

# Report to Council



**Date:** February 1, 2016  
**File:** 0710-20  
**To:** City Manager  
**From:** Sandra Kochan, Cultural Services Manager  
**Subject:** 2016 Cultural Operating and Project Grants

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**Recommendation:**

THAT Council receives, for information, the list of 2016 recipients for cultural General Operating and Project Grants as outlined in the report from the Cultural Services Manager dated February 1, 2016;

AND THAT staff report back to Council with recommendations for disposition of \$5,000 remaining undistributed in the General Operating Program;

AND FURTHER THAT \$7,112 remaining undistributed in the Project Program be used as needed to support 2016 Organization Development Grants;

AND FURTHER THAT staff report back to Council with recommendations for disposition of any Project Program funds remaining undistributed after adjudication of the 2016 Organization Development Grants.

**Purpose:**

The report provides an update regarding recipients of 2016 cultural General Operating and Project Grants, background information about the grant programs and review process, and includes highlights from final reports provided by 2015 grant recipients.

**Background:**

The Active Living & Culture Division manages a number of grant programs providing funding to community organizations.

In 2016, cultural Operating and Project Grants totaling \$152,188 will be distributed to local non-profit organization providing arts, culture and heritage programs, services and events.

The list of 2016 General Operating Grant recipients is attached in Appendix A.

2016 Project Grant recipients are listed in Appendix B.

Guidelines and the arms length evaluation process for both of these programs, including changes made for the 2016 grant cycle, were approved by Council on [October 5, 2015](#) with direction to staff to provide this information report about 2016 recipients and an overview of the benefits achieved from the 2015 grants.

Appendix C summarizes the evaluation process and the respective roles of City staff and the Central Okanagan Foundation.

Appendix D provides highlights from Final Reports provided by 2015 recipients of General Operating and Project Grants and demonstrates the benefit and impact of these grants in the community.

Appendix E is an overview of grant activity in these programs for the last seven years, comparing the number and value of applications and the number and value of grants awarded.

**Internal Circulation:**

Director, Active Living & Culture Division  
Communications Supervisor, Communications & Information Services  
Financial Planning Manager

**Existing Policy:**

This report is submitted pursuant to Council Policy 274 (Cultural Policy).

**Financial/Budgetary Considerations:**

Funds in the General Operating & Project Programs are typically fully allocated by grant review committees, but occasionally, due to a range of factors, a small amount of funding may remain unallocated in either or both programs.

Staff will report back to Council upon completion of the grant intake for Organization Development Grants (application deadline April 29, 2016) with information and recommendations regarding any remaining undistributed funding from the General Operating and Project Programs. A policy/guideline amendment providing for automatic carryover of undistributed funding is consistent with practices used in other Active Living & Culture grant programs, and will ensure that grant funding will continue to be used to support the work of arts, culture and heritage organizations in the community.

Having additional funds will be beneficial for the 2017 grant cycle, to address the anticipated increase in requests for support of Canada 150 initiatives.

**External Agency/Public Comments:**

This report has been prepared in consultation with the Central Okanagan Foundation in their role as contracted administrator of the arms length review process for these grants.

**Considerations not applicable to this report:**

Legal/Statutory Authority  
Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements  
Personnel Implications

Communications Comments  
Alternate Recommendation

Submitted by:  
S. Kochan, Cultural Services Manager

**Approved for inclusion:** J. Gabriel, Director, Active Living & Culture Division

Attachments:  
Appendix A: 2016 General Operating Grant Recipients  
Appendix B: 2016 Project Grant Recipients  
Appendix C: Grant Evaluation Process  
Appendix D: Highlights from 2015 Final Reports  
Appendix E: Summary of Grant Activity 2010-2016

cc:  
Director, Active Living & Culture Division  
Communications Supervisor, Communications & Information Services  
Financial Planning Manager  
Director of Grants & Community Initiatives, Central Okanagan Foundation

Appendix A - 2016 General Operating Grant Recipients  
Report from Cultural Services Manager, February 1, 2016

