

THE CORPORATION OF THE  
**CITY OF WHITE ROCK**  
CORPORATE REPORT



**DATE:** March 9, 2026  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Cheryl Tan, Manager, Revenue Services  
**SUBJECT:** 2026 Grants-in-Aid

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**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council receive the March 9, 2026, corporate report from the Manager of Revenue Services, titled “2026 Grants-in-Aid” for consideration, and direct staff on the allocation of the 2026 Grants-in-Aid funding available.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an overview of the 2026 Grants-in-Aid (GIA) applications received and is intended to assist Council in its allocation of the available 2026 GIA funding of \$25K.

**INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

The City’s criteria and process for administering Grants-in-Aid (GIA) are set out in City Council Policy No. 302, attached as Appendix A. In accordance with the Policy, eligibility criteria include:

- At least 25 per cent of the membership of the applicant organization must be residents of White Rock (Section 8.a).
- Grant funding must be used to support initiatives that contribute to the general interest and benefit of White Rock residents, with priority given to new initiatives (Section 8.e).
- Organizations that receive other funding from the City, such as a permissive tax exemption (PTE) or operating funding, are assigned a lower priority (Section 8.f).
- Applicants must submit their most recent financial statements and approved budgets. Where applicable, itemized budgets are also required for specific events or programs for which funding is requested (Section 8.g).
- Successful grant recipients who do not submit a use-of-funds report by December 31 are ineligible to apply for a grant in the subsequent year (Section 8.h).

Section 5 of the Policy provides that Council will review and determine the award status of applications by April 1 each year.

For Council’s reference, Policy No. 302 was amended at the March 11, 2024, Council meeting to:

- merge the Arts and General GIA streams into one single program;
- reduce the maximum grant per applicant to \$1K for all applicants (previously \$2K for General GIAs and \$5K for Arts GIAs); and
- give preference to applications for new events or programs.

The amended Policy also reinforces that lower priority is given to organizations receiving other forms of City funding, including permissive tax exemptions.

For the 2026 GIA program, the City received 38 applications, of which 37 are eligible for consideration. Of the eligible applications, 11 were submitted by organizations that did not apply in the previous year, including 10 organizations that have not applied for funding within the past three years. The total cumulative funding request from eligible applications is \$35,030. The 37 eligible applications are included as Appendix B.

One application did not meet eligibility requirements. The Peace Arch Hospital Foundation did not submit the required 2025 use-of-funds report and, despite follow-up by City staff, the report was not received. As a result, the application is ineligible for consideration for a 2026 grant award in accordance with Section 8.h of the Policy.

Applications have been organized into four (4) tables in the following section. Table 4 identifies one application received after the February 1 submission deadline that remains eligible for consideration, as it was submitted prior to the June 1 late application deadline.

**Table 1** lists 17 applications that staff determined meet all eligibility criteria, with a total funding request of \$17K. These applications relate to programs or events that will take place in White Rock or directly benefit White Rock residents, and for which complete financial statements and budgets were provided.

**Table 1**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Event/Program</b>	<b>Program/ Event Date</b>	<b>2026 Grant Request</b>	<b>2025 Grant Awarded</b>
Arts Rock Society BC	Amplify! Turning up youth talent event at Peninsula Productions Theatre	May or June 2026	\$1,000	\$750
BC Pets and Friends	Pet Therapy – funding for four part-time staff	Year-round	1,000	750
Brella Community Services Society	Subsidized transportation for low-income seniors to attend social and community events	Jan – Dec 2026	1,000	1,000

