

Report to Council



Date: June 5, 2023
To: Council
From: City Manager
Subject: Extreme Temperature Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning Grant
Department: Partnerships Office

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives, for information, the report from the Partnerships Office dated June 5, 2023 with respect to the Extreme Temperature Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning Grant;

AND THAT Council directs staff to apply for grant funding for the “Extreme Cold Weather Support Plan for People Sheltering Outdoors in Kelowna” project through the UBCM grant;

AND THAT Council supports staff to execute all documents necessary to complete and manage the grant;

AND THAT, if the grant application is successful, the 2023 Financial Plan be amended to include the receipt of funds.

Purpose:

To inform Council of the Extreme Temperature Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning Grant, and to receive support to apply for the grant funding.

Background:

The Extreme Temperature Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning grant is part of the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund which is a suite of funding programs provided by the Province of BC and administered by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM).

The intent of the Extreme Temperature Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning funding stream is to support eligible applicants to ensure they have accurate knowledge of the risks associated with extreme temperatures, how these risks will change over time, and to develop effective response plans and strategies to prepare, mitigate, and adapt to those risks.

Discussion:

The City of Kelowna will be applying to UBCM for funding to support an “Extreme Cold Weather Support Plan for People Sheltering Outdoors in Kelowna” project. Over 200 people are expected to be sheltering outdoors in Kelowna in 2023/2024 (Central Okanagan Journey Home Society). People sheltering

outdoors have higher health risks such as frostbite, hypothermia, and exacerbated mental health concerns, during extreme cold events due to increased exposure (including being outside for longer and more frequent periods). Mobilizing extreme cold response plans can reduce these risks.

Through this grant funding, the City intends to complete an Asset and Resources System Map and a subsequent Response Plan. The Systems Map will include a vulnerable population assessment, identify existing supports and resources available to our community, and demonstrate any gaps that may exist. Using the findings in the mapping, the Response Plan will include coordinating and maximizing community resources and building capacity in community organizations to be able to fill unmet needs during extreme cold weather.

This project will be completed in collaboration with local community organizations, Indigenous knowledge holders, people with lived experience, and other partners and organizations that support people sheltering outdoors.

Conclusion:

The City actively pursues grants to reduce municipal taxation and to leverage City funding for infrastructure, services, and programs to support Council, corporate and community priorities.

This funding opportunity will provide a roadmap and associated actions to support people in our community sheltering outdoors during extreme cold weather events.

Internal Circulation:

Risk Management
Social Development

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Existing Policy:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

External Agency/Public Comments:

Communications Comments:

Submitted by:

M. Kam, Grants & Special Projects Manager

Approved for inclusion:



Bob Evans, Partnerships Office Director

cc:

Risk Management