

Appointment of Weed and Dutch Elm Disease Inspectors

ISSUE

The Weed Control Act and *The Forest Resources Management Act* empowers municipalities to enforce the control of prohibited, noxious, and nuisance weeds and tree insect and disease within the boundaries of the municipality. The powers designated by *The Weed Control Act* are appointed by City Council, and validated upon submission to the Ministry of Agriculture, Executive Director Crops and Irrigation Branch. The Parks Division coordinates Dutch elm disease (DED) prevention programs, which include inspection services. As part of this program, the Parks Division requires a designated DED Inspector so that the powers of *The Forest Resources Management Act* and DED regulation can be applied within the municipality.

RECOMMENDATION

That City Council approve:

1. That Ms. Maedeh Tizhoosh and Ms. Melissa McHale of the Parks Division, Community Services Department, be appointed as 2020 City of Saskatoon Weed Inspectors, in accordance with the provisions of *The Weed Control Act*;
2. That Ms. Maedeh Tizhoosh and Ms. Melissa McHale of the Parks Division, Community Services Department, be appointed as 2020 City of Saskatoon municipal Dutch elm disease Inspectors, in accordance with the provisions of *The Forest Resources Management Act*, and
3. That the City Clerk be requested to notify the Minister of the Environment of these appointments.

BACKGROUND

At its May 25, 2020 meeting, City Council resolved:

1. “That Dave McKee and Owain Van Vliet of the Parks Division, Community Services Department, be appointed as the City of Saskatoon’s 2020 Weed Inspectors, in accordance with the provisions of *The Weed Control Act*;
2. That Jeannette Wheeler, Dave McKee, and Owain Van Vliet of the Parks Division, Community Services Department, be appointed as the City of Saskatoon’s 2020 municipal Dutch elm disease Inspectors, in accordance with the provisions of *The Forest Resources Management Act*; and
3. That the City Clerk be requested to notify the Minister of Environment of these appointments.”

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

Appointment of Weed and Dutch Elm Disease Inspectors

Two of the Parks Division employees originally appointed as the 2020 Weed and Dutch elm disease inspectors have recently vacated their positions. There is a need to fill these vacancies as soon as possible so that inspection services can continue to be provided with minimal interruption.

Section 6, Article 2 of *The Weed Control Act* (Saskatchewan) requires that City Council appoint a municipal Weed Inspector, annually. It is recommended that Ms. Maedeh Tizhoosh, Urban Biological Services Technician 14, and Ms. Melissa McHale, Biological Services Technician, be appointed as Weed Inspectors for the remainder of the 2020 season.

Section 8, Article 2 of *The Forest Resource Management Act* requires that City Council appoint one or more municipal DED Inspectors, annually, to enforce the DED regulations. It is recommended that Ms. Maedeh Tizhoosh, Urban Biological Services Technician 14, and Ms. Melissa McHale, Biological Services Technician, be appointed as the DED Inspectors for the remainder of the 2020 season.

These appointments will effectively fill the inspection vacancies that currently exist within the Parks Division, Urban Biological Services program.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications of this report, the work of the Weed and DED Inspectors are included within the approved budget.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no options, policy, privacy, or Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) implications or considerations; public and/or stakeholder involvement is not required. A communication plan is not required at this time.

NEXT STEPS

Upon City Council's approval the City Clerk will notify the Minister of Environment of the newly appointed inspector.

Report Approval

Written by: Darren Crilly, Director of Parks

Approved by: Lynne Lacroix, General Manager, Community Services Department