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City of Kelowna

MEMORANDUM

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DATE: November 20, 2002  
FILE: 1850-20  
TO: City Manager  
FROM: Community Planning Manager  
RE: Grants to Address the Sexual Exploitation of Youth  
REPORT PREPARED BY: Robert James

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RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Kelowna City Council authorize the amendments to Council Policy No. 277 - Grants to Address the Sexual Exploitation of Youth Program as attached to the report from the Community Planning Manager dated November 20, 2002.

PURPOSE:

To introduce some changes to the Grants to Address the Sexual Exploitation of Youth program aimed at improving the efficiency, accountability and understanding of the program, and to harmonize criteria with those of the Community Social Development (CSD) Grant Program.

BACKGROUND:

The Grant to Address the Sexual Exploitation of Youth program was introduced in 1999 as a result of a report taken to City Council by the Social Planning Board in 1998. As part of the City's commitment to assisting the community in working to eliminate the sexual exploitation of youth, grants are awarded to agencies selected on the basis of applications received and evaluated by the Social Planning Board. The program is administered in parallel with the CSD Grant Program, although the terms of reference for the two programs are separate. Each year, the grant program is reviewed by staff and members of the Social Planning Board to determine if improvements can be made, based on the previous year's experience. The most recent changes were made in 2000, and included the addition of an appeal process.

REPORT

Despite past improvements to the Grants process, there are annual complaints by applicants, who continue to have difficulty understanding program requirements; this increases the administrative effort required to operate the programs. A staff review suggested changes be made to clarify both the process and the applicants' responsibilities. Discussions were held with the Social Planning Board, and the following policy changes are proposed, with explanatory notes provided:

- 1. Proposals that offer services or programs that cross municipal boundaries will be considered; however, grant funds may only be used for those portions of the program that are delivered within the boundaries of the City of Kelowna for the benefit of Kelowna residents.***

- There is a growing tendency, supported and encouraged by the City, among community groups toward co-operation and collaboration in the delivery of services. This has led to the creation of partnerships offering services and projects across municipal boundaries.
  - The proposed change would allow Council to support such partnerships, while at the same time ensuring that grant funds are reserved for local use only.
- 2. Grants may not be for the purpose of assisting an industrial, commercial or business undertaking.**
- Existing grants are issued in accordance with Section 176 of the Local Government Act. Section 182 of that Act limits Section 176, and prevents municipalities from offering Grant assistance to for-profit entities. The proposed change would make this clear to potential applicants by incorporating the LGA text.
- 3. Grants may not offer direct financial assistance to individuals or families.**
- The proposed change would harmonize this policy with CSD policy.
- 4. Both short-term and ongoing programs are eligible for assistance.**
- 5. Although an agency may receive more than one grant from one year to the next, a new application will be required each year**
- 6. No specific amount of money can be promised on an annual basis to any agency.**
- These criteria are contained in the existing Terms of Reference provided to the applicants but not in the underlying policy document. Given that the reference to ongoing programs differs from CSD policy, and that the two programs are to be administered in parallel, it is felt that these criteria should be specified in policy, to avoid possible applicant confusion.

**SUMMARY:**

In order to improve the efficiency, understanding and accountability of the Grants to Address the Sexual Exploitation of Youth program, it is recommended that City Council adopt changes to Policy 277 as described above.

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Theresa Eichler, MCIP  
Community Planning Manager

Approved for Inclusion

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

RJ

Attach.