

Minutes of CLOSED SESSION of the COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING of the Regional District of Central Okanagan held at Regional District Offices, Woodhaven Boardroom, 1450 KLO Road, Kelowna, B.C. on Thursday, June 8, 2023.

4.2 Community Works Fund Allocation Policy (from May 04, 2023)

CAO advised the item was in a closed meeting until OKIB can be engaged.

CAO presented an overview of the policy that was drafted following direction from the Board at the January 19, 2023 meeting;

- commented on the collaboration with senior RDCO staff in the development of the policy;
- noted the policy and recommendations in the report are informed by what was heard in meetings with WFN Director of Operations and Chief Financial Officer;
- advised the draft policy was presented to WFN Chief and Council at one of their Policy meetings;
- noted the objective is to establish a board policy with methodology for the internal allocation of CWF monies for 2023 and future years based on population in each jurisdiction;
- spoke to the spirit of truth and reconciliation that informed the process of developing the policy and recommendations;
- reviewed the historical allocation of CWF funds received between 2014 and 2022 and highlighted the allocation of the funds based on the new policy;
- noted the staff recommendation is to provide WFN and OKIB with an allocation of funds from 2014.

CAO introduced Lisa Pastro, Indigenous Advisor, who provided information on engagement with West Bank First Nation:

- confirmed they have endorsed the policy.
- outlined her role and participation as RDCO Indigenous Advisor, and WFN band member;
- noted the work with Chief and Council, and their CFO in the drafting of the policy.
- confirmed that following board approval, she will reach out to OKIB Chief, and invite Director Coble to share information on the policy and allocation.

Staff responded to questions from the Board and confirmed:

- the RDCO had multiple discussions with UBCM in the development of the policy and report;
- no funds were allocated to WFN or OKIB since 2014; noted eligibility requirements pre and post 2014;

- the current agreement with UBCM expires in 2024;
- the population of WFN includes members and non-members living on WFN land;
- process of approving projects with requests from community organizations, staff assessment, and EA Director discussion before being presented in the financial plan for board approval;
- the Growing Communities Fund is a separate provincial funding program, and noted other granting opportunities may also be available.

COBLE/MILSOM

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends to the Regional Board the following:

- **THAT** the Regional Board approves the Community Works Fund Allocation Policy as attached to the report from the Chief Administrative Officer dated May 04, 2023, and directs staff to apply this policy to CWF funds received in 2023 and subsequent years.
- **THAT** the Regional Board allocates funds currently held by RDCO for eligible projects that meet the Community Works Fund criteria as outlined in this report in Table 1, Line a of this report.
- **THAT** the Regional Board directs that Electoral Area West outside of IR#9 and IR#10 receive no further allocation from funds currently held by the RDCO or received by the RDCO in the future until the allocation is rebalanced as outlined in this report in Table 1, Line a of this report.
- **THAT** the Regional Board directs staff to work with Westbank First Nation and Okanagan Indian Band to dispense the funds allocated to them based on the Community Works Fund Allocation Policy and information outlined in Table 1, Line a of this report.
- **THAT** the Community Works Fund Allocation Policy be brought to an open meeting once Okanagan Indian Band and Regional District of North Okanagan have been engaged on this matter.

AND THAT a report on the opportunities for grant funding through the Growing Communities Funds and other grant options be brought to a Committee of the Whole meeting that includes options for consideration in the distribution of funds in support of electoral area projects.

CARRIED