



**Date 5 October 2012**

## **City Council Committee Report**

**To: Mayor Canfield & Members of Council**

**Fr: Karen Brown**

**Re: 2013 KAR Agreement**

### **Recommendation:**

That Council hereby approves a by-law authorizing a contract between the Kenora Assembly of Resources and the City of Kenora for provision of services at the Harbourfront and related areas for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013.

### **Background:**

Originally, the Kenora Assembly of Resources (KAR) contract was to expire at the end of 2010 at the request of KAR. Near the end of 2010, the KAR Board approached the City to advise that they were willing to extend the agreement for a two year period to ensure the City had sufficient opportunity to fully address the services being provided under the KAR agreement and to ensure a successful transition. A number of reports have been brought forward to the current Council on this issue, which have resulted in extensions to the agreement, ultimately bringing the City to the full two year extension originally intended by KAR. The information as contained within those reports has not been reiterated here, however the reports are all available to Council upon request.

The intent of the two year transition period was to allow the City to identify a partner to take over the programs currently provided under the KAR contract. During this time period, the Kenora Fellowship Centre (KFC) was identified as a potential partner, and has submitted a proposal to the City for including the KAR program as part of their action plan, under a "Living Streets" program. A copy of the action plan as provided by the KFC has been attached for your reference (attachment #1).

During this same period, the Lake of the Woods Development Commission (LOWDC) brought forward a recommendation to the July 2012 Standing Committee meetings for the establishment of a Task Force on Homelessness. The resulting recommendation, as approved by Council, has been further addressed in a separate report, entitled Homelessness and Behavioural Issues

Task Force, also being brought forward to the October Standing Committee meetings for further discussion.

It is acknowledged that the KAR program is felt to be but one component of the issues related to addressing homelessness / behavioural issues within the City. It is recommended that the contract with KAR be extended for a one year period, and that the mandate of this Task Force include determining best fit for the KAR programs on an ongoing basis.

Independently, the KAR Board has approached the City to request a one year extension on their current contract (attachment #2). The KAR programs have been working well in tandem with the LOWDC tourism and special events departments, and the Tourism Development Officer has advised she is pleased with the current arrangement and would support the one year contract extension. A copy of a draft contract to the end of 2013, representing a one year extension of the KAR programs has been attached for your reference (attachment #3).

**Budget:**

The KAR Service Agreement will be included in the 2013 budget, and is unchanged from the 2012 allocation.

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

The LOWDC, KAR and the Kenora Fellowship Centre will be advised of Council's decision on this matter.