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Event/Program</b>	<b>Program/ Event Date</b>	<b>2026 Grant Request</b>	<b>2025 Grant Awarded</b>
Christmas on the Peninsula Society	Venue Rental or RROW for Christmas on the Peninsula Festival	Nov 2026	1,000	1,000
Piece Arch Quilters	Comfort quilts for Family Enhancement program at Options and placemats for Meals on Wheels - members in White Rock, as well as wheelchair quilts for seniors	Year-round	1,000	750
Polar Bear Plunge - White Rock 2027 <b>(new applicant)</b>	Polar Bear Plunge - White Rock Beach	Jan 2027	1,000	n/a
READ Surrey/White Rock Society	Pop-Up StoryWalk® Event at Memorial Plaza	April 2026	1,000	1,000
Semiahmoo Arts Society	Event costs for Paint the Town painting competition	Jul 2026	1,000	1,000
Semiahmoo Family Place Association	Ongoing support for the Parent support program including food supplies.	Year-round	1,000	1,000
Semiahmoo Peninsula Marine Rescue Society	Ongoing support of RCMSAR 5 services	Year-round	1,000	1,000
Semiahmoo Potters Society <b>(new applicant)</b>	Signage and promotional brochures for the Landmark White Rock Pop-Up Gallery.	Year-round	1,000	n/a
South Rock Social Justice Film Society	Rental of films, venue and advertising.	Year-round	1,000	1,000

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Event/Program</b>	<b>Program/ Event Date</b>	<b>2026 Grant Request</b>	<b>2025 Grant Awarded</b>
Volunteer Cancer Drivers Society (VCDS)	Complimentary transportation for White Rock cancer patients	Year-round	1,000	1,000
White Rock Elks Lodge No. 431	Charitable giving	Year-round	1,000	1,000
White Rock Legion - Centennial Celebration ( <b>new applicant</b> )	White Rock Legion #008 Centennial Celebration event	Jul 2026	1,000	n/a
White Rock South Surrey Men's Shed Association ( <b>new applicant</b> )	2026 Men's Shed Events - support group to give men connection and community especially for retirement or other life transitions.	Year-round	1,000	n/a

**Table 2** lists 14 applications that did not fully meet all grant eligibility criteria, representing a total funding request of \$13,130. In most cases, applicants did not submit complete financial information, including both a balance sheet and an income statement. Five (5) applicants - Earl Marriott Secondary, The Beehive Community Dinners, Chinese Traditional Dance Group, Peace Arch Quilters, and Semiahmoo Secondary - are volunteer-based groups and are not registered charities or societies. As these groups are not formal organizations, financial statements are not available. Additional details are provided in the “Application Notes” column.

**Table 2**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Event Program</b>	<b>Program/ Event Date</b>	<b>2026 Grant Request</b>	<b>2025 Grant Awarded</b>	<b>Application Notes</b>
Alex Neighbourhood House ( <b>new applicant</b> )	The Youth Adult Space (for ages 18-24), Bakerview Hall	2 Tuesdays per month	\$1,000	n/a	Application does not specifically reference White Rock youth.
Canadian Association of Retired Persons (CARP) White Rock Surrey	Salute to Seniors on National Seniors Day/Remembrance Day	Remembrance Day	1,000	750	Financial statements not submitted.

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Event Program</b>	<b>Program/ Event Date</b>	<b>2026 Grant Request</b>	<b>2025 Grant Awarded</b>	<b>Application Notes</b>
Chinese Traditional Dance Group	Rent a practice venue, costumes and accessories for performances to/for White Rock seniors	Year-round	990	750	Financial statements not submitted. <i>Volunteer group.</i>
Earl Marriott Secondary Dry Grad Committee <b>(new applicant)*</b>	Dry Grad 2026	June 2026	1,000	n/a	Recurring applicant but did not submit in 2025. <i>Volunteer group.</i>
Global Association of Asian Intercultural Mental Wellness Cultivation <b>(new applicant)</b>	Asian seniors' life story collection project in White Rock/South Surrey and publication of these stories.	Year-round	950	n/a	New org. Financial statements not submitted. Program to be expanded in future to seniors from all ethnic/cultural backgrounds.
Naked Stage Productions Society	Licensing fees (for productions) to be presented at the 2026 Culture Crawl	TBD	500	500	Only income statement provided.
Optimize Response Care for Autism Safety Society of BC <b>(new applicant)</b>	Autism Safety Initiative program in White Rock – education resources for families, caregivers and first responders.	May-Dec 2026	1,000	n/a	Financial statements not provided.
Semiahmoo Secondary Dry Grad 2026	Semiahmoo Secondary Dry Grad 2026 event	May 2026	1,000	750	Financial statements not submitted. <i>Volunteer group.</i>

