

City Staff Report

Original signed by: Byron Johnson, CAO

Report Date: October 2, 2020

Meeting Date: October 6, 2020

To: City Manager

From: Erin Robinson

Subject: Requesting fund for Community Forest Agreement process

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to request funding to enable to Community Forest Agreement process including the City's role in the potential Non-replaceable Forest Licence (NRFL) process.

Summary

The City has been participating in the CFA Working Group process since June 2020. The City hosted the initial "kick-off meeting" in June. It is now the time in the process to advance an interim management structure as well as an accounting function to deal with the potential Non-replaceable Forest Licence (NRFL) that will enable our CFA application. To do this, we will require again support from the British Columbia Community Forest Association as well as support from a law firm who specializes in multi-government community forest agreements. Without management and accounting structures in place, it's likely a NRFL will not be entered into. Once the NRFL is in place, each organisation will be able to recuperate funds. Without the NRFL, each organisation will be solely responsible for start up costs of the CFA process.

Recommendation

THAT City Council approves spending towards the initial start up costs for the community forest agreement application phase including the costs associated with the "kick-off meeting" and with participating in the Non-replaceable Forest Licence opportunity;

AND THAT Council approves \$12,000 be earmarked from the Council Initiatives account, with repayment to the Council Initiatives account once the Non-Replaceable Forest Licence is established.

Statutory Requirements

N/A

Council Policy

N/A

Strategic Objective

This report falls under the heading of Forestry Initiatives in the Strategic Plan.

Financial Implications

The financial implications will be approximately \$12,000.00 with the opportunity to recuperate funds from the NRFL if and when it is entered into.

Attachments

There is a sketch budget attached to this report



Anticipated Costs for setting up NRFL and CFA Mechanism		
Description of Service	Date and status	Cost
BCCFA kick-off meeting support	June 2020, paid	\$ 3,248.65
FBC kick-off meeting support	June 2020, paid	\$ 4,212.64
Bliss lunch for kick-off meeting	June 2020, paid	\$ 566.75
BCCFA Support for NRFL/CFA	<i>required in October</i>	\$ 5,000.00
Retainer for Lawyer	<i>required in October</i>	\$ 2,000.00
Remaining NRFL set up	<i>required in October</i>	\$ 1,000.00
TOTAL		\$ 16,028.04
Income to date		
C2C Grant	Received July 2020	\$ 5,000.00
Total request City Council 2020		\$ 11,028.04