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## CITY OF KELOWNA

### MEMORANDUM

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**Date:** January 20, 2004  
**File No.:** 5280-01  
**To:** City Manager  
**From:** Environment Manager  
**Subject:** **West Nile Virus Funding and Response Planning**

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#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT Council amend the 2004 Financial Plan to include West Nile Virus mitigation project costs of \$50,000 funded from a one-time Province of British Columbia grant.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

In the City Manager's memo of July 15, 2003 City staff provided an update of current information and outlined the existing West Nile Virus program activities. This memo updates that information and further information on funding for the 2004 program.

- *Interior Health Update*

1. In BC there has been no detection of WNV in animal, bird or mosquito however detection has occurred in people who had traveled to neighboring provinces.
2. Over 1900 birds were tested in BC. BC, PEI, NFLD and the Territories have had no positive WNV detection in birds.
3. Mosquito trapping throughout the province continued into the fall in order to establish baseline species. No positive mosquito pools were detected in BC.
4. As part of the province's co-ordinated West Nile virus strategy, the Minister of Health Services has obtained a BC wide permit under the Pesticide Control Act to control mosquitoes (attach#1, Information Bulletin). It provides a legal mechanism to allow pesticide application if health officials determine the virus poses a public-health threat.
5. Interior Health will continue to monitor for WNV presence however is requesting local government to take a more active role in planning and control initiatives (attach #2, MCAWS News Release). Each municipality is also eligible for funding up to a maximum of \$50,000.

- *City Update*

1. The City will continue to forward complaints of mosquito breeding areas to RDCO for their monitoring and treatment under their program.

2. The City will take a proactive step to survey and locate all catch basins. The inventorying of CBs is motivated by their potential as breeding sites for mosquitoes throughout the City. The cost of this program is potentially funded by the WNV Provincial Funding and partially from the Storm Water Network Operations "Catch Basin Mapping" 2004 supplementary.
3. The City is prepared to larvacide CBs if monitoring suggests high numbers of breeding mosquitoes in those locations. The cost of this program will be applied for through the WNV Provincial Funding.
4. Biological larvacide is readily available (Vectobac) with in stock quantities at RDCO.
5. Alternative treatments and Integrated Pest Management will be further reviewed by City and RDCO staff.
6. The City will partner with RDCO on information and education. The funding for this is also covered by the Province.
7. The City and RDCO will continue to work with Interior Health and other agencies towards program improvements or changes as necessary.
8. The City will apply for \$50,000 as a one time grant for the WNV funding in 2004. The budget is attached (attach #3).

- RDCO Update

1. The RDCO will maintain its current program of monitoring and control of over 50 breeding sites.
2. The RDCO will also be making a one time application for WNV provincial funding.

The City and RDCO will continue to work with Interior Health to inform the public and provide information to Council and the Regional Board on WNV, mosquito control and monitoring.

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Mark Watt, Environment Manager

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John Vos, Director of Works & Utilities

Attach 1 - Information Bulletin-BC Wide Permit  
Attach 2 - News Release – Funding  
Attach 3 - WNV Assistance Funding

MW/ms

cc: RDCO  
Interior Health  
Director of Financial Services