



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### **Delegated Authority for Agreements between Parks, Forestry and Recreation and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency related to the detection and eradication of the Asian Long-Horned Beetle**

<b>Date:</b>	September 30, 2008
<b>To:</b>	Parks and Environment Committee
<b>From:</b>	Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

#### **SUMMARY**

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An Asian Long-Horned Beetle (ALHB) infestation was confirmed in the Toronto-Vaughan area on September 8, 2003. Since that time, the City of Toronto, under the direction of and in partnership with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), has undertaken work related to the detection and eradication of the ALHB.

The CFIA has committed to fund work related to the detection and eradication of the ALHB undertaken by the City of Toronto. Delegating authority to the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation with respect to the execution of Agreements between the City and the CFIA will streamline the process of collecting the associated costs and allow for the continued effort of eradicating a serious threat to Toronto's urban forest.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends** that Council approve delegated authority to the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation for the purpose of executing agreements, with no net financial impact to the City, on behalf of the City with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and such agreements be on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

## **Financial Impact**

Urban Forestry's operating budget is authorized up to \$3.5 million annually for this program. All costs have been 100% recoverable as per the Agreement with the CFIA, and all future agreements entered into under this delegated authority will be 100% recoverable.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

The following are links to previous reports on the ALHB providing background information on the insect pest and work that the City of Toronto has undertaken in partnership with the CFIA to detect and eradicate the ALHB.

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2000/agendas/council/cc/cc000509/edp5rpt/cl001.pdf>

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2004/agendas/council/cc040301/edp2rpt/cl005.pdf>

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

The CFIA has committed 100% full recovery for ALHB work relating to the survey, removal and disposal of trees. The City of Toronto must annually renew an Agreement with the CFIA in order to receive payment for costs that we have incurred related to the detection and eradication of the ALHB. This report recommends that the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation be given delegated authority to enter into these agreements.

## **COMMENTS**

On September 8, 2003, the CFIA confirmed an ALHB infestation in the Toronto-Vaughan area. This represented the first ALHB infestation in Canada. Since September 2003, the CFIA has led an eradication program for ALHB. On February 26, 2004, The Asian Long-Horned Beetle Infested Place Order was issued under the authority of the Plant Protection Act. This Ministerial Order introduced prohibitions and restrictions on the movement of nursery stock, trees, leaves, logs, lumber, wood, wood chips and bark chips from certain deciduous trees identified as hosts of the ALHB, and firewood of all species.

As part of the eradication program, the CFIA identified a requirement for the acquisition of services related to the detection and eradication of the ALHB from the City of Toronto.

The City of Toronto has, pursuant to the *City of Toronto Act*, the authority to provide the required services and to execute the intergovernmental Agreement by its authorized representative. This report requests approval to designate the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation as the authorized representative in order to streamline the

process allowing the City to be reimbursed for costs related to detection and eradication of the ALHB.

The ALHB is an invasive quarantine pest regulated by Canada and many other countries including the U.S.A. and has previously been intercepted in imported wood packaging. ALHB is native to Asia (China, Japan and Korea) and, if allowed to spread, has the potential to cause severe damage to Canadian hardwood forests, especially sugar maple stands. The Urban Forest is also at risk given the heavy reliance on maple and other host species of trees for City tree planting. The ALHB has no natural controls in North America that would prevent its spread.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Brenda Patterson  
General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation