



Regional Board Report

Request for Decision

To: Regional Board

From: Chief Administrative Officer

Date: April 20, 2023

Subject: UBCM Grant Application - 2023 Emergency Operations Centre Training

Voting Entitlement: *All Directors - Unweighted Corporate Vote - Simple Majority (LGA s.208)*

Purpose: To seek Board support for staff to apply for a grant application under the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund

Executive Summary:

The Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) is a suite of funding programs intended to enhance the resiliency of local governments, First Nations, and communities in responding to emergencies.

Funding is provided by the Province of BC and is administered by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM). Staff have prepared an application to request funding for Emergency Operations Centre Training in 2023 related to a functional multi-agency exercise focusing on pre-planning for evacuation routes during a wildfire event.

Recommendation(s):

THAT the Regional Board supports a submission of an application under the 2023 UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for \$30,000 under the Emergency Operations Centres & Training stream.

Respectfully submitted by: Sandra Ballan-Brown, Executive Assistant Corporate Services

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Reardon".

Brian Reardon,
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment(s):

1. APP-RDCO-UBCM-EOC Training 2023-04-01 to 2024-03-31 Application
2. APP-RDCO-UBCM-EOC Training 2023-04-01 to 2024-03-31 Budget
3. APP-RDCO-UBCM-EOC Training 2023-04-01 to 2024-03-31 Work Plan

Strategic Plan Alignment:

Priorities: Sustainable Communities, Transportation and Mobility

Values: Collaboration, Regional Perspective

Background:

The 2022 RDCO EOC Emergency Plan and Operational Guidelines note that "the EOC must be able to function on a 24/7 basis from activation until de-mobilization as required to support the emergency response". To sustain 24/7 functionality, the equipment and staff are critical to mitigate the risk of uncertainty during an event: these actions support the following overarching response goals:

1. Provide for the safety and health of all responders;
2. Save lives;
3. Reduce suffering;
4. Protect public health;
5. Protect government infrastructure;
6. Protect property;
7. Protect the environment; and
8. Reduce economic and social losses.

Project Activities:

- Plan a large-scale exercise using a previous tabletop exercise to support final functional plan.
- Functional exercises will focus on how RDCO staff are notified, respond and start an activation - first hour of an incident. External agencies will be incorporated into the exercise integration and elements of a functional working exercise on the first operational period.
- During the exercise, a reception centre will be activated and identify the needs of a large capacity evacuation from a rural area.

Partners Identified: ESS, OKIB, WFN, EHS, Wildfire, RCMP, MOTI, HYDRO

Considerations:**Organizational/External:**

The proposed project will build emergency response capacity by increasing the knowledge of staff, local government stakeholders, First Nation partners and ESS volunteers allowing for practiced and efficient work flow during emergency events.

Financial:

Staff is requesting that 100% of the project costs be covered by this grant.

Considerations not applicable:

- Alternate recommendation
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