

DATE: July 4, 2018

FILE: 1855-01

TO: Chair and Directors
Committee of the Whole

Supported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer

R. Dyson

RE: Grant Status Report

Purpose

To provide a quarterly update regarding grant applications and status of current approved grants.

Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer

This report is provided for information only.

Executive Summary

For the period December 1 – March 20, 2018, the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) received approval for the following applications:

- Ministry of Environment – Air Quality/Woodstove Survey – approved funding \$10,000
- Union of British Columbia Municipalities – Asset Management Grant – Water and Wastewater Asset Management Planning – approved funding \$15,000.
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Municipal Asset Management Program – Water and Wastewater Asset Management Planning – approved funding \$50,000.
- Union of British Columbia Municipalities – Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – emergency operations center -stand-By 300 kW generator project – approved funding \$25,000.

During the same period, the CVRD submitted the following applications:

- Federation of Canadian Municipalities – Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program (MCIP) – application will be reviewed within the next 30 days by MCIP staff.

A summary status report is attached as Appendix A, detailing the current grants and grant applications for the CVRD.

Prepared by:

Concurrence:

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Background/Current Situation

Not relevant. For information only.

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 workplan or is included on the workplan;
- has been reviewed with member municipalities, the K'omoks 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

Not relevant. For information only.

Financial Factors

All of the approved grants are included in either the capital or operational budget for the appropriate service. 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 Nations or other municipalities.

Interdepartmental Involvement

Not relevant.

Citizen/Public Relations

Some of the grant agreements have signage or public acknowledgment requirements to be put into place.

Attachments: Appendix A – Grant Status Report –June 28, 2018

Appendix A
Local Government Grants - Comox Valley Regional District
Status Report at June 28, 2018

Approved Grants	Grant\$	Costs	Grant Scope/Description	Jurisdiction	Expiry	Project Status - June 2018
New Building Canada Fund – Small Communities Fund						
New Building Canada Fund – Small Communities Fund (NBCF-SCF) -Comox Strathcona Waste Management Regional Organics Composting Facility Project	\$5.5M	\$8.5M	Grant will be used to develop and build a regional organics composting facility and transfer station for the CSWM area. The project will increase waste diversion, extend the life span of the current landfill, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create additional employment opportunities while ensuring both public and environmental safety.	CSWM service area	n/a	Meetings have occurred with member municipalities for commitment of feedstock material for the facility and do discuss potential tipping fees for organics. Work is underway to establish a host site agreement with the City of Campbell River. Preliminary capital cost estimates were brought to the Comox Strathcona Waste Management Board for review. Upcoming work includes optimizing the facility design tonnage with capital and operating costs to fit within the project budget, finalizing the host site agreement for the compost facility with the City of Campbell River and preparing procurement documents for the compost facility and transfer station.
Canada-BC Clean Water Wastewater Fund						
Canada-BC CWWF Funding - Capital Projects Funding - Comox Valley Water Supply Treatment Project	\$4,359,990	TBD	This project is the planning, indicative design and procurement of construction services for a new water supply system including a new lake intake, pump station, water treatment plant and conveyance piping for the Comox Valley Regional District. The work includes geotechnical and environmental investigations and engineering design to prepare for the design-build. The project infrastructure is centered on a new facility that includes filtration and disinfection, providing resilience to recent unfavorable changes in the watershed.	Regional	n/a	Procurement of a design build team underway, including securing a legal advisor for the project. Request for Qualification documents ready to issue when funding notification received and significant work on technical specifications has been completed. Update of the risk register completed. Water availability study underway as part of EAO and MFLNRO permit process. EAO working group process nearing completion. Close collaboration with K'ómoks First Nation on project scope, partnering on grant application underway

