



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ben Stewart
Kelowna-West

Norm Letnick
Kelowna-Lake Country

Renee Merrifield
Kelowna-Mission

July 17, 2023

To Whom it may concern:

RE: Downtown Association Renewal

As MLAs for Kelowna-Lake Country, Kelowna-Mission and Kelowna-West, we are pleased to provide this letter in support of the Downtown Association's Renewal presentation to the city of Kelowna.

The Downtown Kelowna Association really is an essential organization in the city of Kelowna. Downtown Kelowna is a popular destination for both residents and tourists alike, with its proximity to Okanagan Lake and the activities it presents. Through its extensive marketing and promotional efforts, including the annual Block Party each summer and Winter Street Market in December, the addition of Meet me On Bernard for summer, Downtown After 5 networking events to name a few, the DKA represents the interests of business in an extraordinary way.

The DKA's On-Street initiatives have become an essential service for Downtown businesses and property owners. The Downtown on Call and Clean Teams are not only very visible, but essential to the cleanliness and safety in Downtown Kelowna. The "Redshirts" have become the first call for businesses when situations arise including undesirable persons in a retail outlet, persons sleeping in a business doorway, broken storefront glass and more. Without the services provided by the DKA, we believe the current situation would be worse.

As MLAs that collectively represent the whole of Kelowna, we fully support the Downtown Kelowna Association's renewal. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to voice our support and for your consideration of this renewal.

Sincerely,

Ben Stewart, MLA
Kelowna - West

Norm Letnick, MLA
Kelowna - Lake Country

Renee Merrifield, MLA
Kelowna - Mission



July 20, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Renewal for Downtown Kelowna Association

It is my pleasure to provide a support letter for the Downtown Kelowna Association.

I have been a business owner, downtown Kelowna real estate owner and taxpayer for many years (1970's).

The Downtown Kelowna Association provides Kelowna with a community presence for both information and support. Their hosting and implementing positive social experiences, Downtown After 5, Meet Me on Bernard, Block Party, as well as other events entices citizens and visitors alike to come downtown and explore our City.

Additionally, the DKA provides a much-needed support network for businesses, residents, and the City as a whole, dealing with the ever-increasing homeless population, vandalism, vagrancy and criminal activities which has become the norm for our downtown business area. Collectively, we feel increasingly uncomfortable with our new norm; the DKA does an admirable job in its efforts to keep our community safer. We have had to call on their assistance many times to remove unwanted remnants, clear our parking stalls, drug paraphernalia, etc.

Without the DKA, we would be at a tremendous, if not insurmountable, loss. Their programs should not only be fully supported but should also be expanded to encompass a larger area of our beautiful city.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Culos", is written over a long horizontal line that extends across the page.

Michael A. Culos

MAC/cc

CULOS DEVELOPMENT (1996) INC.
THE COURTYARD, 105 - 1449 ST. PAUL ST., KELOWNA, BC V1Y 2E5
TEL: 250-763-7806 / FAX: 250-763-7807



TROIKA

July 19, 2023

To Whom it May Concern:

Re: **Downtown Kelowna Association's Renewal**


As a business owner in downtown Kelowna, I am pleased to provide this letter in support of Downtown Kelowna Association's renewal.

The Downtown Kelowna Association has become an essential organization in the city of Kelowna. Downtown Kelowna is a special and popular destination for both residents and tourists with its proximity to Okanagan Lake and the activities it presents.

The DKA represents the interests of business in an extraordinary way, through its extensive marketing and promotional efforts, including the annual Block Party each summer and Winter Street Market in December, the addition of Meet me On Bernard for summer, and Downtown After 5 networking events. All of these events promote our downtown core as a vibrant place in which to live, work and play!

The DKA's On-Street initiatives really have become an essential service for Downtown businesses and property owners. The Downtown on Call and Clean Teams are not only very visible, but essential to the cleanliness and safety in Downtown Kelowna. Speaking from firsthand experience, "Redshirts" have become the first call for Troika and other businesses, when situations arise including persons sleeping in a business doorway, broken storefront glass and more. Without the valuable services provided by the DKA, I truly believe the current situation would be worse.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to voice my support for the Downtown Kelowna Association's renewal. I fully support this application as a Kelowna downtown business owner.


BRAD KLASSEN



Adding Dimension.

Troika Management Corp.
302-554 Leon Ave | Kelowna, BC | V1Y 6J6
Phone: 250.869.4945 | Fax: 1.866.824.9417



**KELOWNA'S
GOSPEL
MISSION**

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express our support for the Downtown Kelowna Association in their current and future endeavours.

Kelowna's Gospel Mission has operated downtown Kelowna for over 40 years, supporting people experiencing homelessness. We consider the DKA to be key community stakeholders and partners with us in this important work.

