



City of  
**Kelowna**

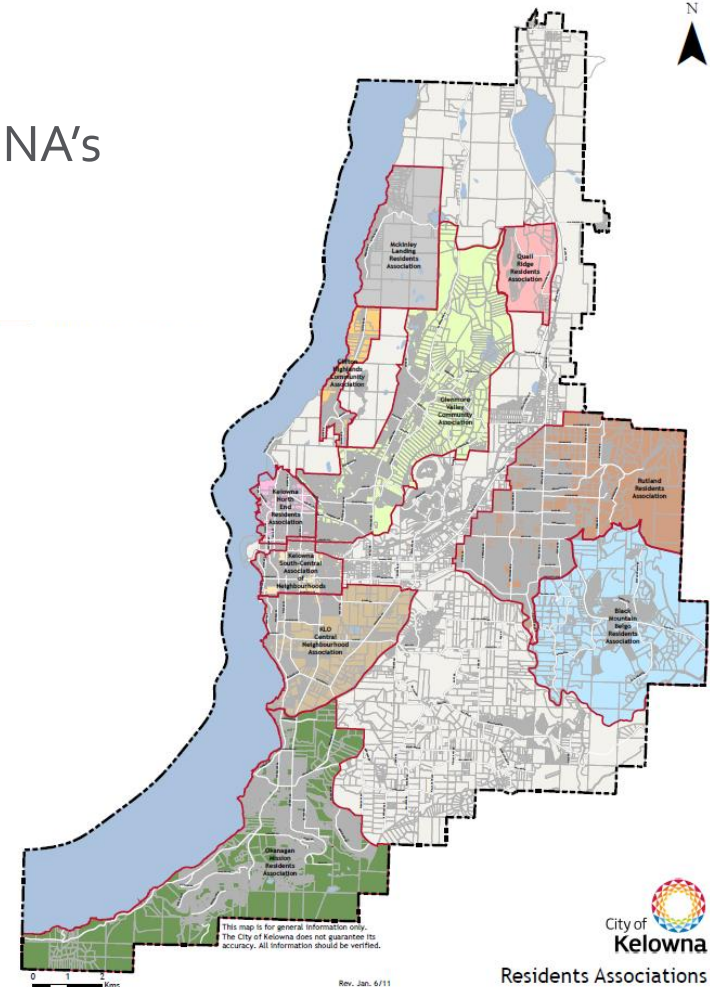
# Neighbourhood Learning CoP

Engaging with and working alongside neighbourhood associations

March 16, 2021

# Kelowna's Neighbourhood Association Overview

- ▶ No formalized process to proactively engage NA's
- ▶ 9 Active Neighbourhood Associations
  - ▶ Unique in their focus, organization, membership, relationship with City and engagement levels
  - ▶ Many formed in the 90's to voice concerns around developments and policy changes
- ▶ Policy outlines the roles of Neighbourhood Associations in the development process.



# Current Challenges

- ▶ Lack of trust and communication
- ▶ Associations feel like they're not being heard
  - ▶ Rallies against change
  - ▶ Letters to editor, Mayor and Council
- ▶ City responds reactively
- ▶ City departments work in silos
- ▶ Un-clear expectations
- ▶ Fear of empowerment



# Value of Neighbourhood Associations

- ▶ **Benefits of Neighbourhood Associations**
  - ▶ Foster connection and a sense of belonging
  - ▶ Animate community identity
  - ▶ Improve health and wellbeing
  - ▶ Support and inclusive place for residents to live, work, and play
  
- ▶ **Roles of Neighbourhood Associations**
  - ▶ Act as a conduit to disseminate info on place-based matters
  - ▶ Opportunity to engage with residents where they live
  - ▶ Provide a vision for the future of their neighbourhood
  - ▶ Opportunity for reciprocal capacity building
  - ▶ Create neighbourhood strategies to address community-wide social development priorities

# Neighbourhood Association Strategy

## Purpose and Objectives

### Purpose

To improve the capacity of and relationship with Neighbourhood Associations with a focus on community building and enhancing quality of life of Kelowna residents

### Objectives

- ▶ Improve collaboration, communication and coordination between the City and Neighbourhood Associations
- ▶ Develop a systematic process to engage and empower Neighbourhood Associations such that it benefits City processes and builds community
- ▶ To manage Neighbourhood Association expectations of the City delivering services, programs, and development proposals

# Discussion

- ▶ How do you support or engage with Associations?
- ▶ What types of models does your community use to engage with and work alongside neighbourhood associations?
  - ▶ What type of internal processes exist?
  - ▶ What works or doesn't work?

