

# Report to Council



**Date:** February 6, 2017

**File:** 0610-01

**To:** City Manager

**From:** Jeff Carlisle, Fire Chief

**Subject:** UBCM Grant Application for FireSmart Initiatives

Report Prepared by: Lou Wilde, Deputy Fire Chief

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**Recommendation:**

THAT Council receives, for information, the Report from the Deputy Fire Chief dated February 6, 2017 to support FireSmart initiatives within our community;

AND THAT Council approves a grant application by staff to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiatives program;

AND FURTHER THAT upon confirmation of the grant award, the 2017 Financial Plan be amended to include the receipt up to \$10,000 for the FireSmart Partners Home Ignition Zone Assessment Pilot Project.

**Purpose:**

To request support for pursuing grant funding from the UBCM Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiatives program to further the City's FireSmart initiatives.

**Background:**

As part of the UBCM's Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiatives, local governments have an opportunity to apply for grant funding in support of FireSmart initiatives in their communities that face wildland interface fire threats.

The Kelowna Fire Department (KFD) is seeking grant funding for the *FireSmart Partners Home Ignition Zone Assessment Pilot Project* where staff will conduct site visits on private properties in designated wildland interface neighbourhoods. The project's newly released software will be utilized to collect data to assess, store and provide measurable vulnerability reduction objectives. The grant request is for \$10,000 (software, support and training). *FireSmart Canada - Partners in Protection* will provide up to \$35,000 of in-kind contributions by supplying the mobile app and software development.

KFD intends to conduct over 160 site visits over the project's two-year period populating the software that will catalogue risk data for the development and implementation of specific Firesmart mitigation strategies for homeowners.

**Internal Circulation:**

Parks Department (Urban Forester)  
Financial Planning Manager

**Financial/Budgetary Considerations:**

The total cost for the FireSmart Partners Home Ignition Zone Assessment pilot project will be \$11,468 of which \$10,000 funded from the UBCM Grant and the remaining \$1,468 from current years' operating budget. The 2017 Financial Plan will require an addition up to \$10,000 upon confirmation of the UBCM's Strategic Wildfire Prevention Initiative grant award.

**Communications Comments:**

The public will be notified when site visits are being done and are under no obligation to take part.

Submitted by:

L. Wilde, Deputy Fire Chief

Approved for inclusion:

(the department director initials here)

cc:

Bylaw Department  
Office of the City Clerk  
Financial Planning