



Making a difference...together

## REPORT TO ELECTORAL AREAS COMMITTEE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JULY 08, 2020

---

**SUBJECT**     **Union of British Columbia Municipalities Grant for Emergency Support Services - Motion of Support**

### **ISSUE SUMMARY**

Emergency Support Services (ESS) teams provide support to victims of disasters in the Capital Regional District (CRD) Electoral Areas (EAs). The CRD is applying to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) for funding to procure equipment to support the EAs in modernizing their ESS capacity under the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) program. UBCM requires that all grant applications be accompanied by a motion of support from the local government.

### **BACKGROUND**

UBCM provides funding for many community based projects including emergency programs, which oversee ESS. ESS is an emergency service mandated by the provincial government where teams of volunteers help provide for the basic needs of victims of disasters. A 2020/2021 grant opportunity is available to support training and equipment for emergency programs and their ESS teams.

CEPF ESS grant funds will equally benefit all three CRD EA Emergency Programs, Juan de Fuca (JdF), Southern Gulf Islands (SGI), and Salt Spring Island (SSI). Grant funds will permit emergency programs to upgrade ESS registration equipment such as laptops, printers, and communications tools as well as procure software and signage. The total funds requested through the grant application are \$25,000.

As part of the application process, UBCM requires a motion of support from the local government to receive and manage grant funding.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

#### *Alternative 1*

The Electoral Areas Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the Board support an application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Juan de Fuca, Southern Gulf Islands, and Salt Spring Island emergency programs for Emergency Support Services equipment upgrades and direct staff to provide overall grant management.

#### *Alternative 2*

That staff be directed to not submit the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Grant to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Juan de Fuca, Southern Gulf Islands, and Salt Spring Island emergency programs for Emergency Support Services equipment upgrades

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### *Operational Implications*

Under the *Emergency Program Act*, the CRD is obligated to provide ESS to residents in need during times of emergency. Grants provide opportunity for additional funding to EA emergency programs and ESS teams to modernize, increase community resilience and improve capacity to support EAs residents impacted by disasters.

## **CONCLUSION**

The CRD is responsible for supporting effective ESS teams in the EAs. The UBCM's Community Emergency Preparedness Fund contributes to ESS training and equipment. Staff recommend funding equipment upgrades for all three EA emergency programs through the program. If supported by the Board, UBCM will consider the CRD's grant application.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Electoral Areas Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:  
That the Board support an application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Juan de Fuca, Southern Gulf Islands, and Salt Spring Island emergency programs for Emergency Support Services equipment upgrades and direct staff to provide overall grant management.

Submitted by:	Shawn Carby, CD, BHSc, MAL, Senior Manager, Protective Services
Concurrence:	Kevin Lorette, P. Eng., MBA, General Manager, Planning & Protective Services
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer