



**REPORT TO CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT BOARD
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017**

**SUBJECT Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Social Services
Grant Application**

ISSUE

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Protective Services Emergency Program Coordinators (EPCs) and staff have identified that our “mass care” capabilities would benefit from enhancement. The Province through the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) has established a grant opportunity for supporting Community Emergency Preparedness.

This \$25,000 grant application is designed to enhance the CRD Emergency Programs’ Group Lodging capabilities for persons evacuated during major emergencies and disaster within the Electoral Areas of the capital region.

BACKGROUND

Emergency Social Services (ESS) is a component of the Capital Regional District’s (CRD’s) Electoral Area Emergency Programs. Residents/individuals that are displaced as a result of a house fire, flood, earthquake or other emergencies are able to receive ESS services for up to 72 hours. ESS services include food, lodging, clothing, information about the event/crisis and family reunification. First aid, child minding, pet care and transportation are other services of ESS that individuals may require.

The Province of BC/ UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) is accepting applications for projects up to \$25,000 to enhance community emergency preparedness and capacity. The application deadline is November 17, 2017. The Electoral Area EPCs and staff are proposing a \$25,000 project (\$5,000 of training and \$20,000 worth of cots/blanket units [approximately 200 units] for a Group Lodging Program. The grant application is included in Appendix A.

As such, to build further enhanced capacity and resiliency a “Group Lodging Readiness” course will be offered to the CRD’s Electoral Area Emergency Programs ESS teams. Group Lodging is a safe place for displaced persons to eat and sleep or receive specialized care including multi-cultural services, transportation or other services such as first aid or emotional support. Supplies, such as cots and blankets are a necessity of the Group Lodging portion of the ESS program. These trained teams can also provide mutual aid support to First Nations and municipalities as requested through the Regional Emergency Management Partnership (REMP). Additional training will assist with volunteer recruitment and retention. The proposed training course and an inventory of equipment purchases is outlined in Appendix B.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the submission of a grant application for \$25,000 to the Union of BC Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for a combined three Electoral Area Emergency Support Services Project be authorized and that the Board supports the current proposed activities and its willingness to provide overall grant management.

Alternative 2

That the report be referred back to staff for further review based on Board direction.

IMPLICATIONS

Social Implications

This initiative will provide a substantial increase in our emergency services capacity within our Electoral Areas and by mutual aid request to our Partners within REMP.

Intergovernmental Implications

This program will provide a positive opportunity to enhance our inter-electoral area emergency programs while also liaising with our neighbouring municipalities and First Nations, through our ongoing cooperative training and mutual aid model.

Financial Implications

This program is 100% funded by grants.

CONCLUSION

CRD staff have identified a grant opportunity through the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for ESS. Board support for this grant application, and a successful grant award, will be a major enhancement to our overall emergency preparedness program to support evacuees during major emergencies and disasters, by supplying our volunteers with the additional training and equipment to house large numbers of affected citizens.

RECOMMENDATION

That the submission of a grant application for \$25,000 to the Union of BC Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for a combined three Electoral Area Emergency Support Services Project be authorized and that the Board supports the current proposed activities and its willingness to provide overall grant management.

Submitted by:	Ian Elliott, Electoral Area Emergency Services Coordinator
Concurrence:	Kevin Lorette, P.Eng., MBA, General Manager Planning & Protective Services
Concurrence:	Nelson Chan, MBA, CPA, CMA, Chief Financial Officer
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

IE/cp

Attachments: Appendix A – Grant Application
Appendix B – Grant Application Supplement