

**REPORT TO FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 03, 2021**

SUBJECT **Capital Regional District External Grants Update**

ISSUE SUMMARY

A bi-monthly update on external grants activity for the period of August 9 through October 11, 2021.

BACKGROUND

This report summarizes activities and outcomes since the CRD External Grants Update was last presented at the September 2021 Board meeting. Additionally, the CRD External Grants Dashboard (Appendix A) details grant applications, awards, and status of projects in progress. Appendix B provides an update on all grant applications submitted under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

Grants / Contributions Awarded

One grant is under news embargo.

1. \$5,653,266 through Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Environmental Quality Stream to support the Southern Gulf Islands Magic Lake Estates Wastewater Upgrades project.
2. \$3,716,868 through the 2021-2022 Reaching Home Agreements-Government of Canada for Designated Communities (\$2,401,331) and Indigenous Homelessness (\$1,315,537).
3. \$308,520 through UBCM's Strengthening Communities' Services to support the Salt Spring Island Homelessness COVID Response project.
4. \$90,127 through Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Program to support the Salt Spring Island Drake Road Trail Upgrade project.
5. \$87,073 through the Province of BC's Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program.
6. \$30,000 through the B.C. Active Transportation Infrastructure Grant Program to support the Pedestrian and Cycling Master Plan Update - Salt Spring Island edition 2021.
7. \$6,500 through TD Friends of the Environment Foundation Program to support the Galiano Island Parks and Recreation Commission Zuker Native Plant Restoration project.

8. \$4,500 (pre-approved) through CleanBC Go Electric Fleets Infrastructure Assessment rebate for the Go Electric Fleets IWS Facility Assessment.

Applications Submitted

Five applications were submitted:

1. \$224,000 through Natural Resources Canada Zero Emission Vehicle Awareness Initiative for the Capital Region E-Mobility Awareness Initiative.
2. \$126,880 through Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Green Municipal Fund-Community Buildings Greenhouse Gas Reduction Pathway Feasibility Study Grant, for Developing a GHG Reduction Pathway for Capital Regional District Recreation Centres.
3. \$100,000 through BC Hydro Community Energy Manager Program to support the CRD's Community Energy Specialist from September 2021 – September 2023.
4. \$5,000 through Salt Spring Island Foundation for the Child Care Space Creation – Equipment Project.
5. \$4,500 through CleanBC Go Electric Fleets Infrastructure Assessment rebate for the Go Electric Fleets IWS Facility Assessment.

Core Area Wastewater Treatment Plant Project Update

The Core Area Wastewater Treatment Plant project is partially funded by the Federal Government, the Province of BC, and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Fund grant/loan program. During the months of August and September, the CRD did not receive any grant payments for this project; final payments are subject to holdback until the project and reporting are complete. Cumulatively, the CRD has received \$359M of the estimated revised total of \$462M in grant revenues. The remaining (up to) \$103M is expected to be received in 2021 based on timing of eligible expenditures and achievement of target milestones.

Service Delivery Implications

New Grant Opportunities

Sixteen new grant calls were issued during the reporting period and three grant programs extended their deadlines. Grant Calls in Progress for which the CRD is eligible to apply are featured in Appendix A (see pages 6-7), and in the table below:

Grant	Deadline	Information
Zero Vehicle Awareness Initiative – Natural Resources Canada	Extended to 23-Aug-21	Supports projects that promote education, outreach, and awareness activities for ZEVs, public charging, and refueling infrastructure.
Local Food Infrastructure Fund	Extended to 03-Sept-21	Provides funding to help improve access to food by funding infrastructure needs.
Asset Management Planning Program – UBCM	24-Sep-21	Provides funding to support asset management.
Fairs, Festivals, and Events Recovery Fund	01-Oct-21	Provides one-time grants to support eligible events for safe restart.
Crime Prevention Act Fund	06-Oct-21	Provides funding to support crime prevention initiatives.
Clean Fuels Program-Building New Domestic Production Capacity	Extended to 13-Oct-21	Provides funding for fuel production technology projects and studies for low carbon fuel production facilities.
Local Government Partnership Program	21-Oct-21	Provides funding for agricultural planning tools projects in BC.
Research and Knowledge Initiative – Infrastructure Canada	25-Oct-21	Provides funding to support research and knowledge-sharing projects to advance public infrastructure needs.
Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation	05-Nov-21	Provides funding to support habitat restoration, conservation, and engagement projects through two programs: 1. Stewardship Grants. 2. Enhancement and Restoration Grants.
Childcare BC New Spaces Fund	16-Nov-21	Provides infrastructure funding to create licensed childcare spaces in BC.
Evacuation Route Planning – Community Emergency Preparedness Fund-UBCM	19-Nov-21	Provides funding for planning projects to support the development of Evacuation Route Plans.
CleanBC Go Electric Public Charger Program	26-Nov-21	Provides funding (rebates) for public Direct Current Fast Chargers.

Grant	Deadline	Information
Environmental Quality Program Stream – Green Infrastructure-Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program	26-Jan-22	Provides infrastructure funding to support stormwater, wastewater, potable water, solid waste, and remediation projects.
Emergency Support Services – Community Emergency Support Service-UBCM	28-Jan-22	Provides funding to build capacity for emergency support services.
Emergency Operations Centre and Training – Community Emergency Preparedness Fund-UBCM	25-Feb-22	Provides funding for supplies, equipment, and enhancing capacity for Emergency Operations Centres.
Capital Projects – Rural Transit Solutions Fund	TBC	Provides funding to support delivery of rural transit solutions.
Zero Emission Transit Fund – Infrastructure Canada	Continuous	Provides funding through two components to support zero emission transit and school buses: 1. Planning projects. 2. Capital projects – Zero Emission Buses.

CONCLUSION

The CRD recognizes grants are a supplementary funding source to address the needs of services provided to the region. The External Grants Update outlines how the CRD continues to integrate and consider these grant opportunities relative to service needs, as well as informing local partners of these opportunities through the grants dashboard. The CRD will continue to provide a summary of activities and outcomes in the External Grants Update on a bi-monthly basis.

RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Committee recommends 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, FCPA, FCMA, Chief Financial Officer
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT(S)

Appendix A: External Grants Dashboard

Appendix B: Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Funding Update