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**REPORT TO FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 05, 2021**

SUBJECT **Capital Regional District External Grants Update**

ISSUE SUMMARY

A bi-monthly update on external grants activity for the period of February 8 through April 12, 2021.

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes activities and outcomes since the CRD External Grants Update was last presented at the March 2021 Board meeting. Additionally, the CRD External Grants Dashboard (Appendix A) details grant applications, awards, and status of projects in progress.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

Grants / Contributions Awarded

1. An additional \$575,000 through the Provincial Government's COVID-19 Safe Restart Grant for Local Governments for impacts related to service delivery through the pandemic. Total grants received through this program are \$1.9M.
2. \$337,256 through the Federal Government's Reaching Home grant to support vulnerable Indigenous populations facing homelessness. Total grants received through the Reaching Home program-Indigenous populations total \$1.0M since 2019.
3. \$224,354 through BC Transit's Annual Operating Agreement and Safe Restart Contribution for the Salt Spring Island Transportation Service to deliver on island conveyancing.
4. \$76,000 through the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program – Unique Heritage Infrastructure Stream for the Goldstream Powerhouse Roof Replacement project.
5. \$3,256 through the 2020 Canada Summer Jobs Program for Parks Summer Grant. Total grants received through this program for 2020 are \$78,140.

Five grants are under news embargo.

Applications Submitted

Seven applications were submitted:

1. \$127,907 through the 2021 FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund-Community Resiliency Investment Program-UBCM for the Capital Regional FireSmart Economic Recovery project.
2. \$100,000 through the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative for the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Centennial Park Plaza project.
3. \$49,806 through the Habitat Stewardship Program for Species at Risk for the State of Species at Risk project for Regional Parks.
4. Up to \$40,000 through the Natural Resources Canada – Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program, MURBS, Workplaces and LDV Fleets for Eight Level Two Electric Vehicle Chargers for corporate fleet chargers.
5. \$25,000 through the 2021 Emergency Operations Centres & Training-Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for the CRD Electoral Area EOC Functional Exercises.
6. \$9,000 through the Salt Spring Island Foundation for the Centennial Park Gazebo project.
7. \$1,000 through the ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge for the Swim the Southern Gulf Islands.

Core Area Wastewater Treatment Plant Project Update

The Core Area Wastewater Treatment Plant project is partially funded by the Federal Government, the Province of BC, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. Since the last update to committee and Board, the CRD received the final holdback payment from the Building Infrastructure Grant of \$12M. Cumulatively, the CRD has received \$351M of the estimated \$462M in grants. The remaining \$111M is expected to be received in 2021 based on timing of eligible expenditures and achievement of target milestones.

Service Delivery Implications

New Grant Opportunities

Twenty-seven new grant calls were issued during the reporting period. Grant Calls in Progress for which the CRD is eligible to apply are featured in Appendix A (see pages 7–9), and in the table below:

Grant	Deadline	Information
ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge	26-Feb-21	Funds physical activity events and/or programs in person/virtually from June 1-30, 2021 (Challenge period).
Immunization Partnership Fund: Public Health Agency of Canada	05-Mar-21	Provides funding for projects on COVID-19 vaccines that may include capacity, outreach, promotion, and education.
Canada Healthy Communities Initiative	09-Mar-21 25-Jun-21	Provides funding to create public spaces, improve mobility options, and provide digital solutions.

Grant	Deadline	Information
Canada Learning Bond Grants and Contributions Pilot Projects: Phase II-Employment and Social Development Canada	17-Mar-21	Provides funding to organizations that are testing enrolment models for Canada Learning Bond eligible children.
Emergency Operations Centres and Training-Community Emergency Preparedness Fund-UBCM	26-Mar-21	Provides funding for supplies, equipment, and capacity for Emergency Operations Centres.
Economic Recovery Intake-Connecting British Columbia Program	31-Mar-21	Short-term opening funding opportunity to improve and expand immediate connectivity projects.
AgriSpirit Fund-Farm Credit Canada	31-Mar-21	Provides funding to capital and sustainability projects where the city or town's population is less than 150,000.
Community to Community Forum	01-Apr-21	Provides funding to host a Regional Community to Community Forum
Canada Arts Presentation Fund	1. 01-Apr-21 2. Continuous	Two streams to support art festivals/series/presenters/presenter organizations: 1. Presenter Support Organizations 2. Development
Clean Transportation System – Research and Development	15-Apr-21	Provides funding for research projects on aviation, marine and rail sectors with the goal to reduce GHG emissions and support climate change.
Strengthening Communities' Services-UBCM	15-Apr-21	Part of Safe Restart funding to provide support to unsheltered homeless populations and address community impacts.
Asset Management Planning Program-UBCM	30-Apr-21	Provides funding to support asset management development (planning/training/resources, etc.).
Community Anniversaries-Building Communities through Arts and Heritage	30-Apr-21	Provides funding for one-time events/capital projects that celebrate the 100th (or 125th/150th/175th, etc.) anniversary of a significant historical event/personality.
CleanBC Industry Fund	1. 30-Apr-21 2. 24-May-21 3. TBC	Three streams to reduce GHG emissions in industries: 1. Emissions performance 2. Innovation accelerator 3. Project feasibility studies
Jumpstart – Sports Relief Fund	02-May-21	Provides funding for operational and delivering program support for sport/recreational programming.
Local Government Development Approvals Program-UBCM	07-May-21	Part of Safe Restart funding to provide support for local governments to improve the development approvals processes.
2021 Active Transportation Planning	22-May-21	Provides funding to incorporate or enhance active transportation of formal planning documents.

Grant	Deadline	Information
PlanH 2021 Healthy Communities	01-Jun-21	Supports projects that promote equitable and inclusive and healthier communities. Two streams: 1. Community Connectedness 2. Healthy Public Policy
Housing Needs Report Planning-UBCM	04-Jun-21	Provides funding to produce, publish or update housing needs report.
Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure program	22-Jun-21	Funding for ZEV infrastructure projects in public places, on-street, multi-unit residential buildings, workplaces and light-duty vehicle fleets
Infrastructure Planning Grant Program	16-Jul-21	Funding for local governments to develop/improve long-term plans.
Green Municipal Fund: Local Home-Energy Upgrade Financing Program	Continuous	Loan/grant program for home energy upgrades.
Economic Development Readiness Program	Continuous	Supports capacity building and investment readiness projects within the Island Coastal Economic Trust regions

Forthcoming Funding Initiatives

1. Island Health Community Wellness Granting Program 2021/22 intake, forthcoming spring 2021.

CONCLUSION

The CRD recognizes grants are 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 these grant opportunities relative to service needs, as well as informing local partners of these opportunities through the grants dashboard. The CRD will continue to provide a summary of activities and outcomes in the External Grants Update on a bi-monthly basis.

RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That the Capital Regional District External Grants Update be received for information.

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Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

Appendix A: External Grants Dashboard