

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7.6

MEETING DATE: April 2, 2024

STAFF REPORT – COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: Community Development Initiatives DATE: March 19, 2024
Funding (Peer Employment Initiative)

DEPARTMENT: Public Safety & Social Development PREPARED BY: Holly Ferris

1. SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

Ruth and Naomi's Mission (RAN) has submitted a request for Community Development Initiative (CDI) funding to support the Downtown Cleanup – Peer Employment Program. This initiative aims to support people experiencing homelessness to gain part time employment, while addressing concerns of increased refuse in the downtown core. The requested funds will provide opportunity for clean up in the area a few hours a day; four days a week, under the supervision of a coordinator, and the necessary equipment for the project. This program is entering into its third year, having received start-up funding through UBCM in 2021, and subsequent funding through CDI (2022) and the Province (2023). The requested funds will allow the initiative to continue through to the end of this year, while RAN pursues longer term, sustainable funding through alternative sources.

2. RECOMMENDATION:

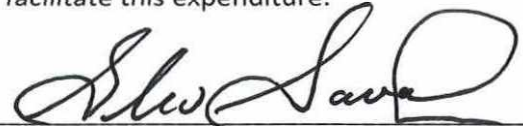
That Council approve the funding of \$56,000 under the Community Development Initiatives Funding Policy to Ruth & Naomi's Mission Downtown Cleanup Peer Employment Program



Karen Stanton, Director
Public Safety & Social Development

3. FINANCE COMMENTS:

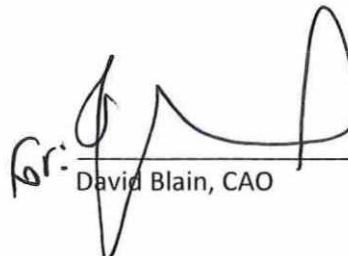
Funding is available within the overall Financial Plan to facilitate this expenditure.



Glen Savard, Director of Finance

**4. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S
RECOMMENDATION/COMMENTS:**

Supports recommendation.



Gr: David Blain, CAO

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES
FUNDING APPLICATION
SPECIAL EVENT

Group/Organization		Ruth & Naomi's Mission	
Address.	46129 Princess Ave.	City/Province	Chilliwack, BC Postal Code V2P 0J1
Contact Person	Scott Gaglardi	Telephone	(604 - 997-9645)
Initiative /Project Name.	Peer Employment Program/ Street Cleaning Teams	Funding Requested.	\$ 56,000
<p>State Purpose/Objective: (Brief description, attach mission statement.)</p> <p>Ruth & Naomi's purpose is to walk alongside people on a journey of recovery.</p> <p>The peer employment program works with participants staying at our Community Outreach Centre (Shelter). It provides an opportunity for mentorship, the development of employable skills, and a small amount of finances to support them. These funds will allow the continuation of the four team - 4 day a week street cleaning program in the downtown BIA district of Chilliwack.</p>			
<p>Financial Plan. (Attach detail of 1st year Capital & Operating costs <i>(include in-kind support)</i>, Each street cleaning shift is approximately 2 5-3hrs. Peers receive \$50 per shift 4 teams of 2 per day - 8 peers @\$50/day = \$400/day 4 days/week = \$1600/week 1 Coordinator - 16 hrs/week @ \$23/hr = \$368/week -- current rate of service, this funding covers 28 weeks To cover until Dec 31, 2024 we would need to adjust the service To provide 35 weeks of coverage we would decrease the service to 3 days per week To provide 39 weeks of coverage 5 weeks would have only 2 days of service.</p>			
Is this service currently offered in the community?		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<p>Support. (Provide proof of community need, attach letters of support, etc)</p> <p>For over two years the City and the Downtown BIA have been strong supporters of this program. We appreciate the partnerships we have in this.</p>			
<p>Recognition: (How will the City be recognized? <i>(e g ownership)</i> Are there other "partners" in initiative? Attach specifics.)</p> <p>Ruth & Naomi's will recognize the City's contribution through our external communication channels, including social media, and partner newsletters</p> <p>This initiative has received support from the Downtown BIA, and the MSDPR</p>			
<p>Benefits: (What are the direct and indirect benefits to the community? Attach detailed description)</p> <p>For the past two years we have had street cleaning teams operating 3-4 days a week in downtown Chilliwack. They have worked to keep our city streets clean, empty the cigarette butt receptacles, and remove snow from storm drains after a snowfall</p>			