



# The Board of Education of School District No. 83 (North Okanagan-Shuswap)

## 2020-2021 PRELIMINARY BUDGET EQUIPMENT PROPOSAL

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**Department:** Grounds

**DATE:** June 10, 2020

**Presenter:** Glynn Warnica - Manager of Facilities and Grounds

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### **Budget Equipment Proposal:**

- **Equipment – Skid Steer Loader.**
  - Cost tracking for rental and contract prior to current year is limited.
  - 2019-2020 – approx. 15,000.00 in rental and contracting for skid steer work
  - 2018-2019 – approx. 3500.00 in rental, contracting not tracked
  - 2017-2018 – approx. 1500.00 int rental, contracting not tracked
  - 2017-2020 - there is limited tracking of when contractors are called to “stack” snow or haul snow off site.
  - 2019-2020 – price quotes for snow removal off multiple sites exceeded 75,000.00 rental of equipment 5,200.00 with no snow removed from any site. Potential savings 68,000.00.

Some key points to consider is the multi faceted use a skid steer would provide for our Works team.

5 mechanics on staff for maintenance with ease of parts supply. Snow stacking and removal with use of our own dump trucks during non snow days. Playground maintenance at grounds discretion. Facilities projects such as concrete demolition and form work. Parking lot cleaning at grounds discretion.

Outside snow plowing, our trades and grounds staff are present when contractors are onsite no extra time is needed if we add this piece of equipment.

Our District is not for profit, all contracted and rental of a skid steer have for profit mark ups.

Potential savings per year on rental alone 5-10K. Potential savings in contracts could exceed 10K + as snow would not need to be stack or trucked off site as proven in a heavy snow load year.

- **Equipment – Zero Turn Mower.**

Currently we operate 2 John Deere 1600 series mowers as our main pieces of equipment cutting approx. 8.5 acres per hour. Our third mower is a ventrac articulating mower cutting approx. 1.6 acres per hour. During peak times April-July and late season our lead hand uses the ventrac and we can not keep up mowing. As our John Deere mowers age and break down we do not have a back up to keep our mowing on schedule.

Last fall we had a head to head demo with a Husqvarna 48" zero turn mower that nearly preformed to our John Deere 11' mower and the cut quality was much better.

Proposed Husqvarna 72" mower with 6.6 acre per hour. This piece of equipment would allow our lead hand to assist the 2 main mowers at difficult sites and keep our cut rotations during peak grow season to under 5 days. Currently our cut rotation with the ventrac is about 8-9 days and the grass is far to long to make a clean cut. There is no trimming done during peak growing season.

When the main mowers are serviced this would see our team keep 3 mowers running. Our ventrac is aging and this would prolong the life cycle. The ventrac is a multi attachment machine not a primary mower.

Cost savings is not the primary reason for this request. Efficiency and quality of work on our school sites is the outcome our Grounds department is seeking. This equipment is locally supplied for parts and warranty service. Our District is a preferred customer and gets a Municipal Government discount on Husqvarna, we are moving all our grounds equipment to environmentally friendly battery and receive up to a 20% discount.

- [Equipment – Parking Lot Sweeper](#)

Over the past 3 years 25,000.00 per year in parking lot cleaning costs. Having this piece of equipment in our fleet would allow our grounds staff to clean our lots at our discretion. This piece of equipment could be used from spring thaw until freeze up to keep our sites clean and free of debris. There is a local contractor in Salmon Arm that I would recommend we still use for approx. half our sites. Our staff would look after the remainder during spring cleaning.

With the proposal to integrate salt and salted sand into our winter care program, there will be a reduction in the amount of sand needing to be picked up in the spring. This will cut down in the time it will take to clean up all our sites.

If a skid steer is purchased and a sweeper attachment, this piece of equipment could be deferred as our District would not incur additional rental costs to do multiple sites.