

APR 16 2019

Referred To ..... DEC / Board

File: 1850-01(19)

To Whom It May Concern:

In accordance with CRD's reporting requirements for the Grant for Assistance – Arts and Culture Events (\$1,000) was used, please refer to the following:

- Previous to receiving this grant, the Mile 108 Elementary PAC had already financially supported this extracurricular arts and culture experience which required a deposit in the amount of \$1,642 in December 2018. Programming occurred on March 4-8th, 2019.
- How were the funds utilized?

This program was facilitated by Angela Roy, who runs the Expression program to schools from Vernon. Students from Grades K – 7 enjoyed an engaging week-long arts/culture program incorporating several approaches to rhythm, storytelling, Indigenous world music, and French Culture. Basic music concepts, vocal arts, dance, and percussion polyrhythms were tailored to each age group in preparation for a school wide, two-hour assembly performance showcase on the final day of the week (Friday). This performance was free admission and publicly open to all parents, teachers, and people in the community.

- The success of event:

Overall this was a very needed and successful event. The program was well delivered, and transitions ran smoothly without interfering with regular curriculum activities. Feedback from the students and teachers were extremely positive and many kids have approached the PAC asking for it again next year. The final performance was well attended by many spectators of the community - there were a lot of video cameras, laughter, and audience participation/inclusion with the songs, actions, and dance. The students took extreme pride in being able to deliver "their own performance" to peers, parents, teachers, and community by singing, dancing, and drumming. Energy levels throughout were "high", but organized, and the students were deeply absorbed – for those students who weren't as enthusiastic about performing, they were given the opportunity to participate with the Stage Production needs. These included sound engineering, stage managing, hosting (MC), and staging which they took seriously.

- The benefits of the event:

Being able to supply the entire school with a unique arts/culture/musical experience in a small community was the main benefit. As the band program had been cancelled in the elementary schools from September 2018 until recently, there was a noticeable void in the arts/culture curriculum this year, and students had been deeply disappointed about not having access to that anymore. Because this was a rhythmic experience using a large array of simple world instruments, most students were able to successfully participate without previous musical skill. They were able to learn traditions through the stories that were told in song and were taught about the origins of where each of the instruments came from. Being able to incorporate tactile, music, and storytelling experiences to arts, culture and history was a unique way to provide multi-faceted learning styles to all students. Other unexpected benefits included the incorporation of student homeland culture, involving dances from Nigeria. These new to our community students were very proud to be able to teach their classmates about their homeland and

discuss some of their traditions. Within our school there are many families who may not have financial or other means to provide an experience like this to their children, so this was a very special week for some students. It spotlighted kids who normally aren't 'in the frontlines' of school activities/performances/assemblies, so this was a positive experience as many stepped 'out of their shell' so to speak. This was also a perfectly timed activity that segued into spring-break nicely. Teachers reported that students were better behaved, calmer, and engaged more than usual before the coming of spring-break. The weather was not very favourable for a lot of 'outdoor' days during this time either, so this also helped keep spirits up while staying active.

- The manner in which the CRD was publicly recognized:

As we did not actually receive the grant cheque before the performance, we were unsure if this was going to be funded through the CRD or not. Al Richmond had attended our last PAC meeting in February and verbally said that we had been approved, but we decided to error on the side of caution as this was our first time accessing funds this way. Al was notified/invited to attend the public performance; however, he was out of town during that time. We have monthly PAC meetings and a local 108 school newsletter/Facebook page which recognized the receipt and contribution of the CRD Grant for Assistance as per the attachment in this e-mail. Our next PAC meeting is scheduled for April 29<sup>th</sup>, where it will also be publicly announced/posted by the Treasurer that this successful event was funded through the Grants for Assistance Program by the CRD. A Treasurer report will be made available to all attending parents which will list the transaction details received from the CRD – a copy of this will also be available for viewing by anyone as it is posted monthly on the PAC bulletin in the school entranceway (where the attached poster can also be viewed). I have been personally telling parents and teachers regarding the large hand the CRD played in helping us deliver this experience and how grateful we are to have received this help.

Again, on behalf of the Mile 108 PAC and school, we sincerely thank you for your financial consideration and assistance with this event – it was extremely well received and made many fond memories!

Sincerely,

Pamela Friesen (PAC Treasurer)

Cc: Sue MacKay (PAC Chair)



# Cariboo Regional District

The Mile 108 PAC would like to acknowledge the Cariboo Regional District for their financial support through the Grants for Assistance with Arts & Cultural Events. These funds were used to provide the schoolwide Expression world music program that occurred March 4-8<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Thank you for giving ALL our students a very unique and engaging week-long learning experience!

Sincerely,  
The PAC