



Council Member Motion

For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 20, 2021

To: Committee of the Whole **Date:** May 13, 2021
From: Councillor Ben Isitt, Councillor Sharmarke Dubow and Councillor Sarah Potts
Subject: Support for Housing Outreach Pilot Project

BACKGROUND

Council has received a request from the Quadra Village Community Centre (Attachment 1), supported by the Burnside-Gorge Community Association, the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association, the Fernwood Neighbourhood Resources Group, and the North Park Neighbourhood Association, for financial support for a Housing Outreach Pilot Project, to support residents from throughout the City of Victoria to secure housing and avoid homelessness.

These community associations have identified an increase in housing precarity since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, increased service calls at their offices requesting help connecting with housing options, and a corresponding increased risk of homelessness for residents. It is therefore recommended that Council support this pilot project by allocating a one-time grant to sustain the Housing Outreach Pilot Project for a period of 12 months.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Authorizes a one-time grant of \$60,000 to the Quadra Village Community Centre and partner agencies for the Housing Outreach Pilot Project, funded from the 2021 contingency.
2. Directs staff to finalize the terms of this allocation to the satisfaction of the City's Chief Financial Officer and Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development, including ensuring access to this service for newcomers, Indigenous, Black, Asian and other persons of colour.
3. Requests that the Quadra Village Community Centre work with partner Community Associations to provide a final report to Council following completion of the pilot project.

Respectfully submitted,

A blue ink signature, likely of Councillor Ben Isitt.

Councillor Isitt

A black ink signature, likely of Councillor Sharmarke Dubow.

Councillor Dubow

A black ink signature, likely of Councillor Sarah Potts.

Councillor Potts

Attachments:

1. Letter from Quadra Village Community Centre, May 11, 2021