

# Community Resiliency Investment Program 2021 FireSmart Economic Recovery Fund Application Form

Please complete and return the application form and all required attachments by March 19, 2021.

All questions are required to be answered by typing directly in this form. If you have any questions, contact [cri-swpi@ubcm.ca](mailto:cri-swpi@ubcm.ca) or (250) 356-2947.

SECTION 1: Applicant Information	CRI- <span style="float: right;"><i>(administrative use only)</i></span>
Name of Eligible Applicant: Capital Regional District	Complete Mailing Address: PO Box 1000 Victoria, BC V8W 2S6
Contact Person*: Jonathan Reimer	Position: Manager, EA Fire and Emergency Programs
Phone: 250-360-3137	E-mail: <a href="mailto:jreimer@crd.bc.ca">jreimer@crd.bc.ca</a>

\* Contact person must be an authorized representative of the applicant (i.e. staff member or elected official).

<p><b>SECTION 2: Type of Application</b> – Please identify the type of application you are submitting and provide the required information. Refer to Section 4 in the Program &amp; Application Guide for eligibility.</p>
<p><b>1. Type of Application</b> (select one only):</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single applicant</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Regional Project. Please list all of the partnering eligible applicants included in this application:</p>
<p><b>2. Rationale for Regional Projects</b> (only). Please provide a rationale for submitting a regional project application and describe how this approach will support cost-efficiencies in the total funding request.</p>

<p><b>SECTION 3: Project Summary</b></p>
<p><b>3. Name of the Project:</b></p> <p>Capital Regional FireSmart Economic Recovery</p>

**4. Project Summary.** Please provide a summary of your project in 150 words or less.

Capital Regional District (CRD) is seeking to provide greater regional FireSmart coordination and improved resources to Electoral Area Residents. The CRD has 13 municipalities with a range of wildfire urban interface and intermix hazards. To increase regional effectiveness, the CRD launched a Regional FireSmart Resiliency Committee in late 2020. This project would enable coordination and facilitation of 12 committee meetings and the furthering of action items.

The CRD is developing sustained local resiliency in our rural Electoral Area communities, home to over 20,000 residents who were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Community Resiliency will be facilitated through the creation of local capacity and new employment, namely a FireSmart Program Coordinator. The position will be responsible for coordinating home assessments, establishing FireSmart educational outreach programs, coordinating FireSmart projects, overseeing reporting and information sharing, supporting activities required for FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition, and related tasks.

**5. Fire Centre (use check boxes).** Indicate which Fire Centre the proposed activities are located in (check all that apply).

Cariboo Fire Centre

Coastal Fire Centre

Kamloops Fire Centre

Northwest Fire Centre

Prince George Fire Centre

Southeast Fire Centre

**6. Project Cost & Funding Request:**

Total project cost: \$127,907

Total project funding request: \$127,907

Have you applied for or received funding for this project from other sources? If yes, please provide details below.

No.

**7. Engagement Prior to Submitting an Application.** If you engaged with a BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer or FNESS Fuel Management Specialist before submitting this application, please indicate the name(s) and title(s) of the person(s) you engaged with and describe the extent of that engagement.

Yes, this application is the result of engagement with BCWS through multiple phone calls with CFC Wildfire Prevention Officers Tony Botica and Jessica Duncan

**SECTION 4: Detailed Project Information**

**8. Proposed Activities for Job Creation for FireSmart Projects & Fuel Management Demonstration Projects**

Please refer to Table 1 in the Program & Application Guide for eligible activities and complete each section only if you are applying for funding in that category. For each, please describe how the proposed activities will support local recovery from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Note that the purchase of FireSmart supplies and equipment required for FireSmart projects or fuel management demonstration projects is limited to no more than \$3,000 of the total grant request.

**a) Fire Smart Projects for Residential Areas.** Refer to Appendix 2 in the Program & Application Guide for additional information.

Detailed proposed activities and expenditures, limited to labour costs: \$27,500

Estimated per person days for this activity, including calculation: Est. 1100 assessments \* 0.5 hours = 550 hrs x 7 hrs/day = 78 person days

Other proposed outcomes and performance measures: Proposed measurable: Baseline assessment for communities and neighbours. Future outcome: quantifiable improvement in FireSmart ratings.

