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**REPORT TO FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JULY 05, 2023**

SUBJECT **Capital Regional District External Grants Update**

ISSUE SUMMARY

To provide the Finance Committee and the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board a bi-monthly update on external grants activity for the period between April 18, 2023 and June 19, 2023.

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes activities and outcomes since the CRD External Grants Update was last presented in May. The External Grants Dashboard (Appendix A) details applications submitted, updated, awarded and declined as of 2023. Appendix B provides a summary of grant alerts for 2023.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

Grants/Contributions Awarded

1. \$30,000 through Island Coastal Economic Trusts' Capital and Innovation Program to support Miners Bay Dock Revitalization Project, Mayne Island.
2. \$30,000 through Union of British Columbia Municipalities' (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund 2023 Emergency Operations and Training Centres to support CRD Departmental Operations Centres (DOC)/Electoral Areas Emergency Operations Centres (EOC) Capacity Development Project.
3. \$13,154 through Employment and Social Development Canada's 2023 Canada Summer Jobs Program to support various staff positions for Salt Spring Island Parks.
4. \$11,700 through Fortis BC's Custom Efficiency Program – Implementation Incentive to support Energy Conservation Measures at CRD headquarters.
5. \$7,500 through Province of BC's Infrastructure Planning Grant Program for Mount Erskine Water System Infrastructure Condition Assessment, Salt Spring Island.
6. \$6,000 through TD's Friends of the Environment Foundation to support the Southern Gulf Islands (SGI) Pender Island Parks and Recreation Commission Youth Native Tree Planting Program Project.

There is an additional one grant under news embargo.

Applications Submitted

Six CRD applications were submitted:

1. \$150,000 through UBCM's 2023-24 Complete Communities Grant Program to support the Capital Region Growth and Mobility Study.
2. \$11,820 through Island Health's Community Wellness Grant Program to support the Village on the Green Redevelopment Project.
3. \$11,700 through Fortis BC's Custom Efficiency Program – Implementation Incentive for Energy Conservation Measures at CRD HQ.
4. \$10,000 through PlanH's Public Policy Stream to support the Decolonizing Health Policy, Planning and Programming in the Capital Region Project.
5. \$3,000 through ViaSport's 2023 Community Sport Program Development to support Sooke and Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission's (SEAPARC) Learn to Play Lacrosse Program.
6. \$3,000 through ViaSport's 2023 Community Sport Program Development to support Mayne Island Parks and Recreation Commission BC Sport Participation Program (BCSPP) Community Sports Program.

Service Delivery Implications

New Grant Opportunities

Twenty-five grant calls (includes programs with multiple streams) were issued during the reporting period and are summarized in the table below. Appendix B details relevant active grants (as of June 19, 2023) and lists recently closed grants for 2023.

| Grant | Deadline | Information |
|--|-----------------|---|
| Local Food Infrastructure Fund – Agriculture Canada | 31-May-23 | Funding for infrastructure investments that increase food security |
| Go Electric Public Charger Program – CleanBC Go Electric Program | 02-Jun-23 | Funding for Direct Current Fast Charger stations with priority on rural, northern and Indigenous communities |
| BC Community Sport Development Fund – ViaSport | 15-Jun-23 | Funding to make community sport more accessible by reducing barriers to participation |
| Canada's National Mini Forest Pilot – Green Communities Canada | 16-Jun-23 | Funding to help community-based organizations grow support for green infrastructure and engage citizens in local action |
| 2023/24 Complete Communities Program – UBCM | 16-Jun-23 | Funding to undertake assessments to inform land use decision-making; |

| Grant | Deadline | Information |
|--|-------------------------------|--|
| | | considering housing need, supply and location; providing transportation options; and connecting to infrastructure investment and servicing decisions |
| Community Engagement Funding – Veterans Affairs Canada | 30-Jun-23 | Funding for commemorative activities or materials |
| Catherine Donnelly Foundation Grants | 07-Jul-23 | Funding to address community needs in three streams: 1. Adult Education for Social Change Initiatives 2. Environment Initiatives 3. Housing Initiatives |
| Environmental Damages Fund – Environment and Climate Change Canada | 26-Jul-23 | Funding to projects that restore damage to natural environment and support wildlife conservation |
| Age-Friendly Communities Grants – BC Healthy Communities | 28-Jul-23 | Funding to help seniors lead active, independent lives through two streams: 1. Planning 2. Projects |
| TSBC Community Grant Program –Tire Stewardship BC | 31-Jul-23 | Funding to support the use of recycled tire products, including playgrounds, water parks, tracks, playing fields, etc. |
| Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund – Fisheries and Oceans Canada | 31-Aug-23 | Funding for efforts to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species |
| Community to Community Program – UBCM | 01-Sep-23 | Funding to support increased understanding and improve relations between First Nations and local governments |
| Greener Neighbourhoods Pilot Program - Demonstration Projects– Natural Resources Canada | 14-Sept-23 | Funding for six Energiesprong-inspired aggregated deep energy retrofit projects in communities across Canada |
| BC Asset Management Planning Program – UBCM | 15-Sep-23 | Funding to assist local governments in delivering sustainable services by extending and deepening asset management practices |
| BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program – Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure | 27-Oct-23 | Funding to support network planning grants and infrastructure grants to support the development of active transportation infrastructure for all ages and abilities |
| Enhancement & Restoration Grants – Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation | 04-Nov-23 | Funding for projects that focus on native freshwater fish, wildlife and their habitats and have the potential to achieve a significant conservation outcome |
| Local Community Accessibility Grants Program – SPARC BC | Continuous through March 2026 | Funding to identify and remove barriers to improve accessibility and inclusion |
| Supporting Rural Destinations – Discover West Tourism | Continuous | Funding for tourism events in rural communities |

| Grant | Deadline | Information |
|---|-----------------|--|
| New Construction and Retrofits for Affordable Housing – Federation of Canadian Municipalities | Continuous | Funding to evaluate solutions for integrating deep energy efficiency measures and onsite renewable energy generation in existing affordable housing retrofit and new build project |
| Wastewater Systems – Federation of Canadian Municipalities | Continuous | Funding for wastewater treatment systems through two streams: 1. Capital 2. Study |
| Reduce Fossil Fuel Use in Fleets – Federation of Canadian Municipalities | Continuous | Funding for feasibility studies for projects that reduce or avoid fossil fuel use in any vehicle that delivers municipal services |

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 and Grants Alerts. The CRD will continue to provide a summary of activities and outcomes in the External Grants Update on a bimonthly basis.

RECOMMENDATION

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

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| Concurrence: | Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer |

ATTACHMENTS

- Appendix A: 2023 External Grants Dashboard
- Appendix B: 2023 Grant Alerts