
TO: Northern Community Economic Development Select Committee **MEETING:** May 17, 2018

FROM: Sharon Horsburgh Sustainability Coordinator **FILE:** 6750-01

SUBJECT: Northern Community Economic Development – Spring 2018 Proposals

RECOMMENDATION

That the Northern Community Economic Development Select Committee consider nine proposals for funding through the Spring 2018 intake.

SUMMARY

Nine applications for Northern Community Economic Development (NCED) funding have been received in time for consideration at the NCED Select Committee Meeting scheduled for May 17, 2018:

Attachment 1: Lighthouse Country Business Association – Lighthouse Country Familiarization Tour

Attachment 2: Lighthouse Country Business Association – Deep Bay Information Booth

Attachment 3: Qualicum Beach Streamkeepers Society – Brant Viewing Platform

Attachment 4: Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce – Social Media Ninja

Attachment 5: Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce – Empty Spaces Tour

Attachment 6: Community Futures Central Island – LEAP – Local Entrepreneurship Accelerator Program

Attachment 7: Innovation Island Technology Association – Tech Savvy Talk & Leaders Roundtable

Attachment 8: Central Vancouver Island Job Opportunities Building Society – Blade Runners 2018-2019

Attachment 9: Parksville and District Chamber of Commerce – Mid Island Tech Attraction Strategy

Financial information requested through the application process is provided as confidential material under separate cover.

The RDN Board approved the 2018 Final Budget and funds totalling \$50,000 are available for disbursement from the NCED Program. For the NCED Spring intake nine applications have been received for a total request of \$65,628.

NCED grants are provided to support local initiatives that enhance economic development in Electoral Areas 'E', 'F', 'G' and 'H', the City of Parksville and the Town of Qualicum Beach.

BACKGROUND

The NCED Program (the Program) has been offered to organizations and local governments in District 69 since 2012. In 2018, the NCED Select Committee reviewed the NCED service and agreed to continue the grant program with minor changes to the Program Guide. Since inception, participation and awareness in the Program has grown and the range of activities is increasing. Historically, the grants typically assist with tourism, arts and culture, recreation activities and increasing business opportunities in the high tech sector.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The RDN Board has approved \$50,000 for the NCED program to support economic development opportunities in accordance with the service priorities outlined above. For 2018, \$25,836 was requisitioned for Northern Economic Development and \$24,164 was carried over from 2017. The total funds requested from the Spring 2018 applications is \$65,881.

Table 1 lists the applicants, projects, amounts requested and the total amount requested for the Spring 2018 intake. In accordance with the Committee’s direction at the February 15, 2018 meeting, the applications along with an assessment of the proposal is included in Attachments 1-9.

Table 1: NCED - Project Proposals (Spring 2018)

Proponent	Project Name	Amount Requested
Lighthouse Country Business Association	Lighthouse Country Familiarization Tour	\$1,200
Lighthouse Country Business Association	Deep Bay Information Booth	\$4,700
Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce	Empty Spaces Tour	\$ 1,955
Qualicum Beach Chamber of Commerce	Social Media Ninja	\$ 5,240
Qualicum Beach Streamkeepers Society	Seaside Nature Park “Brant Viewing Platform”	\$10,000
Parksville and District Chamber of Commerce	Mid Island Tech Forum Strategy	\$4,286
Community Futures Central Island	LEAP – Local Entrepreneurship Accelerator Program	\$10,000
Innovation Island Technology Association	Tech Savvy Talk & Leaders Roundtable	\$8,500
Central Vancouver Island Job Opportunities Building Society	Blade Runners 2018-2019	\$20,000
Spring 2018 Funding Requested	Total:	\$65,881

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

The NCED Program supports the Board's 2016 – 2020 Strategic Plan's strategic priority of 'Focus On Economic Health'. The goal of the NCED Program is to build community based economic development and enhance local economic resilience. The NCED Program is consistent with the Board's strategic priority to "Focus on Relationships" by enhancing collaboration and cooperation between municipalities and electoral areas and to use a collaborative regional model for providing services.



Sharon Horsburgh
shorsburgh@rdn.bc.ca
May 7, 2018

Reviewed by:

- P. Thompson, Manager, Long Range Planning
- G. Garbutt, General Manager, Strategic and Community Planning
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments

1. Lighthouse Country Business Association - Lighthouse Country Familiarization Tour
2. Lighthouse Country Business Association - Deep Bay Information Booth
3. Qualicum Beach Streamkeepers Society - Brant Viewing Platform
4. Qualicum Beach Chamber Of Commerce - Social Media Ninja
5. Qualicum Beach Chamber Of Commerce - Empty Spaces Tour
6. Community Futures Central Island - LEAP - Local Entrepreneurship Accelerator Program (LEAP)
7. Innovation Island Technology Association - Tech Savvy Talk & Leaders Roundtable
8. Central Vancouver Island Job Opportunities Building Society - Blade Runners 2018-2019
9. Parksville and District Chamber of Commerce - Mid Island Tech Attraction Strategy