

The motions **EASC 62/24 and 63/24** represent a successful allocation of **\$6,750** in community support funds, demonstrating a period of functional cooperation between Director John Rice and his island-based counterparts, Directors Vonesch and Mawhinney. These grants, drawn from an available **Area D Grant-in-Aid budget of \$45,000**, were vetted by staff to ensure they met the district's strict policy criteria before being recommended for Board approval.

Breakdown of Approved Community Funding

The three organizations identified in **EASC 63/24** provide diverse social, educational, and public safety benefits to the residents of Electoral Area D:

- **Campbell River Citizens on Patrol (COPs) — \$2,000:** These funds assist with 2024 operational expenses, including patroller gas coupons, insurance, and uniforms. The 64 members of this non-profit act as the **"eyes and ears" of the RCMP**, contributing over **4,500 volunteer hours** annually to mobile night patrols, road safety initiatives like "Speed Watch," and "Child Find" registrations.
- **Ocean Grove Elementary School PAC — \$2,000:** This grant supports educational field trips and "child play" initiatives. Specifically, it funds the **"X block" program**, which allows students to explore creative interests like cooking, arts, and crafts that are not covered by standard school district funding, as well as a **community garden** project.
- **Museum at Campbell River — \$2,750:** This allocation ensures that public programming—such as workshops, family events, and the operation of the **historic steam donkey**—remains affordable. It also enables the museum to continue offering **free admission every Wednesday** to all North Island residents, serving approximately 6,000 children through educational programming annually.

Strategic Governance and the 2026 Election

In the context of the **October 17, 2026 local election**, these motions serve as a factual baseline for Director John Rice's **"Building Tomorrow Together"** platform.

- **Evidence of Leadership:** The sources note that **all three requests were explicitly supported by Director Rice**, who requested they be brought forward to benefit his constituents.

Fiscal Health of the Grant-in-Aid Function

The approval of these three applications left a remaining **Area D Grant-in-Aid balance of \$38,250** for the 2024 fiscal year. This demonstrates that the grants were fiscally responsible and well within the authorized limits of the **5-year financial plan**, supporting the pro-stability majority's argument that they have successfully managed local resources to provide direct financial relief to community groups.

In summary, **EASC 62/24 and 63/24** document a successful effort to empower local volunteers and educators. For voters in 2026, this record serves as proof that when the board adheres to the **Bylaw No. 513 Code of Conduct** principles of "Leadership and Collaboration," it can deliver tangible, data-backed results for the community.