



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: May 29, 2018
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City is seeking mobile vendors

Mobile vending is being encouraged in parks in Vernon this summer and Vernon City Council supported an interim approach of leasing mobile vending spots in parks on a case by case basis for 2018. A formal update to mobile vending procedures expected for the 2019 season.

Previously, parks fell under the jurisdiction of the Regional District of North Okanagan and as such, no established policy or bylaw existed for the City to facilitate mobile vending in parks. Polson Park, Kin Beach and Marshall Fields are expected to be of interest to vendors for food services and recreation and tourism related rentals, namely water sports and cycling.

The process of leasing spots through contract will ensure all vendors have the required insurance and health and fire related approvals to operate on public property. Products and services being proposed and the quality of presentation will be assessed to ensure vendors add value to parks and public spaces and do not detract from them. The number of vendors at each park would be limited to a maximum of two. Vendors need to be mobile, vacating the space each day.

Existing policies in the City Centre Neighbourhood Plan and the Parks Master Plan support mobile vending as a way of adding vibrancy to public spaces. Mobile vending can make places safer by attracting more users to an area. Results and feedback on mobile vending in 2018 will be monitored to help update the permitting process for 2019. Mobile vending demand is expected to continue to grow in Vernon and vending spots are being designed into some new parks and parking lots as a way of offering services to the public without significant bricks and mortar investment.

Interested vendors are asked to contact City of Vernon Building and Licensing department at 250-550-3634 for more information.