

# Request for Decision



To: Regular Meeting

From: **Development, Engineering & Planning**

Date: January 27, 2020

Subject: Poverty Reduction Plan for the Boundary Area grant

Recommendation: **That the City of Grand Forks supports the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary making an application to the Union of BC Municipalities in order to conduct a Poverty Reduction Plan for the Boundary area, And Further; that Council approves the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary to receive and manage the grant funding on behalf of the City of Grand Forks.**

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## Background

The potential for the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary to submit an application to UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) for a poverty reduction plan for the Boundary area was discussed at the BCDC (Boundary Community Development Committee) meeting on Wednesday, January 8, 2020. A draft resolution crafted by the RDKB in support of the application was requested by the municipal councillors at the meeting and is included as the recommendation for this report. The Electoral Area Services Committee subsequently included the Poverty Reduction Plan in the 2020 work plan for the RDKB Planning Department.

In March 2019, the Province of BC released their poverty reduction strategy: TogetherBC: British Columbia's Poverty Reduction Strategy. Mandated through the Poverty Reduction Strategy Act, the strategy set targets to reduce the overall poverty rate in British Columbia by at least 25%, and the child poverty rate by at least 50%, by 2024. TogetherBC is based on four principles: affordability, opportunity, reconciliation, and social inclusion. These principles guided the priority action areas that form the core of the strategy.

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## Benefits or Impacts

### General

The intent of the Poverty Reduction Planning & Action program is to support local governments in reducing poverty at the local level and to support the Province's poverty reduction strategy.

**Strategic Impact**

This initiative supports Council's commitment to providing quality governance and excellent services that enhance and advance the quality of life and contributes to the development of a strategy for managing social service issues for the community.

**Policy/Legislation**

Community Charter

**Attachments**

N/A

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**Recommendation**

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**Options**

1. THAT Council accepts the report.
2. THAT Council does not accept the report.
3. THAT Council refers the matter back to staff for further information.