

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

MEMORANDUM

TO:

Patti Bridal, Chief Administrative Officer

FILE:

5210-01

PC:

James Rice, Director, Operation Services

DATE: October 7, 2024

FROM:

Chris Ovens, General Manager, Public Works

SUBJECT: REGIONAL BIOSOLIDS MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT AMENDMENT

The Regional Biosolids Composting Facility (RBCF) is owned by both the City of Kelowna and the City of Vernon and is operated by the City of Kelowna. The RBCF manages the biosolids produced by Vernon's and Kelowna's wastewater treatment facilities, and using other feedstocks such as ground branches, hog fuel and white wood, creates a Class A compost marketed as OgoGrow™. The specifics of typical contractual details between the Municipalities are detailed in the current Joint Operating Agreement (Attachment 1), dated November 1, 2011 (the Agreement). The Agreement outlines items such as funding allocation, commercial terms, mechanism for withdrawal from the agreement, insurance requirements and other obligations for the two cities.

At the request of the Joint Biosolids Advisory Committee (JBAC), staff reviewed the existing Agreement to ensure that it reflects current operations and processes, and to clarify Section 3, Withdrawal From Facility.

An initial review of the Agreement was performed by the JBAC, who requested that Vernon and Kelowna staff prepare an updated Agreement to reflect current site and operating conditions. These proposed amendments were reviewed at the April 2024 JBAC meeting, and the resulting comments from the JBAC members were incorporated into the final draft agreement found as Attachment 2 - Draft Regional Biosolids Composting Facility Joint Operating Agreement. The summary and rationale for proposed changes can be found in Attachment 3.

Under the terms of the existing Agreement Kelowna and Vernon have been very successful in transforming biosolids into a valuable nutrient rich compost at a facility that acts as a model operation in the province. This successful partnership is expected to continue for the foreseeable future. Minor edits to our operating agreement clarify our collective commitment to the long-term operation of this facility.

RECOMENDATION

THAT Council receive the memorandum titled "Regional Biosolids Management Agreement Amendment" dated October 7, 2024, respectfully submitted by the General Manager, Public Works;

AND FURTHER, that Council authorize the Mayor and Administration to execute the revised updated Regional Biosolids Composting Facility Joint Operating Agreement between the Cities of Vernon and Kelowna dated April 4, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted:

Chris Ovens Digitally signed by: Chris Ovens SDN: CN = Chris Ovens email = COvens@vernon.ca OU = COV Users, Yards Date: 2024.09.26 14:55:33 -07'00'

Chris Ovens General Manager, Public Works

Approved for the Agenda by the CAO □

Attachment 1: Regional Biosolids Composting Facility Joint Operating Agreement

Attachment 2: Draft Regional Biosolids Composting Facility Joint Operating Agreement

Attachment 3: Summary of Proposed Joint Agreement Changes