
TO: Electoral Area Services Committee **MEETING:** October 8, 2019

FROM: Doug Gardiner
Fire Services Coordinator **FILE:** 7200-01 GRNTS

SUBJECT: Fire Services Grant Application

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the grant application for \$25,000 to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for training for the Extension Fire Department be endorsed.
2. That the grant application for \$25,000 to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for the purchase of equipment for the Nanoose Fire Department be endorsed.

SUMMARY

The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) is accepting grant applications from Volunteer & Composite Fire Departments through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF). The intent of this funding stream is to build the resiliency of volunteer and composite fire departments through the purchase of new or replacement equipment and to facilitate the delivery of training. The grant provides up to \$25,000.00 per Fire Department.

The Extension and Nanoose Fire Departments have their budgets managed by the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) and are requesting that the RDN submit grant applications on their behalf. The Dashwood and Coombs-Hilliers Fire Departments will be partnering with the Qualicum Beach Fire Department towards a regional application and the Bow Horn Bay and Errington Fire Departments will be submitting their own grant applications and managing grant funds individually.

BACKGROUND

In July 2019, UBCM through the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund, extended the grant funding limits of \$25,000 per municipality or Regional District to \$25,000 per Volunteer or Composite Fire Department in addition to providing access to Societies and Improvement Districts to submit applications of their own. This new information was shared with all the Fire Departments including Improvement Districts. The Extension and Nanoose Fire Departments have approached the RDN to apply for the grant on their behalf and to manage the funds.

The Extension Fire Department is requesting that an application be made to UBCM for \$25,000 in grant funds to support training specifically for their officers, their apparatus and pump operators and their team leaders. The training will be to the current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards with accredited instructors and evaluators and will enhance the ability of the fire department to meet the needs of the community and playbook standards.

The grant application of \$25,000 to UBCM for the Nanoose Fire Department will be for wildland interface firefighting equipment, specifically portable pumps with suction hoses, foot valve/strainers and forestry attack hose. The additional equipment will increase the capacity of the department to respond to wildland urban interface fires and to support mutual aid partners in fighting wildfires throughout the Oceanside area. Wildfires have been identified as one of the top ten hazards in the region, preparation ahead of a wildfire is essential to mitigate the impacts of such an event.

The Dashwood and Coombs-Hilliars Fire Department Societies have submitted Board resolutions in support of a Regional grant application with the Qualicum Beach Fire Department for the purchase of a C-Can Training prop that will be located at the Qualicum Fire Hall. Qualicum will submit a regional application on behalf on the fire departments and manage grant funds.

The Bow Horn Bay Fire Department and Errington Fire Department Societies will be submitting their own grant applications each for the purchase of equipment.

ALTERNATIVES

1. That the grant application for \$25,000 to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for training for the Extension Fire Department be endorsed.
2. That the grant application for \$25,000 to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for the purchase of equipment for the Nanoose Fire Department be endorsed.
3. That alternate direction be provided.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications. The anticipated grant revenue and expense have been accounted for in the 2020 budget.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS

Social Wellbeing - Make the Region a safe and vibrant place for all, with a focus on children and families in programs and planning.



Doug Gardiner
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September 17, 2019

Reviewed by:

- C. Morrison, Manager, Emergency Services
- D. Pearce, General Manager, Transportation and Emergency Services
- P. Carlyle, Chief Administrative Officer