



REPORT

To: Rural Budgets Administration Committee

Report Number: FN-RBAC-058

From: Teri Vetter, Chief Financial Officer

Date: February 18, 2021

Subject: 2021 Recreational and Cultural Grants-in-Aid – Annual Grant Allocations

RECOMMENDATION #1:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize an allocation of \$2,000, payable from Function 280 – Recreational and Cultural Facilities Grants, Rural Grants-in-Aid Area B, for the purpose of providing a bursary award to a graduating student who resides in Electoral Area B.

RECOMMENDATION #2:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize an allocation of \$1,500, payable from Function 280 – Recreational and Cultural Facilities Grants, Rural Grants-in-Aid Area B, for the purpose of providing assistance for youth travel associated with provincial, national, or international sporting competitions.

RECOMMENDATION #3:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize an allocation of \$1,000, payable from Function 280 – Recreational and Cultural Facilities Grants, Rural Grants-in-Aid Area B, for the purpose of providing assistance for youth associated with 4-H related activities.

RECOMMENDATION #4:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize an allocation of \$2,000, payable from Function 280 – Recreational and Cultural Facilities Grants, Rural Grants-in-Aid Area C, for the purpose of providing two scholarship awards each with a value of \$1,000 to graduating students who reside in Electoral Area C.

RECOMMENDATION #5:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize an allocation of \$1,000, payable from Function 280 – Recreational and Cultural Facilities Grants, Rural Grants-in-Aid Area C, for the purpose of providing assistance for youth travel associated with provincial, national, or international sporting competitions.

RECOMMENDATION #6:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize an allocation of \$1,000, payable from Function 280 – Recreational and Cultural Facilities Grants, Rural Grants-in-Aid Area E, for the purpose of providing two bursary awards each with a value of \$500 to graduating students who reside in Electoral Area E West.

RECOMMENDATION #7:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize an allocation of \$2,000, payable from Function 280 – Recreational and Cultural Facilities Grants, Rural Grants-in-Aid Area E, for the purpose of providing assistance for youth travel associated with provincial, national, or international sporting competitions.

RECOMMENDATION #8:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize an allocation of \$3,000, payable from Function 221 – Sub-Regional Recreation, General Grants, Sub-Regional Grants-in-Aid, for the purpose of providing one scholarship award and one trades bursary award each with a value of \$1,500 to graduating students who resides in the South Peace Sub-Regional area.

RECOMMENDATION #9:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize an allocation of \$1,500, payable from Function 221 – Sub-Regional Recreation, General Grants, Sub-Regional Grants-in-Aid, for the purpose of providing assistance for youth travel associated with provincial, national, or international sporting competitions.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

This purpose of this report is to present the Rural Budgets Administration Committee (RBAC) with information regarding the annual allocations for bursary and scholarship awards, 4-H activities and youth travel as described in Section 6 – Annual Grant Allocations of the Rural Recreational and Cultural Grants-in-Aid policy. The recommendations presented are based on the amounts that have been supported by the Electoral Area Directors in prior years with the exception of recommendation 1 and 4. On November 19, 2020, RBAC passed the following resolutions:

MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize the continuance of one Area B Scholarship for the North Peace Secondary School in the amount of \$2,000; and

MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize the continuance of the Area C Scholarship for the North Peace Secondary School, with the change of reducing the number of awards from 5 to 2 at the value of \$1,000 each.

Electoral Area B currently provides a bursary award, as described in the attached Schedule H. With respect to the above resolution which refers to a scholarship award, an alternative option has been included should RBAC wish to approve both a bursary and scholarship for Electoral Area B.

In 2020, a total of ten, four bursaries and six scholarships were awarded in the Electoral Areas. The table below breaks down the awards per each area.

Electoral Area B	1 Bursary	\$2,000
Electoral Area C	5 Scholarships	\$5,000 (\$1,000 each)
Electoral Area E	2 Bursaries	\$1,000 (\$500 each)
South Peace Sub-Regional	1 Scholarship, 1 Trades Bursary	\$3,000 (\$1,500 each)
Totals	10 Awards	\$11,000

The process for the application, adjudication and award of bursaries and scholarships is provided below. Each school has its own set timeframe for the process, however, it generally takes place during the school year from March through to June. Schedules H, I, J and M have been developed to outline the criteria for each award and are attached to this report.

- March 1st/April 1st – Students receive bursary and scholarship application packages from their school Academic Advisors and liaise with their advisors on each submission process.
- March 30th/April 30th – Deadline to apply. Students must have all bursary and scholarship applications submitted to their Academic Advisor.
- April/May – Academic Advisors liaise with PRRD staff to clarify any residency requirements or eligibility criteria, if required. School appointed Selection Committee reviews and adjudicates each application on the basis of residency, academic standing, financial need (bursary only), community involvement and proof of acceptance at a post-secondary institute and the recipients are selected. Academic Advisor notifies PRRD of recipient and forwards corresponding paperwork.
- June – Annual award ceremonies are held at each school and recipients are presented with their award. Electoral Area Director may attend to present award. Recipients are provided with information on how to claim their award.
- September/October - Recipients contact the PRRD in writing to claim their award. Recipients are able to defer their award for a period of one year, should they not attend post-secondary immediately following high school graduation.

The process to apply for youth travel assistance is outlined in the attached Schedule E. Applicants must apply in writing to RBAC and the intake open year round. Awards are calculated based on \$75 per each rural participant to a maximum grant of \$375. In 2020, only one youth travel grant was approved, in the amount of \$375; however that funding was returned to the PRRD due to the cancellation of the event as a result of COVID-19 provincial restrictions. These restrictions contributed to the low number of youth travel request as no events were being held.

The annual allocation for 4-H activities that was provided to North Peace 4-H District Council is used for youth participants to travel to attend the Pacific National Exhibition (PNE) in Vancouver, BC. The 2020 allocation was not used as the event did not take place due to COVID-19 provincial restrictions. This allocation is not applied for by the society, but determined, solely at the discretion of the Electoral Area Director, as outlined in the attached Schedule G.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize an allocation of \$2,000, payable from Function 280 – Recreational and Cultural Facilities Grants, Rural Grants-in-Aid Area B, for the purpose of providing one bursary award and one scholarship award each with a value of \$1,000 to graduating students who reside in Electoral Area B.
2. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- ☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

- \$178,536 has been budgeted as a commitment in Function 280 - Recreational and Cultural Facilities Grants, Rural Grants-in-Aid Area B as part of the 2021 Annual Budget.
- \$51,716 has been budgeted as a commitment in Function 280 – Recreational and Cultural Facilities Grants, Rural Grants-in-Aid Area C as part of the 2021 Annual Budget.
- \$107,463 has been budgeted as a commitment in Function 280 – Recreational and Cultural Facilities Grants, Rural Grants-in-Aid Area E as part of the 2021 Annual Budget.
- \$200,000 has been budgeted as a commitment in Function 221 – Sub-Regional Recreation, General Grants, Sub-Regional Grants-in-Aid as part of the 2021 Annual Budget.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

If the annual allocations are approved, written correspondence will be sent to each high school located in School District 59 and 60 and North Peace 4-H District Council.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None.

Attachments:

1. Rural Recreational and Cultural Grants-in-Aid Policy 0340-61
2. Schedule E – Youth Travel
3. Schedule G – 4-H North Peace District Council
4. Schedule H – Electoral Area B Bursary
5. Schedule I – Electoral Area C Scholarship
6. Schedule J – South Peace Sub-Regional Bursary and Scholarship
7. Schedule M – Electoral Area E West Bursary