

## **Downtown Kelowna Alley Improvement Program**

Kelowna City Council Presentation by:

Clint McKenzie, Executive Director, Downtown Kelowna Association

Chris Martin, President, CleanScapes, Downtown Seattle

### **Overview**

The Downtown Kelowna Association (DKA) in partnership with the City of Kelowna has initiated the search for a strategy for the provision of a garbage collection service to replace the existing dumpsters currently located within any public right-of-way in the downtown core.

The Kelowna Downtown Plan envisions Downtown as a highly pedestrian-oriented environment. To this end, the DKA is encouraging the removal of garbage dumpsters that currently serve Downtown. The reason for this initiative is that dumpsters are unsightly, facilitate illegal dumping, their contents often emit foul odours and generally, contribute to the perceptions that downtown is unsafe.

Dumpsters are also used as cover for illicit activity ranging from defecation and drug use to more serious violent offenses. Security, lighting and general cleanliness of the alleys are key priorities of the DKA to ensure a safer and cleaner environment for businesses, tourists and the vision of working towards more residents in downtown Kelowna.

### **CleanScapes**

Chris Martin, the President of CleanScapes in Seattle, was recently featured on Global Television as an example of how Vancouver can learn from Seattle in their efforts to clean up the downtown alleys prior to hosting the 2010 Olympics.

CleanScapes Dumpster Free Program in downtown Seattle's Pioneer Square Historic District, has been very well received by the businesses and residents in the area. Chris will share some of the opportunities of the initiative and how Kelowna could take advantage of such a program.