



COUNCIL REPORT

To: Paul Gipps, CAO

Date: June 9, 2020

From: Bob Kusch, Recreation and Culture Manager

File No:

Subject: **Parks and Recreation Facilities Re-Opening Plan – Covid 19**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council adopt the Parks and Recreation Facilities Opening Plan – Covid 19 Policy dated June 1, 2020.

BACKGROUND

Covid-19 began appearing in Canada in late February, early March and resulted in the declaration of a Pandemic which eventually transpired into specific orders made by the B.C. Provincial Health Officer. The two primary orders were for people to remain at least 2 meters from another person and no gatherings of more than 50 individuals. As a result of these orders, Municipalities throughout British Columbia made the decision to close specific Parks and Recreation facilities within their communities to make sure the public were adhering to the Provincial Health Officers Orders. Those chosen facilities have remained closed from approximately March 13th until recent weeks where some re-openings are beginning to be realized.

To assist Municipalities in proper procedures to re-open Parks and Recreation Facilities, the B.C. Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA) was requested by the Provincial Government to bring forward a recommended process and guidelines for re-opening of these Parks and Recreation Facilities. On May 21, 2020 the Provincial Health Officer approved the BCRPA Guidelines (attached) and Municipalities are now using them in the process and requirements of re-opening facilities.

As part of the creation of the guidelines the BCRPA consulted with the Municipal Insurance Association (MIA) in determining the best procedures for ensuring the Municipalities are minimizing their risk in relation to Covid-19 and the re-opening plans. Specific wording for waivers for program registrants and third party organizations utilizing Municipal facilities were provided and are now being utilized in the re-opening plans. One additional requirement recommended by MIA is for each Municipality to adopt and a new policy for the re-opening and restart plan for Parks and Recreation Facilities.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to adopting this policy other than normal operational costs for the facilities and resulting revenues from program registrations and rentals to community organizations.

CONCLUSION

As the BCRPA Guidelines have been adopted by the Provincial Health Officer as the best overall process for opening Parks and Recreation Facilities, staff are presenting a policy for Council's consideration, that adopts those Guidelines as the opening and re-start plan for the City of West Kelowna by way of the attached proposed Policy Statement.

Alternate Motion:

THAT Council postpone consideration of the Parks and Recreation Facilities Opening Plan – Covid 19 Policy dated June 1, 2020 and request staff to bring forward an alternative plan for Council consideration.

REVIEWED BY

Tracey Batten, Deputy CAO/Corporate Officer

APPROVED FOR THE AGENDA BY

Paul Gipps, CAO

Powerpoint: Yes ☐ No ☒

Attachments:

Policy - Parks and Recreation Facilities Re-Opening Plan – Covid 19
The Recreation & Parks Sector Guideline for Restarting Operations