



# REPORT

To: Rural Budgets Administration Committee

Report Number: FN-RBAC-044

From: Teri Vetter, Chief Financial Officer

Date: January 21, 2021

**Subject: Grant Request – Fort St. John Public Library Association**

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## **RECOMMENDATION #1:**

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize a grant commitment, in the amount of \$60,500, payable from Electoral Area B Fair Share for 2021 only, to be issued to the Fort St. John Public Library Association to assist operational costs.

## **RECOMMENDATION #2:**

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize a two year grant commitment beginning in 2021, in the amount of \$65,000 per year, with \$60,000 provided Function 295 – Library Services and \$5,000 provided from Electoral Area C Fair Share, to be issued to the Fort St. John Public Library Association to assist with operational costs; and further,

That the grant in the amount of \$60,000 for 2021 be payable upon the approval of the 2021 Annual Budget.

## **BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

Fort St. John Public Library Association (FSJPL) is requesting financial assistance in the amount of \$130,000 per year for a period of three years from 2021 to 2023, for a total financial contribution of \$390,000. FSJPL is requesting financial assistance from both Electoral Area B and Area C in equal amounts of \$65,000 per year for a total request of \$195,000 from each Electoral Area over three years (2021-2023). Financial assistance, if provided, will be used to support the general operating costs of the Fort St. John public library. The Fort St. John Public Library Association was established to oversee the operations of the Fort St. John public library and is governed by the obligations and regulations as set out in the *Library Act of BC*.

Both Electoral Area B and Electoral Area C have been a longtime financial contributors to the FSJPL and have provided a total of \$1,360,000 since 2005. Electoral Area B has contributed a total of \$541,000 in grant funding while Electoral Area C has contributed a total of \$229,000 in grant funding and \$590,000 from Function 295 – Library Services.

A full description, proposed budget and financials can be found in the attached grant application.

## **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

1. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee respectfully deny the grant application from the Fort St. John Public Library Association and provide no grant funding.

2. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee provide further direction.

**STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:**

- ☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):**

- As of December 31, 2020, the balance available after remaining commitments for Electoral Area B Fair Share is \$961,160.2.
- As of December 31, 2020, the balance available after remaining commitments for Electoral Area C Fair Share is \$929,308.13.

**COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):**

The grant applicant will be advised in writing of the Committee's decision and if funded is approved, will be asked to recognize the Regional District for its contribution.

**OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):**

None at this time.

**Attachments:**

1. Grant Application Request – FSJPL