

**CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT BOARD
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025**

SUBJECT Capital Regional District External Grants Update

ISSUE SUMMARY

To provide the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board a bimonthly update on external grants activity for the period between June 11, 2025 and August 19, 2025.

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes activities and outcomes since the CRD External Grants Update was last presented in July 2025. The External Grants Dashboard (Appendix A) details applications submitted, updated, awarded and declined as of August 19, 2025. Appendix B provides a summary of grant alerts for 2025 referencing CRD grant applications approved, pending and declined.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

Grants/Contributions Awarded

1. \$345,000 through Natural Resource Canada's Wildfire Resilient Futures Initiative to research wildfire risk mitigation activities by weaving knowledge systems amongst the governing bodies of southern Vancouver Island and Gulf Islands. The project has a total cost of \$366,000.
2. \$55,000 through the Province of BC's Regional District Basic Grant program to assist with administration costs.
3. \$15,000 through Employment and Social Development Canada's Canada Summer Jobs program to employ camp and assistant camp counsellors on Salt Spring Island. This project has a total cost of \$40,784.
4. \$4,462 through the BC Civil Forfeiture Office's Police Equipment and Training grants to purchase five covert cellular trail cameras to combat illegal activity occurring in remote areas of regional parks.

There are three grants under news embargo.

Applications Submitted

1. \$40,000 through Island Coastal Economic Trust's Community Placemaking Program to construct a 20'x30' timber pavilion in Thieves Bay Park. The project has a total cost of \$117,732.
2. \$27,283 through Employment and Social Development Canada's Compensation for Employers of Reservists Program to compensate for costs associated with the deployment of CRD employees who serve in the Canadian Armed Forces.

3. \$15,000 through BC Healthy Communities' PlanH program to conduct a health needs assessment for Salt Spring Island. The project has a total cost \$21,500.

Service Delivery Implications

New Grant Opportunities

Six grant calls (including programs with multiple streams) were issued during the reporting period and are summarized in Table 1. Appendix B details relevant active grants (as of August 19, 2025) and lists recently closed grants for 2025. Appendix B also references CRD grant applications approved, pending and declined/withdrawn.

Table 1: Grant Calls Issued

| Grant | Deadline | Information |
|--|-----------|---|
| Climate-Ready Plans and Processes – Green Municipal Fund | 16-Sep-25 | Funding to help communities adapt to the impacts of climate change by developing climate risk assessments and climate adaptation plans. |
| New Horizons for Seniors Program – Community-Based Projects | 17-Sep-25 | Funding to support projects that are designed by seniors and for seniors in their communities. This program funds projects that empower seniors in their communities through increased social inclusion. |
| Commemorate Canada – Canadian Heritage | 1-Oct-25 | Funding for national projects in Canada marking significant historical anniversaries with an educational component. |
| Implementation projects: Adaptation in Action – Green Municipal Fund | 9-Oct-25 | Funding for projects that enhance long-term climate resilience in communities in an equitable and inclusive manner. This funding is intended for communities who are already aware of their climate risks and know which projects will help them make the greatest strides in improving their climate resilience. |
| Safe and Active School Routes – Green Municipal Fund | 17-Oct-25 | Funding to support the design and installation of new or improved active transportation infrastructure along school routes, including quick-build or permanent features such as pathways, sidewalks, bike lanes, crossings and safety enhancements. |
| Feasibility study: Adaptation in Action – Green Municipal Fund | 28-Oct-25 | Funding for feasibility studies that assess the viability of climate adaptation projects with total expected eligible implementation costs of up to \$1 million. This type of study examines a project's financial, technical, legal and operational aspects, plus scheduling and other factors. |

CONCLUSION

The CRD recognizes grants as a supplementary funding source to address the needs of services provided to the region. The External Grants Update outlines how the CRD continues to integrate and consider grant opportunities relative to service needs. Local partners are informed of these opportunities through the Grants Dashboard and Grants Alerts. The CRD will continue to provide a bimonthly summary of activities and outcomes in the External Grants Update.

RECOMMENDATION

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

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| Submitted by: | Lia Xu, MSc., CPA, CGA, Finance Manager, Local Services and Corporate Grants |
| Concurrence: | Nelson Chan, MBA, FCPA, FCMA, Chief Financial Officer & General Manager, Finance & Technology |
| Concurrence: | Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer |

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: 2025 External Grants Dashboard
Appendix B: 2025 Grant Alerts