

REPORT 1
(1215/53/03)

WCC ARTS & CULTURAL, COMMUNITY FESTIVALS AND MAORI ARTS GRANTS

1. Purpose of Report

This report provides recommendations for the distribution of the Council's:

1. Arts and Cultural Grants scheme, which has \$74,200 available for distribution (from a total pool of \$151,000)
2. Community Festivals Grants scheme, which has \$76,000 available for distribution (from a total pool of \$142,000)
3. Maori Arts Grants scheme, which has \$29,000 available for distribution (from a total pool of \$35,000).

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Grants Subcommittee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Use the officers' recommendations in the schedule attached as Appendix 1 as a guide to allocating a grant amount for the applications made under the Arts and Culture, Community Festivals and Maori Arts Grants pools.*

3. Background

The Council provides grants as a means to enable community organisations to achieve initiatives and services that align with the Council's strategic direction. The Arts and Cultural, Community Festivals and Maori Arts grants schemes provide funding for projects from community organisations that meet the following general and specific criteria.

Generic Grants Criteria:

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| 1. Project makes a positive contribution to achieving Council's Strategic Outcomes and Points of Difference. |
| 2. Project is Wellington based and primarily benefits the people of Wellington (exceptions may be made for projects based elsewhere in the region but which significantly benefit residents of Wellington City). |

3. Project is physically and financially accessible either by a wide range of persons or by the intended users.
4. Project shows evidence of community support, collaboration and building partnerships with other organisations (e.g. letters of support from other organisations/leaders).
5. Applicant must demonstrate that the project expands the capacity, range or level of similar types of services in the community.
6. Applicant is a group or organisation, not an individual or individuals.
7. The principal intent of the project is not for private or commercial pecuniary gain, though it may be that such gains occur as a side effect of the project.
8. Applicant demonstrates that there was user input into identifying the need for the project.
9. Projects will not be funded for the same purpose more than once in any financial year. (Note: different aspects of the same project may be eligible for more or different grants).
10. Application demonstrates an awareness of the Treaty of Waitangi, in particular when involving Manawhenua and Taura Here.
11. Applicant group provides evidence of (or, if a new group, systems for): sound financial management, good employment practice (where applicable), clear and detailed planning, clear performance measures, demonstrated ability to report back on past funding as appropriate.

Specific criteria relating to WCC Arts and Cultural Grants

12. Project is consistent with Wellington City Council Arts and Culture Strategies and enhances the quality of life for residents of Wellington.
13. Project enhances the effectiveness of established arts organisations and/or increases participation in the arts.
14. Project preserves and enhances Wellington's role as Arts and Cultural Capital of New Zealand.
15. Project is community based and has a budget of over \$1000.
16. Project acknowledges community diversity and civic pride.
17. Project promotes and enhances the arts and culture of Mana whenua and Nga mata waka (all peoples) and expressions of cultural diversity in the city.
18. Project attracts visitors to Wellington and has a positive economic benefit for the city.
19. Project encourages use of public spaces.
20. Project promotes excellence in the Arts and may provide opportunities for mentoring and apprenticeship.

Specific criteria relating to Maori Arts Grants

21. Project demonstrates an emphasis on traditional or contemporary Maori cultural influences.
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Specific criteria relating to Community Festival Grants

22. Applicant group is based in a geographic community (such as a suburb) or a community of interest (such as an ethnicity).
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4. Discussion

The following amounts are available for allocation:

- \$74,200 from the Arts and Cultural Grants pool
- \$76,000 from the Community Festivals Grants pool
- \$29,000 from the Maori Arts Grants pool.

Officer recommendations on the applications submitted are attached in Appendix 1. The original information provided by applicants has been forwarded to Subcommittee members in a separate book. Appendix 2 outlines the grants that have already been allocated from these pools during the 2005/06 financial year.

