

**REPORT TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2017**

SUBJECT **Capital Regional District Grants Update**

ISSUE

This report provides an update since the previous Finance Committee meeting.

BACKGROUND

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Grants Dashboard (Appendix A) summarizes grant calls and agreements in progress, as well as grants awarded since January 1, 2015.

Grants / Contributions Awarded

Canada 150 Celebration Grant (\$7,500)

Through the Salt Spring Island (SSI) Foundation, the SSI Administration department of CRD was awarded a grant to help fund Canada 150 Celebration on SSI.

Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (\$69,244)

In return for reporting on its plan and progress toward meeting its climate action goals, including progress toward carbon neutrality, the CRD received a grant of \$69,244.

Community Works Fund Payment (\$555,219.22)

In accordance with the Community Works Fund Agreement, the CRD received the first of two installments of funding for fiscal year 2017/18. These funds are allocated to the CRD Electoral Areas on a population basis. A financial summary of the Community Works Fund by Electoral Area is provided in Appendix B.

Grant Applications Submitted or In Progress

PlanH – Community Social Connectedness

The Panorama Recreation Centre has submitted a grant application seeking \$15,000 for the Community Connections – Welcome Figure project which aims to create an aboriginal welcome figure to be placed in the Panorama Recreation Centre lobby.

Green Municipal Fund – Climate Action and Asset Management Network

The CRD has submitted a grant application seeking \$51,440 for participation in the Climate and Asset Management Network to bring CRD policies, framework and approach in line with the best practices of local governments across Canada.

National Disaster Mitigation Program

A grant application for decommissioning the Gardom Pond Dam has been submitted (\$459,904) for the closing date of August 25, 2017.

Rail Safety Improvement Program

A grant application for the Atkins Avenue Railway Crossing Project, which is part of the E&N Rail Trail – Humpback Connector, has been submitted (\$400,000).

Abandoned Boats Program

In keeping with the CRD Board resolution (17-574, August 2, 2017), a grant application to Transport Canada's Abandoned Boat Program is in progress (\$1,050,000).

New Grant Opportunities Announced Since the Last Grants Report

Heritage Legacy Fund (no applications submitted)

This Fund supports financial assistance programs for Heritage Awareness and Heritage Conservation, including the Heritage Conservation Program for the preservation, rehabilitation, and restoration of heritage resources; and the Heritage Awareness Program for the research, documentation, presentation, and publication of information about specific community heritage resources.

Enabling Accessibility (no applications submitted)

The Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF) funds organizations, businesses and other eligible recipients to improve accessibility and/or safety for people with disabilities by supporting the capital costs of renovation, construction and/or retrofit activities and the provision of accessible technologies in workplaces and communities across Canada.

Asset Management Planning Program (under review)

Matching grants of up to \$15,000 are available to support activities that advance a local government's asset management planning or practices, and that facilitate better integration of asset management planning with long term financial planning. Application deadlines are November 10, 2017 and March 31, 2018.

Abandoned Boats Program (application in progress)

This program provides grant and contribution funding to assist in the removal of abandoned and/or wrecked small boats posing a hazard in Canadian Waters. An application to the program is in progress as endorsed by the CRD Board.

Rail Safety Improvement Program (application submitted)

Transport Canada is funding this program to address rail line safety issues and to reduce the number of injuries and deaths from accidents along rail lines and on rail property. The CRD has submitted an application to the program.

Green Infrastructure Phase II (under review)

Natural Resources Canada is working to advance Canada's efforts to build a clean economy by accelerating the market entry of next generation clean energy infrastructure. Program review is in progress to determine alignment with CRD corporate and service priorities.

GRANTS FORECAST

Federal Infrastructure Minister Amarjeet Sohi met with the CRD Committee of the Whole on August 2, 2017, to provide an overview of forthcoming infrastructure funding as outlined in his letter to Premier Horgan. A link to the presentation video is provided in the Federal Infrastructure Funding line item on page 5 of the Dashboard. Minister Sohi's letter of July 6, 2017, to Premier Horgan is provided in Appendix C.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Finance Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:
That this report be received for information.

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Appendix A: CRD Grants Dashboard

Appendix B: CWF Summary by Electoral Area as of August 31, 2017

Appendix C: July 6, 2017 letter from Federal Minister Sohi to Premier Horgan