



**REPORT TO CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT BOARD
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2018**

SUBJECT **Community Emergency Preparedness Fund - Emergency Operations Centre Grant Application**

ISSUE

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Protective Services Division has identified that our Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) 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 EOC capabilities for overall management and support of CRD departments, electoral areas and neighbouring municipalities during large scale events and/or major emergencies and disasters within the capital region.

BACKGROUND

The CRD's headquarters EOC is located on the sixth floor of 625 Fisgard Street and is supported in part by additional space in the Protective Services area and the Community Engagement Centre. The alternate CRD EOC is located at Integrated Water Services at 479 Island Highway. There is opportunity to improve functionality and equipment in the EOC which will significantly enhance the effectiveness of the centre during a major emergency.

The CRD has entered into the Regional Emergency Management Partnership (REMP) with Emergency Management BC (EMBC) in conjunction with all the municipalities and electoral areas within the region. This partnership is designed to develop and enhance the regional response to a large multi-jurisdictional emergency in alignment with the province. A functional post disaster regional EOC will be a key component of any large scale disaster response as was demonstrated during the 2017 wildfire season.

Both the City of Victoria and Greater Victoria Harbour Authority have expressed interest in collaborating with the CRD EOC during a major event due to the post-disaster rated building. CRD staff have been working with both these agencies in order to provide physical space for an EOC for them to use during times of need.

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 February 2, 2018. The CRD is proposing a \$25,000 project for a variety of equipment and supplies. The grant application is included in Appendix A.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

1. That the submission of a grant application for \$25,000 to the Union of BC Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for an Emergency Operations Centre project be authorized, and

2. That the Board supports the current proposed activities and the Capital Regional District's role 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 enhancement to emergency response coordination capacity within the capital regional and can support several neighbouring agencies and regional partners as required.

Intergovernmental Implications

This program will provide a positive opportunity to enhance our inter-electoral area emergency programs in addition to liaising and collaborating with neighbouring municipalities and First Nations.

Financial Implications

This grant application provides 25% of the proposed overall upgrades required to ensure our EOC is ready and functional.

CONCLUSION

CRD staff have identified a grant opportunity through the UBCM CEPF for EOCs. Board support for this grant application, and a successful grant award, will be a significant enhancement to our overall emergency preparedness program to manage major emergencies and disasters.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the submission of a grant application for \$25,000 to the Union of BC Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for an Emergency Operations Centre project be authorized, and
2. That the Board supports the current proposed activities and the Capital Regional District's role to provide overall grant management.

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PE

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