4.1 Application Assessment

The recommendation sheet provided in Appendix 1 gives each applicant's name, which funding pool they have applied to, a brief project description, the total project cost, amount requested, criteria and strategic fit reference (which includes any concerns about criteria fit and risk management issues), a priority level based on strategic and criteria fit, and a minimum level of recommended funding.

Recommendations given are the result of an assessment process which can include consultation with all or some following: the applicant, persons or organisations referred to in the application, Council officers, and persons operating or knowledgeable about similar services to that of the applicant. The assessment process may result in revised or extra material about an application (most commonly relating to accounts or budgets) that will be presented at the meeting in support of the officers' recommendations. The Subcommittee is asked to note that the audience and participant numbers provided on the recommendations sheet are approximations only.

The strategic priority the project has the closest fit to is listed on the recommendation sheet. The grading A, B or C is determined both by criteria fit and strategic alignment. Any criteria concerns held after the initial assessment of a project are noted on the sheet. Council officers often receive information they have requested right up until the meeting date, so some recommendations may be subject to change where questions have been answered satisfactorily.

Tags to ensure money is used appropriately may be suggested in certain circumstances should funding be approved. This is usually in cases where applicants need to use funds for a specific aspect of their budget or are awaiting confirmation of sufficient other funds to proceed.

A minimum level of funding is suggested which will indicate:

- the minimum amount needed for the activity to proceed; or
- an amount in line with past precedents; or
- an amount that reflects the level of fit with general and strategic criteria.

A lower level of funding than this minimum level would normally be considered inadequate. Where the applicant's expectations exceed Council's capacity to fund it may show nil.

If members of the Subcommittee require more information on applications prior to the grants meeting, please contact the grants team, who will do their best to get this ready for the grants meeting.

The grants team collects statistical information to provide an overview of spending after the allocations have been made, to help give an indication of the type of projects most funded and the age groups that receive most benefit.

4.2 Unspent Funds

Should unspent funds remain in any of these grants pools after this meeting of the Subcommittee, further allocations from the pool will be referred to the Subcommittee's meeting of 22 May 2006. This meeting has been advertised (in The Dominion Post on 6 April 2006) as an additional grants round where the Subcommittee will be making allocation decisions for any unspent funds across all of the grants schemes.

To date, the following funds are being considered in this additional grants round:

- WCC Youth Initiative Grants \$21,195.56
- WCC Community Grants \$34,022
- WCC Strategic Grants \$115,000
- WCC Environmental Grants \$15,062
- Hillary Commission Community Sport Fund \$1,823.48.
- WCC Salary Grants \$1,746.70

5. Conclusion

The Subcommittee is asked to consider the applications received for the Arts and Cultural, Community Festivals and Maori Arts grants pools and decide whether or not it is appropriate to fund the applicants and for what amount.

Contact Officer: *Adele Gibson, Acting Grants Team Leader*

Supporting Information

1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome

WCC Arts and Cultural, Community Festivals and Maori Arts grants are allocated to support outcomes from the Culture and Arts key achievement area.

2) LTCCP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact

The Arts and Cultural Grants scheme comes under project C425, the Maori Arts Grants scheme under project C424 and the Community Festivals Grants scheme under project C468.

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

Any grants application that could have implications for Maori are referred to WCC Treaty Relations Office for recommendations. The Treaty Relations Office is sent the full list of applicants and projects for comments.

4) Decision-Making

This is not a significant decision.

5) Consultation

a) General Consultation

The Grants team sends the full list of applicants and projects for comment to appropriate Council officers prior to presentation to the Subcommittee. Applicants and persons or organisations referred to in the applications and others may be spoken to for comments where appropriate.

b) Consultation with Maori

The WCC Treaty Relations Office is sent the full list of applicants and projects for comment prior to presentation to committee.

6) Legal Implications

N/A

7) Consistency with existing policy

The grant pools have been created to assist community initiatives in line with Council strategy.

Appendix 1

Appendix 2