



**Council Member Motion  
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of October 5, 2023**

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**To:** Committee of the Whole **Date:** September 29, 2023  
**From:** Councillor Krista Loughton and Councillor Matt Dell  
**Subject:** Grant for Gorge View Society

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**BACKGROUND**

Gorge View Society is a non-for-profit organization in the Burnside Gorge neighbourhood of Victoria that operates 108 units of affordable housing for low-income seniors, including supports to foster social connections, provide internet and computer services, and help navigating health systems and income supports. Gorge View Society has provided affordable housing for seniors since 1956, and recently undertook a massive expansion project that will grow their housing offerings to offer approximately 313 units of affordable housing. As part of this expansion, Gorge View Society has faced increasing expenses to cover the costs of building design and escalating construction costs.

Gorge View Society is currently assessed to pay \$84,280 in total property taxes for the 2023 calendar year.

This term, Council has made a strong commitment to supporting affordable housing across the City of Victoria. Council unanimously supported the Calls to Action put forward by the 14 non-profit housing providers who make up the Vancouver Island Housing Leadership Network (VIHLN), including one of the calls to action that is intended to help support non-profit housing providers on municipal taxes and fees.

As part of the 2023-2026 City of Victoria Strategic Plan, Victoria Council have also committed to making housing affordability a key goal of the city, including to “pursue partnerships with other governments and agencies to create more non-market housing and rental housing.”

**RECOMMENDATION**

Direct staff to pay a grant to the Gorge View Society for \$168,560, by reallocating a portion of the annual contribution to the Housing Reserve Fund, to help cover the costs of GVS’s 2024 and 2025 annual property taxes with 50% of the grant paid in 2024 and 50% in 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Krista Loughton in black ink.

Councillor Krista Loughton

Handwritten signature of Matt Dell in black ink.

Councillor Matt Dell