



COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

Date: May 11, 2021

From: Paul Gipps, CAO

Subject: **2021 UBCM Community Excellence Awards Application**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council consider and resolve to direct staff to submit two applications to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Community Excellence Awards in the category of Excellence in Service Delivery and Excellence in Sustainability.

BACKGROUND

West Kelowna's Recreation department is applying for the category Excellence in Service Delivery. When COVID-19 ramped up in spring 2020 Recreation facilities across the province were being shut down. There was no clear direction nor timelines as to when recreation facilities would reopen again. In collaboration with the Province, the City of West Kelowna staff took a proactive, leadership role working closely with organizations including the BC Recreation and Parks Association and Via Sport to develop a reopening plan. This plan put policies and procedures in place to allow facilities to safely reopen to program participants, players, coaches, trainers and staff.

We believe the City of West Kelowna's provincially impactful efforts on behalf of our community were used as a template in other municipalities to return service to their communities.

West Kelowna's Development Services department is also applying for an excellence award under the category "Excellence in Governance". The West Kelowna Community Vision, OurWK program is being submitted in this category.

Throughout the OurWK project, the team completed numerous successful virtual events during the pandemic seeing record numbers of participants provide input into developing the City's first ever community Vision.

The Vision, created largely in part by the input received through 2 periods of engagement over the 8 month program was a reflection of our community's values, interests, and ideas for the future. The OurWK Vision is the first of its kind for West Kelowna and provides clear guidance for the community for the next 20 years.

CONCLUSION

The application must include a Council resolution indicating support for our submissions to the UBCM, therefore we are seeking Council's consideration.

Powerpoint: Yes ☐ No ☒