	<b>ORGANIZATION (* denotes new recipient)</b>	<b>2016 OPERATING GRANT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
1	Cool Arts Society	\$10,000	Provides arts experiences for adults and teens with 'diversabilities' through workshops, projects and exhibitions.
2	Centre Culturel Francophone de L'Okanagan	\$10,000	Owns and operates the French Cultural Centre and provides programs which share and celebrate French culture in Canada.
3	Ponderosa Spinners, Weavers & Fibre Artist Guild	\$1,000	Fosters fibre arts through public demonstrations, classes and hands-on educational program for SD23 Grade 3 classes.
4	Kelowna Community Music School Society	\$8,500	Over 550 students benefit from private and group lessons, with many opportunities to perform in the community.
5	Opera Kelowna Society	\$15,000	Professional regional opera company and training centre for young and promising artists.
6	Chamber Music Kelowna	\$9,000	Annual performance series which brings acclaimed classical performers to Kelowna. Outreach to youth through classes, workshops and school performances.
7	New Vintage Theatre Society	\$7,000	Professional theatre offering stage productions, career development for actors and playwrights and special events.
8	Sing For Your Life Foundation*	\$4,000	Improves the health and wellbeing of older citizens through coordination of Silver Song Groups, which provide regular sessions of participatory singing and music-making primarily for seniors who are aging in place/at home.
9	Okanagan Chinese Canadian Association	\$6,800	Builds public appreciation of Chinese culture through classes, events and welcome of new arrivals.
10	Central Okanagan Heritage Society	\$10,000	Owns, operates and maintains several heritage buildings and delivers a range of heritage programs and services.
11	Kelowna City Concert Band Society	\$6,000	50 musicians of all ages, both amateur and professional, perform at a variety of events such as Canada Day and Remembrance Day.
12	Okanagan Historical Society	\$10,000	Operates and maintains the Father Pandosy Mission site and provides services which share the story of the site with visitors.
13	Society of Friends of the Early Music Studio* (previously funded in 2012)	\$2,000	Specializes in public performance of early music on rare period instruments, both restored and built to historic specifications. Students and researchers gain access to unique repertoire and instruments.
14	Okanagan Festival Singers	\$4,000	Produces and performs large-scale choral works, often in collaboration with other groups and the Symphony.
15	Okanagan Society of Independent Filmmaking* (previously funded in 2013)	\$1,000	Artist-run cooperative offers artistic development, screenings, workshops, equipment and on-set experience in the cinematic arts.
	<b>TOTAL AWARDED</b>	<b>\$104,300</b>	
	<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE</b>	<b>\$109,300</b>	
	<b>BALANCE REMAINING</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	

**Appendix B - 2016 Project Grant Recipients**  
**Report from Cultural Services Manager, February 1, 2016**

	<b>ORGANIZATION &amp; PROJECT (* denotes new recipient or project)</b>	<b>2016 PROJECT GRANT</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
1*	Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians - Disability Theatre from the Inside Out - performances on October 22 and 23, 2016 at the Rotary Centre for the Arts	\$1,500	Premier stage production of a new play 'To See or Not to See' written by Ruth Bieber, a local artist who 'happens to be blind' (in her own words). The casting will include actors with disabilities and lived experience of mental illness. The production will provide sign language interpretation as well as technical supports for deaf or sight impaired audiences. Project has substantial support from the Canada Council for the Arts.
2*	BC Old Time Fiddlers - 2016 Provincial Fiddle Contest - June 2 to 5, Rutland Activity Centre and Rutland Centennial Hall	\$4,000	The organization will host the provincial contest for the first time and attract more than 400 competitors and audience members for a range of workshops and performances. Special guest artists include award winning fiddlers and musicians Calvin Vollrath, Mark Sullivan and Daniel Lapp. Winning contestants will represent BC at the Canadian Grand Masters Contest.
3	Centre Culturel Francophone de L'Okanagan - Nuit Blanche - during Culture Days Sept. 30 to Oct. 2, 2016	\$8,000	Nuit Blanche is a late-night event of multidisciplinary arts and culture installations and performances in several locations in the Cultural District and downtown Kelowna. It occurs during national Culture Days. Outdoor light projections which were tried for the first time in 2015 will continue in 2016 in a number of prominent locations.
4*	Cool Arts Society - We Are Citizens - October 6 to 22, 2016 - Rotary Centre for the Arts	\$4,306	An invitational juried art exhibition with the theme of citizenship, featuring artwork by artists with diversabilities from five established Disability Art centres in British Columbia and Alberta. 'Citizenship' within the field of community living includes the concepts of love, freedom, money, home, help, life and purpose. The exhibition will be accompanied by a colour catalogue. The initiative seeks to continue in 2017 (extending the invitation to the rest of Canada) and 2018 (international).
5*	Kelowna Community Resources - Leadership Through Creative Arts - April to June, 2016 - various locations	\$1,582	A youth leadership art initiative connecting youth who have immigrated to Canada and are new to Kelowna, and the local arts community. 10-15 newcomer youth aged 12-18 will participate in 12 workshops facilitated by a professional artist, culminating in a public exhibition.
6	Ki-Low-Na Friendship Society - National Aboriginal Day - June 21, 2016 - downtown Kelowna	\$4,000	1500-1800 people are expected to attend this annual celebration which shares Aboriginal culture and tradition with the public. Unique additions for 2016 include a showcase of prominent Aboriginal women, an interactive, traditional game called Lahal, creation of a mural, and in partnership with the RCMP, canoe trips around Okanagan Lake.
7*	Kiwanis Music Festival Society - Kiwanis Music Festival - March to May, 2016 - Rotary Centre for the Arts and Creekside Theatre - Gala Concert on May 15, 2016	\$7,500	2016 will mark the 90 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Kelowna Kiwanis Music Festival, offering competition in 12 separate performing arts disciplines in dance, speech and music, and over 150 different classes, culminating in a public Gala concert. A special anniversary Concert and reception is also planned, featuring Festival alumni who have gone on to successful performance careers. 2000 participants are anticipated.
8	New Vintage Theatre Society - Kelowna Fan Xpo (KFX) - March 18-19, 2016 - Kelowna Community Theatre and other Cultural District venues	\$7,500	Performances, workshops, keynote speakers, contests, panel discussions, displays and exhibitions, in an all-inclusive, family friendly event which celebrates animation, cosplay and pop culture: 'Fringe Festival meets Comic Con.' Unique features for 2016 include the Empire Movie Props collection on display at KCT, a live taping of the CBC Radio comedy 'The Irrelevant

