Regional Board Report

TO: Regional Board

FROM: David Komaike
Director of Engineering Services

DATE: April 20, 2020

SUBJECT: Community Emergency Preparedness Fund: Emergency Operations Centres &
Training Grant Application (2020)

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

Purpose: To request Board support for a UBCM – Community Emergency Preparedness
Fund Application to assist in purchasing equipment for the Emergency
Operations Centre.

Executive Summary:

The Union of British Columbia Municipalities' (UBCM) - Community Emergency Preparedness
Fund offers grants to enhance the resiliency of local governments and their communities in
responding to and recovering from emergencies.

Staff is requesting support for a grant application under the Emergency Operations Centres &
Training (EOC) stream of funding. The funds, if granted, will provide the EOC with the financial
resources for additional assets and asset renewal.

A Regional Board resolution supporting the grant application is required to apply for funding.
Accordingly, this matter is now before you for your consideration and approval.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Regional Board supports submitting a grant application under the Union of British
Columbia Municipalities' – Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for the region's
Emergency Operations Centre.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved for Board's Consideration

Brian Reardon, CAO

David Komaike
Director of Engineering Services

Prepared by: Mimi Miller, Asset Management Analyst

Implications of Recommendation:

Strategic Plan:	Supports Sustainable Communities: "The RDCO will continue work to protect communities from harm through the highly-recognized Regional Emergency Management Program in collaboration with the member municipalities and Westbank First Nation."
General:	Initial purchase, if granted, will have no impact on the taxpayer. On-going maintenance and renewal costs will apply to all assets purchased.
Legal/Statutory Authority:	Through the Emergency Program Act, the Province of BC requires all local authorities to prepare for emergencies, including response and recovery.

Background:

The Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF), administered by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM), supports local governments and their communities with grant opportunities for disaster response and recovery.

The CEPF has seven streams of funding. This application is for the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) stream. The intent behind the CEPF EOC funding is to 'support the purchase of equipment and supplies required to maintain or improve Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs) and to enhance EOC capacity through training and exercises. The maximum available funding is $25,000'.[1]

The purpose of this project is to renew, update and expand the pool of assets used in the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). The original equipment has reached its maximum useful life and is no longer in good condition. The equipment requiring renewal includes the following:
- ID Card Printer,
- Projectors,
- Lectern, and
- Speakers.

In addition to the renewals, the EOC requires further IT hardware to accommodate flexibility in staffing levels. New hardware required includes desktop computers and monitors.

The RDCO has been successful in securing CEPF EOC funding in the past. Most recently, CEPF EOC funding helped purchase a large format printer/plotter and new computers.

Financial Implications:

If granted, this funding opportunity will provide the financial resources to maintain the reliability of the EOC's equipment.   The CEPF EOC grant does not cover asset maintenance expenses.

External Implications:

Member communities jointly fund the operation of the EOC.

Alternative Recommendation:

That the Regional Board receive this report for information.

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[1] 'Community Emergency Preparedness Fund: Emergency Operations Centres & Training.' Union of BC Municipalities.
https://www.ubcm.ca/EN/main/funding/lgps/community-emergency-preparedness-fund/emergency-operations-centres.html
(accessed March 16, 2020)