

<b>OKANAGAN INDIAN BAND Chief &amp; Council Policies &amp; Procedures</b>	Policy: Recreation, Education, Cultural & Social Fund	<b>SECTION</b> 7.0.0.0
Approved February 14, 2006	In effect: April 1, 2006	1

### **7.0.0 Purpose:**

The purpose of the Recreation, Education, Cultural and Social (RECS) Fund Policy is to establish guidelines for Okanagan Indian Band members to access and to secure funds for recreation, education, culture and social activities.

### **7.0.1 Funding Sources:**

- 7.0.1.1 Okanagan Indian Band Council will ensure that the Education program and the Social Development Program budgets an annual contribution to the R.E.C.S. Fund subject to availability of funds.
- 7.0.1.2 Okanagan Indian Band Council will contribute funds from revenue on an annual basis to the R.E.C.S. Fund, a maximum of \$5,000.00 per fiscal year.
- 7.0.1.3 Okanagan Indian Band Council will ensure that all donations will be automatically contributed to the R.E.C.S. Fund this will include the SRI Funds.
- 7.0.1.4 At the beginning of each fiscal year the finance department and the Social Development Division will develop an annual budget for the R.E.C.S. Fund. All funds received will be divided into two funding categories with 75% of budget to the youth and the children category (ages: 0 to 18 years of age) and 25 % of the budget to the adult category (19 years and older).

### **7.0.2 Criteria for Application**

The R.E.C.S. Fund will receive applications from the membership each fiscal year. All "Applications for the R.E.C.S. Fund" must be fully completed with the following information attached:

- 7.0.2.1 Only Okanagan Indian Band members can apply for R.E.C.S. Funds. Applicants must live on the Okanagan Indian Reserve or in the Vernon area.
- 7.0.2.2 An individual, group or team submission must be of good financial standing with no monies owed to the Okanagan Indian Band. Band members owing money to the Okanagan Indian Band will not be eligible to receive donations.

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NOTE: Children are exempt from this clause as they are not responsible for their parents' debts.

- 7.0.2.3 A group or team shall be a recognized and established entity by the Okanagan Indian Band for at least two years.
- 7.0.2.4 A group or team shall be comprised of a majority of Okanagan Indian Band members. The names of all the individuals in the team or group requesting funding must be provided (both band members and non-band members).
- 7.0.2.5 Individual applicants will be limited to one application per year, if the applicant received funding with a team the total allocation to the team will be divided equally among the band members and that portion will be deducted from the eligible donation of \$250.00.
- 7.0.2.6 An individual or group will be assessed based on the need of the proposed project and must demonstrate that no other funding sources are available. It is incumbent on the applicant to demonstrate that he/she does not qualify for other funding.
- 7.0.2.7 An individual, group or team making application shall demonstrate on a financial statement their request from the R.E.C.S. Fund does not exceed 50% of the total project cost.
- 7.0.2.8 Children or student sports teams may make application and are eligible for equipment and/or registration fees; however the amount of the contribution will be limited to 50% of the cost of equipment and/or registrations. Additionally, children may apply to the National Child Benefit fund for additional support. The NCB program is an in-come based program, applicants must demonstrate need. Eligibility is subject to 7.0.2.5.
- 7.0.2.9 Children and students from low income and one parent families may be eligible for 100% cost of recreation equipment. Family must demonstrate low income as per Income Assistance; Unemployment Insurance Benefits or minimum wage employment with no other sources of income.
- 7.0.2.10 Contributions for tuition or registration for training and/or workshops individual applicants will be limited to a 50% donation, to a maximum of \$250.00.

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### **7.0.3.0 Procedure for R.E.C.S. Funding**

- 7.0.3.1 Graduation bursaries will be paid out in June of each year; the number of High School and Post Secondary graduates will be divided equally between the budget amount of \$6000.00. The Education Department will be responsible for providing a list of graduate students no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> of May each year.
- 7.0.3.2 R.E.C.S. Funding will be divided into a children and youth category (age 0-18) and an adult category (19 years and older).
- 7.0.3.3 The applications are determined on a first come first serve basis and subject to 7.0.2.5.
- 7.0.3.4 The application form must be filled out fully and include required information and financial documentation.
- 7.0.3.5 Supporting documentation to verify the expenses incurred for the activity must be attached (include documentation of activity, poster and registration).
- 7.0.3.6 A Financial Statement must accompany application.
- 7.0.3.7 A cheque will be made out to individuals on the following conditions:
- Applications are approved.
  - Receipts are provided within thirty days of the activity if receipts are not received further funding will not be provided.
- 7.0.3.8 Applications are under the authority of the Social Development Division Manager and the Finance Department subject to the availability of funds.
- 7.0.3.9 The Finance Department will monitor the budget and the annual expenditures. The Social Development Division Manager will provide a quarterly financial statement to Chief and Council.