			Show,' Cosplayer Meet Ups and a kids maker space. Anticipated attendance: 1200
9	Okanagan Pride Society - Okanagan Pride Festival at the Beach - during Pride Week August 6-13, 2016 - City Park on August 13, 2016.	\$8,000	A one day community event during annual Pride Week, including a Pride March, entertainment, vendor fair, children's play area, Pooches on Parade and beer garden. The theme is diversity and inclusion. Anticipated attendance: 3000+
10	Society of Canadian Visual Artists - Okanagan Art Symposium - Okanagan College on May 14, 2016.	\$1,500	One day program of talks, demonstrations and workshops featuring professional artists sharing their knowledge in an interactive and informal manner with an anticipated audience of over 100 artists and art patrons.
	<b>TOTAL AWARDED</b>	<b>\$47,888</b>	
	<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>	
	<b>BALANCE REMAINING</b>	<b>\$7,112</b>	

## Appendix C - Grant Evaluation Process Report from Cultural Services Manager, February 1, 2016

The Central Okanagan Foundation has worked with Cultural Services since 2010 to administer an arms-length, independent evaluation process for both Operating and Project grants. This relationship is governed by an annual Memorandum of Agreement.

### **Highlights from the agreement:**

- The Foundation recruits and trains the Review Committees, provides applications to the committee members, and convenes and facilitates the committee meetings where grant recommendations are formulated;
- The Foundation forwards grant recommendations to City staff;
- Cultural Services staff are responsible for the grant program guidelines, forms, information workshops, working with applicants, and distribution of funds.
- The annual fee paid to the Foundation is \$10,000, from the Cultural Services budget.

### **Arms-length review and the role of independent review committees:**

External, independent, arms-length review of grant applications is a principle enshrined in most public sector arts funding programs. It assures funders, applicants and the public that the review process is fair, transparent and independent:

#### **Fair:**

- review by people who understand the cultural sector or the particular artistic discipline
- review based solely on the merits of the application within the program guidelines and criteria
- equal opportunity to all applicants; all applicants are treated in the same way

#### **Transparent:**

- program guidelines and criteria are clear and publicly accessible
- applicants have access to information and assistance before, during and after the application process
- a declared process and documentation provide assurance that funding decisions are made in an accountable manner

#### **Independent:**

- applicants know that their applications are evaluated based on declared criteria free from other pressures and influences

### **Composition of the review committees:**

The Central Okanagan Foundation, in consultation with Cultural Services, determines the composition of grant review committees. Six committee members (with alternates) are selected for each program, based on their experience, merit and familiarity with grant processes and the local arts, culture and heritage community. Since 2011, an experienced cultural non-profit professional from Vancouver has been invited to participate as a reviewer for both Operating and Project grants.

### **The review process:**

The committees' work is governed by grant program guidelines, orientation by the City of Kelowna and Terms of Reference prepared by the Central Okanagan Foundation. The Terms of Reference provide clear direction in the event that a real or perceived conflict of interest arises. Committee meetings are chaired by the Foundation's Director of Grants and Community Initiatives, and committee feedback is captured in minutes recorded by the Foundation. Cultural Services staff are present at meetings as observers and to provide information support, but do not have a part in funding decisions. Grant awards are developed by consensus of the committee members, based on the program criteria, information in the application, assessment scores and discussion.

**Appendix D - Highlights from 2015 Final Reports**  
**Report from Cultural Services Manager, February 1, 2016**

Recipients of Operating and Project Grants must provide a Final Report as a condition of City support. Information from the Reports is helpful to Cultural Services in documenting successes, levels of participation and community impact. Highlights from 2015 Final Reports appear below. Not all recipients are included; each category samples a large, medium and small grant.