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Event Program</b>	<b>Program/ Event Date</b>	<b>2026 Grant Request</b>	<b>2025 Grant Awarded</b>	<b>Application Notes</b>
South Rock Art Tour	Promotion for the South Rock Art Tour	Sept 2026	1,000	750	Only income statement provided, no balance sheet.
TEDx White Rock (new applicant)	Event costs for TEDx White Rock at the OCEANA Parc Theatre.	Mar 2026	1,000	n/a	Only income statement provided, no balance sheet. <i>Volunteer group.</i>
The Beehive Community Dinners (new applicant)	To host neighbourhood-based community dinners for White Rock/SS residents. Event location is in South Surrey (Mount Olive Lutheran Church).	Mar-May 2026	1,000	n/a	Only income statement provided, no balance sheet. <i>Volunteer group.</i>
Threads of Power Foundation	Art Exhibition - Colours of Connection - Landmark Gallery (Programs to build, celebrate and strengthen Black community presence in WR/SS)	Feb 2026	1,000	750	Financial statements not submitted.
White Rock City Orchestra	Music of the Movies...in White Rock - Binding and printing music sheets for musicians.	Jun 2026	1,000	750	Financial statements not submitted as not available until after mid Feb 2026
White Rock Hualian Senior Citizen's Association (new applicant)	Tai Chi for seniors - instructor, equipment and rental space at WRCC or Library.	Aug -Oct 2026	690	n/a	No Financial statements <i>Volunteer group.</i>

**Table 3** lists five (5) applications, representing a total funding request of \$3,900. These applicants currently receive Property Tax Exemptions (PTE) from the City and, in accordance with Council Policy, are assigned a lower priority for grant consideration. Additional details are provided in the “Application Notes” column.

**Table 3**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Event/Program</b>	<b>Program / Event Date</b>	<b>2026 Grant Request</b>	<b>2025 Grant Awarded</b>	<b>Application Notes</b>
Mann Park Lawn Bowling Club	Recruitment, community outreach and open house projects	Apr – Sep 2026	\$1,000	\$500	2026 PTE estimated \$2,550
Peace Arch Hospital Auxiliary	Room rental for volunteer meetings	Feb – Nov 2026	500	500	2026 PTE estimated \$8,350
Sources Foundation	Coldest Night of the Year 2026	Feb 2026	1,000	500	2026 PTE estimated \$11,290
White Rock Lawn Bowling Club	Purchase of a chest freezer	n/a	400	500	2026 PTE estimated \$4,450
White Rock South Surrey Stroke Recovery Branch	To support ongoing program costs such as rent, utilities and insurance.	Year-round	1,000	500	2026 PTE estimated \$110

**Table 4** lists one application received after the February 1 submission deadline. The application was received on February 17, 2026, and is identified as a late submission.

**Table 4**

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Event/Program</b>	<b>Program / Event Date</b>	<b>2026 Grant Request</b>	<b>2025 Grant Awarded</b>	<b>Application Notes</b>
ISKA Combat Sports Association (new applicant)	Martial Arts and Kickboxing championship event at White Rock Christian Academy	Apr 2026	\$1,000	n/a	Funding for venue rental, equipment, EMR/First Aid

If Council were to allocate the requested grant amounts to all eligible applications, excluding organizations that receive a Property Tax Exemption (PTE) from the City, the total grant award would be \$31,130. This amount exceeds the approved annual GIA budget of \$25K by \$6,130.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The budget for the 2026 GIA program is included in the City's financial plan at \$25K.


**ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

The allocation of grants from the City's GIA program aligns with Council's strategic priorities.


**CONCLUSION**

Council has sole discretion as to the allocation of GIA funding. Staff seek Council's direction on the allocation of the 2026 Grants-in-Aid funding available.

Respectfully submitted,

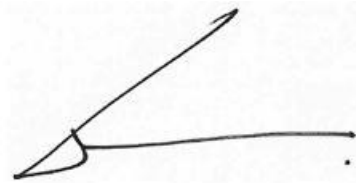
  
Cheryl Tan, CPA, CGA  
Manager, Revenue Services

Reviewed and approved,

  
Candice Gartry, CPA, CGA  
Director, Financial Services

**Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer**

This corporate report is provided for Council's consideration and direction to staff.



Guillermo Ferrero  
Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix A: Policy 302 Grants-In-Aid  
Appendix B: 2026 Grant-in-Aid Applications