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## City of Kelowna

# MEMORANDUM

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DATE: February 25, 2002  
FILE: 0230-20  
  
TO: City Manager  
  
FROM: Community Planning Manager  
  
RE: Request for Start-Up Grant by North End Residents' Association  
  
REPORT PREPARED BY: Theresa Eichler

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### RECOMMENDATION:

THAT City Council approve the request for a \$500 start-up grant for the North End Residents' Association on the basis that it conforms to the provisions established by Council through resolution S1190/93/10/18 (copy attached) approved on October 18, 1993.

### PURPOSE:

To request permission for a start-up grant for the North End Residents' Association.

### BACKGROUND:

Most of the City's Residents' or Neighbourhood Associations were started as a result of a Healthy Communities initiative in 1992, where the City held information sessions and invited groups to consider the establishment of residents' associations. Provincial funding under the Healthy Communities program was used to conduct this work. However, it was discovered that the provincial funding did not include monies for the associations themselves to cover the costs of getting established. Following the direction of the City, most of these groups registered as non-profit societies and established an executive and board of directors.

Given the lack of funding to help these groups get started, in 1993, Council passed two resolutions (May & October) to commit start-up funds to neighbourhoods wishing to establish associations (attached to this report). In October of 1993, the criteria were clarified to indicate that a maximum one-time grant of \$500 would be administered by the Planning & Development Services Department to each geographic area of the City in which Neighbourhood Association formation activities are occurring (#S1190/93/10/18). The funds were to be provided from Council Contingency on an as required basis. No council policy exists as a result of this resolution. However, the commitment has been made and should still be valid.

### REPORT

Marie McIntosh has been making continuous efforts over the last few years to increase the interest, membership and involvement of residents in her area to the North End Residents Association. Planning staff was invited to give a presentation to existing and potential North End Residents' Association members on opportunities for municipal, community-level involvement in late 1999. The basis of a Residents' Association has been established since the early 1990s, in the same time-frame as other associations were created, following the Healthy Communities

Initiative that was hosted by the City. However, the North End Residents Association, never formalized its structure by registering as a non-profit society. Boundaries that are proposed are essentially the same as the ones that were first suggested by this association. They do not coincide with planning sectors or census tracts, which will make it difficult for the City to provide information specific to the boundaries proposed. However, this Association has informally existed for as long as most other groups and does not wish to re-establish its boundaries. Since the Association never took the steps to become a non-profit society, it is still eligible for the \$500 start-up grant, according to the provisions set out in 1993. No previous funding has been awarded to this Association. The letter requesting assistance is attached. Staff is of the opinion that the request is consistent with the City's commitment to provide \$500 as a start-up grant, according to the attached resolution from October of 1993. A policy for working with residents associations is still under review.

SUMMARY

This report asks Council to approve a \$500 start-up grant for the North End Residents Association on the basis that the request is consistent with the October, 1993 Council resolution to provide such funding.

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Theresa Eichler, MCIP  
Community Planning Manager

Approved for Inclusion

R.L. (Ron) Mattiussi, ACP, MCIP  
Director of Planning & Development Services

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Paper Attachment:

Letter of February 7, 2002 from Marie McIntosh requesting Start-up Funding for the North End Residents' Association

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RESOLUTION OF OCTOBER 18, 1993:

Moved by Councillor Markgraf/Seconded by Councillor Bremner

S1190/93/10/18 THAT City Council approve that a maximum one-time grant administered by the Planning and Development Services Department of \$500.00 be made available to each geographic area of the city in which Neighbourhood Association formation activities are occurring;

AND THAT all the Neighbourhood Associations receiving grants under the Neighbourhood Association Funding Program be required to conform to the City's funding application procedure;

AND FURTHER THAT funding be provided from Council Contingency on an as required basis.

Carried

EXTRACT FROM MAY 11, 1993 COUNCIL MINUTES:

9.4 Councillor Bremner, dated May 11, 1993 re: Neighbourhood Associations (6520.01)

Councillor Bremner explained that due to an accounting error in the Healthy Communities budget, funds thought to be available to assist with the formation of neighbourhood associations are not available. The requested funds would provide assistance for those associations still being formed.

Discussion ensued regarding whether it is appropriate for the City to fund these associations. Councillor Bremner advised that the provincial government provided the funds allocated so far knowing Healthy Communities was intending to use it this for this purpose.

The Mayor was required to cast the deciding vote and agreed to support this request only because funds have already been allocated in this way. He advised that no further requests for this type of funding will be considered.

Moved by Councillor Bremner/Seconded by Councillor Lee

R562/93/05/25 THAT up to \$2,000 be allocated from Council Contingency to the Healthy Communities Initiative for the purpose of assisting those neighbourhoods desirous of forming Neighbourhood Associations to a maximum of \$500 each.

Carried