



REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board of Directors

From: Amy C Mayo, Grant Coordinator

Meeting Date: December 14, 2022

Subject: Grant Application with Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Volunteer & Composite Fire Departments Equipment & Training – Amendment to grant application

Recommendation:

THAT the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board of Directors support the application for \$17,022 in funding from the UBCM Volunteer & Composite Fire Departments Equipment and Training grant opportunity for wildfire equipment for the Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department and direct staff to provide overall grant management for the project, if successful.

Desired Outcome:

To amend the grant application for the Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department with the recommendations from the Program Officer at UBCM, removing the ineligible item in the grant application of storage trailer.

Summary:

In the September 28th Board of Director meeting the attached request for decision was presented to the Board for applying to the Volunteer & Composite Fire Departments Equipment and Training funding program with UBCM's Community Emergency Preparedness Fund. The Board supported the application for funding and grant application was submitted to UBCM on September 19, 2022. In the review of the grant application the programmer for UBCM has reached out to the ACRD staff to advise of the storage trailer not eligible equipment for funding. The recommendation from the Program Officer is to remove the storage trailer and submit application for wildfire fighting equipment only and revise the proposal. The above recommendation supports the revised application.

Submitted by: 

Amy C Mayo, BBA, Asset Management & Grant Coordinator

Reviewed by: *Charlie Starratt*

Charlie Starratt, Regional Fire Services Manager

Approved by: *Daniel Sailland*

Daniel Sailland, MBA, Chief Administrative Officer



REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board of Directors

From: Mike Cann, Sproat Lake Fire Chief
Mike Kobus, Beaver Creek Fire Chief
Amy C Mayo, Grant Coordinator

Meeting Date: September 28, 2022

Subject: UBCM Grant Application - Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Volunteer & Composite Fire Departments Equipment & Training

Recommendation:

THAT the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board of Directors support the application for \$30,000 in funding from the UBCM Volunteer & Composite Fire Departments Equipment and Training grant opportunity for wildfire equipment and trailer for the Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department and direct staff to provide overall grant management for the project, if successful.

THAT the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board of Directors support the application for \$30,000 in funding from the UBCM Volunteer & Composite Fire Departments Equipment & Training grant opportunity for the purchase of a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) decontaminator for the Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department and direct staff to provide overall grant management for project, if successful.

Desired Outcome:

To secure funding from the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund, Volunteer & Composite Fire Departments Equipment & Training program for the purchase of equipment to support fire department operations for Sproat Lake and Beaver Creek.

Summary:

The Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department (SLVFD) fought 41 bush fires and 3 wildfires in the period of five years from 2016-2020 and with rising temperatures the wildfire season in the valley gets extended each year. The small asset project for the SLVFD is the purchase of equipment and a trailer, equipping the department with sprinkler systems and hoses specifically for fighting against wildfire. With the residential homes in the Sproat Lake electoral area surrounded by forests, this equipment will better enable the department to protect the region and the community.

The small capital asset project for the Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Department (BCVFD) is the purchase and installation of a SCBA Decontaminator, for cleaning all protective equipment and SCBA. After each fire, protective equipment is contaminated with soot particles and combusting gases – Firefighters currently have no alternative to the current practice of cleaning gear by hand. This takes a longer period of time and leaves firefighters exposed to possible carcinogens, as some parts of equipment are inaccessible when cleaning by hand. The SCBA Decontaminator will replace this process, with each set of gear cleaned by a washer with detergent reducing the exposure to the firefighters of soot particles and combusting gas and cutting the time to clean gear after returning to the station from a fire.

The Bamfield Volunteer Fire Department was notified of this grant opportunity however did not identify any equipment or training to apply for at this time. The Cherry Creek Volunteer Fire Department, as part of the Improvement District, can apply directly to this opportunity if they wish to do so.

Background:

The UBCM 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 in their region. One of the streams is focused on the emergency services provided by firefighters, specifically volunteer and composite fire departments.

The intent of the Volunteer & Composite Fire Departments Equipment & Training funding stream is to build the resiliency of volunteer and composite fire departments in preparing for and responding to emergencies 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 for the program.

Time Requirements – Staff & Elected Officials:

The preparation of the grant applications will require approximately 30 hours of staff time. If successful, staff anticipate the purchase of equipment and grant management would require 25 hours of time from the Protective Services and Finance departments.

Financial:

If the SLVFD project is approved for funding from CEPF, the department will receive 100% of the costs up to \$30,000. It is estimated that the equipment could be purchased within this \$30,000 limit creating no additional cost to the department.

If the BCFD project is approved for funding from CEPF, the department will receive 100% of the costs up to \$30,000. The purchase of the SCBA Decontaminator/Washer is included in the 2023 operating budget at \$48,000 and if the grant application is successful, the funds would reduce the tax requisition dollars required for the project.

Strategic Plan Implications:

This grant opportunity aligns with Strategic Priority 1.2 Leverage Community Works Funds and Other Grants.

Options Considered:

If the Bamfield Fire Department identifies a project by October 4, 2022 then staff will bring forward a Request for Decision to the October 12, 2022 Board meeting to get a resolution to support their application.

Submitted by: 
Amy C Mayo, BBA, Asset Management & Grant Coordinator

