

Report to Council



Date: October 21, 2024
To: Council
From: City Manager
Subject: Growing Canada’s Community Canopies Grant
Department: Partnerships Office

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives, for information, the report from the Partnerships Office dated October 21, 2024 with respect to the Growing Canada’s Community Canopies Grant;

AND THAT Council directs staff to apply for grant funding to the Growing Canada’s Community Canopies Grant program, administered through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities;

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

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

Purpose:

To inform Council of the Growing Canada’s Community Canopies Grant, and to receive support to apply for the grant funding.

Council Priority Alignment:

Climate & Environment

Background:

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities’ Green Municipal Fund (GMF) is a \$2.4B investment from the Government of Canada in a bundle of funding programs that delivers environmental, economic, and social impact.

Under the GMF, the Growing Canada’s Community Canopies (GCCC) funding program is a \$291M initiative that will support planting of at least 1.2 million trees across the country. The initiative is a part of GMF’s broader approach to nature-based climate solutions, which will achieve significant carbon

sequestration and increase forest and community resilience to climate change. Tree planting funding is for new tree planting projects, supporting communities to grow, manage, and protect their tree canopies.

Previous Council Resolution

Growing Canada's Community Canopies Grant

| Resolution | Date |
|--|----------------------|
| <p>THAT Council receives, for information, the report from the Partnerships Office dated July 22, 2024 with respect to the Growing Canada's Community Canopies Grant;</p> <p>AND THAT Council directs staff to apply for grant funding to the Growing Canada's Community Canopies Grant program, administered through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities;</p> <p>AND THAT Council authorizes staff to execute all documents necessary to complete and manage the grant;</p> <p>AND FURTHER THAT if that grant application is successful, the Financial Plan be amended to include the receipt of funds.</p> | <p>July 22, 2024</p> |

Discussion:

The City is applying to the GCCC Tree Planting fund for the Infill Street Tree Urbanization Project that will add sidewalks, stormwater management and street trees along Glenwood Ave and Morrison Ave. These projects will enhance aesthetics, provide shade, improve air quality, reduce urban noise and lower temperatures in the urban core.

Morrison Ave

A pilot project is proposed for Morrison Avenue, where the street will be redesigned to better accommodate trees. Bioswales are being explored as an alternative means of watering street trees and managing stormwater. Staff are also investigating low water need tree species and ground covers that could be planted in boulevards.

Glenwood Ave

Glenwood Ave will follow a more traditional urbanization method with the addition of sidewalks, refreshed boulevards, and a traditional stormwater management system, while increasing the street tree canopy.

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.

Funding from the Growing Canada's Community Canopies fund will support initiatives to increase tree canopy throughout Kelowna.

Internal Circulation:

Infrastructure Delivery
 Planning, Climate Action & Development Services
 Development Engineering

Finance

Considerations applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:

Existing Policy:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Consultation and Engagement:

Submitted by: K. March, Grants & Special Projects Manager

Approved for inclusion: M. Kam, Partnerships Office Director

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