The DKA red shirts and clean team make a visible difference in the downtown core of our City. Their continuous and obvious presence on the streets help our community feel safe, and the clean team actively makes the city safer through the safe disposal of needles and pipes.

The work of the DKA helps to reduce negative interactions between our housed and unhoused community members. When the public are fed up with homelessness we hear more frequently from our unhoused neighbours about being victims of stranger assaults. People who are living unhoused and shelter in business alcoves are too often woken up by physical assault - sometimes resulting in hospitalization. Alternatively, the DKA red shirts do the necessary work of moving along encampments, waking people up and asking them to leave, with respect and kindness.

Our city is at a tipping point when it comes to homelessness and public perception and stigma. Never was there a more vital time for a service like that the DKA provides our city.

Submitted respectfully,

Carmen Rempel
Executive Director
Kelowna's Gospel Mission



+1 250 763 3737



info@kelownagospelmission.ca
kelownagospelmission.ca



PO Box 22087 Capri Post Office
Kelowna, BC V1Y 9N9



July 25, 2023

Downtown Kelowna Association
200 - 287 Bernard Avenue
Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 6N2

Re: Downtown Kelowna Association Renewal Support

The Downtown Kelowna Associations provides many valuable services to its members year-round. DKA not only promotes locally, but implements marketing programs with a very broad reach that is hard to emulate.

As a Landlord and Property Manager I can attest that Downtown on Call (DOC) teams are trusted and relied upon by many tenants and their employees. They are responsive and deal professionally with difficult situations in a cost-effective manner. Without question DOC provides an essential service that benefits landlords, tenants, employees, and downtown patrons.

The Clean Team keeps a watchful eye on the area and are very responsive and essential to promoting a safe and clean environment.

I fully support DKA with its renewal application. It would be hard to imagine a situation without the support of DKA in our neighborhood.

Yours truly,

OKANAGAN COMMERCIAL REALTY CORP.

Perry Freeman*, CA, CPA

* Personal Real Estate Corporation

Managing Broker

Okanagan Commercial Realty Corp.
#106 – 546 Leon Avenue
Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 6J6
Ph: 250-717-8003 (dl) 250-859-3734 (cell)
commercialrealty.ca



Kelowna Rockets Hockey Enterprises Ltd.

#101 - 1223 Water Street
Kelowna, BC V1Y 9V1 Canada
Phone (250) 860-7825 • Fax (250) 860-7880
e-mail: info@kelownarockets.com
www.kelownarockets.com

July 24, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Renewal for Downtown Kelowna Association

It is our pleasure to provide a letter of support for the Downtown Kelowna Association.

The Association is an essential part of the City's plans to keep a vibrant downtown for residents and tourists alike.

Through its extensive marketing and promotional efforts including the very popular Downtown Block Party, and other programs like the Downtown After 5 networking events, the DKA represents the interests of businesses in a very unique way.

Not only is the DKA valuable, but if possible maybe their programs could be expanded to include more of the downtown.

Sincerely,

Gavin Hamilton
VP Business Development
Kelowna Rockets Hockey Club



Western Hockey League Champions 2003, 2005, 2009, 2015
Memorial Cup Champions 2004

PROUD MEMBERS OF THE WESTERN HOCKEY LEAGUE



LEXLAUR PROPERTIES INC.

605 - 540 Lawrence Ave.

Kelowna, B.C., V1Y 6L7

To Whom It May Concern:

Lexlaur Properties is a long time owner of a number of downtown properties. We have found that the Downtown Kelowna Association is an essential organization in the city of Kelowna.

Downtown Kelowna is a popular destination for both residents and tourists alike with its proximity to Okanagan Lake and the activities it presents. The DKA through the annual Block Party each summer and Winter Street Market in December, the addition of Meet me On Bernard for summer have provided a reason for residents and tourists alike to enjoy downtown. In addition through the Downtown After 5 networking event the DKA provides opportunities that promotes the interests of business in an extraordinary way.

We have found that The DKA's On-Street initiatives have become an essential service for Downtown businesses and property owners. The Downtown on Call and Clean Teams are not only very visible, but essential to the cleanliness and safety in Downtown Kelowna. The Downtown On Call Team have become the first call for businesses when situations arise including undesirable persons in a retail outlet, persons sleeping in a business doorway, broken storefront glass and more. We, and our tenants, use this service extensively. Without the services provided by the DKA, we believe the current situation would be much worse.

The Downtown Kelowna Association is vital to the success of our downtown and Kelowna as a whole.

Yours truly,

**Allen Tozer, President
Lexlaur Properties Inc.
605 - 540 Lawrence Avenue
Kelowna, BC, V1Y 6L7
(O) 250-763-3913
(C) 250-470-9972**

"Your attitude determines your altitude!"