG and Intelligent Train Warning System	\$2,068,490.40			Transport Canada	2023
BC Growing Communities Fund		\$15,800,000		Province of BC	2023
Community Works Fund		\$292,610		Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)	2023
68 Sixth Street Supportive Housing Project	\$13,000,000			CMHC Rapid Housing Initiative	2023
Plan H program		\$5,000		Ministry of Health (MoH); BC Healthy Communities (BCHC)	2023
2023 Next Generation 911 Funding		\$45,000		Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)	2023
Emergency Support Services		\$19,090.50		UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF)	2023
Housing Accelerator Fund	\$11,428,628.00			CMHC Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF)	2023
Climate Adaptation for Extreme Heat -		\$1,005,300		UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) DRR-CA	2023

Urban Reforestation In High Risk Areas					
Road Improvement Agreement			\$13,000	Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC)	2023
Pavement Rehabilitation Funding Allocation			\$550,000	Translink	2023
2023 UBCM AM Planning Grant Program- 2024 Pavement Condition Assessment		\$25,000		Union Of Municipalities (UBCM)	2023
2024 BSR 20th St at 6th and 7th Ave - Op Study and Design			\$145,000.00	Translink	2023
BICCS 2024 - ATNP Y1 - 7th Ave Rotary Crosstown Greenway			\$400,000.00	Translink	2023
BICCS / MRNB 2024 - ATNP Y1 - Boyd St			\$1,403,000.00	TRanslink	2023
2024 BSR Carnarvon Street at 6th and 8th St - Op Study			\$18,000.00	Translink	2023
BICCS 2024 - ATNP Y1 - 7th St - Agnes St to 6th			\$430,000.00	Translink	2023
WITT 2024 Sidewalk Improvements - 8th Street: 7th Ave to 6th Ave			\$113,000.00	Translink	2023
2024 BSR 6th Ave and 8th St - Design Dev			\$12,500.00	Translink	2023
Regional Community to Community Program		\$10,000.00		Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)	2023
<b>Sub-Totals:</b>	<b>\$32,202,713.40</b>	<b>\$23,206,187.50</b>	<b>\$3,148,800</b>	<b>\$58,557,700.90</b>	<b>2023</b>

**Funding received in 2024:**

Project	Federal Funding Received	Provincial Funding Received	Metro Vancouver or Other	Funding Program	Year
BC Active Transportation Network Plan and Infrastructure		\$500,000		B.C. Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program (BCAT)	2024
Indigenous Engagement Requirements Funding Program			\$48,000.00	Province of BC-Indigenous Engagement Requirements (IER) Funding Program - Emergency and Disaster Management Act	2024
Speed Reader Boards to Address Road Safety			\$10,780.54	Vision Zero BC	2024
Funding Allocation- Ministry of Housing BC government		\$535,385.00		Province of BC	2024
Active Communities Initiative			\$40,000.00	BC Alliance for Healthy Living Society (BCAHL)	2024
Low Carbon Economy Challenge- (LCEF)-SDES Design	\$1,000,000.00			Federal Government- Low Carbon Economy Challenge (LCEF)	2024
2024 Local Government Development Approvals- Organizational Effectiveness		\$150,000.00		Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)	2024
2024 MRN Operation, Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program			\$572,000.00	Translink	2024
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>\$1,000,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,185,385.000</b>	<b>\$670,780.54</b>	<b>\$2,856,165.54</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>TOTAL for 2020 – 2024</b>	<b>Federal \$38,615,686.8</b>	<b>Provincial \$34,409,729.49</b>	<b>Other \$28,310,181</b>	<b>Total \$101,335,597</b>	<b>2020 - 2024</b>



## Memorandum

To: Lisa Spitale  
Chief Administrative Officer

Date: November 25, 2024

From: Rob McCullough  
Manager, Museums and  
Heritage Services

File:

**Subject:** Indigenous Capacity Funding

### **PURPOSE**

To support Council in establishing capacity funding for First Nations invited to engage on City initiatives.

### **BACKGROUND**

Over 2024, City Council has continued their commitment to engage with First Nations in Council to Council meetings. The issue of capacity funding available to support Nation's involvement in City initiatives has been raised.

On December 3, 2018, the City endorsed the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and chose to use it as a framework for truth and reconciliation. The City has subsequently used this framework in developing its engagement protocols with First Nations. This has included the provision of capacity funding to First Nations for projects such as the naming of t̓əməsew̓tx<sup>w</sup> Aquatics and Community Centre, the city Biodiversity Strategy, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street Station Master Plan and the West End Sewer Separation project. Through each of these projects, the City has provided capacity funding to support indigenous participation either through direct engagement or heritage permitting. In most cases the appropriate amount of capacity funding has been determined by the First Nation itself.

### **OVERVIEW AND CONTEXT**

Several articles in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples outline ways to prevent and address actions that dispossess Indigenous people of their lands. They emphasize full Indigenous participation in decision-



## NEW WESTMINSTER

making processes that impact their rights, require state consultation and cooperation to secure free, prior, and informed consent on government measures affecting them, and uphold Indigenous rights in the self-management of economic and social programs. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples further recognizes indigenous rights in determining and developing priorities and strategies for the use of their lands, and to be provided access to financial and technical assistance from states in upholding their rights.

The City should fully support and respect the autonomy of First Nations in determining the value of their contributions to initiatives affecting their lands and has worked with nations whose governments are organized to engage. In projects such as the West End Sewer Separation, the City has respected First Nations heritage permitting requirements and its associated fees. Likewise, the City has respected the referral fees of several nations when undertaking planning projects such as the Biodiversity Strategy. In each instance, the fees were unplanned but accommodated within the project budget. To date, the above fees have been managed through capital budgets and paid only to governments with a formal fee structure; costs are often unknown until engagement starts. However, not all nations have developed formal engagement fee structures, which may create a barrier to their engagement with the city. The City needs a fair and equitable system to create project budgets that accurately estimate the costs of Indigenous engagement.

To build this system, known costs from previous engagements can be used as a baseline, reflecting values set by the nations themselves. This course of action will uphold Council's commitment to the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

### **ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PLAN**

#### **Reconciliation**

Reconciliation has been identified as a foundation to all city strategies set for the current term. Fair and equitable compensation to First Nations to engage on City initiatives should be viewed as a core value of this foundation.

#### **Organizational Effectiveness**

Many of the City's strategic goals are realized through projects that intersect with First Nations rights and title. The West End Sewer separation project has integrated capacity funding to empower Indigenous communities, and increase their involvement in the planning and execution of the project. To be



## NEW WESTMINSTER

operationally effective the city must likewise ensure resources are appropriately allocated to each of its strategic projects to ensure indigenous interests are being met.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Capacity funding to First Nations will have an impact on future project budgets, however in most instances this funding has already been included as part of the project planning. Processes to capture the capacity funding are being implemented that will allow the City to report on aggregate funding for First Nations engagement.