



## ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 3, 2023

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### **Emergency Support Services received provincial funding**

ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT – The Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District (ACRD) received \$60,000 for the Emergency Support Services (ESS) program through the Community Emergency Preparedness Program Fund (CEPF), provided by the Union of BC Municipalities.

The ACRD and the City of Port Alberni applied in partnership and together were successful in receiving this regional funding.

The funding will help support the ESS program and will bolster resources and training opportunities for the electoral areas of Sproat Lake (Electoral Area "D"), Beaver Creek (Electoral Area "E"), Cherry Creek (Electoral Area "F"), Beaufort (Electoral Area "B"), Bamfield (Electoral Area "A"), Long Beach (Electoral Area "C") and residents in the City of Port Alberni. ESS is a volunteer-based, community emergency response program that provides for the short-term needs of evacuees in the event of a disaster or emergency.

“This grant will allow us to continue to enhance the resiliency of our community by offering support during emergencies by building capacity and ensuring we have the tools needed to best respond to any situation,” explains John Jack, chair for the ACRD Board of Directors. “By applying for this grant with the City of Port Alberni, we maximize funding opportunities and foster cross-jurisdictional collaboration for emergency management.”

The ESS grant will enhance program capacity, improve responder recruitment, retention, and training activities, and will increase community resources by procuring equipment. These funding opportunities will help strengthen emergency response in the region and will further enhance the development of staff, volunteers, community networking and existing programs.

The CEPF is a suite of funding streams intended to enhance the resiliency of local governments, First Nations, and communities in responding to emergencies. For more information, go to [Community Emergency Preparedness Fund | Union of BC Municipalities \(ubcm.ca\)](https://www.ubcm.ca/community-emergency-preparedness-fund).

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For more information, please contact:  
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About the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District:

*Established in 1966, the Alberni–Clayoquot Regional District is in the heart of Vancouver Island, British Columbia. It encompasses more than 6,500 square kilometres, with a population of approximately 31,000. The ACRD consists of member municipalities Port Alberni, Tofino, Ucluelet, as well as Bamfield, Beaufort, Long Beach, Sproat Lake, Beaver Creek and Cherry Creek. It was also the first regional district to welcome full participation on the board from the Treaty First Nations of Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Yuuʔuʔiʔaḥ Government, Uchucklesaht Tribe Government and Toquaht Nation. The ACRD is within the territory of the Nuu-chah-nulth Nations. The ACRD is governed by a fourteen-member Board of Directors that represent the member jurisdictions. The regional district offices are in Port Alberni.*