

REPORT TO COUNCIL



Date: October 5, 2011

File: 0710-40

To: Mayor and Council

From: City Manager

Subject: October 17, 2011, Public in Attendance - Central Okanagan Foundation - City of Kelowna Emergency Grant

Attached is a copy of correspondence to Council dated September 18, 2011 from the Central Okanagan Foundation regarding its recommendation for a City of Kelowna Emergency Grant.

It is staff's recommendation that the following resolution be adopted by Council:

THAT Council approves the emergency grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 to the John Howard Society, as recommended by the Central Okanagan Foundation.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. L. Mattiussi", written over a horizontal line.

R.L. (Ron) Mattiussi, MCIP
City Manager

TE
Attachment



— CENTRAL OKANAGAN —
FOUNDATION

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September 18, 2011

Mayor Shepherd & Council
1435 Water Street
Kelowna, BC
V1Y 1J4

Dear Mayor Shepherd & Council:

A request for a City of Kelowna Emergency grant was received by the Central Okanagan Foundation on September 12, 2011 from the John Howard Society of the Central and South Okanagan. They are seeking \$5,000 to meet an immediate demand for the Adult Restorative Justice Program (ARJ) and funds to assist in securing long-term funding to address the need for the Adult Restorative Justice program. The Grants Advisory committee is putting forward a recommendation to City Council to approve the emergency grant.

The John Howard Society of Canada is an organization of provincial and territorial societies comprised of and governed by people whose goal is to understand and respond to social and health related problems with a focus on criminal justice. The mandate of the John Howard Society (JHS) is effective, just and humane responses to the causes and consequences of crime.

The Adult Restorative Justice Program is a volunteer-based program designed for individuals 18 yrs+ that have been charged with a minor offence and have limited criminal history, as well as those involved in a non-criminal dispute requiring mediation/resolution, particularly those that may escalate into criminal offenses. Referrals to the program (primarily RCMP initiated), have more than doubled over the past year and without additional funds, we are in a position to have to turn referrals away. It is important to note that 91% of program referrals come from Kelowna (RCMP detachment – Kelowna). The increase in referrals should be viewed as a positive outcome, as RCMP and others look for alternatives, and it is in fact, a reflection of the need and assessed value of the program.

The current funding request is to assist in supporting the level of referrals which have more than doubled in the past year and they continue to increase exponentially. In order to meet the

demand of this program the John Howard Society requires funds to provide an increase in staffing and to assist in identifying sustainable funding solutions to meet long term program demand. This grant will go towards staffing hours for a UBC-O graduate trained Restorative Justice Facilitator, who has agreed to volunteer a portion of his time (50% over and above paid hours) towards direct service as well as towards research and securing sustainable funding.

This proposal does fit within the social policy framework in the Official Community Plan and meets the requirements as stated in the Terms of Reference for an emergency grant.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Miller
Grants Manager, Central Okanagan Foundation