CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: August 18, 2004

File No.: 6300-09

To: City Manager

From: Urban Forestry Supervisor

Manager, Policy, Research and Strategic Planning

Subject: Wildfire Protection Plan Funding

RECOMMENDATION

THAT staff be instructed to apply for the maximum funding available (\$15,000) under a program administered by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM), to help cover the costs of preparing a wildfire protection plan for the City of Kelowna.

BACKGROUND

The City's Planning and Parks Departments, together with Regional District of Central Okanagan Parks issued a joint call for proposals earlier this year, for the purpose of preparing wildland fire hazard mapping and for developing wildfire and fuel management plans for city-owned properties. A consulting team was hired and is currently working on this project.

Staff recently learned that a new funding program is now available for developing these types of plans, as a result of recommendations in the recent Filmon Fire Report. Funding is being provided by the B.C. Ministry of Forests and administered by the UBCM. One of the funding requirements is a formal resolution by Council.

The maximum funding available for this year is 50% of costs, up to a maximum of \$15,000. The application deadline is August 31, 2004. The application will be sent in by the deadline, with any related Council resolution to follow.

Ian Wilson, Urban Forestry Supervisor

Signe Bagh, Manager, Policy, Research and Strategic Planning

c.c. Director of Parks and Leisure Services
Director, Planning and Corporate Services
Parks Manager