



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

INTERNAL M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Will Pearce, CAO **FILE:** 1700-02

PC: Mayor and Council **DATE:** September 19, 2022

FROM: Debra Law, Director, Financial Services

SUBJECT: **LIBRARY SUNDAY OPENINGS REQUEST FOR FUNDING**

The City of Vernon received a request from the Okanagan Regional Library (ORL) (Attachment 1) to provide funding for the Vernon library branch Sunday openings for the 2023 budget year in the amount of \$27,381. The letter explains that requests for additional services at the library are always made to the local government where those services are located. It also recognizes that these additional services are enjoyed by City of Vernon residents, the residents of Coldstream and residents of Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO) Areas B and C. This group of residents is commonly represented by the Greater Vernon Advisory Committee (GVAC) in the RDNO.

Based on the ratio used for other GVAC services, the City traditionally pays 68.4% of the cost for those services. This represents \$18,728 of the total request of \$27,381. Last year RDNO insisted on paying their contribution to the ORL directly; the District of Coldstream agreed to pay their proportionate share to the City of Vernon.

RECOMMENDATION:

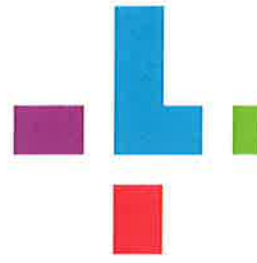
THAT Council direct Administration to forward the September 15, 2022 request from Jeremy Feddersen, Chief Financial Officer, Okanagan Regional Library to the Regional District of North Okanagan (Electoral Areas B & C) and District of Coldstream Council for consideration of funding this request utilizing the typical cost ratio for Greater Vernon Advisory Committee services;

AND FURTHER that Council direct Administration to include \$18,728 as a grant to the Okanagan Regional Library, for library Sunday openings, in the 2023 financial plan, for Council approval in December, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Debra Law'.

Attachment 1 – Letter from Okanagan Regional Library dated September 15, 2022



September 15, 2022

City of Vernon Council
3400 - 30th Street
Vernon, B.C.
V1T 5E6

Re: Sunday Funding for the Vernon Library Branch in 2023

Your Worship and Council,

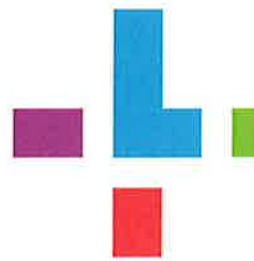
For the past several years the Vernon Library has been open on Sundays for 6 months per year due to special additional funding received. Sundays have continued to be well enjoyed by area residents of Vernon, Coldstream and RDNO Electoral Areas B & C, and we trust the parties see the value in their decision.

As we move past COVID restrictions, we expect that many residents will continue to seek free-to-use leisure, entertainment and educational opportunities for themselves and their families, such as those provided by your local library.

It is our sincere hope that support will be continued for 2023. The request for 2023 is the same as the previous year plus a 2.0% inflationary adjustment, for a total of \$27,381.

We acknowledge that the City would prefer the Okanagan Regional Library seek funding from each individual local government within the Vernon library service area, which includes the District of Coldstream and the Regional District of North Okanagan. The policy/past practice for all 30 branches within our Library system is to approach the constituent unit in which the branch is physically located when additional service arrangements are being established or renewed. If the City would like information collected by the Library to support discussion with its funding partners, we would be happy to provide this.

The ORL strongly values its relationship with the City of Vernon, and we thank you for the time and commitment you have already shown.



If this correspondence could please be included on the next Council agenda that would be appreciated. Following Council's consideration could a reply please be sent to the undersigned at the earliest opportunity.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JF'.

Jeremy Feddersen,
Chief Financial Officer
Okanagan Regional Library
Phone: 250-860-4033 ext. 2471
Email: jfeddersen@orl.bc.ca