

COMMUNITY SECURITY IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

The Jewish Federation of Greater Vancouver (JFGV) serves as the umbrella organization for over 25 different cultural, educational, recreational and spiritual organizations in the Jewish community. A key component of the JFGV's mandate is to work with these organizations to identify and address current and emerging needs in the community. For the past ten years, precipitated by a tragic hate motivated shooting at the Jewish Federation of Seattle's headquarters in 2006] where two employees were killed and several injured, JFGV has played a leadership role in developing strategies and funding programs to keep community members safe. Vulnerability audits were conducted by a reputable risk assessment organization for 29 stand-alone buildings in the community and over \$300,000 in matching funds were made available to enable these organizations to implement an array of recommended target hardening strategies. An additional \$50,000 was committed to provide training on an annual basis to front line employees and community volunteers on a variety of topics ranging from cyber-security breaches to handling hate mail. Strong relationships have been established with the Vancouver Police Department and the appropriate RCMP detachments to enhance existing crime prevention strategies and elevate community safety.

The Jewish community has approximately 26,000 members. Over 50% of the community resides in Vancouver and most of the community infrastructure (day schools, synagogues, community centre and a long term care facility) is located along the Oak Street corridor. There are 21 community buildings in Vancouver and 8 community buildings spread throughout the Lower Mainland. These institutions serve a variety of Jewish and non-Jewish groups including young children, families and frail seniors. Some of these institutions have recent experience with anti-Semitic and racist graffiti, while others have been targeted through threatening phone calls and emails. Still others have been subjected to demonstrators when they have hosted high profile events and well known speakers. As a result, in addition to providing funds for security upgrades, we have also covered the costs for extra police protection at various community events, security guards at vulnerable institutions such as the schools and community centres and have established a community security community populated with professionals with community security expertise.

Over the past two year as international and domestic incidents of terror have been on the rise, there have been growing concerns on the part of our community leadership regarding various risks and vulnerabilities faced by the community.

To this end, we are launching two new initiatives.

- 1) We will be hiring a Chief of Security. This individual will be responsible for assessing the safety of all community institutions and working with them to develop strategies, policies and procedures and develop a cadre of community volunteers who can serve as the "eyes and ears" of the community to prevent the likelihood of a security risk and can provide additional support for high profile events.
- 2) We will be launching a new security grant program to enable community agencies to upgrade their existing security measures or to implement new security measures. Providing meaningful grants will be an expensive outlay for us.

We are requesting \$100,000 from the provincial government, to enhance the community security measures.



Meeting Date: March 17, 2017

Confidential

Honourable Peter Fassbender
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
Room 310 Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister:

Re: Grant Approvals for 2016/17

I am writing to inform you that I have approved the following STOB 77 one-time grants as per the Attachment to this letter, to be paid from the Contingencies (All Ministries) and New Programs Vote in 2016/17 or your base budget, as appropriate.

Note that these approvals are subject to your ministry staff ensuring that due diligence is undertaken to confirm that the recipients are bona fide organizations and that there is a report back to the ministry on outcomes achieved by each organization.

Sincerely,

Athana Mentzelopoulos
Secretary to Treasury Board

Attachment

cc: Jacque Dawes
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

Tracy Campbell
Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Financial Officer
Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

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#	Name of Recipient and Purpose	Current Funding (\$M)
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286	Jewish Foundation - Community services	0.100
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