

**DATE:** August 4, 2021

**FILE:** 1855-01

**TO:** Chair and Directors  
Regional District Board

**FROM:** James Warren  
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

Supported by James Warren  
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

*J. Warren*

**RE: Grant Status Report – July 30, 2021**

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### **Purpose**

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

### **Recommendation from the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer**

This report is provided for information only.

### **Executive Summary**

Since the previous grant status report at February 28, 2021, the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) received notification of approval for the following grant applications:

- Island Health – Comox Valley Community Health Network grant, three years \$80,000 a year (\$240,000)
- Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development – Invasive Plant Grant, 1 Year (\$12,500)
- Employment and Social Development – Para-hockey sledges and equipment (\$4,845)
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Union Bay Improvement District Restructure and Implementation Grant (\$25,000)
- Union of BC Municipalities – Community Emergency Preparedness Fund: Enhancement of Comox Valley Emergency Social Services Capacity and Resiliency (\$11,358)

The following grant projects were completed during the period:

- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – BC Active Transportation Infrastructure: Gull Road Hornby Island (\$35,000)
- BC Investment Agriculture Foundation – Watershed Planning Tsolum River Phase 2 (\$35,000)
- Union of BC Municipalities – Community to Community forum: March 5, 2021 (\$1,938)
- Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – BC Active Transportation Infrastructure: Multimodal Transportation Network (\$47,500)
- Clean Water Wastewater Fund – Black Creek/Oyster Bay (\$564,815). The new production well was finalized in spring under budget within required timelines. The province agreed that the remaining grant funds (\$155,000) could be used for additional improvements to enhance operational management of the well with estimated completion at December 31, 2021.
- Clean Water Wastewater Fund – Comox Valley Water Treatment Project. The grant funding for the design (\$4.4 million) and the construction (\$55.4 million) of the water treatment plant has been fully utilized as of early 2021 for the \$126 million project with expected completion by late summer 2021, with remaining funding from reserves and debt. An additional component of the water grant, is \$7.4

million that will be utilized to fund a portion of the extension of the water services south with completion date by March 2024.

The following grants were applied for during the period:

- Fire Chiefs' Association of BC – New equipment Black Creek/Oyster Bay (\$25,000)
- Fire Chiefs' Association of BC – New equipment Hornby Island (25,000)
- Union of BC Municipalities – Strengthening Communities' Services: Shelter Beds, Day Programs, and Rural Outreach (\$1,208,000)
- Investment Agriculture Foundation – Comox Valley Agriculture Plan – Review (\$40,000)

The following grants were denied during the period:

- COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream – Comox Valley Sports Centre Retrofit/Rehabilitation (\$2,194,800)
- COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream – Enhancements to Hornby Island Fire Rescue Training Facility (\$90,484)

Prepared by:

Concurrence:

***J. den Otter***

***M. Foort***

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Jason den Otter, CPA, CGA  
Senior Accounting Technician

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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.

### **Options**

This report is for information only.

### **Financial Factors**

The approved grants are included in either the capital or operational budget for the appropriate service in the 2021-2025 Financial Plan. A budget amendment will come forward for grant awards received outside of the financial planning process to ensure projects can move forward.

### **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.