**b) FireSmart Projects for Farms & Ranches.** Refer to Appendix 2 in the Program & Application Guide for addition information.

Detailed proposed activities and expenditures, limited to labour costs:

Estimated per person days for this activity, including calculation:

Other proposed outcomes and performance measures:

**FireSmart Projects for Community Assets.** The maximum funding request for building materials and labour is \$50,000 per eligible structure. Refer to Appendix 3 in the Program & Application Guide for additional information.

Detailed proposed activities and expenditures, including labour and building material costs:

Estimated per person days for this activity, including calculation:

Other proposed outcomes and performance measures:

**c) FireSmart Projects for Critical Infrastructure.** The maximum funding request for building materials and labour is \$50,000 per eligible structure. Refer to Appendix 3 in the Program & Application Guide for additional information.

Detailed proposed activities and expenditures, including labour and building material costs:

Estimated per person days for this activity, including calculation:

Other proposed outcomes and performance measures:

**d) Fuel Management Demonstration Projects.** All fuel management demonstration projects are required to have a completed prescription and to include educational signage. Refer to Appendix 4 in the Program & Application Guide for more information.

Description of project location, fuel reduction objectives, treatment type (mechanical vs manual) including proposed hectares, visibility and accessibility, and estimated number of visitors per year:

Detailed proposed activities and expenditures:

- Prescription development:
- Operational treatment:
- Education and media (e.g. signage etc.):

Estimated per person days for this activity, including calculation:

Other proposed outcomes and performance measures:

**9. Proposed Activities for Job Creation for Sustained Wildfire Resiliency**

Please refer to Table 1 in the Program & Application Guide for eligible activities and complete this section only if you are applying for funding in this category. *Please describe how the proposed activities will support local recovery from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.*

Detailed proposed activities and expenditures: FireSmart Program Coordinator position will be responsible for coordinating home assessments, establishing FireSmart educational outreach programs, coordinating FireSmart projects like providing community wood waste disposal events, forming Community Resiliency Committee, overseeing reporting and information sharing, supporting activities required for FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition, and related tasks.

Community FireSmart Resiliency Committee Coordination will administer CFRC meetings, minutes and agendas, determine topics, set meetings and further action items for the Committee, share information with the BC FireSmart Committee, and related activities.

Estimated per person days for this activity, including calculation: FireSmart Program Coordinator: 52 weeks x 5 days a week = 260 person days. Community FireSmart Resiliency Committee Coordination: 174 hours x 7hrs/day = 25 person days

Other proposed outcomes and performance measures: There are currently little to no FireSmart program in the most of the 12 communities in the Capital Regional Electoral Areas, and volunteer fire departments have limited capacity to launch these initiatives. This funding would enable the Regional District to establish an sustainable Electoral Area FireSmart program, including formation of new community resiliency committees and the delivery of public educational campaigns and stakeholder coordination events. Outcome will be increased public awareness and sense of control over their exposure to wildfire emergencies.

**10. Proposed Activities for Skills Development that Leads to Employment**

Please refer to Table 1 in the Program & Application Guide for eligible activities and complete this section only if you are applying for funding in this category. *Please describe how the proposed activities will support local recovery from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.*

Detailed proposed activities and expenditures:

Estimated per person days for this activity, including calculation:

Other proposed outcomes and performance measures:

**11. Total per person days per project.** Please include the proposed per person days for the overall project.

260 + 25 + 78 = 363 person days

**12. Capacity Building.** Please describe how the proposed activities will lead to increased capacity in your community. This may include information on increased employability of local populations, improved capacity for future wildfire risk reduction activities, etc.

FireSmart Program Coordinator is new employment opportunity that will build project management and stakeholder collaboration skills. This position will collaborate closely with the existing Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan update project to identify local populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, such as First Nations, who could benefit socially and

economically from an engagement with community FireSmart Programs. These conversations are taking place at community- and regional-level FireSmart Resiliency Committees.

