



REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: UBCM Poverty Reduction Planning and Action
Stream 2 Funding Application

File #: [Required]

Doc #:

From: Kim Hilton
Director of Recreation, Culture and Community
Services

Date: March 16, 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council support staff's grant application to the UBCM Poverty Reduction Planning and Action Stream 2 Funding to support the ongoing work of the Poverty Reduction Task Group to begin implementation of the Living Well in Langley, A Poverty Reduction Strategy.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the report is to provide information on the UBCM Poverty Reduction Planning and Action Stream 2 funding and to get council support for the application process.

POLICY:

NA

COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:

In 2021, Langley City together with the Township of Langley, applied for and received funding to develop a community poverty reduction strategy working with the Langley Poverty Reduction Task Group. Each municipality received a \$25,000 grant, which funded the work to develop the Living Well in Langley, Poverty Reduction Strategy which was completed in 2022 (Attachment 1).

The Langley Poverty Reduction Task Group (PRTG) includes: City of Langley, Encompass Support Services Society, Fraser Health Authority, Inclusion Langley Society, Ishtar Women's Resource Society, Langley Children's Committee, Langley Community Services Society, Langley Environmental Partners Society, Langley Literacy Network, Langley Meals on Wheels, Langley School District #35, Langley Senior Resources Society, Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, New Directions English Language School, Sherry Baker and Associates, Sources Langley Food Bank, Stepping Stone Community Services Society, Township of Langley, WorkBC Employment Services. The poverty reduction strategy outlines 37 actions that can be taken to work toward the vision that "By 2032, Langley is an inclusive, connected and equitable community where everyone can live well and thrive"

In the Fall of 2022 the PRTG spent a full day prioritizing the work plan for 2023, recognizing the work that is being done by other committees and organizations in Langley. The PRTG wants to build-on and support the work being done in community and move forward with initiatives that help reach the 2032 vision.

Langley City is applying for \$50,000 through the stream 2 funding to develop and launch a pilot project to develop a social enterprise café that offers supported food skills and training, living wage employment; access to fresh, healthy, local and sustainable food at an affordable cost; provides opportunity to promote social inclusion, and fosters social connections and community participation (Attachments 2 and 3). This funding will help address action 6.A.i¹ in the community Poverty Reduction Strategy.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

The UBCM grant does not require local governments to provide funding for the project, the funding from the province will be sufficient to cover the costs of the work carried out; however, in-kind services are highlighted in the budget proposal.

SUMMARY:

Using grant funding provided by the province through UBCM will provide the opportunity to work toward achieving the actions outlined in Living Well in Langley, Poverty Reduction Strategy.

¹ 6.A.i. Engage local farmers, advocates, and researchers to identify opportunities to understand gaps and opportunities to improve local food systems. Consider the formation of a regional Food Security and Justice coalition or committee to convene partners to improve health and food systems, address food security and advance food justice.

ALTERNATIVES:

Do not apply for the UBCM Poverty Reduction Planning and Action Stream 2 funding.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kim Hilton
Director of Recreation, Culture and Community Services

Attachments:

1. Living Well in Langley, Poverty Reduction Strategy
2. UBCM Poverty Reduction Stream 2 Application
3. UBCM Poverty Reduction Stream 2 Budget

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S COMMENTS:

I support the recommendation.



Francis Cheung, P. Eng.
Chief Administrative Officer