

**REPORT TO THE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2019**

SUBJECT Capital Regional District External Grants Update

ISSUE

This report provides an update on external grants activity since the submission deadline of September 10, 2018 for the Capital Regional District (CRD) External Grants Update report presented at the October 10, 2018 CRD Board meeting.

BACKGROUND

The CRD External Grants Dashboard (Appendix A) summarizes grant applications and calls in progress, as well as grants awarded since January 1, 2015. The information is current as of this report's submission deadline of January 14, 2019.

Grants / Contributions Awarded

Eight (8) grants were awarded during the period, two of which remain under news embargo:

1. National Disaster Mitigation Program (\$460,000): The CRD received this grant for the decommissioning of Gardom Pond dam on Pender Island.
2. Federal Gas Tax – Community Works Fund (\$574,031.27): This is the second 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.
3. Victoria Foundation Community Grants (\$20,000): For the Connect & Prepare Housing Tenant Support Program.
4. PLAN H-Creating Healthy Places Grant (\$5,000): To conduct a facility needs evaluation for Central Saanich.
5. Building BC-Community Housing Fund (\$15,500,000): For construction of the Caledonia Housing Project.
6. BC Recreation and Parks Association After School Recreation Program (\$750): For after school care at Panorama Recreation Centre;

Two award notifications remain unreported due to a news embargo pending official public notice. Additionally, an expression of interest to the National Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Program for water main upgrades (request estimate of \$36.9M) was deemed eligible for application in the 2019 intake.

New Applications Submitted

Seven (7) applications were submitted:

1. Community Resiliency Investment: \$100,000 requested for FireSmart training in the Electoral Areas.
2. Community Emergency Preparedness Fund: \$25,000 requested for evacuation route planning for the Electoral Areas.

3. Organics Infrastructure Program: Expression of interest for a CRD Food Waste Processing Plant
4. Building BC Community Housing Fund: Three (3) applications requesting a total of \$28.3M were submitted for housing projects: Caledonia Redevelopment (\$15.5M), Michigan Square Redevelopment (\$9.8M), and Drake Road Redevelopment (\$3.0M).
5. Urban Deer Cost-Share Program: \$18,500 for the Mayne Island Fallow Deer Management Partnership.
6. Better Buildings BC-Net Zero Energy Challenge: Expression of interest submitted for the South Galiano Fire Hall construction project.
7. SSI Community Foundation: \$1980 for the SSI Squash Club Junior after School Program.

New Applications in Progress

Seven (7) new applications are in progress spanning five (5) grant programs:

1. FCM-Capital Projects: Application in progress for a \$3M grant in combination with a \$20M loan for the Core Area Wastewater Treatment project.
2. Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program-Community, Culture and Recreation: Two applications in progress: Mayne Island Regional Trail and Salt Spring Island Fernwood Playing Field.
3. Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program-Rural and Northern Communities: Two applications in progress: Miners Bay Dock-Mayne Island and Wilderness Mountain Supply-Juan de Fuca Electoral Area.
4. Child Care Space Creation Program: Salt Spring Island Preschool Program Space.
5. CRD Traffic Safety Commission Grant: Walk and Wheel to School Week.

New Grant Opportunities

Seventeen (17) grant calls were issued during the reporting period with deadlines as noted. Those with deadlines post-January 14, 2019 are in the Grant Calls in Progress section of Appendix A.

1. Wood Stove Exchange Program (Oct. 1, 2018): As part of the wood stove exchange program, the Province offers funding to eligible applicants to initiate a local program.
2. Age-friendly Communities (Nov. 2, 2018): The program assists communities in BC to support aging populations by developing and implementing policies and plans, undertaking projects that enable seniors to age in place, and facilitating the creation of age-friendly communities.
3. Child Care Community Space Creation Program (Jan. 18, 2019): The Community Child Care Space Creation Program will award up to \$1 million to local governments creating new licensed child care spaces within their own facilities for children aged 0-5, with a focus on spaces for infants and toddlers.
4. Child Care Community Planning Program (Jan. 18, 2019): This program will provide funding for local governments to engage in child care planning activities in order to develop a community child care space creation action plan. Through partnerships and engagement, all funded projects will collect information regarding the child care needs of the community; create an inventory of existing child care spaces; identify space creation targets over the next 10 years; and identify actions that can be taken to meet those space creation targets.

