



## Report to Council

**To:** Mayor and Council

File No: 5210-01

**Date:** May 21, 2025

**From:** Chris Ovens, General manager, Public Works

**Subject:** 2025 Canada Day Celebration and Activities

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**Purpose:** To provide Council recommendations regarding the support requested from the Vernon Okanagan Inspired Community Events society (VOICE) to plan, organize and execute community Canada day celebrations and activities in Polson park.

### **Recommendation:**

THAT Council endorses the Vernon Okanagan Inspired Community Events Society (VOICE) to host the July 1, 2025 Canada Day celebration and activities in Polson Park;

AND FURTHER, that Council directs Administration to provide the following items in support of the event:

- Event tables and chairs;
- A business license, events permit and rental fees to the Vernon Inspired Community Events society at no cost;
- A parks key for gate and pavilion access;
- A parks employee on site from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm;
- Six porta potties, placed behind the bandshell;
- Onsite traffic control to assist with parking;
- Temporary permit for entertainment (including skate competition)

AND FURTHER, that approval is subject to the provision of adequate liability insurance with the City named as additional insured.

### **Background:**

#### a. Rationale:

The Vernon Okanagan Inspired Community Events Society (VOICE) is requesting City support and approval for the 2025 Canada Day celebrations.

During the Regular Open meeting of Council on May 12, 2025 the Society presented their proposed schedule of activities and their request for in-kind goods and services to be provided by the City (Attachment 1).

Historically, the City has provided monetary and in-kind support for the event and, as in previous years, Administration will work closely with the Society to support the event and help ensure its continued success. Special attention and consideration will be given in light of the construction of Phase 2 of the Polson Park Vernon Creek Naturalization Project that is scheduled during the same time period. Administration will work with the organizers to determine the hours required for traffic control.

Based on feedback from the City's insurance providers, and consistent with previous years events, Administration recommends that VOICE provide their own event insurance, naming the City as additional insured.

b. Relevant Policy/Bylaw/Resolutions/Legislative Authority:

N/A

c. Council's Strategic Plan Alignment:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Governance & Organizational Excellence       | <input type="checkbox"/> Livability     |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation, Parks & Natural Areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Vibrancy       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Leadership                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable |

d. Committee Recommendations:

N/A

### **Financial Implications:**

As part of the 2025 budget, the in-kind services are established in the Parks operating budget. Additionally, \$12,000 was budgeted in 2025 to support the Canada day event.

### **Alternatives & Implications:**

Should Council not support assisting VOICE with monetary and in-kind support, they have indicated that the event might not proceed.

### **Communication:**

If approved, the Communications Department will assist in promoting the event.

### **Attachments:**

Attachment 1 - Vernon Okanagan Inspired Community Events Society Presentation

Reviewed by: Elma Hamming, Director, Financial Services

Reviewed by: James Rice, Director, Operations

Reviewed by: Kevin Poole, Director, Corporate Administration

Approved by: Peter Weeber, Chief Administrative Officer