Councillor Request Inquiry # 10-2018

FCS confirms an increase in organizations requesting funding, in addition to increased funds requested to support community nonprofit service delivery. This emerging trend is noted in the most recent three year totals in overall social services grants requests;: \$\$662,855 in 2018, \$424,583 in 2017 and \$251,008.95 in 2016. The number of applications in a grant cycle is affected by the overlap of single and multi-year funding and is not a good measure of increasing need.

For many of these agencies, this funding is essential to the continued delivery of key services which support the outcomes and shifts of the Social Framework. FCS and RPC are going through business cases and budget processes now and are considering in these processes how to meet the emerging needs for community. More details will be available through the fullness of the budget process.

Year over year RPC grant funding requests for the Arts, Culture and Heritage Community Investment Program are as follows:

2015: Funds requested: \$70,044.00 Funds allocated \$63,985.00 Budgeted Grant Funds: \$96,660.00 2016: Funds requested: \$64,351.00 Funds allocated: \$64,351.00 Budgeted Grant Funds: \$96,660.00

2017: Funds requested: \$76,727.00 Funds allocated: \$71,776.00 Budgeted Grant Funds: \$76,660.00 The budget was changed to reflect demand.

2018: First phase of 2018 grant program: Funds requested: \$54,058 Funds allocated: \$39,682.00 Budgeted Grant Funds: \$76, 660.00

Please see additional information below for the Community Recreational Event & Sport Tourism Investment Program (CREST):

- The number of applications and funding commitments for the CREST Initiative Program have varied between 2015 and 2017.
- 9 applicants received a total of \$14,750 in 2015; 12 applicants received a total of \$21,812.23 in 2016; and 11 applicants received a total of \$16,107.66 in 2017.
- The majority of applications received are in support of provincial competitions, with fewer requests from Canadian and international level competitions.
- We continue to achieve our objectives of attracting more events and expanding our community's hosting capacity within Strathcona County.

A restructuring of the RPC grant categories took place in 2015/16 that better identified with community need which is reflected in increased grant requests and budget requirement.