5. Investing in Canada Infrastructure-Community, Culture and Recreation (Jan. 23, 2019): This program will provide access to funding for projects that upgrade and build sports facilities, trails, local community centres and spaces for arts and culture.
6. Investing in Canada Infrastructure-Rural and Northern Communities (Jan. 23, 2019): The program supports cost-sharing of infrastructure projects in rural communities across the province. The program targets capital infrastructure projects in communities with a population of 25,000 or less and provides additional funding towards projects in communities with populations of 5000 or less. Primary outcomes relate to food security; reliable road, air or marine infrastructure; broadband connectivity; efficient and reliable energy; Indigenous health and educational facilities.
7. Community Resiliency Investment (Dec. 7, 2018): The program is intended to reduce the risk and impact of wildfire to communities in BC through community funding, supports and priority fuel management activities on provincial Crown land.
8. Organic Infrastructure (Nov. 7, 2018 for Expressions of Interest): The program's intent is to increase diversion of food waste from landfills and agricultural organic waste from land application. However, this program still considers biosolids as "organic" and projects that focus on biosolids are eligible for funding as long as the other eligibility criteria are met. The applicant should recognize, however, that projects that divert food waste from landfills and agricultural waste from land application will receive priority, and GHG emission reductions from biosolids will not be considered.
9. Better Buildings BC-Net-Zero Challenge (Nov. 30, 2018): This is a provincial incentive program and juried competition designed to support, promote and celebrate the design and construction of net-zero energy-ready buildings. The program provides incentives to builders and developers of multi-family, commercial, and institutional buildings that are designed to achieve the top tier of the BC Energy Step Code.
10. Climate Action Initiative-BC Agriculture and Food (Nov.30, 2018): The Farm Adaptation Innovator Program (FAIP) seeks to build adaptive capacity and encourage the adoption of effective farm practices to help mitigate impacts related to climate change by supporting projects that: Promote innovation in farm practices, approaches and technologies that support climate change adaptation; Demonstrate farm practices that reduce weather related production risks, and identify new production opportunities; Develop informational and knowledge sharing resources and support increased sector capacity to support adaptation.
11. Child Care BC New Space Fund (Mar. 31, 2019): The program will support the creation of 22,000 new child care spaces in B.C. This is the single-largest investment to improve access to child care in B.C. history. As part of the Childcare BC plan, a priority of the fund includes the creation of licensed infant-toddler spaces, and funding has been enhanced to focus on projects that align with this goal. As well, preference will be given to applications that support vulnerable and underserved communities, and child care services outside of core business hours.
12. Jumpstart-Canadian Tire (Feb. 15, 2019): The program supports capital costs of construction and renovations related to improving physical accessibility to, and inclusivity in, recreation facilities for children with disabilities in Canadian communities.
13. BikeBC Cycling Infrastructure Program (Feb. 15, 2019): This program supports development of new cycling infrastructure. It will cover 50% of eligible costs to a maximum of \$1 million.
14. Investing in Canada Infrastructure-CleanBC Fund (Feb. 15, 2019): This program is a component of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program's (ICIP) Green Infrastructure. Projects must meet at least one of the following outcomes: increased capacity to manage renewable energy; increased access to clean energy transportation; increased energy efficiency of buildings; and increased generation of clean energy.

15. Low Carbon Economy-Partnership Stream (Feb. 15, 2019): The Partnerships stream will provide funding for projects that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and generate clean growth. This fund is limited to applications from Indigenous communities and organizations, small and medium-sized businesses (less than 500 employees), not-for-profit organizations, and small municipalities (populations of less than 100,000). The minimum grant request is \$1 million for 40% matching funds.
16. Physical Literacy for Communities (Jan. 15, 2019): This program provides services and funds to the value of up to \$50,000 over a two-year period, including education, training and mentorship.
17. Community Resilience through Arts and Culture (Feb. 15, 2019): The program supports arts and cultural events, initiatives and engagement by and for local communities. The focus of this program is communities experiencing hardship, historic oppression or other challenges that would benefit from the power of arts and culture to promote healing, resilience and connection.

Forthcoming Funding Initiatives

Two changes are reported in the Grants Forecast section:

1. **NEW:** Community Energy Leadership Program (CELP): The next funding intake is targeted for early 2019 – date to be confirmed. The program supports investments in energy efficiency and clean energy projects.
2. **UPDATED:** Broadband Fund: Additional information was released at the end of November, 2018 concerning the forthcoming funding program.

In addition to specific grants information, it is noteworthy that on January 14, 2019, the federal government announced a new cabinet portfolio for Rural Economic Development. This signals a heightened emphasis on rural issues that are relevant to the CRD's electoral areas. A link to information about this announcement has been added to the FORECAST section of Appendix A page 6.

Wastewater Treatment Plant – Grant Revenue

As of this reporting period, nearly \$51 million has been received on grant claims submitted.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Finance and Governance Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:
That the Capital Regional District External Grants Update be received for information.

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Concurrence:	Nelson Chan, MBA, CPA, CMA, Chief Financial Officer
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Appendix A: External Grants Dashboard

Appendix B: Community Works Fund Summary by Electoral Area