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## CITY OF KELOWNA

# MEMORANDUM

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**Date:** January 12, 2001  
**File No.:** 0290-20  
**To:** City Manager  
**From:** Recreation Services Manager  
**Subject:** The “Anita Tozer Memorial Award”

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT City Council approve the special award which is normally presented by the Mayor on behalf of Kelowna City Council, at the Civic and Community Awards banquet and ceremonies, to now be called the “**Anita Tozer Memorial Award**”;

AND THAT City Council have the exclusive authority to determine the recipient of this award;

AND FURTHER THAT the basic core criteria for the Anita Tozer Memorial Award be:

- ◆ The Award will be presented in recognition of an extraordinary and positive contribution to the quality of life in Kelowna,
- ◆ The Award may be presented to an individual, a community group or a business,
- ◆ The extraordinary contribution to the City of Kelowna must have;
  - ◆ A long term benefit to the citizens of Kelowna,
  - ◆ Enhanced the image of the City of Kelowna,
  - ◆ A unique impact on the citizens of Kelowna, and
  - ◆ Added to the enjoyment of life in Kelowna.

### **DISCUSSION:**

In the past when City Council wanted to recognize an organization or individual who has made an extraordinary and positive contribution to the City of Kelowna and our citizens, it has been presented during the Civic and Community Awards banquet and ceremonies. This award is not automatically presented annually, but rather as deemed necessary and appropriate by Council. Past award recipients have been *Friends of the Mission Creek Greenway Society* in 1998, and the *Communities in Bloom Committee* in 1999.

The incentive for naming this award in memory of Anita Tozer is her extraordinary and positive contribution to our community as an outstanding and exemplary community and charity volunteer. Listed below is some history on Anita Tozer:

- Anita Tozer passed away on July 10, 2000 at the age of 72,
- Anita Tozer was the daughter of former BC premier W.A.C. Bennett. She was married to Geoffrey Tozer since 1952 and had two sons, William and Allen. Anita was a school teacher at George Pringle Secondary School until her retirement,

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- Since being idle in her retirement was not in her nature, Anita consistently worked hard to excel in both the political arena, and as a tireless community and charity volunteer. Some of the numerous Kelowna community organizations that Anita dedicated many valuable years to support include:
  - Central Okanagan United Way and was awarded a “Lifetime Membership”,
  - Social Planning Institute of BC,
  - Downtown Kelowna Association,
  - Kelowna Community Resources and Crisis Centre,
  - Kelowna Children’s Fund,
  - Women’s Auxiliary of Kelowna General Hospital,
  - Kelowna General Hospital’s “Together We Care” campaign,
  - The Kelowna Art Gallery Fundraising Committee,
  - National United Way Board Member, and the
  - Women’s Auxiliary of the Social Credit Party,
- With the United Way, Anita Tozer served in many capacities; President in 1981, Campaign Chair in 1990 and personally writing more than 800 letters to individuals during one campaign!
- The current Board of Directors and Executive Director for the United Way is in full support of the naming of this award in memory of Anita Tozer.
- The Tozer family is very supportive of this recommendation, and has also indicated that they are prepared to provide financial support for a permanent trophy or plaque, if City Council wishes to provide such an item.
- Anita Tozer was a recipient of the Sarah Donalds Treadgold Memorial Award in 1991, which is part of the Civic and Community Awards program of the City.
- Anita Tozer has been described as *“a very delightful person to work with, who had tremendous social investment in our community”*, by a fellow community volunteer.
- Kelowna has lost a great soul. Our community, her friends and her family will miss her greatly.

It is with information that the Civic and Community Awards Steering Committee highly recommends the naming of City Council’s Special Award to now be called the **“The Anita Tozer Memorial Award”**.

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J.W.R. Oddleifson,  
Recreation Services Manager

Cc Councillor Given, Chairman, Civic and Community Awards Steering Committee  
Director of Parks & Leisure Services