



REPORT

To: Rural Budgets Administration Committee

Report Number: FN-RBAC-067

From: Teri Vetter, Chief Financial Officer

Date: April 22, 2021

Subject: Grant Request – Dawson Creek Public Library

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize a multi-year grant in the amount of \$3,600 per year beginning in 2021, payable in equal contributions of \$1,800 from Electoral Area D and Electoral Area E Fair Share, to be issued to the Dawson Creek Public Library in support of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Dawson Creek Public Library (DCPL) is requesting multi-year grant funding, in the amount of \$3,600 per year in 2021, 2022, and 2023 for a total contribution of \$10,800. The funding will be used to assist with the costs to offer the Dolly Parton Imagination Library (DPIL) book gifting program. DPIL is a literacy based early learning program open to children ranging in age from newborn to five years. The library currently has 545 children in this program of which 78 are residents in the rural communities of Progress, Rolla, Groundbirch, Arras and Tomslake and accounts for fifteen percent (15%) of the registered participants. The annual cost to offer the DPIL program is \$23,631 and DCPL is asking for \$3,600 per year which is reflective of the 15% rural participation. For more detailed information on DPIL, please see the attached grant application.

DCPL is a municipal library and is a registered not-for-profit charity. The library is managed by the Dawson Creek Public Library Board of Trustees and follows the guidelines as outlined by the province in the *Library Act*. The library receives its funding through provincial operating grants, contributions from the City of Dawson Creek, which include ownership and maintenance of the library building and payment of staff wages, as well as local fundraising and community donations.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee deny the grant application from the Dawson Creek Public Library and provide no grant funding to support of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program.
2. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

- As of March 31, 2021 the balance remaining after commitments for Electoral Area D Fair Share was \$2,075,140.22
- As of March 31, 2021 the balance remaining after commitments for Electoral Area E Fair Share was \$1,722,067.21

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

The applicant will be notified in writing of the Rural Budgets Administration Committee's decision and, if grant funding is approved, will be asked to recognize the Regional District for its contribution.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

Attachments:

1. Grant Application – Dawson Creek Public Library