

TO: MAYOR & COUNCIL
FROM: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
SUBJECT: **WHEY-AH-WICHEN CANOE FESTIVAL**
PURPOSE: To request Council approval of a Community Program Grant for the Tsleil-Waututh Nation for the Whey-ah-Wichen Canoe Festival, July 7 - 9, 2023

RECOMMENDATION

THAT a Community Program Grant in the amount of \$10,000 be awarded to Tsleil-Waututh Nation in support of the Whey-ah-Wichen Canoe Festival, July 7 - 9, 2023.

1.0 POLICY SECTION

The provision of community grants is aligned with the following Council-adopted policies, plans, and strategies: *Burnaby Economic Development Strategy (2007)*; *Social Sustainability Strategy (2011)*, and the *Corporate Strategic Plan (2017)* that identifies the importance of a sense of belonging, inclusion, and high quality of life.

2.0 BACKGROUND

The Executive Committee of Council, at its Open meeting held on June 7, 2023, received the attached item of correspondence from the Tsleil-Waututh Nation requesting support from the City of Burnaby for the Whey-ah-Wichen Canoe Festival scheduled to take place from July 7 - 9 in North Vancouver. Due to the short timeline, the Executive Committee of Council accepted the letter in lieu of a formal grant application.

3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

The Whey-ah-Wichen Canoe Festival will take place at Cates Park in North Vancouver from July 7 - 9, 2023. The Tsleil-Waututh Nation is requesting a grant in support of the event. The festival will welcome crews from several Indigenous communities across the southwest coast of BC and Washington.

4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The City of Burnaby's support will be acknowledged across the Tsleil-Waututh social media channels, in press releases, signage at the event, and in the program.

5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Grants are funded through the Community Grants Program. Current budget allocations and balance remaining as of this report date are detailed below.

Community Grants 2023 Budget		Allocated (as of June 1, 2023)	Balance Remaining
Operating	\$100,000	\$63,000	\$37,000
Programming	\$300,000	\$103,636	\$196,364
Total	\$400,000	\$166,636	\$233,364

On behalf of the Executive Committee of Council,

Councillor Sav Dhaliwal, Chair

Councillor Richard T. Lee, Vice Chair

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Correspondence from Tsleil-Waututh Nation

REPORT CONTRIBUTORS

This report was prepared by Kathryn Matts, Administrative Officer 2 and reviewed by Blanka Zeinabova, Senior Manager Legislative Services.

2 June 2023

Email: Mayor Mike Hurley
c/o Mikelle Sasakamoose, mikelle.sasakamoose@burnabyschools.ca

Subject: Whey-ah-Wichen Canoe Festival, July 7 - 9, 2023, North Vancouver, BC

Dear Mayor Hurley,

It is my pleasure to send greetings from the beautiful waters of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation, canoe pullers of the Burrard Inlet and other waters of the Salish Sea since time immemorial. We are excited to see signs of spring across our territory, in part because spring also brings excitement and planning for our annual Canoe Festival.

I would first like to acknowledge the City of Burnaby's past support for this event. As a friend of the Tsleil-Waututh and a supporter of the festival, you know that canoe culture is in our bones. It has been embedded in our way of life since time out of mind, with racing, in particular, enjoying a revival that began in 1910, when Chief George Sla-holt carved a canoe he named "Earwigs" that soon earned a reputation as an exceptional racing vessel.

Without the support of local donors like you, the festival would not have become the exciting event that it is, nor would we have this opportunity to celebrate and share this vital part of Tsleil-Waututh culture with our friends and neighbors.

It is in the spirit of canoe culture that we are reaching out to the City of Burnaby today.

From July 7-9, 2023, we are hosting our annual Canoe Festival at Whey-ah-Wichen, our traditional village site at Cates Park in North Vancouver, BC. The festival welcomes crews from several Indigenous communities from across the southwest coast of BC and Washington to compete in a variety of races that celebrate culture, showcase top canoe racers, inspire youth, and thrill hundreds of spectators.

We would welcome your contribution of support for the ongoing success of this annual event and are seeking sponsorships in the form of cash donations, raffle prizes, silent auction items or other contributions that will help offset our "break even" budget of approximately \$65,000.

In addition to a tax receipt, your support will be acknowledged across our social media channels (www.twnation.ca, www.facebook.com/tsleilwaututhnation, www.instagram.com/tsleilwaututhnation/ and www.twitter.com/tsleilwaututh) in press releases, signage at the event, and in the program. We invite you to consider the following categories of sponsorship:

2023 TWN Canoe Festival Sponsorship		
Category	Contribution	Festival Program Advertising Space
Diamond	\$25,000	Full page ad, plus other significant advertising and- new for 2023! - special partner benefits.
Platinum	\$10,000 - \$24,999	Full page ad, plus- new for 2023! - special partner benefits.
Gold	\$5,000 - \$9,999	½ page ad
Silver	\$1,000-\$4,999	¼ page ad
Bronze	\$500 - \$999	Business card size ad

Our corporate partners can also choose to support specific races or festival activities:

- Sponsorship of a race category- children, youth, women, men, and master’s races, along with singles, doubles, 6s and 11s for 7+under, 10+under, 13+under, 16+under, women, men, and some 45+ and 50+ races;
- Sponsorship of the Concession, Elders area, Canoe Club care packs, paddler T-shirts, raffle prize donations, silent auction items, tent rental, information booth, first aid attendants, judges, and safety boats.

All gifts are welcome and deeply appreciated, and we invite you to join us at the festival to witness the impact of your support. Special activities, such as a traditional canoe tour, will be organized after the event for Diamond and Platinum and sponsors, and there may be opportunities for these donors to get even closer to the excitement from aboard one of the safety boats assisting in the races.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss the support that will best suit the City of Burnaby. If you wish to proceed with a donation now, details are as follows:

Cheques	Direct deposits	Interac e-transfer
Payee: Tsleil-Waututh Nation Address: 3178 Alder Court, North Vancouver, BC., V7H 2V6 Attn: TWN Finance Dept.	Transit #: 03920 Institution # 003 Bank account #: 1012947	Recipient name: Tsleil-Waututh Nation Email account for transfer: accounting@twnation.ca
Please note: Email notifications of donations should be sent to ar@twnation.ca . Include your legal name, address, and reference to the 2023 Canoe Festival with payments.		

Alternatively, we invite you to contact TWN Community Society Manager Rebecca Coulthard on rcoulthard@twnation.ca or 236 339 7403 to explore options.

Yours in paddling,



Chief Jen Thomas

Victoria
May 24th
1947



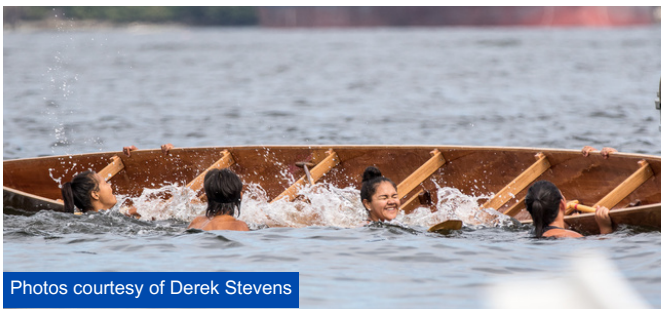
"It's like this is who we are. We belong to the canoe. You have a canoe puller spirit."

Angela George





Tsilil-Waututh Nation
PEOPLE OF THE INLET



Photos courtesy of Derek Stevens