Canada-BC CWWF Funding - Black Creek - Oyster Bay Water Supply Security	\$564,815	\$680,500	To drill and construct a 6" test well and a 12" production well for the Oyster River water treatment facility. The project is necessary to secure an additional safe water supply to meet the demands from tourism, development and fire protection.	Electoral Area 'C' and 'D'	Engineering and design of wellhead and associated infrastructure underway and expected to be complete by August. Completion of a generator load test to inform design completed. Construction of project delayed due to ongoing discussions and requirements for an access agreement with the Strathcona Regional District regarding the CVRD working within the Oyster River Nature Park.
Infrastructure Planning Grants					
Min. of Community, Sport and Cultural Development- Infrastructure Planning Grant Program- Onsite Sewage System Mandatory Maintenance Program	\$10,000	TBD	Study will evaluate the feasibility of implementing an onsite sewage system mandatory maintenance program for the electoral areas. This will support proper system maintenance, care and ensure the protection of public health and the environment	Electoral Areas A, B, & C	Staff are currently working on the RFP documents for the hiring of professional services.
Asset Management Grants					
Federation of Canadian Municipalities- Municipal Asset Management Program - Asset Management planning for Water and Wastewater Services	\$50,000	\$ 336,060	A corporate wide asset management policy and development of AM plans will help to progress towards the implementation of a fully integrated asset management system to help inform decisions at both the staff and political level. Water and wastewater services are a priority at this time as these services provide water and convey wastewater for approximately 45,000 residents. Clear, robust, risk-based asset replacement plans will provide the community and elected officials with a clear discussion on when and why assets need to be replaced to help inform decisions surrounding levels of service, user rates, financial planning etc.	Regional	Draft asset management policy and working group terms of reference for the whole CVRD are completed and under review. Draft asset inventories for water and wastewater asset management plans are completed, with work continuing on completion of the asset management plans for each service. Asset management training and webinars for CVRD staff are ongoing.
Union of British Columbia Municipalities -	\$15,000	\$ 336,060	A corporate wide asset management policy and development of AM plans will help to progress towards the implementation of a fully integrated asset management system to help inform decisions at both the staff and political level. Water and wastewater services are a priority at this time as these services provide water and convey wastewater for approximately 45,000 residents. Clear, robust, risk-based asset replacement plans will provide the community and elected officials with a clear discussion on when and why assets need to be replaced to help inform decisions surrounding levels of service, user rates, financial planning etc.	Regional	Draft asset management policy and working group terms of reference for the whole CVRD are completed and under review. Draft asset inventories for water and wastewater asset management plans are completed, with work continuing on completion of the asset management plans for each service. Asset management training and webinars for CVRD staff are ongoing.

National Disaster Mitigation Program

Other Grants

UBCM - Community Emergency Preparedness Fund	\$25,000	\$80,000	The procurement of a stand-by generator will increase the capability of our emergency program to operate the EOC to support local emergency services and organizations in their efforts to respond to what will be massive and overwhelming immediate needs of the community in the event of massive infrastructure devastation.	Regional	03-May-19	Application was approved in May 2018, project will commence shortly and must be completed by May 03, 2019
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations-Administrative Invasive Plant Grant-Coordination & Awareness-Phase 5	\$37,500		Grant will be used to enforce current invasive plant and noxious weeds bylaws, develop an educational awareness program, coordinate with other organizations and set up a invasive plant noxious weed reporting system.	Electoral Areas A, B, & C		Received provincial funding of \$35,000 for the term March 29, 2018 - March 31, 2021 for the Invasive Plant program. The 2018 program is underway with a focus on Knotweed treatments.
Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC. Agricultural Watershed Planning pilot program - lower Tsolum River watershed agricultural watershed planning	\$35,000	\$70,000	Project phase 1 - to develop an understanding of water allocation, supply, quality and future irrigation needs. The CVRD and agricultural community will work towards developing a watershed plan.	Electoral Area 'C' Wolf Lake - Lower Courtenay River Watershed	n/a	Elucidate Consulting was retained in May 2018 to complete work on phase one. Project work is underway with a final phase one report expected in December 2018
Union of British Columbia Municipalities - Strategic Wildfire Prevention Program - Community Wildfire Protection Plan	\$45,008	\$60,010	The grant will be used to develop a wildfire/wildfire urban interface risk mitigation plan.	Regional	n/a	Consultant has been retained and is currently working with the various Comox Valley Fire Chiefs compiling information for inclusion in the final report. Final report is anticipated in early fall of 2018.
Ministry of Environment/BC Lung Association - Provincial Woodstove Exchange Program - Comox Valley Woodstove Exchange Program	\$19,000	\$19,000	Program will allow the CVRD to offer rebates to residents that replace old, inefficient, non-CSA/EPA certified woodstoves or insert with an efficient unit that will meet the standard. The program also offers an educational component for proper wood storage and burning techniques.	Regional	12-31-18	The woodstove exchange program was successful in securing \$19,000 in funding for the 2018 program. The 2017 program was completed, all rebates were processed and the annual report was submitted to the Ministry of Environment.

