

April 26, 2012



## City Council Committee Report

**To: Mayor & Council**

**Fr: Richard Perchuk, Manager of Operations  
Robert Halverson, Roads Supervisor**

**Re: Trapper Council Agreement – City of Kenora Nuisance Beaver  
Program - 2012**

### **Recommendation:**

**That** the Agreement appended hereto, between the Kenora Trapper's Council and the City of Kenora, respecting nuisance beaver services for the period May 16 to September 15, 2012, inclusive, be accepted; and further,

**That** upon acceptance by Council the Agreement be signed by the Kenora District Manager, of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, authorizing the Kenora Trappers Council to act as an agent under Section 31(2) of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act.

### **Background:**

In order to control beaver activity during the closed season the City of Kenora must enter into a Nuisance Beaver Agreement with the Kenora Trapper's Council, which is authorized by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). This agreement, which must be renewed annually, authorizes the trapping of beavers from May 16 to September 15 annually.

This service has proven itself over the years to be essential to the efficient and economical management of the City's rural roads system. Since entering into this agreement, a significant reduction in costs associated with beaver activity and drainage problems have been realized.

The City can only hire licensed trappers who are authorized by the Ministry of Natural Resources Kenora District, under clause 11(1)(c) of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act as a person who may trap for hire, gain or the expectation of gain. A copy of the Kenora Trapper's Council Authorization is attached.

In 2011 there were 7 beavers trapped at a total cost of \$515.00. Included in the cost was a charge per pelt and a charge to lower water.

The rates, which have not changed over the years, are comprised of a fee of \$65.00 per beaver pelt and a fee of \$15.00 per hour (maximum 3 hours) to

lower the water level or open a dam at a specified site when requested. There is also a \$30.00 compensation fee when dispatch is requested and no beaver found.

The following provides a comparison of costs for service over the last three years:

<b>Year</b>	<b># Beavers Trapped</b>	<b>Trapping Charge</b>	<b>Lower Water Charge</b>	<b>Open Dam Charge</b>
2009	29	\$1,885.00	\$60.00	\$30.00
2010	87	\$5,655.00	\$180.00	
2011	7	\$455.00	\$60.00	

The Trapper Council indicated that the reduction in activity in 2011, when compared to 2010, was due to beavers moving on from regular sites, ponds had dried up or the beaver were taken on the trapper's quota at no charge to the City.

The Trapper Council remains responsible to reconcile all activity and expenditures for invoicing the City directly, as opposed to the individual trapper(s) billing the City.

**Budget:** 2012 Operating Budget

**Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:**

Resolution required.

Distribution: R. Perchuk, Rob Halverson, Trapper Council, MNR