



City of Kelowna  
1435 Water Street  
Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J4  
250 469-8500  
kelowna.ca

# Council Policy

## Social Policies

APPROVED May 16, 2011

RESOLUTION: R506/11/05/16  
REPLACING: NA  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW: May 2011

### A. ACCESSIBILITY

---

**Access Guide.** Encourage appropriate local agencies to distribute and maintain a City of Kelowna Access Guide, such that it is readily available and up-to-date;

**Parking Spaces.** Address, by means of representation for those with disabilities on appropriate committees of Council, issues including provision of appropriate parking for those with disabilities, and the enforcement of bylaws;

**Existing Problems.** In co-operation with other agencies, work to advise building and landowners of existing situations where access presents problems and should be improved;

**Award Program.** In co-operation with other agencies such as the Canadian Homebuilders' Association of Kelowna and the Urban Development Institute, the City will help to create an award program for any development or re-development which demonstrates outstanding attention to accessibility;

**Awareness.** Continue to support appropriate agencies to organize and promote initiatives to raise awareness and improve accessibility in Kelowna.

### B. CHILD CARE

---

**Data Base.** Co-ordinate with the appropriate agencies to access an integrated data base regarding child care which will be used when considering development proposals or decisions involving the location of child care facilities;

**Provincial License.** Continue to collaborate with the appropriate provincial ministry or agency to co-ordinate licensing requirements for child care with municipal bylaws;

**Child Advocacy Service.** Work with stakeholders to co-ordinate any/all efforts to provide a child advocacy service for the City of Kelowna in order to protect the welfare of children;

**Instruction.** Support, in principle, initiatives to ensure training programs meet the needs of all levels of child care instruction;

**Young Parents.** Support, in principle, the provision of young parents programs in Senior Secondary Schools where there is a demonstrated need;

**Employer-Supported Child Care.** Work with other agencies to promote and encourage employer-supported child care;

**Community Child Care.** Work with the development community and other agencies having an interest in housing to develop housing projects which include community child care facilities;

**Co-ordination.** Support community, government and agency efforts to provide a coordinated and efficient approach to the provision of child care in the city;

**Child Care System.** When appropriate, advocate to senior government levels, in support of child care stakeholders, to achieve positive change in the development and maintenance of a comprehensive child care system;

**Funding.** Co-ordinate and collaborate, as necessary, with the child care stakeholders, the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM), the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to advocate to senior government regarding funding that affects local services and education to children;

## **B. CHILD CARE CONT'D**

---

**Joint Ventures.** Participate in joint ventures with the use of existing staff and resources to provide; for child care needs, wherever possible;

**Zoning.** Continue to monitor the Zoning Bylaw to ensure that there is maximum potential for the provision of child care facilities;

**Recreational Programs.** Continue to expand and improve inclusive recreational programs for children.

## **C. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

---

**Youth Advocacy Service.** Support, in principle, any stakeholder actions to establish a youth advocacy service in the City of Kelowna to facilitate communication between youth and other groups and services in the community;

**School Facilities.** Continue to advocate to the School Board of School District No. 23 to provide greater opportunities to use school facilities for after school education and activities to a wide variety of groups in the community;

**Seniors.** With the assistance of other agencies, determine ways to increase the involvement of seniors in the community through voluntary work;

**Social Programs.** Communicate, advocate and collaborate with other agencies to ensure that senior government social programs are adequately addressing local needs;

**Seminars and Conferences.** Collaborate, as needed, to make educational seminars and conferences available to community groups, including Residents Associations, in order to achieve greater understanding of issues in the community;

**Environmental Issues.** In co-operation with other agencies, seek to involve all residents in environmental programs and issues in the community. This could include annual clean-up of parks and waterfront areas;

**Grants.** Assist agencies and individuals to access grants or funding from senior levels of government for social needs by directing them to funding programs, wherever feasible;

**Municipal Position Papers.** With respect to issues resulting from senior government actions and policies which have local significance, work with the community, the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to present municipal position papers to senior government;

**Senior Secondary Re-development.** Encourage School District No. 23 to consider the inclusion of theatres in the re-construction of Senior Secondary School facilities;

**Food Banks.** Promote the efforts of Food Banks in the City;

**Residents' Associations.** Facilitate and support communication and co-operation with Residents' Associations and other grass root organizations;

**Neighbourhood Plans.** Include consideration of the social aspects of community development in the preparation of Sector Plans, Neighbourhood Structure Plans and Area Structure Plans;

**Common Meeting Space.** Develop a policy to require new commercial, industrial or high density residential development to provide common meeting space areas for use by the local community and/or areas to be used for the common good of the public;

**Youth Representation.** Endeavour to include youth representation on decision-making and advisory committees having input in planning for the future needs of the community;

