
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 1, 2003
File No.: 0360-20

To: City Manager

From: Director of Parks & Leisure Services

Subject: Kelowna Regatta Request for Assistance

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT City Council receive the request for financial assistance from the Kelowna International Regatta Society attached to the April 23, 2003, report from the Director of Parks and Leisure Services;

AND THAT Council consider providing financial assistance;

AND FURTHER THAT the Kelowna International Regatta Society be asked to apply through the Outdoor Events Committee to seek approval for the Friday Night Kick-Off Concert.

BACKGROUND:

The Kelowna International Regatta Society has an accumulated operating deficit arising mainly because of a shortfall in fundraising in 2002. The Society has pledged to operate within the funds available, however; they are asking for assistance in repaying outstanding accounts payable so they are able to proceed with the 2003 event. The request is for a loan of \$30,028.38 which is proposed to be repaid over the next four years. Should Council approve the full amount requested, it would allow for the repayment, in full, of all creditors except for a small number that have agreed in writing to delay full repayment to a future date.

The Society has also requested an increase in its annual grant from the existing amount of \$15,000 to \$20,000 and requested approval for a Friday evening entertainment event. The Friday Night Kick-Off Concert is a special event subject to the provisions of the Outdoor Events Bylaw and application should be made through the Outdoor Events Committee. This Committee is empowered through the bylaw to approve and impose any required conditions for the event.

City Council has a number of options in addressing this request as outlined below:

- A loan can be given as requested. This solves the immediate problem but the Society is still required to repay the loan and this may place additional financial burdens on them.
- Council may provide a grant in the loan amount requested or in a lesser amount. A grant of less than the amount requested will cause the Society to undertake additional fund raising and operational changes to work within the funds available, however, the need for loan repayment is removed.
- Council may decide to provide additional annual funds by either a grant or a loan, beyond the existing annual grant of \$15,000 already provided by the City. Their request is for \$20,000 but a larger amount could be considered instead of providing the loan. (Note: The City's current budget provides for a cash grant of \$15,000 and further support \$4,307 through services provided to Regatta at the City's cost.)

Should Council wish to provide either loan or grant funds, then staff recommend that a reporting and monitoring system satisfactory to the City's Director of Financial Services be put in place.

David Graham
Director of Parks & Leisure Services

DG/dhk

Attachments

cc: Director of Financial Services