

Request for Decision

Shk 065 001

Date February 5, 2020
Author Holly Ronnquist, CFO
Subject Columbia Valley Victim Services Funding Request

REQUEST

The Family Dynamix Association has requested funding of \$33,420 to support the Columbia Valley Victim Services Program for their fiscal period April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021.

OPTIONS

1. THAT a Discretionary Grant in Aid be provided to Family Dynamix for Columbia Valley Victim Services in 2020 and 2021 in the following amounts:
Electoral Area F \$ _____
Electoral Area G \$ _____
2. THAT the request from Family Dynamix to support Columbia Valley Victim Services be denied.
3. THAT the request from Family Dynamix to provide annual funding for Columbia Valley Victim Services be forwarded to the next strategic priority planning meeting to consider creation of a Columbia Valley Victim Assistance service.

RECOMMENDATION

Option 1 and Option 3.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Family Dynamix Association (FDA) has been providing victim services in the Columbia Valley (CV) since the 1980's. The FDA has managed to deliver the program solely through the budget provided by the Ministry of Justice, which provides a maximum of 23.5 hours per week.

The program is experiencing a higher demand for service and the FDA has requested that the RDEK provide funding to bring the service to 40 hours per week.

Family Dynamix sent a funding request to the CV Municipalities in 2019. The Village of Radium Hot Springs approved funding of \$1,240 to support the program for the last quarter of 2019 and deferred the concept of an annual commitment to the 2020 budget deliberations. The District of Invermere did not provide funding in 2019. The District of Invermere Council discussed the topic at the December 10, 2019 budget meeting and came to consensus that it would be better served as a regional initiative.

SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS

Administrative – No Current Service

The RDEK does not currently have a service with the purpose of providing funding for social needs such as victim services in the Columbia Valley. The short term solution would be to have each of the CV Municipalities provide their own grant and Electoral Areas F & G provide funding through Discretionary Grants in Aid. The long term solution would be to create a new Service that would include all of the CV Jurisdictions and become part of the RDEK's annual requisition.

Financial – Funding Share Options

Under a new Service, the default apportionment of the grant would be based on property assessments. It has also been discussed that sharing of a grant could be based on population. The EV Victim Assistance Service apportions by population. The apportionment of \$33,420 based on both methods follows:

Jurisdiction	Population (2016 Census)	Share of Grant	2020 Converted Assessment	Share of Grant
Invermere	3,391	\$11,952	\$113,952,146	\$7,818
Radium Hot Springs	776	2,735	46,528,312	3,192
Canal Flats	668	2,354	16,388,905	1,124
Area F	3,185	11,226	270,989,233	18,593
Area G	1,462	5,153	39,234,542	2,692
Total	9,482	\$33,420	\$487,093,138	\$33,420

Process – New Service

Establishing a new service would first need to be added as a project on the RDEK Strategic Priority list. The Municipal Councils of the District of Invermere, Village of Radium Hot Springs and the Village of Canal Flats would be asked to provide consent on behalf on their electors to participate, and would have the discretion to undertake an elector assent process. Participation of Electoral Areas F & G would require approval through elector assent.

Attachment