



COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

Date: April 14, 2026

From: Ron Bowles, Chief Administrative Officer

Subject: **Sterile Insect Release Parcel Tax Bylaw No 0339, 2026**

Prepared by: Karen Goodridge-Nagle, Revenue Supervisor

Reviewed by: Lisa Siavashi, Acting Chief Financial Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT “Sterile Insect Release Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 0339, 2026” be read a first, second, and third time.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Pursue Economic Growth and Prosperity – We will work with stakeholders throughout the region to advocate for and support efforts aimed at helping West Kelowna businesses prosper. With a focus on the future, we will advance opportunities to expand our economy, increase employment, and develop the community in ways that contribute towards prosperity for all.

BACKGROUND

The Sterile Insect Release (SIR) Program was launched in 1992 with the initial goal of eradicating the codling moth within the program area. While this objective has since evolved to focus on controlling codling moth populations to manageable levels, the program continues to receive strong political and financial support from four of the five original regional districts.

The SIR Program is funded through two primary sources:

- 1) An annual tax levy on the assessed value of land; and,
- 2) A parcel tax levy on all parcels of land that are in apple and/or pear production.

Bylaw No. 0339 will set the parcel tax to be levied per acre of apple and/or pear trees within the City of West Kelowna.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The parcel tax established by the SIR Program on all land parcels in apple and/or pear production has increased in 2026 to \$186.11 per planted acre, up from \$169.19 in 2025. The increase is necessary to ensure the program's sustainability and to shift costs to operational funding and away from reserve dependency. The total parcel tax levy for West Kelowna in 2026 is \$14,792, an increase from \$13,955 in 2025. The number of parcels included on the SIR parcel tax roll has decreased to 30 in 2026, down from 33 in 2025. Similarly, the total number of assessed acres has been reduced to 79.48 from 82.48.

There are no direct financial implications for the City of West Kelowna, as the requisition is issued by another taxing authority, the Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDco). However, should Council choose not to approve the bylaw, the City would remain responsible for remitting the full requisition amount to the RDco, which would have a significant impact on the municipal budget.

PowerPoint: Yes No

Attachments:

1. 2026 Tax Roll – Sterile Insect Release Parcel Tax
2. Sterile Insect Release Parcel Tax Bylaw No. 0339, 2026
3. 2025.10.03 Board Report