

## Questions and Answer - July 21, 2020 Grants Session

**Q. Will the grant envelope for 2021 depend on the postponed approved grants from 2020 due to Covid? And when do we hear about what is happening with our postponed 2020 grant funds.**

A. The 2021 funding envelope will not be dependent on the use of 2020 grant funds. If grant projects have been postponed, the money is available for grant project or event until December 2020 at which time the money is no longer available because grant moneys are only available in the year in which they were awarded.

**Q. Will a copy of the slideshow be available online?**

A. The slideshow will be available on the Grants website, the presentation was not recorded so a recording is not available.

**Q. When will Council decide on the grant envelopes for 2021?**

A. Council will determine the grant envelope as part of its 2021 budget discussions that will happen in the Fall of 2020. Staff expect to have an envelope around the same time as the grants close.

**Q. Who is involved in the approval process?**

A. The grants are reviewed by a grants review committee composed of one staff member and between 3 – 10 community members. Their recommendations are then forwarded to the CAO for approval.

**Q. Doesn't a group of community members open the risk of bias?**

A. The members of the committee are trained extensively on bias and absent themselves when they may have a perceived or actual bias. Because of the large and diverse nature of the portfolio the members are pulled from many interest areas limiting the potential for bias.

**Q. For portfolio 1, does the City support the purchase of equipment for vulnerable populations within a hospital setting or does it mostly fund programs?**

A. The City does not consider computer equipment as an eligible expense, nor would it consider medical equipment in a hospital an eligible expense. But other equipment may be considered on a case by case basis.

**Q. For Festival & Event grants, should we assume that the same restrictions on public gatherings will be in effect summer of 2021?**

A. We are currently and will continue to follow the Provincial Health Orders. Presently gathering of over 50 people are not permitted and we are not sure when these restrictions will be lifted. Should there be changes to that order will work with organization to fulfill their intent of their festival or event.