**Development Process.** Work with community groups to increase capacity regarding the local development process;

**Public Facilities.** Continue to ensure that its public facilities are made available and affordable to the public for local community uses;

**Community Social Development Grants.** Continue to administer Community Social Development Grants on an annual basis to qualifying agencies who submit proposals for projects for social improvements in the community which focus on prevention and are consistent with the provisions of the Official Community Plan and the City Social Policies;

## **C. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONT'D**

---

**Customer Service.** Continue to improve its customer service approach to the delivery of services to the community;

**Sustainable Development.** Continue to promote social well being and quality of life by including and implementing policies and actions that are environmentally sound and sustainable for development and re-development within the City;

**Joint Use.** Continue to encourage the development of joint use of community facilities and services for non-profit purposes.

## **D. CRIME PREVENTION**

---

**Funding to Address Youth Sexual Exploitation:** Maintain annual funding to provide grants to local agencies to address the issue of youth sexual exploitation;

**Youth Life Skills.** Communicate with and encourage other agencies which provide youth programs and services to youth, to provide and expand instruction to youth on essential life and social skills including:

- human rights and respect for diversity;
- healthy lifestyle choices;
- prevention of drug and alcohol abuse;
- conflict resolution;
- self-esteem;
- human sexuality;
- budgeting;
- career counseling;
- legal issues;
- rights and responsibilities.

**Events.** Work with other agencies in the city to develop events to promote crime prevention in the community;

**Legal Counseling.** Advocate to the Province and appropriate agencies to ensure that legal counseling services are readily accessible to the community;

**Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).** Refer agencies expressing interest in crime prevention programs to the RCMP community and volunteer programs.

## **E. HUMAN RIGHTS**

---

**School Programs.** Advocate to support comprehensive human relations programs in the school curriculum;

**Youth Awareness.** Encourage and assist youth to hold events (e.g. concerts) to raise awareness of human rights issues and increase understanding in the community;

**Education Regarding Diversity.** Continue to work with pertinent agencies and organizations to educate the community regarding diversity;

**Race Relations.** In concert with City priorities, re-examine the need for a race relations and multi-cultural policy;

**Anti-Racist Identity.** Maintain its identity as an anti-racist community;

**Diversity.** Maintain that "Kelowna Celebrates Diversity".

## **F. EMPLOYMENT**

---

**Employment Services.** When necessary, in response to community need, advocate to senior government, in cooperation with other municipalities, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to maintain and enhance; not reduce nor eliminate services to those seeking employment;

## **F. EMPLOYMENT CONT'D**

---

**Labour Market.** Encourage appropriate agencies to coordinate education services in relation to the needs of the local economy;

**Local Skills and Education.** Work with other agencies to maximize knowledge of the skills and education required by local industries and businesses and communicate this information to the (local) agencies providing educational and re-training programs;

**Education and Re-training.** Advocate with pertinent agencies to expand and increase educational and re-training opportunities to those who are unable to find work;

**Economic Opportunities.** Work with other agencies, and advocate to senior government, to explore and examine innovative employment alternatives that embrace the four pillars of sustainability (i.e. social, economic, cultural and environmental);

**Health and "High-Tech" Industries.** Co-operate and advocate with other agencies to encourage the growth and expansion of "high tech" and particularly health industries, in Kelowna in order to maximize employment opportunities in this field and to create a high caliber of health services in the community;

**Entrepreneurial Initiatives.** Continue to encourage self-employment initiatives, including home-based business, while ensuring neighborhood fit through the zoning regulations, and work with pertinent agencies to raise awareness of these opportunities.

## **G. EDUCATION**

---

**Education Funding.** Communicate and collaborate with local educational decision-makers, including the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to lobby senior government levels to appropriately fund and support local educational services;

**Adult Education.** Co-operate with agencies to ensure a comprehensive adult education program in order to maximize opportunities for career changes and development. This should include evening and correspondence education;

**Local Health Care Services.** Communicate and co-operate with health care agencies in the city individually or through the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to ensure continued funding for needed local health care services;

**Health Care Education.** Work with other levels of government and other agencies to ensure that education and information are available to all residents on essential health care issues. These include:

- human rights and respect for diversity;
- healthy lifestyle choices and prevention of drug and alcohol abuse;
- proper nutrition;
- exercise programs;
- communication and relationships;
- local preventive health care services; and
- environmental health.

**Community Use of Schools.** Encourage that schools be designed so as to facilitate, during non-school hours, use for before/after school care programs, recreation programs, youth/family activities, and continuing/adult education.

**REASON FOR POLICY**

To provide social and community development policies that can be used as guidelines in the evaluation of development applications or other civic initiatives.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

Council Resolution.

**PROCEDURE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Maintain as guidelines pending the development of a Social Strategy.