



COUNCIL REPORT  
Finance, Administrative & Protective Services  
For the August 27, 2019 Council Meeting

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DATE: August 16, 2019  
TO: Paul Gipps, CAO  
FROM: Tracey Batten, Deputy CAO  
RE: Central Okanagan Emergency Management Program Amendments

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**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

**THAT** the City of West Kelowna hereby consents to the Regional District adopting the Regional District of Central Okanagan Emergency Preparedness Service Establishment Amendment Bylaw No. 1443, 2019; and,

**WHEREAS** Council wishes to establish an emergency management organization, as required by the *Emergency Program Act* and to provide a framework for the municipality to develop its own operational emergency response protocols, Council hereby resolves that:

1. Pursuant to the *Emergency Program Act* (British Columbia), the emergency management organization established by under Regional District of Central Okanagan Emergency Management Program Bylaw No. 1444, 2019 is hereby established as the emergency management organization for the whole of the municipality; and,
2. All of Council's duties and powers under the *Emergency Program Act* (British Columbia) are hereby delegated to that emergency management organization, except for the power to make a declaration of a state of local emergency under that Act.

**RATIONALE:**

The proposed amendments to the Emergency Preparedness Service Establishment Amendment Bylaw No. 1443 update participating areas, refer to additional cost recovery methods and rename the bylaw using current legislative terminology (first resolution).

RDCO Bylaw No. 1444 Emergency Management Program Bylaw provides the structure and guidelines for the program. This bylaw reflects current provincial regulations and current RDCO emergency management operating guidelines (second resolution). All amendments have been presented to the RDCO CAO committee where they received unanimous support.

**LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:**

In accordance with Section 346 of the *Local Government Act*, consent to the bylaw on behalf of the municipal participating area may be given by Council on behalf of the electors.

## BACKGROUND:

The City of West Kelowna participates in the Central Okanagan Emergency Management Program with Central Okanagan East Electoral Area, Central Okanagan West Electoral Area, the District of Peachland, the City of Kelowna and the District of Lake Country. Westbank First Nation participates in the program through a service agreement with RDCO.

As outlined in the attached RDCO Governance and Services Committee Report, the bylaw to establish the regional emergency management service was adopted in January, 1992. The companion emergency program bylaw establishing the operational parameters of the program was adopted in 1995.

Both bylaws have gone through an extensive review by the RDCO and have been updated to reflect current legislation and practices.

## Review and recommendation:

City of West Kelowna staff have reviewed the amendments and processes established through these bylaws. The bylaws accurately reflect and bring further clarity to the regional emergency program. As stated in the RDCO report regarding Emergency Program Bylaw No. 635:

*“It should be noted that the Central Okanagan Regional Emergency Management Program is touted as one of the best in the Province.”*

Council endorsement of the Emergency Management Program amendments is fully supported.

## Next steps:

Prior to the Regional District considering the bylaws for adoption, the City of West Kelowna must give consent on behalf of the electors through Council resolution for the establishment bylaw (RDCO Bylaw No. 1443) and provide a resolution establishing the emergency management program for the municipality and delegating Council authority to the emergency management organization (RDCO Bylaw No. 1444). Each participating municipality is required to do the same.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The City of West Kelowna participates in the Central Okanagan Emergency Management program through the Regional District and contributes to the program through the yearly RDCO tax requisition.

## ALTERNATE MOTIONS(S):

**THAT** Council postpone consideration of the proposed RDCO Emergency Management Program Amendments and request further information from the Regional District.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

Paul Gipps, CAO

Powerpoint: Yes ☐ No X

Attachments:

RDCO Letter dated July 23, 2019 and Governance & Services Committee Reports  
RDCO Bylaw Nos. 1443 and 1444