

NO: R158

COUNCIL DATE: July 12, 2010

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: Mayor & Council **DATE: July 5, 2010**

FROM: General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture **FILE: 8200-20/CUFC**

SUBJECT: Application to Host the 10th Canadian Urban Forest Conference in October 2012

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department recommends that Council:

1. Endorse an application by the City of Surrey to Tree Canada to host the 10th Canadian Urban Forest Conference (CUFC₁₀) to be held in October of 2012; and
2. Subject to the application being successful, approve an allocation in the appropriate annual budget of \$5,000 for expenses in support of hosting that Conference.

BACKGROUND

Tree Canada is a not-for-profit, charitable organization that was established in 1992. Under the direction of a 10-member volunteer Board of Directors, Tree Canada provides education, technical assistance, resources and financial support through partnerships to encourage Canadians to plant and care for trees in urban areas.

The 10th Canadian Urban Forest Conference (CUFC) will be held October 2012. These Conferences are held every two years with the 2010 CUFC being hosted by Truro, Nova Scotia later this year. Applications to host this Conference in 2012 are being accepted until August 1st, 2010 and require a resolution of City Council demonstrating its support for the application. The 2012 Conference will be particularly special in that it will also celebrate Tree Canada's 20th anniversary.

The CUFC brings together approximately 350 foresters, urban planners, policy makers and municipal professionals to discuss new strategies and techniques to preserve and manage trees and forests in urban Canada. With over 80% of Canadians living in cities, trees play a large role in providing a quality urban environment. The Conference represents an opportunity for the City of Surrey to profile to the remainder of Canada the quality of the urban forests in our city and the tree management policies that Surrey has developed that have provided such an effective result.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council:

- Endorse an application by the City of Surrey to Tree Canada to host the 10th Canadian Urban Forest Conference (CUFC10) to be held in October of 2012; and
- Subject to the application being successful, approve an allocation in the appropriate annual budget of \$5,000 for expenses in support of hosting that Conference.

Laurie Cavan
General Manager,
Parks, Recreation and Culture