

Report to Council



Date: December 2, 2024
To: Council
From: City Manager
Subject: 2024 GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award
Department: Corporate Services

Recommendation:

THAT Council receive for information, the report from the General Manager of Corporate Services dated December 2, 2024, with respect to the 2024 GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

Purpose:

To present the 2024 GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

Background:

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) is a non-profit professional organization that serves more than 18,000 government finance professionals throughout North America and recognizes excellence in budgeting and financial reporting.

Discussion:

The City of Kelowna has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its 2024 Annual Budget Document. This is the twenty-third year in a row that the City has received this award, which recognizes governments that "prepare budget documents of the very highest quality that reflect both the guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the GFOA's best practices on budgeting." The 2024 Final Budget and Five-Year Financial Plan was approved by Council bylaw in May 2024 and a comprehensive application was completed and sent to the GFOA for panel review and scoring.

In order to receive this award a government must publish a document that meets program criteria and excel as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and communication tool. Three independent reviewers individually score the document according to ratings of "Information Not Present" through to "Outstanding", for each of the 25 Budget Award Criteria.

I am pleased to advise City Council that Kelowna's 2024 Annual Budget received a proficient or outstanding rating on all requisite rating criteria. Particularly noteworthy is the "Outstanding" rating awarded to the new Service Area sections. This commendation highlights the excellence of our service area descriptions, their alignment with Corporate and Council priorities, and the improved performance measures.

This award is valid for one year. We believe our 2025 budget continues to exceed program requirements, and we will be submitting it to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) to determine its eligibility for another award.

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority
Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements
Existing Policy
Financial/Budgetary Considerations
Consultation and Engagement

Submitted by: J. Sass, General Manager, Corporate Services

Approved for inclusion: D. Gilchrist, City Manager

Attachments:

Attachment A – GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award 2024

cc:

M. Antunes, Financial Planning Manager
J. Jean, Budget Supervisor