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REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Board of Directors

From: Andrew McGifford, Manager of Environmental Services

Meeting Date: March 23, 2016

Subject: British Columbia Air Access Program (BCAAP) Funding

Recommendation:

THAT the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board of Directors submit a funding application to the British Columbia Air Access Program (BCAAP) for Airfield Lighting for the Alberni Valley Regional Airport for a total project value of \$1,458,430 which can be submitted as a one year project or as a multi-year project requesting \$966,575 in the first year and \$509,105 in the second year.

Desired Outcome:

To secure provincial grant funding for a component of the airport expansion at AVRA.

Summary:

BCAAP is a capital cost-sharing program administered by the BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure with a goal of supporting the connection of communities across the province and building BC's aviation sector's long term potential. The program fits the AVRA lighting project. The BCAAP program can provide 50% funding for Major Projects of total eligible project costs. Projects must be "shelf-ready" and be completed either within one year of project approval or two years for a phased project.

Background:

At the February 10th, 2016 Board meeting, the Board directed staff to explore a possible application to the 2016 intake for the BC Air Access program. The deadline for applications is April 8th, 2016.

Time Requirements – Staff & Elected Officials:

Staff time to prepare and submit application.

Financial:

If the expansion proceeds with the lowest tender the ability to undertake the complete AVRA expansion project and include the lighting component would be possible within the current borrowing ability for the service. This would be contingent on a successful fifty percent grant funding from BCAAP in order for the lighting project component to proceed. ACRD staff have estimated the costs associated with the AVRA expansion to be in the \$4.9 million range with a contingency for outstanding and unconfirmed costs to this point.

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Submitted by:

Andrew McGifford, Manager of Environmental Services

Approved by:

Russell Dyson, Chief Administrative Officer