**13. Rationale.** What rationale or evidence is there for undertaking the proposed project? This may include information on local wildfire risk, economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, etc.

Best practices from North American jurisdictions have demonstrated the critical importance of unified messaging and homeowners preparedness and mitigation. The balkanization of the Capital Region has led to difficulty coordinating wildfire prevention, mitigation, and response operations. Coordination is critical to the success of these programs.

Remote CRD rural communities are often accessible by ferry only, are closely integrated with neighbouring First Nations, and frequently represent poorer and older demographics than the general population. This means the communities were disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 pandemic and also have limited resources to build robust and sustainable FireSmart programs. Particular struggles including training qualified personnel and capacity to manage coarse woody debris on private lands. Much of the rural Electoral Areas are in areas of extreme fire hazard, such as Jordan River and SaltSpring Island.

**14. Increasing Wildfire Resiliency.** Please indicate how the proposed project will increase community wildfire resiliency.

This project addresses the two major risks that the Capital Region faces in regards to wildfire. First: the capital region includes 13 municipalities and 3 electoral areas, which has created public confusion, a diversity of regulatory approaches, and a lack of coordination in emergency messaging and response agencies. These issues will be addressed through the Regional FireSmart Resiliency Committee. Secondly, our 12 rural communities are geographically isolated and have limited resources to build community resiliency, understand wildfire risk, and manage coarse woody debris. These issues will be addressed through the creation of a FireSmart Program Coordinator role to administrate rural programs.

**15. Partnerships & Collaboration.** Please identify any other authorities you will collaborate with on the proposed project (e.g. community or resident organizations, First Nation or Indigenous organizations, or other local governments) and outline how you intend to work together.

The Regional FireSmart Resiliency Committee includes representatives from North Saanich, Sidney, Central Saanich, Saanich, Victoria, Oak Bay, Esquimalt, Langford, Colwood, Metchosin, Saanich, and has invited representatives from Beecher Bay FN, T-souke FN, and Pacheedaht FN. The FireSmart Program Coordinator will be meet frequently with land manager representatives such as Parks Canada, Provincial Parks, private timber companies, BC Wildfire, Beecher Bay FN, T-souke FN, and Pacheedaht FN.

**16. Additional Information.** Please share any other information you think may help support your submission.

**SECTION 5: Application Check List.** Refer to Section 7 of the Program & Application Guide for more information.

Application Form.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Detailed budget for each component identified in the application. This must clearly identify the funding request, applicant contribution, and/or other grant funding.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolution or motion indicating support for the current proposed activities and willingness to provide overall grant management.
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>For FireSmart projects for community assets only</u> : evidence that the building is owned by a legally incorporated society-run fire department, local non-profit group, or community association.
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>For fuel management demonstration projects only</u> : PDF map and Google Earth compatible KML file, at appropriate scale, outlining the location, proposed treatments units, and if not phased, the signed and sealed prescription.
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>For regional projects only</u> : Resolutin or motion from each partnering community that clearly states approval for the applicant to apply for, receive and manage the grant funding on their behalf
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>Legally incorporated society-run fire department applicants only</u> : Current Certificate of Good Standing
Submit the completed Application Form and all required related attachments as e-mail attachments to <a href="mailto:cri-swpi@ubcm.ca">cri-swpi@ubcm.ca</a> and note “ <b>2021 CRI FERF</b> ” in the subject line. Submit your application as either a Word or PDF file(s). If you submit by e-mail, hardcopies and/or additional copies of the application are not required.

<b>SECTION 6: Signature</b> – Applications are required to be signed by an authorized representative of the applicant. Please note all application materials will be shared with the Province of BC and the BC FireSmart Committee.	
I certify that: (1) to the best of my knowledge, all information is accurate and (2) the area covered by the approved project is within the applicant’s jurisdiction (or appropriate approvals are in place).	
Name: Jonathan Reimer	Title: Manager, EA Fire and Emergency Programs
Signature*: <i>An electronic or original signature is required.</i>	Date: March 18, 2021

\* Signatory must be an authorized representative of the applicant (i.e. staff member or elected official).