<b>2015 OPERATING GRANTS</b>	
<b>Recipient &amp; Amount</b>	<b>Report Highlights</b>
Opera Kelowna Society - \$15,000	Opera Kelowna presented its first fully staged opera, The Marriage of Figaro, at the Rotary Centre for the Arts on August 14-15, 2015 to an audience of over 650 people. They also partnered with UBCO and Festivals Kelowna to present two free outdoor concerts in August 2015 to audiences of over 1,000 people.
New Vintage Theatre Society - \$7,000	New Vintage Theatre presented six episodes of their live improvised parody soap opera 'As The Sun Burns' at the Black Box Theatre in 2015, in addition to four main stage productions for a total audience of over 3,100 people. New Vintage partnered with Shaw TV to produce and tape 25 episodes of 'As The Sun Burns' as a series for local viewers. The City grant helped to support the costs of theatre rental and rehearsal space for the society.
Dolyna Ukrainian Cultural Society - \$1,500	Funding from the City helped Dolyna Ukrainian Cultural Society hire choreographers to create new dances for their adult and children's dance programs. In May 2015, students competed in the 19 <sup>th</sup> Annual BC Ukrainian Dance Festival in Mission BC resulting in their best showing yet.
<b>2015 PROJECT GRANTS</b>	
Centre Culturel Francophone de l'Okanagan - Nuit Blanche - \$10,000	The project grant helped the Centre Culturel Francophone de l'Okanagan host this late night festival during Culture Days, 2015. Using 3D mapping technology, artists created six different light art installations that were projected onto the sides of buildings in the downtown area. Over 2,000 people participated.
Okanagan Korean Culture and Knowledge Society - Madang Festival - \$3,950	The Society held their first Madang Festival June 13-14, 2015. Over 1,000 Kelowna residents joined the two-day celebration, learning about Korean culture through food, games and performances of Taekwondo, Talchum (traditional mask dance), Korean drumming and fan dance. A free community Korean drumming workshop was held outside the Rotary Centre for the Arts on the first day. Funding helped to support the cost of artist fees and venue rentals.
Okanagan Historical Society (Father Pandosy Mission Committee) - Bilingual Interpretive Signage - \$2,500	New bilingual (French/English) signage was installed on the Father Pandosy Mission site in recognition of the role of Father Pandosy and the French speaking pioneers played in the development of the original settlement. The committee worked closely with Francophone Affairs BC and local community groups to collaborate on the appropriate French interpretation of the existing English signage. The City grant was used for the design and installation of the period appropriate signs.



Appendix E - Summary of Grant Activity 2010-2016  
Report from Cultural Services Manager, February 1, 2016

YEAR	DETAILS	OPERATING	PROJECT
2010	\$ available	\$80,000	\$70,000
	# of applications	15	28
	\$ requested	\$133,200	\$292,274
	# of grant awards	12	15
	\$ total awards	\$77,500	\$67,500
2011	\$ available	\$110,000	\$70,000
	# of applications	21	22
	\$ requested	\$177,700	\$134,825
	# of grant awards	16	12
	\$ total awards	\$95,200	\$70,000
2012	\$ available	\$110,000	\$70,000
	# of applications	20	24
	\$ requested	\$186,370	\$141,488
	# of grant awards	18	17
	\$ total awards	\$110,000	\$70,000
2013	\$ available	\$111,500	\$65,000
	# of applications	22	17
	\$ requested	\$190,900	\$100,457
	# of grant awards	17	13
	\$ total awards	\$111,235	\$65,000
2014	\$ available	\$110,000	\$65,000
	# of applications	17	16
	\$ requested	\$133,800	\$107,407
	# of grant awards	15	10
	\$ total awards	\$102,300	\$51,550
2015	\$ available	\$109,300	\$70,000
	# of applications	19	18
	\$ requested	\$160,500	\$119,210
	# of grant awards	15	15
	\$ total awards	\$109,300	\$70,000
2016	\$ available	\$109,300	\$55,000 <sup>1</sup>
	# of applications	15	12
	\$ requested	\$132,250	\$80,713
	# of grant awards	15	10
	\$ total awards	\$104,300	\$47,888
	Balance--carryover to 2017	\$5,000	\$7,112

<sup>1</sup> On October 5, 2015, Council supported a re-allocation of \$15,000 from the \$70,000 Project Grant Program to support Organization Development Grants, which have an application deadline of April 29, 2016. Organization Development Grants were formerly part of the Project Program and now have an expedited intake and review process to allow for more convenient access by operating grant recipients in the same year.