

DATE: March 2, 2021

TO: Chair and Directors
Comox Valley Regional District Board

FROM: Russell Dyson, Chief Administrative Officer

RE: **Grant Status Report – February 28, 2021**

FILE: 1855-01

Supported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer
R. Dyson

Purpose

To provide an update regarding grant applications and the status of approved grants.

Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer

This report is provided for information only.

Executive Summary

Since the previous grant status report as at September 30, 2020, the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) received notification of approval or had the condition of confidentiality lifted for the following grant applications:

- UBCM – CEPF: 2020 Flood Risk Assessment – Flood Mapping and Flood Mitigation Planning (\$150,000)
- Vancouver Island Health – Airshed Roundtable – (\$50,000)
- Ministry of Agriculture - Comox Valley Food Hub Business Plan – (\$50,000)
- UBCM – 2020/21 C2C Program (\$5,000)

The following grant projects were completed during the period:

- Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources – Invasive Plant Grant Year 3 (\$12,500)
- BC Hydro Tree Canada – One Spot Trail (\$3,700)
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – UBID Infrastructure Assessment (\$7,500)
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – UBID Restructure Planning (\$30,000)
- UBCM – Volunteer & Composite Fire Departments Equipment and Training (\$100,00)
- UBCM – Fire Smart Community Funding Supports (\$43,900)

The following grants were applied for during the same period, as supported by the Board through resolution:

- ICIP – Retrofit of CVSC Mezzanine Arena (\$327,198) – Application September 2020
- MFLNR – Invasive Plant (\$12,500) – Application Oct 2020
- CERIP – Seal Bay Parking Lot Expansion (\$739,063) – Application October 2020
- CERIP – CVEDS Merville Hall Food Hub (\$978,301) – Application October 2020
- ICIP – Shingle Spit Boat Launch (\$550,000) – Application Oct 2020
- Ministry of Agriculture – Food Hub Merville Hall (\$529,840) – Application November 2020

The following grants were applied for during the month of January 2021, as supported by the Board through resolution:

- CVRIS – Comox Valley Sports Centre Retrofit/Rehabilitation (\$2,194,800)
- CVRIS – Enhancements to Hornby Island Fire Rescue Training Facility (\$90,484)

The CVRD received notification in February 2021 that the following grants had been denied:

- CERIP – Seal Bay Parking Lot Expansion (\$739,063) – Application Oct 2020
- CERIP – CVEDS Merville Hall Food Hub (\$978,301) – Application Oct 2020
- Ministry of Agriculture – Food Hub Merville Hall (\$529,840) – Application Nov 2020

Prepared by:

J. den Otter

Jason den Otter, CPA, CGA
Senior Accounting Technician

Concurrence:

K. Douville

Kevin Douville, B.Comm
Manager of Financial
Planning

Concurrence:

M. Foort

Myriah Foort, BBA, CPA, CA
Chief Financial Officer

Policy Analysis

Bylaw no. 89 delegates grant funding opportunities to the corporate financial officer or deputy when the opportunity,

- is concurrent with the current financial plan and would not require a financial plan amendment;
- is consistent with the corporate work plan or is included on the work plan;
- has been reviewed with member municipalities, the K'ómoks First Nation and other agencies, as applicable, and identifies any partnering opportunities, reduces duplication of effort and competition between member municipalities and other local groups;
- applies to regional priorities; and
- is approved by the corporate financial officer following review and consideration of relevant criteria.

Significant grants are brought forward to the Board for endorsement and resolution to support the application as is typically a requirement for grant applications, and to ensure alignment with Board priorities.

Options

This report is for information only.

Financial Factors

Approved grants are included in either the capital or operational budget for the appropriate service in the financial plan, through amendment as required for grant approvals that occur throughout the fiscal year. For many projects, the grant funding is one of the major factors in the decision matrix to proceed with the project scope and timeline.

Legal Factors

Each grant agreement has its own terms and conditions regarding eligible expenses, claim submission and reporting requirements for both financial transactions and project progress.

Regional Growth Strategy Implications

The Regional Growth Strategy is part of the initial grant exploration process. Grant funding opportunities are evaluated against the eight Regional Growth Strategy policies identified:

- Housing: Ensure a diversity of housing options to meet evolving demographics and needs;
- Ecosystems, natural areas and parks: Protect, steward and enhance the natural environment and ecological connections and systems;
- Local economic development: Achieve sustainable, resilient and dynamic economic that supports businesses and entrepreneurship;
- Transportation: Develop accessible, efficient, affordable and connected multi-modal transportation network;
- Infrastructure: Provide affordable, effective and efficient infrastructure that conserves land, water and energy resourced;
- Food system: Support and enhance the agriculture sectors and increase local food security;
- Public health and safety: Support a high quality of life through the protection and enhancement of community health, safety and well-being; and
- Climate change: Minimize regional greenhouse gas emissions and plan for adaptation.

Intergovernmental Factors

Grant funding opportunities are usually a combination of federal, provincial and regional funds with individual grants participating at different levels of the funding mix.

Occasionally funding opportunities arise that will allow for partnership between the K'ómoks First Nation or other municipalities.

Interdepartmental Involvement

Grant opportunities that are relevant to many branches are communicated to the greater team and collected and presented to executive management to ensure alignment with board strategic drivers and to ensure the projects supported for grant application align with corporate priorities.

Citizen/Public Relations

Some of the grant agreements require permanent or temporary signage or some form of public acknowledgment of the funding, or other public communication identifying objectives achieved and relevant grant funding contributions.