

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

SUBJECT Capital Regional District External Grants Update

ISSUE

This report provides an update since the reporting deadline of June 11, 2018, for the Finance Committee meeting held on July 4, 2018.

BACKGROUND

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Grants Dashboard (Appendix A) summarizes grant applications and calls in progress, as well as grants awarded since January 1, 2015. The information in this report is current as of the submission deadline of September 10, 2018.

Grants / Contributions Awarded

Five (5) grants were received during the period:

1. Federal Gas Tax – Community Works Fund (\$574,031.27): This is the first of two installments for fiscal year 2018-2019 under the UBCM-CRD Community Works Fund (CWF) Agreement. These funds are allocated to the CRD Electoral Areas on a population basis and assigned to grant-eligible projects. The CWF summary by Electoral Area is provided in Appendix B;
2. Regional District Basic Grant (\$60,000): The regional district basic grant is an unconditional grant for regional districts to assist with administration costs;
3. Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (\$64,989): The CRD received this grant in return for reporting on its plan and progress toward meeting its climate action goals, including progress toward carbon neutrality;
4. SSI Foundation Grant (\$18,563): SSI received this grant for youth active play equipment at Rainbow Pool;
5. SSI Foundation Grant (\$1,050): SSI received this grant to cover the cost of equipment for Youth Squash Camps;

One award notification received in May 2018 remains unreported due to a news embargo pending official public notice of the award.

New Applications in Progress or Submitted

Ten (10) new applications were submitted:

1. Community Gaming Grant: \$249,860 requested for South Galiano Fire Hall Replacement;
2. BC Rural Dividend: \$76,000 requested for Port Renfrew and Pacheedaht First Nation WiFi Hot Spots;
3. BC Rural Dividend: \$100,000 requested for engineering design of Southern Gulf Islands regional trails;
4. BC Rural Dividend: \$90,750 requested for conducting a feasibility study on the Salt Spring Island shared service business model;
5. Victoria Foundation: \$39,369 requested for developing a housing tenant support program;

6. Canada Nature Fund: An expression of interest for funding to acquire land for preservation and park use was submitted; request details undisclosed;
7. Tree Canada: \$128,000 requested for planting trees at Hartland;
8. National Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Program: \$39.9 million expression of interest for replacement of vulnerable sections of water main in the region;
9. National Disaster Mitigation Program: \$705,000 requested for Capital Region coastal flood inundation mapping;
10. FCM Green Municipal Fund: \$175,000 requested for a soil remediation and risk assessment feasibility study at McLoughlin Point.

Additionally, work is in progress on negotiating the five-year *Reaching Home* agreement that will replace the Homelessness Partnering Strategy that concludes March 31, 2019. The anticipated funding amount is approximately \$10 million.

New Grant Opportunities

Nine (9) grant calls were issued June 11, 2018, with deadlines as noted. Those with deadlines post-September 10, 2018, remain in the Calls in Progress section of Appendix A.

1. Community Overdose Crisis Grant (July 13, 2018): Up to \$75,000 for projects that respond to the overdose crisis, including new initiatives to strengthen pathways to treatment and care; strategies to reach people who use alone, and Indigenous approaches to healing and wellness;
2. Canada Nature Fund (August 15): With a mid-summer 2-week response timeline, this call invited expressions of interest for the cost-shared acquisition of land for preservation/parks;
3. National Disaster Mitigation Program (August 31, 2018): This 50/50 provincial/federal cost-shared program provides funding for risk assessments, flood mapping, mitigation planning, small scale structural works, non-structural mitigation works;
4. Connecting BC Program (Continuous intake): This program provides funding to support high-speed Internet in rural, remote and indigenous communities. It includes two streams: Connectivity Infrastructure Strategy Funding that covers up to 75% of eligible costs to a maximum of \$15,000; Last-Mile Funding that covers up to 50% of eligible costs with no funding cap specified in the guidelines;
5. Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (Various intakes): This includes a suite of programs with deadlines as noted: Emergency Social Services (Oct. 5/18); Evacuation Route Planning (Nov. 30/18); Emergency Operations Centres & Training (Feb. 1,/19); Flood Risk Assessment, Mapping and Mitigation Planning (Feb. 22/19); Structural Flood Mitigation (Fall/19);
6. Tree Canada (August 17, 2018): The National Greening Program (NGP), supports large-scale tree planting projects across Canada. It assists First Nations, conservation organizations and local governments in the reforestation and afforestation of areas that would otherwise not see these silvicultural treatments;
7. Building BC Supporting Housing Fund (October 30, 2018): To provide supportive housing for people who are experiencing homelessness, or who are at risk of homelessness. BC Housing will lead the creation of these new projects in partnership with non-profit housing providers, government authorities and community groups. The Province will own the buildings and land;
8. BC Hydro Beautification Fund (October 1, 2018): The program provides funding to municipalities wanting to convert existing overhead electrical distribution lines to underground equipment or to place decorative wraps on BC Hydro pad mounted equipment.

9. Connecting BC Program – Transport Infrastructure (Continuous Intake): Building on the earlier Connecting BC Program intake (see item 4), this stream provides funding for new infrastructure projects, as well as upgrades to or expansion of existing infrastructure.

Forthcoming Funding Initiatives

Two (2) new funding initiatives were announced since the last reporting period and have been added to the Grants Forecast section, with the notation **NEW** on the last page of Appendix A.

1. National Housing Strategy – Bilateral Agreement: Announced on June 26, 2018, this Canada-BC 10-year agreement will invest more than \$990 million to protect, renew and expand social and community housing, and will support the priorities related to housing repair, construction, and affordability in Homes for BC;
2. Organics Infrastructure Program Fund: Announced on June 13, 2018 in advance of the call for expressions of interest anticipated in the fall of 2018.

Additional announcements relating to grants are anticipated at the Union of BC Municipalities Convention, September 10-14, 2018.

Wastewater Treatment Plant – Grant Revenue

As of this reporting period, nearly \$29 million has been received on grant claims submitted.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Capital Regional District Board receive the Capital Regional District External Grants Update for information.

Submitted by:	Carlo Vijandre, PMP, ASCT, FMP, Manager, Asset Management
Concurrence:	Nelson Chan, MBA, CPA, CMA, Chief Financial Officer
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

RF:ngm

Appendix A: External Grants Dashboard
Appendix B: CWF Summary by Electoral Area