



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER

**Violence Prevention in Schools Grant
Terms of Reference
Adopted by Council Oct 16, October 2006**

1.0 Background

The City of North Vancouver Violence Prevention in Schools Grant was adopted by Council January 10th 1994 as part of a general initiative to address violence in the community. Since that time a number of anti-bullying, personal development and leadership courses, peer counselling and behavioural intervention programs have been supported by this grant. In previous years allocation of the \$20,000 was proportionately related to student population per City school (elementary and secondary).

In 2005 the allocation process was updated by the School District to a “call for proposals” allowing greater decision making by senior school administrators in the types of programming being supported and more flexibility in funding allocations. As such, it was determined that a *Terms of Reference* needed to be established for the grant to ensure funds are being allocated from an agreed upon point of reference with consideration to School District and municipal violence prevention priorities. The following document makes recommendations regarding priorities and granting processes for Council's approval.

2.0 Objectives of the Violence Prevention in Schools Grant

School District #44 has developed a Safe and Caring Schools Policy, and as such it is recommended that the Violence Prevention Grant complement the objectives of the policy, specifically, the development of “Socially Responsive Behaviour” and “Mental and Emotional Wellness”.

2.1 Primary Objective

The primary objective of the Violence Prevention in Schools Grant is to increase student wellness and personal safety.

2.2 Funding Priorities:

It is recommended that each year, priorities in terms of the funding needs for violence prevention be re-examined. For example, two current issues facing students today are internet safety and road rage. The Violence Prevention fund needs to be flexible to meet emerging and ongoing student needs.

Emerging and outstanding violence prevention concerns that are to be addressed by this funding include:

- healthy decision making skills
- healthy relationships: friendship and intimate
- effective communications and conflict resolution skills
- student engagement and leadership
- internet safety
- bully proofing
- diversity training
- healthy sexuality
- stranger awareness
- elementary to secondary school transition
- integration of new students
- suicide prevention
- knowledge of counselling resources
- Life and social skills development

2.3 Eligible Expenses

Funding can be used for:

- Speakers
- Workshops
- Presentations
- Software
- Curriculum
- Library books
- Art supplies
- Photocopying
- Outside room rental
- Some transportation (example – rental of school bus)
- Food & beverages
- Honoraria for youth

N.B all items must be related to the approved violence prevention grant proposal.

2.4 Ineligible Expenses

The Violence Prevention Fund is not designed to fund the following types of initiatives or costs:

- Awards ceremonies or Student of the Week unless directly related to violence prevention initiatives
- Playground equipment
- Bicycle and car safety initiatives
- Clothing and accessories (example vests for supervision purposes (exceptions may apply if related to a violence prevention activity))
- Capital equipment (such as photocopiers, computers, pylons, bicycles)
- School maintenance
- Administration and staff costs
- Rental of school facilities

Examples of projects and programs to meet Funding Priorities:

The Violence Prevention in Schools Fund is aimed at supporting programs which increase students' skill or knowledge of:

- Effective communication and the ability to interact in a manner which respects the diversity of others
- the potential repercussions of risky behaviours and poor decision making
- issues related to racism, prejudice, homophobia, sexism, ageism, and classism
- indicators of mental health concerns and warning signs of suicide
- dangers of drugs and alcohol
- indicators of dating abuse and how to have "healthy" intimate relationships
- processes of recruitment and sexual exploitation into the sex trade
- internet dangers and dangers associated with violent video games
- conflict resolution, restorative justice and restitution options
- youth and social service resources

The Fund also supports such projects as:

- peer counselling and peer led personal safety initiatives
- increasing student involvement and leadership in policy development and implementation initiatives related to Safe and Caring Schools

3.0 Process of Awarding the Grants

As in the past, it is recommended that a *call for proposals* to all City public schools be conducted in September by School District #44 of each year. A selection committee consisting of the School Assistant Superintendents, one to two City students, a school trustee, a member of the North Vancouver Teacher's Association, Coordinator of Safe and Caring schools and a staff member from the City's Community Development department be implemented to adjudicate the proposals.

4.0 Granting Amount

With input from the School District is recommended that a maximum grant be awarded of \$5,000 for any one school.

5.0 School District Involvement:

School District #44 has reviewed and agrees to the Terms of Reference. The School District agrees to conduct the Call for Proposal, assemble the adjudicating committee, disperse the grants to the individual schools, conduct accountability procedures and present a year-end summary of the grants to Council on an annual basis.