



COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

Date: January 27, 2026

From: Ron Bowles, Chief Administrative Officer

File: 5400-12-01

Subject: **Commemorative Crosswalk – Royal Canadian Legion**

Prepared by: Dana R. Graves, Senior Design & Inspection Technologist

Reviewed by: Brent Magnan, General Manager of Community Development

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT staff install a Royal Canadian Legion Sanctioned Commemorative Crosswalk at the intersection of Dobbin Road & Elliott Road prior to July 17, 2026 to coincide with the Legion's 100-year anniversary;

AND THAT the estimated \$20,000 cost to install the Commemorative Crosswalk be funded from the Future Expenditures Reserves.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Invest in Infrastructure – We will invest in building, improving and maintaining infrastructure to meet the needs of, and to provide a high quality of life for, current and future generations.

Strengthen Our Community – We will provide opportunities for the residents of West Kelowna to build connections, celebrate successes, embrace the community's strengths and diversity, address shared needs, and contribute to shaping the community's future.

BACKGROUND

On October 7, 2025, representatives from the Royal Canadian Legion appeared before Council to request the installation of a commemorative crosswalk. This initiative aims to honour and pay tribute to Canadian veterans and active service members who have served or sacrificed for the nation. A request was made to have the crosswalk installed prior to Remembrance Day 2025, with an alternative timeline proposed for completion by July 17, 2026, to coincide with the Legion's 100-year anniversary.

Similar commemorative crosswalks have been implemented in nearby communities, including Peachland (2024), and more recently in Osoyoos and Kelowna in early (2025).

Following Council's direction to explore the initiative further, the City proceeded to conduct an analysis of potential locations and engaged Align Engineering Ltd., an independent transportation consulting firm, to further review and provide recommendations.

Design Considerations

In April 2023, the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC) completed a study on Non-Standard Pavement Markings for Crosswalks. This study addressed safety concerns such as visibility, driver recognition, and pedestrian distraction. As a result, TAC adopted new design standards in October 2025, now included in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Canada (MUTCDC).

The new standards require that all decorative pedestrian crosswalks be accompanied by twin parallel line markings, with a minimum 300 mm separation between standard and decorative elements. Decorative markings must not be used where zebra or ladder markings are present, and must be made of skid-resistant, non-retroreflective materials. Additionally, the use of a single standard colour between the lines is not permitted.

The original design proposed by the Royal Canadian Legion includes decorative elements over a ladder-style crosswalk, which is not permitted in British Columbia. To comply with new MUTCDC standards, the proposed design must be revised and a new inlay produced. Further context on the design parameters and analysis can be found in the attached Memorandum from Align Engineering Ltd., included with this Council report.

Location

Two potential locations were evaluated for the commemorative crosswalk:

1. Dobbin Road & Elliott Road – This location is preferred by the Royal Canadian Legion due to its proximity to Branch #288. As this intersection falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transportation & Transit (MoTT), MoTT has authorized support of the installation provided that a MoTT-approved contractor is used. The high traffic volumes at this site are expected to result in increased wear and ongoing maintenance costs, and future upgrades associated with the Highway 97 Couplet reconfiguration may further affect long-term suitability and upkeep.

2. Brown Road & Drought Road – This location is within the City's jurisdiction and features lower traffic volumes and a wider crosswalk. Despite proximity being further away from the Legion branch, this proposed location is more suitable for long-term maintenance and compliance with MUTCDC standards. It is noted that the Legion is not in support of this location.

POLICY

This request to endorse the Legion's program has been brought forward in accordance with the City's Request for Proclamations and District Participation in Programs Operated by Outside Agencies policy:

In consideration of any external organization requests for participation or endorsement in their programs, Council will receive the request from the applicant and refer the request to staff to gather and assess the information. Staff will prepare a Council report that will identify financial impacts, and resource implications resulting from the request, and will provide a recommended option. A waiting period for thorough consideration of requests to Council under this Policy is established to run from the time of presentation to Council to the beginning of the subsequent Council meeting

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The estimated cost to purchase the (redesigned) commemorative crosswalk inlay is approximately \$15,000, with an additional \$5,200 required for installation. At the Dobbin Road & Elliott Road location, ongoing annual patching and periodic refurbishment every 4–5 years are anticipated due to the higher-order roadway and associated wear. The Legion has not proposed to provide additional funding to assist with the request.

Feedback from the City's Roads and Maintenance team, who manage the annual pavement marking program, indicates that no funding is available within the 2026 operating budget to support installation or maintenance. The proposed budget for the works is \$20,000 and is recommended to be funded from the Future Expenditures Reserves. Future operational budgets will also be increased to reflect ongoing maintenance.

CONCLUSION

The proposed Royal Canadian Legion Sanctioned Commemorative Crosswalk presents an opportunity for the City of West Kelowna to visibly honour veterans and active service members. With similar installations gaining traction in neighbouring communities, this initiative aligns with both community values and regional trends.

While the commemorative crosswalk would serve as a powerful symbol of remembrance and civic pride, it must also adhere to newly established national safety standards. The design adjustments required are achievable, but do carry unanticipated costs.

ALTERNATE RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT the decision to fund the installation of a Royal Canadian Legion Sanctioned Commemorative Crosswalk be deferred to budget deliberations.

Or

THAT staff install a Royal Canadian Legion Sanctioned Commemorative Crosswalk at the intersection of Brown & Drought Roads prior to July 17, 2026 to coincide with the Legion's 100-year anniversary.

Or

THAT Council not support the installation of a Royal Canadian Legion Sanctioned Commemorative Crosswalk at this time.

PowerPoint: Yes No

Attachments:

Memorandum – Align Engineering Ltd.

Policy: Requests for Proclamations and District Participation in Programs Operated by Outside Agencies