



## Boys & Girls Clubs of the Central Okanagan

Kelowna & District | Lake Country | Westbank & District | Central Okanagan Daycare Society

1633 Richter Street, P.O. Box 75, Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 7N3

Tel. (250) 762-3914 Fax. (250) 762-6562

Email: [info@boysandgirlsclub.ca](mailto:info@boysandgirlsclub.ca)

### **Presentation to Kelowna City Council April 08, 2002**

#### Slide 1 – “Together building the future one child at a time”

As the Executive Director for the Central Okanagan Boys & Girls Clubs, I have been invited here today to present two distinct, yet somewhat related topics of discussion to you. For those of you who are unfamiliar with our services I will give a brief overview of our organization and then discuss each proposal that I would like to present to you today separately, as we only have a few minutes to get into the details of each. I'll have to ask that you save your questions until the end of the presentation, and then we can devote a question period to the important issues you bring up then.

About the Club...

The Central Okanagan Boys and Girls Club is a Non-Profit Agency that provides a full range of front line prevention and intervention programs and services to children and youth in the Central Okanagan. We have been providing programs and services to our community for over 42 years and we are now the third largest Boys & Girls Club in Canada, trailing only Calgary and Victoria.

#### Slide 2 – Youth Programs

Our services have grown **with** our communities to address the developmental, personal, social and recreational needs of children, youth and their families. Programs and services have been developed in response to community needs providing service coverage from Oyama to Peachland. Here are just a few of the programs and services the Central Okanagan Boys & Girls Clubs offer.

#### Slide 3 – Youth Programs (continued)

Our programs operate 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We currently have 156,000 child visits through our centres each year. If we could take a page from the McDonald's school of advertising, the Central Okanagan Boys & Girls Club could hang a shingle proudly proclaiming, “over 3 million served.”

#### Slide 4 – Our Partners in Service

The Boys & Girls Club is able to provide these services to children with the dedicated help of 178 staff members, 382 volunteers contributing over 7,000 hours of their time, along with our many generous partners in service as listed here. As one of our first partners, the City of Kelowna has been working with the Boys & Girls Club since 1959. In 1976, our partnership reached a new level as a past Council member declared, "The Kelowna **Boys** Club is one of the first to have a City Service Contract" – an important milestone in the history of our organization.

Since that time there have been a few changes: our organization has grown to include the Kelowna Jaycees Downtown Youth Centre, the Rutland Kinsman Youth Centre, and of course we're now letting in **Girls**; but Council would be pleased to know this relationship has not only endured the last quarter of a century, but that we plan to preserve it for at least twenty-five more.

#### Slide 5 – City of Kelowna Funding

The City of Kelowna gives generously to the Kelowna Boys & Girls Clubs. City Funding is currently \$315,101 per year. Through this funding, City Councillors help provide invaluable programs and services to Kelowna children and teens at the Kelowna Jaycees Downtown Youth Centre, the Rutland Kinsman Youth Centre and Teen City Beat Clubs. As you can see the funding is divided almost equally amongst our Youth Clubs. As mandated by the City, the Boys & Girls Clubs' commitment to youth is evident in the variety and quality of the services that we manage.

#### Slide 6- Club Services , Kelowna Clubs

Here are some of the worthwhile youth programs, currently offered by the Boys & Girls Club with monies received from the City of Kelowna:

The club services that the City of Kelowna helps fund, directly affects the children and their parents who could otherwise not afford to participate in such activities.

#### Slide 7 – Mission Statement

These are all programs with a purpose; planned and administered with the underlying goal of our mission statement – TO OFFER YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES TO DEVELOP SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND VALUES THEY SEEK TO BECOME FULFILLED INDIVIDUALS.

I'm standing in front of you today to not only thank you for your generosity but to request more of it. You knew there was a catch right? We're asking for an increase in funding to enable the Boys & Girls Club to expand our many worthwhile programs to meet the growing needs of Kelowna's youth.

together building the future one child at a time  
[www.boysandgirlsclub.ca](http://www.boysandgirlsclub.ca)

#### Slide 8 - \$\$\$ for teens

The focus of our expansion with additional City of Kelowna Funding will be directed towards our teen programming. With an extra \$19,400 we can expand our teen programs within the organization and continue to reach out to Kelowna's youth in a comprehensive and compelling manner. We want more thirteen to eighteen year olds using Boys & Girls Club facilities, services and programs.

To encourage more teens to use our services, we require additional funding to develop and increase hours for

- our drop-in recreational programs
- our late night centres
- and our mobile outreach program.

Our program directors have targeted the following:

Our proposal is to use additional City Funding as agreed upon by City Councillors exclusively for teens and teen programs here in Kelowna.

#### Slide 9 – Benefits for Kelowna's Youth

##### **for Youth it means:**

- More programs mean they have more choice and a place to go, giving them a sense of ownership
- More programs mean they have an opportunity to engage in positive activities
- Longer program and centre hours mean that there will be less youth on the streets, which can also mean less crime for the City of Kelowna
- More sports leagues mean that youth have an opportunity to engage in healthy activities
- An expansion of the Mobile Outreach program means that we can provide a proactive youth program by reaching out to them first, in spaces they're comfortable with, by professional staff

In the past year we've had over 62,000 youth visits to our Kelowna Clubs and programs. Our history of funding increases from the city has been minimal. For the number of youth who walk through our doors we feel this is fair value for new friends, new skills, increased self-esteem and positive role models. With a less than \$20,000 increase in funding, the City of Kelowna can increase the number of teens to that equation – getting them off the streets and into a newly expanded Boys & Girls Club program.

#### Slide 10 - Additional City Funding

Here's how we propose the additional City funding be spent: 34 % would go to Materials, supplies and equipment as operational expenses. Then as staffing is our largest expense, the increased programming would require an increase in staff hours, and hence staff pay. We are very proud to have a qualified, certified and professional staff within our organization. This ensures the delivery of continued excellent programming at the Kelowna Boys and Girls Clubs.

#### Slide 11 – Increased Teen programming benefits Teens

As a charitable organization we are aware of the present realities. We do realize that all levels of government are currently working overtime to determine the most worthwhile programs to receive their funding. The Teens program is definitely one of those most worthy. With extra dollars from City Councillors, Kelowna's youth, their parents, and the community as a whole benefit from expanded Youth programming at the Boys & Girls Clubs.

By agreeing to this increase in funding, City Councillors can visibly and measurably increase its stake in fostering a city that truly cares about its Youth.

Ladies, Gentleman thank you for your time...

Questions?

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