

Janet Hawkins

From: Sharon Welsh <coordinator@literacyvictoria.org>
Sent: Monday, Jul 20, 2015 4:10 PM
To: Public Hearings
Cc: Susan Reece; Carol Carmen
Subject: Re: Question regarding your grant submission to Victoria Council

Dear Christine

Please find below, the answer to the question posed by Council on our grant submission at the July 15, Special GPC meeting.

Sincerely,

Sharon

Sharon Welsh
Coordinator
literacyvictoria.org
250-382-6315

Literacy Victoria

1. The application states that this project will potentially impact 30,000 people. Provide more details regarding those numbers and how many people are residents of Victoria.

According to Statistics Canada, Employment and Social Development Canada, and Council of Ministers of Education, Canada approximately 48% of Canadians and 46% of British Columbians have literacy scores below level 3 (<http://well-being.esdc.gc.ca/misme-iowb/.3ndic.1t.4r@-eng.jsp?iid=31>). Level 3 is the level deemed necessary to fully function and engage in all aspects of societal life (employment, education, understanding a lease, reading a map, etc.).

Forty-six percent of 78,000 (the population of Victoria) is 35,900. This is a staggering number, but statistics consistently reveal this to be a realistic number. Many people in our community struggle with literacy issues. This project is intended to have far reaching implications that will impact literacy in a number of areas (education, employment, individual, community) in the Victoria region for years to come.

The Literacy Challenge Dialogue is the first step of a process to create a comprehensive literacy plan for the Victoria area. This plan will target people of all ages, from pre-schoolers to seniors struggling with literacy issues. School, parents, community associations, correctional centres, employers, agencies, literacy service providers, and other interested groups or stakeholders will work together to identify literacy needs and create a strategic and comprehensive plan to address these needs.

The intention is to impact people struggling with literacy issues in the local community through education, awareness and service delivery. This could be through educating employers to be aware and informed about literacy issues so they

can work more effectively with their employees. This could be through working with local service clubs to impact family reading through programs to encourage and support parents (or others) to read with their children. This could be through streamlined services and public awareness of the services that are available to assist people with literacy issues.

On 16/07/2015 3:50 PM, Public Hearings wrote:

Below is the question posed by Council on your grant submission at the July 15, Special GPC meeting:

Literacy Victoria

1. The application states that this project will potentially impact 30,000 people. Provide more details regarding those numbers and how many people are residents of Victoria.

Please 'reply' to this email, at publichearings@victoria.ca with your response. As this is a time-sensitive application process, we would appreciate your response as soon as possible, and no later than 11:00 am **on Wednesday, July 22.**

For reference, below is the link to the archived video of the meeting where you can listen to the questions should you wish for more detail:

<http://www.victoria.ca/EN/main/city/council-webcasting.html>

Thank-you,

Christine Havelka
Secretary – Council Committees
Legislative & Regulatory Services
City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square, Victoria BC V8W 1P6

T 250.361.0571 F 250.361.0348



--
Sharon Welsh, Coordinator
817 Fort Street
Victoria, BC
V9W 1H6
250-382-6315