



# Regional Board Report

## Request for Decision

**To:** Regional Board  
**From:** Director of Protective Services  
**Date:** January 16, 2025  
**Subject:** 2025 Intake – UBCM – CEPF ESS Equipment and Training

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

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**Purpose:** To consider Regional Board support for staff to apply for a grant under the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) for Emergency Support Services Equipment & Training.

### Executive Summary:

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

Staff have prepared a regional application to request grant funding and subsequently pool funds for Emergency Support Services (ESS) equipment & training. Grant funds will be used for the purchase of equipment to bolster Muster Centres and expand group lodging capabilities in each local area, modernization of volunteer and records management and training opportunities to ensure capability and capacity of ESS volunteers.

### Recommendation(s):

**THAT** the Regional Board supports a submission of an application under the Union of BC Municipalities - Community Emergency Preparedness Fund up to a maximum of \$240,000 under the Emergency Support Services Equipment & Training 2025 funding stream.

**AND THAT** the Regional Board supports staff to spend the funds when they are authorized through a successful application.

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Respectfully submitted by: Laura Wilson, ESS Supervisor

Approved by: Mike Walroth, Director of Protective Services

Approved for Agenda: Sally Ginter, Chief Administrative Officer

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### Strategic Plan Alignment:

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency preparedness | <input type="checkbox"/> Truth and reconciliation                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health and wellness               | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment and climate – Regional priority only      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional transportation           | <input type="checkbox"/> Growth and development – Electoral Area priority only |
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**Background:**

In 2024, the Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) received a UBCM grant, which enabled significant enhancements to the ESS program. Building upon the success of the 2024 grant, the proposed project seeks to further enhance the ESS program by focusing on the following key areas:

- Equipment: Bolster Muster Centres and expand group lodging capabilities in each local area.
- Modernization: Modernize volunteer and records management.
- Training: Provide training opportunities to ensure the capability and capacity of ESS volunteers.

This project aligns with the RDCO's strategic priority of Emergency Preparedness. It aims to strengthen the region's ability to respond effectively to emergencies, ensuring the safety and well-being of its residents.

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**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 workflow during emergency events.

**Financial:**

Offsetting tax requisitions

**Legal/Statutory Authority:**

Provision of ESS services is mandatory under the Emergency and Disaster Management Act

**Considerations not applicable:**

- Alternate Recommendation
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