

# Report to Council



**Date:** October 31, 2016  
**File:** 0710-01  
**To:** City Manager  
**From:** Michelle Kam, Sustainability Coordinator  
Lindsay Clement, Park and Landscape Planner  
**Subject:** UBCM 2017 Age-friendly Community Planning and Project Grants

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## **Recommendation:**

THAT Council receives, for information, the report from the Sustainability Coordinator and Parks Landscape Planner dated October 31, 2016, with respect to UBCM 2017 Age-friendly Community Planning & Project Grants;

AND THAT Council authorizes staff to apply for a 2017 UBCM Age-friendly Community Planning Grant for a Community for All Ages, City Parks and Buildings Assessment for Kelowna;

AND FURTHER THAT Council authorizes the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the 2017 UBCM Age-friendly Community Planning Grant on behalf of City Council, if the application is successful.

## **Purpose:**

To consider staff's recommendation to apply for a 2017 UBCM Age-Friendly Community Planning Grant.

## **Background:**

In order for municipal governments to plan for aging and age-friendly communities, the Ministry of Health has committed funding for the 2017 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Age Friendly Community Planning and Project Grants. A maximum of 30 grants of up to \$20,000 are available for 2017 community planning initiatives or community projects.

In 2016, the City of Kelowna received a UBCM Age-friendly Community Planning Grant to develop a Community for All Ages Action Plan. The complete plan will be presented to Council for endorsement at the end of 2016. Through the development of this plan, numerous

action items will be presented in order to create a city that is healthy, safe, active and inclusive for seniors, children and those with diverse abilities.

Two of the City-led recommendations that arose from the plan development include 1) an All Ages and Abilities Parks Assessment and 2) an All Ages and Abilities City Buildings Assessment, collectively called the "Community for All Ages, City Parks and Buildings Assessment".

These two recommendations were made as we need to evaluate the suitability of City parks and buildings in meeting the needs of seniors, mobility impaired, and/or parents with babies or young toddlers. As Kelowna's population ages, mobility, accessibility and social participation becomes more challenging for many. Therefore, it is important to create public spaces that are accessible and where social connections can be made.

In order to assess our City parks and buildings and build upon the momentum of the Community for All Ages work, staff would like to apply for a 2017 UBCM Age-friendly Planning and Project Grant for an "Community for All Ages, City Parks and Buildings Assessment".

The intended outcomes and deliverables of the assessment are as follows:

- 1) A compilation of site specific information related to accessibility for all ages and mobility capabilities in City parks and buildings.
- 2) Recommendations for improvement, including prioritization.

The City Parks and Buildings Assessment will incorporate the needs of Kelowna's residents across their lifespan and provide strong linkages to the community that will help achieve long-term goals and targets of Kelowna being a Community for All Ages. The City will develop the assessment criteria in collaboration with the Community for All Ages Stakeholder Advisory Committee to incorporate the needs of seniors, children and those with diverse abilities.

In addition to this grant application, the Infrastructure Division will be making an operating request of \$20,000 for the Community for all Ages, City Parks and Buildings Assessment for the 2017 budget considerations, in order to achieve a comprehensive study of our city parks and buildings. This UBCM grant, however, does not require matching funding. The extent of the assessment scope and number of locations studied will be determined once the availability of grant money and/or City budget is confirmed.

After the City completes the assessments, the criteria will be available to other organizations and businesses within Kelowna, encouraging organizations to complete their own assessments. By including all ages and abilities in planning and design will work towards the vision of "creating a community that is healthy, safe, active and included and seniors, children and those with diverse abilities."

**Internal Circulation:**

Divisional Director, Community Planning & Real Estate  
Divisional Director, Infrastructure  
Parks & Buildings Planning Manager  
Park & Landscape Planner  
Grants & Partnerships Manager

**Existing Policy:**

Healthy Community Council Policy 190:

"The City of Kelowna endorses the principles and objectives of a Healthy Community, and acknowledges essential relationships between community health and community quality of life.

The City of Kelowna resolves that:

- a) future policies of the City of Kelowna will provide a municipal framework which will assist in enhancing the overall health and vitality of the community;
- b) Kelowna civic departments individually and collectively will review policies and operations toward improving health conditions within the community;
- c) the City of Kelowna will ensure full community participation in matters relating to the overall health of the community and its citizens."

**OCP Policy 5.14 Provide Parks for a Diversity of People and a Variety of Uses**

OCP Policy 10.2.1 Stakeholder Involvement. Involve a broad range of interests identifying solutions for emerging issues, including residents, businesses, non-profits, major institutions, and utility providers, with a particular effort given to involving those typically not engaged in community decisions.

**Financial/Budgetary Considerations:**

The Infrastructure Division will be making a budget request for 2017 for additional funds to fully complete the assessments for City parks and buildings.

**Considerations not applicable to this report**

**Legal/Statutory Authority:**

**Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:**

**Personnel Implications:**

**External Agency/Public Comments:**

**Communications Comments:**

**Alternate Recommendation:**

Submitted by:

M. Kam, Sustainability Coordinator

Approved for inclusion:  (James Moore, Policy & Planning Department Manager)

cc:

Divisional Director, Community Planning & Real Estate

Divisional Director, Infrastructure

Parks & Buildings Planning Manager

Park & Landscape Planner

Parks Services Manager

Building Services Manager

Infrastructure Delivery Department Manager

Grants and Partnerships Manager  
Divisional Director, Active Living & Culture  
Integrated Transportation Department Manager