



Regional Board Report

TO: Regional Board

FROM: Ross Kotscherofski
Manager of Fire Services

DATE: October 31, 2019

SUBJECT: Community Emergency Preparedness Fund: Equipment and Training
(2019 Application)

Voting Entitlement: All Directors – Unweighted Corporate Vote – Simple Majority – LGA 208.1

Purpose: Regional District of Central Okanagan Fire Departments are seeking grant funding from the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) – Community Emergency Preparedness Fund to facilitate in the purchase of equipment and training.

Executive Summary:

The Province of British Columbia has made funding available through the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) to assist with emergency preparedness. Applications are being accepted under the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) for those projects that will support disaster response and recovery.

Regional District of Central Okanagan Fire Departments are requesting support for a grant application for equipment and training. The equipment will support the Fire Departments in delivering effective and efficient services. A requirement in the application package is a Board resolution supporting this application. Accordingly, this matter is now before the Board for its consideration and approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Regional Board supports submitting a \$100,000 grant application under the Union of BC Municipalities – Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Volunteer & Composite Fire Departments Equipment & Training.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ross Kotscherofski".

Ross Kotscherofski
Manager of Fire Services

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Komaike".

David Komaike
Director of Engineering Services

Approved for Board's Consideration

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marilyn Rilko".

Marilyn Rilko, Deputy CAO

Implications of Recommendation:

Strategic Priorities:	Sustainable Living by ensuring healthy, high quality of life for our residents. Vision: Resiliency by anticipating and preparing for, and adapting to challenges and changing circumstances.
Legal/Statutory Authority:	Through the Emergency Program Act, the Province of BC requires all local authorities to be prepared for emergency situations, including response and recovery.

Background:

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).

There are seven different funding streams available:

- Indigenous cultural safety and cultural humility training
- Emergency operations centres and training
- Emergency support services
- Evacuation route planning
- Flood risk assessment, flood mapping and flood mitigation planning
- Structural flood mitigation
- Volunteer and composite fire departments equipment and training

The Regional District has been fortunate to receive CEPF grants in the past for EOC Upgrades; ESS Equipment and Flood Plain Mapping. This application focuses on our fire departments equipment and training.

The intent of this funding stream is to build the resiliency of volunteer / paid on call and composite fire departments through the purchase of new or replacement equipment and to facilitate the delivery of training. Ongoing operational costs and the purchase of major fire apparatus are not eligible.

The maximum grant available for Regional Districts is \$25,000 for each fire department that has an established service area. The maximum grant available for the RDCO would be \$100,000.

The grant funding would allow the departments to accelerate the training of new recruits and the replacement of aging equipment, including:

- SCBA Packs and Bottles
- Porta-Tank Bladders
- Hoses
- Portable Pumps & Suction Hose
- Thermal Imaging Cameras
- Protective Equipment

The deadline for the submission of the grant application is November 15th with the results expected in early February.

Financial Considerations:

Annual operation and maintenance costs are not covered by the CEPF grant.

Alternative Recommendation:

THAT the Regional Board accepts the report regarding the Union of BC Municipalities – Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Volunteer & Composite Fire Departments Equipment & Training, for information.