

City of Delta COUNCIL REPORT Closed Meeting

To: Council

From: Corporate Services Department

Date: **May 13, 2025**

Annual Update on City of Delta's Funding to Social Service Agencies

The following report has been reviewed and endorsed by the City Manager's Office.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. THAT the City of Delta enter into two-year funding agreements with each of the following agencies to support their ongoing services in the community:
 - BGC South Coast BC (BGC), with funding of \$113,000 per year,
 - Deltassist Family and Community Services Society, with funding of \$179,000 per year; and
 - REACH Child and Youth Development Society, with funding of \$50,274 per year.
- B. THAT an agreement formalizing the City of Delta's longstanding contribution towards Delta's Children and Youth Committee (CYC) be completed authorizing a 2026 financial contribution of \$12,600.
- C. THAT the annual reports provided by Deltassist, REACH, BGC and CYC be posted on Delta's website.
- D. THAT, subject to adoption of Recommendations A and B, staff be authorized to communicate the results to Deltassist, REACH, BCG and CYC and execute the Service Agreements.
- E. THAT, the Director, Corporate Services be authorized to execute the Service Agreements set out in Recommendations A and B.
- F. THAT this report be released to the public at the next Regular Meeting of Council.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of work delivered by social service providers and Delta's Children and Youth Committee and seek approvals for continued funding by the City.

This matter is being presented to Council for consideration during a Closed Meeting in order to discuss contractual service provisions, in accordance with Sections 90(1)(k) and (m) of the <u>Community Charter</u>.

BACKGROUND:

BGC South Coast BC (BGC), Deltassist Family and Community Services Society (Deltassist), and REACH Child and Youth Development Society (REACH) have for many years provided valuable programs and services to residents of Delta with support from the City in the form of funding, property tax exemptions, and rent relief. All three of these service agreements expired on April 30, 2025. The Delta Child and Youth Committee (CYC) was formed in the early 1980s to coordinate and promote services and supports for children, youth and families across Canada. It is funded through contributions from City of Delta as well as the Delta School District, the Ministry for Children and Family Development and multiple other agencies.

DISCUSSION:

In 2024, the City of Delta entered into single-year funding Service Agreements with BGC, Deltassist, and REACH. As required by those contracts, each agency has submitted its progress reports and financial statements for 2024. In 2024, the City implemented a new reporting template to promote consistency in the information provided by funded agencies. The updated template includes a focus on how agencies are supporting diverse population groups and applying an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) lens in the delivery of their services. Key service highlights and performance trends from each agency's report are set out in Attachment A. Full copies of the progress reports are included as Attachments B C, and D, and will be posted on Delta's website. For 2025, BGC, Deltassist and REACH are requesting the same funding amounts as were provided last year (\$113,000, \$179,000, and \$50,274 respectively.) Delta's CYC Committee has requested \$12,600, which is a 2.9% (\$360) increase from 2024.

Summary of Services Provided

BGC South Coast BC:

- Services: BGC South Coast BC provides services for children and families across a wide age range and from a variety of backgrounds. While club memberships have increased across all three Delta locations, Family Resource Centres continue to experience a significant decline in both the number of families served and total participant hours. There are several contributing factors behind the observed downward trend, including the fact that many caregivers are returning to work earlier due to the rising cost of living. As a result, they are often unable to fully utilize the services available. Staff will work with BGC to review the established targets and update them as needed.
- Applying an EDI lens: To support their commitment to EDI, BGC has engaged several local experts to facilitate training for all staff. In addition, BGC offers diverse programming throughout the year, highlighting themes such as Black History Month, anti-bullying, and 2SLGTBQIA+ experiences.
- **Community Partnerships:** BGC's Options program is a diversion program designed for the Delta Police to make referrals to BGC, for youth at risk through restorative justice. BGC continues working on improving awareness about this program and will partner with DPD, libraries and other community partners in 2025 to advance this city-funded program.

The BGC progress report is provided as Attachment B. Funding of \$113,000 is requested for 2025 which is the same as last year. It is recommended that this request be approved for a two-year period.

