



## COMMUNITY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, May 21, 2025

7:00 – 9:00 pm

HYBRID (IN-PERSON AND ONLINE VIA MS TEAMS)

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<b>Present:</b>	Becky Zelikson (Chair)	Genevieve MacMillan
	Brenna Quaas	Kelly Bond
	Christina Cassidy	Paola Blendl
	David Puterman (Vice Chair)	Ruby Vennesland
	Chris Roach	Trelawny Bell
<b>Regrets:</b>	Michael Shi	
	Nahid Pak	
	Zoha Meisami	
<b>Staff:</b>	Eirikka Brandson, Social Planner	
	Mary Jukich, Committee Clerk	

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### 1. Welcome

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

### 2. Adoption of Agenda

A typographical error was noted on the list of committee members.

Moved, seconded and resolved  
To adopt the amended agenda.

**CARRIED**

### 3. Adoption of the April 30, 2025 Minutes

Moved, seconded and resolved  
To adopt the minutes.

**CARRIED**

### 4. Summary of Trends/Observations

As the review of the grant applications was now complete, committee members had opportunity to discuss their observations, and trends that they may have noticed during the review and evaluation of the grant applications.

Staff provided a PowerPoint presentation summary of the 2025 grant applications noting that the purpose of the Municipal Community Service Grant is to provide financial support to nonprofit organizations to address social issues and needs and bring about positive change for North Shore residents.

For this year, 24 applications were received from the nonprofit sector; however, two applications were deemed ineligible and accordingly, 22 applications moved to the committee review and recommendation stage. The 22 applications submitted offered a diverse range of

programs and services and almost all of them were prioritizing support for vulnerable populations.

The total amount requested by the applications this year was \$316,800 and the available funding was \$411,610 and there is \$205,805 available for this year's applications. There is a difference of \$110,995 between the total amount requested and the 2025 available funding.

In terms of the committee's evaluation, the committee recommended approximately \$241,550 which results in an approximate deficit of \$35,745.

In terms of observations and trends, for 2025, feedback from committee members indicated that the top five trends noted was worsening mental health, growing demand for services; economic strain, substance use crisis and food insecurity. Nonprofit organizations brought attention to the rising costs and financial pressures, surging demand for services, mental health and addiction crisis, housing insecurity and homelessness and a shifting demographic and workforce strain.

## **5. Budget Reconciliation**

After discussion on how to reconcile the budget, observations from the committee members, as well as a review of the criteria, staff developed possible scenarios that could be applied to reconcile this year's budget shortfall.

Staff provided an overview of each scenario for discussion and consideration by the committee members. On completion of the presentation, members were requested to provide their feedback and preference of each scenario.

Moved, seconded and resolved

The grants from Iranian Laughter Club and Belweder North Shore Polish Association are not approved.

**CARRIED**  
**1 Opposed**

Moved, seconded and resolved

That the budget be adjusted as follows: organizations recommended for full funding receive a 10% reduction; those unanimously recommended for partial funding receive a 15% reduction; and those not unanimously supported for partial funding receive a 21% reduction.

**CARRIED**  
**6 Yes**  
**1 Opposed**

## **6. Any Other Business**

No other business was presented.

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next Meeting Dates: Wednesday, June 18, 2025

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**District Vision Statement**

Our goal is to be recognized among the most sustainable communities in the world as demonstrated through our environmental stewardship, strong network of neighbourhoods, a vibrant economy and community-driven growth and change.