

**REPORT TO ELECTORAL AREAS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2023**

SUBJECT 2022 Grants-in-Aid Annual Report

ISSUE SUMMARY

This report provides a summary of Electoral Area (EA) Grants-in-Aid (GIA) activity, including COVID-19 Safe Restart Grants, for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

BACKGROUND

Under the Supplementary Letters Patent (SLP), dated March 24, 1977, and amended April 17, 1985, the Capital Regional District (CRD) has authority to deliver core GIA within the Electoral Areas (EAs). These are one-time grants provided through annual tax requisition to community groups that deliver projects in the Juan de Fuca (JDF), Salt Spring Island (SSI) and Southern Gulf Islands (SGI) EAs.

Under the existing SLP authority, CRD has been administering a second GIA stream funded by one-time COVID-19 Safe Restart Grants since 2021. Through engagement with staff, EA Directors allocated some Safe Restart grant funding to provide a top-up to the core GIA budget.

For both GIA streams, applications are accepted on a rolling basis and are reviewed throughout the year. EA Directors support projects that are selected based upon demonstrated benefit to the community, and in alignment with GIA guidelines and grant program criteria. In principle, GIA fund special projects and activities beyond the scope of CRD services and are excluded from requisition funding. Appendix A details core GIA projects awarded in 2022. Appendix B details Safe Restart GIA Awarded in 2022.

IMPLICATIONS

Service Delivery Implications

The one-time funding through GIA provides much needed relief to organizations that provide key services to the community above the scope of CRD services. In 2022, many of these projects included events, capacity building and small capital projects related to health, housing and community safety and engagement.

Financial Implications

The following two tables provide a summary of 2022 GIA awarded within each EA for both the core GIA and Safe Restart GIA.

Table 1: Core GIA Awarded for 2022

	2022			2021		
	Budget (\$)	# of Applications	Amount Awarded (\$)	Budget (\$)	# of Applications	Amount Awarded (\$)
JDF	32,667	-	-	35,375	1	250
SSI	69,127	11	46,039	54,398	8	32,951
SGI	102,514	20	103,351	100,000	25	97,807
Total	204,308	31¹	149,390	189,773	34	131,008

¹This number does not include the one project that was cancelled, and GIA funds returned.

Out of the 31 GIA projects awarded, one was COVID-19-related as a one-time special project under core GIA. In the reporting period, one application was cancelled, and the funds were returned. Remaining funds at the end of 2022 are carried over to 2023 core GIA budgets for each EA.

Table 2: Safe Restart GIA Awarded for 2022

	2022			2021		
	Budget (\$)	# of Applications	Amount Awarded (\$)	Budget (\$)	# of Applications	Amount Awarded (\$)
JDF	18,505	4	18,505	61,078	7	42,573
SSI	35,000	3	25,000	35,000	-	-
SGI	-	-	-	113,000	14	113,000
Total	53,505	7	43,505	209,078	21	155,573

Appendix C provides a summary of balances remaining for Safe Restart funding for GIA at 2022 year-end and highlights the trend in awards over the last four years. Safe Restart GIA funds are carried over until fully spent.

CONCLUSION

Core Grants-in Aid and Safe Restart Grants-in-Aid are awarded throughout the year under the authority of Supplementary Letters Patent. Applications with Director support are reviewed on a continuous basis and are assessed against eligibility criteria. Organizations who deliver projects in the EA can access the funding for special projects, including events and small capital requests, and under Safe Restart GIA, COVID-19-related projects. Funds that are not spent are carried over through next year's GIA budget.

RECOMMENDATION

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

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ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: 2022 Electoral Areas Grants-in-Aid Awarded

Appendix B: 2022 Electoral Areas Safe Restart Grants-in-Aid Awarded

Appendix C: Safe Restart GIA Summary and 2019-2022 GIA Program Trends