Vancouver Island Health Authority (Island Health) - Community Wellness Granting Program	\$98,933	\$98,933	Funding is to be used for the development and establishment of new community wellness programs and initiatives with a focus on creating positive health outcomes within the community.	Regional	3-7-19	Air quality education and incentive programs are underway. Projects such as A "Smart Burning" advertising campaign ran in fall 2017. A home heating and air quality survey is underway. Brochures that were developed in 2017 are being distributed in wood smoke impacted neighborhoods. Top-up incentives for cleaner heat sources have been provided to approximately 15 wood stove exchange program participants, and continue to be integrated into the exchange program. Funding for the various air quality projects has allocated through the end of 2019.
Ministry of Environment - Comox Valley Air Quality Survey	\$10,000		Funding is to be used for the development and execution of an air quality/woodstove survey program.	Regional		Survey questions have been developed and are on the CVRD website. From the survey questions two reports will be created: A briefing of the survey results that will be available to the public, and a full report for the Ministry of Environment.

Approved Grants - projects on hold	Grant\$	Costs		Jurisdiction	Expiry	
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Gas Tax Fund						
UBCM/Gov. of Canada Gas Tax General Strategic Priorities Fund-Capital Project (GSPF)-South Regional Wastewater Management & Resource Recovery Project - Stage 1	\$15M	\$42M	The project will eliminate the contamination from failing septic fields on local beaches along Baynes Sound. The project will create economic development while providing safe, reliable, sustainable and cost effective wastewater treatment.	Area A-Baynes Sound	tbd	South sewer project was defeated in June 2016 public referendum. Staff will continue to engage with UBCM staff as alternative concepts are explored to determine if funds can be retained.

Federation of Canadian Municipalities-Green Municipal Fund (FCM-GMF)

Federation of Canadian Municipalities-Green Municipal Fund (FCM-GMF)-South Regional Wastewater Management and Resource Recovery	\$1.5M	\$67.9M	The project will eliminate the contamination from failing septic fields on local beaches along Baynes Sound. The project will create economic development while providing safe, reliable, sustainable and cost effective wastewater treatment.	Area A-Baynes Sound	tbd	South sewer project was defeated in June 2016 public referendum. Staff will continue to engage with FCM staff as alternative concepts are explored to determine if funds can be retained.
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Completed Grants	Grant\$	Costs		Jurisdiction	Expiry	
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Emergency Management BC-National Disaster Mitigation Program-Stream 1-Oyster River/Saratoga Beach Flood Risk Assessment	\$76,000	\$81,700	Grant will be used to provide an assessment to the risk of flooding along the Oyster River/Saratoga Beach floodplain. The assessment will be used to develop a flood response and disaster mitigation plan, identify hazards, develop strategies to effectively manage an emergency situation.	Electoral Area C	31-Mar-18	Project complete in March 2018. Final report from the consultant was submitted and all other conditions were fulfilled.
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Applications Submitted /To be Submitted - No status received to date	Grant\$	Costs		Jurisdiction	Expiry
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Federation of Canadian Municipalities - Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program	\$125,000	\$155,000	details not provided at this time			Application was submitted June 27, 2018 to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities - Municipalities for Climate Innovation Program.
Federal Gas Tax, Strategic Priorities Fund – Comox Valley Water Treatment Project Phase 3 – Construction of Water Treatment Facility.	\$6,000,000	\$100,399,000	Grant will be used as capital investment towards the construction/design/and engineering of a the Water Treatment/Filtration Facility.	Regional	n/a	Application was submitted June 1, 2017 to the Strategic Priorities fund. The CVRD has not been notified of the application status.

Denied Grants	Grant\$	Costs		Jurisdiction	Expiry
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PPP Canada-Round 7 -Comox Valley South Sewer Project	\$13M	\$55M	The project will eliminate the contamination from failing septic fields on local beaches along Baynes Sound. The project will create economic development while providing safe, reliable, sustainable and cost effective wastewater treatment.	Area A-Baynes Sound and K'omoks First Nation	n/a	Federal funding commitment has been released as the PPP Canada program is no longer available.
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