



REPORT

To: Rural Budgets Administration Committee

Report Number: FN-RBAC-074

From: Teri Vetter, Chief Financial Officer

Date: April 22, 2021

Subject: Grant Request – Tumbler Ridge Museum Foundation

OPTIONS:

1. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize grant contribution of \$35,000, payable from Electoral Area B, C, D, and E Fair Share in equal amounts of \$8,750, to be issued to Tumbler Ridge Museum Foundation to assist with operational costs for 2021.
2. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize grant contribution of \$35,000, payable from Electoral Area B, C, D, and E Peace River Agreements, Spending Item #4 (Assistance to Other Organizations) in equal amounts of \$8,750, to be issued to Tumbler Ridge Museum Foundation to assist with operational costs for 2021.
3. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee respectfully deny the grant application from Tumbler Ridge Museum Foundation and provide no grant funding to assist with operational costs in 2021.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The grant request from Tumbler Ridge Museum Foundation (TRMF) is being brought forward to provide Rural Budgets Administration Committee an opportunity to jointly consider the request, determine its merit and whether or not the grant application will be supported. The objective of this report is to present information to RBAC to assist with determining the following:

1. Approval of a grant contribution, the amount and funding source; or
2. Rejection of the grant application for reasons identified by the Committee.

TRMF is requesting a grant in the amount of \$35,000 to assist with operational costs. Grant funding, if provided, will be used for some wages, administration and program costs. TRMF indicates that they have felt the impacts of the Regional Board's inability to legally provide economic development grant funding in 2021, which has left them with a shortfall in an already streamlined and conservative operating budget. TRMF is working on programs and projects to address the gaps in their services in hopes to develop outreach options to reach more users residing in the Electoral Area of the PRRD, such as outreach kits to enhance the BC curriculum in relation to museum subjects, virtual programs and tours, and a potential partnership with Tumbler Ridge UNESCO Global Geopark to create a mobile exhibit and program trailer.

A total of \$1,128,992 in regional grant funding has been issued to TRMF since 2013. A total of \$1,298,992 was supported from with Economic Development grants and the remaining \$80,000 was from Grants to Community Organizations funds.

At the Regional Board meeting held on January 28, 2021, TRMF attended as a delegation where they provided a review of their activities and spending for the 2020/21 operating year and what they will strive for in the 2021/22 operating year. A link to that presentation has been provided at the end of this report should you wish to review it. The Regional Board is also considering the establishment of a service function to support TRMF. On February 17, 2021 the Regional Board passed the following resolution:

MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED

That the Regional Board consider Tumbler Ridge Museum Foundation for the establishment of a Museum service function in the region.

TRMF is a not-for-profit society in good standing with the Societies Act of BC. Please refer to the attached grant application to see more detailed information on the grant request.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

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

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

Rural grant contributions may be provided from Fair Share or Peace River Agreements, Spending Item #4 – Assistance to Organizations. The table below outlines the balance after remaining commitments for each reserve per each Electoral Area as of March 31, 2021.

Electoral Area	Fair Share	Peace River Agreement
Area B	\$ 721,567.04	(\$ 2,864.50)
Area C	\$ 911,887.50	\$1,519,261.59
Area D	\$2,075,140.22	(\$ 130,360.91)
Area E	\$2,088,395.01	\$1,722,067.21

Area B and Area D are currently in a deficit balance for PRA, however, the PRA payment for 2021 will be received by April 30th, 2021 and will no longer be in a deficit balance.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

The applicant will be notified in writing of the Committee's decision and, if funding is supported, will be asked to recognize the Regional District for its financial contribution.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

Attachments:

1. Grant Application - Tumbler Ridge Museum Foundation

External Links:

1. Tumbler Ridge Museum Foundation, Update on Activities - [See Item 7.1](#)
2. Establishment of a Service Function – [See Item 5.1](#)