Deltassist Family and Community Services Society:

- **Information and Referrals:** Deltassist's website, email and phone lines are in high use by the community, with 17,956 phone calls and 9700 Internet inquiries received in 2024. Through these inquiries, Deltassist supported Delta residents with connecting to various programs, resources and services.
- Supporting Low-Income Community Members: Deltassist's Christmas Program provides Delta residents with gift cards, toys and hampers to ensure families are supported through Christmas. This last year, the Christmas program saw a 37% increase in registered participants. Deltassist continues supporting low income residents through a tax clinic.
- **Seniors' Services:** In 2024, Deltassist's seniors' programs connected with 275 seniors through individual counselling and 450 seniors through general programming and outreach reflecting an overall 20% increase in use.
- Applying an EDI lens: To support community members of various backgrounds, the agency engages an internal EDI Committee to advance their work through an EDI lens. It is estimated that approximately 48% of clients identify as South Asian.
- Little House Building: In 2024, Phoenix Drug & Alcohol Recovery & Education Society chose not to renew its Service Agreement with the City, concluding its role as the operator of the Little House building in Tsawwassen. Subsequently, the City entered into a five-year agreement with Deltassist in July 2024, which assumed responsibility for operations at Little House. This transition ensured that recovery groups utilizing the space could continue without disruption. Currently, the facility hosts several substance use support groups, including Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Nar-Anon, and Al-Anon/Alateen. Deltassist is using the building during the day for individual counselling sessions.

The Deltassist progress report is provided as Attachment C. Funding of \$179,000 is requested for 2025 which is the same as last year. It is recommended that this request be approved for a two-year period.

REACH Child and Youth Development Society:

- **Service Levels:** Demand for early intervention therapies remained high for 2024, with services including speech-language pathology (SLP), occupational therapy (OT) and physical therapy (PT), and with many children receiving support from multiple therapies. In 2024, these services supported 295 children, reflecting an overall 45.3% increase in comparison to 2023.
- **Waitlist:** While waitlists continued to reflect the demand for services, REACH's increased service provision meant that more children and families were able to access supports. A monthly average of 122 children remained on the waitlist for SLP, OT and PT in 2024, which is 8.3% lower than the waitlist in 2023.
- **Applying an EDI lens:** To ensure families from diverse backgrounds have equitable access to services, REACH has implemented several initiatives, including Infant Development Program (IDP) family groups offering early intervention support, dedicated parent groups and family navigator programs in

- both English and Punjabi, language and interpretation services and prioritizing diversity in hiring practices.
- **Funding:** Delta's funding of \$50,274 enables REACH to attract a further \$80,000 annual funding from the Gaming Commission.

The REACH progress report is provided as Attachment D. Funding of \$50,274 is requested for 2025 which is the same as last year. It is recommended that this request be approved.

Delta Child and Youth Committee (CYC):

The CYC is a community collaborative made up of representatives from the City, the School District, various Ministries, health authorities and local social service agencies and was established in the 1980s. CYC advances its work through three action teams: Early Years, Youth, and Child Care Action Teams. The CYC accomplished several key achievements in 2024 and continues to in 2025; these include the development of a new website and the creation of an informational brochure for families with newborns, distributed throughout Delta. In addition, as shared with Council by the Delta Police Department, the CYC serves as a platform for establishing the Delta Youth Hub. The Hub is opening this spring at a temporary location in North Delta. In 2024, the City of Delta provided \$12,240 in funding to the Delta CYC (which represents 17% of its operational budget). The funding is allocated to REACH that currently oversees the CYC contract. \$12,600 has been allocated to CYC for 2025. In addition to financial support, the City contributes staff time by participating in CYC meetings and coordinating community-based collaborative initiatives.

The CYC's 2024 report on activities and accomplishments is provided as Attachment E. The City's longstanding contribution towards the CYC has not been previously formalized within an agreement. It is recommended that an agreement formalizing the annual funding contribution be completed for 2026.

Implications:

Financial implications - The proposed social service agency agreements total \$354,874 for each of the years 2025 and 2026. Adequate funding for these agreements is included in Delta's existing Social Planning budget.

CONCLUSION:

In summary, the City of Delta remains committed to supporting the vital work of social service agencies that contribute to the health, resilience, and wellbeing of our community. By continuing to provide consistent funding and collaborative support, the City helps ensure that services remain inclusive and accessible — particularly for those most vulnerable to social and economic pressures. The recommended 2025 and 2026 funding allocations reflect Delta's proactive and compassionate approach to meeting community needs. Through these actions, the City reinforces its role as a key partner in fostering a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment for all residents.



Mike Brotherston Director, Corporate Services

Department submission prepared by: Ginny Dunnill, Social Planning Coordinator

This report has been prepared in consultation with the following listed department.

Concurring Department		
Department	Name	Signature
Finance	Navin Chand	NC

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. 2024 Agency Key Service Highlights
- B. BGC South Coast BC 2024 Progress Report
- C. Deltassist 2024 Progress Report
- D. Reach 2024 Progress Report
- E. CYC 2024 Report on Activities and Achievements