

DATE: October 5, 2017

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 July 26 – September 30, 2017, the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) received approval for the following applications:

- The Justice Institute of British Columbia Foundation – JIBC Public Safety Award – Funding for staff training for the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) Essentials course – approved funding of \$2,000.
- Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development – Infrastructure Planning Grant Program - onsite sewage system mandatory maintenance program – approved funding \$10,000.

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

- Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) – Green Infrastructure Phase II – Next Generation Clean Energy Program – Comox Valley Civic Center ‘green technology’ components
- Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development – Infrastructure Planning Grant Program - onsite sewage system mandatory maintenance program

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

Prepared by:

Concurrence:

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 department. 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 – September 30, 2017

Appendix A
Local Government Grants - Comox Valley Regional District
Status Report at September 30, 2017

Approved Grants	Grant\$	Costs	Grant Scope/Description	Jurisdiction	Expiry	Project Status - September 2017
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.
PPP Canada Fund						
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	PPP Canada has confirmed that they have approved payment for some of the business case development costs incurred. Status of the project remains on hold for the immediate future
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

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	An RFP for the consulting engineer has been issued and scheduled to close on October 5th, 2017. The consulting engineer will complete required background research and develop the design-build RFP documents for the compost facility and transfer station. Project remains behind schedule.
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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	Indicative design report complete, to be presented at the October water committee. Survey work complete, additional geotechnical work scheduled to be complete for additional boreholes for project. Environmental assessment and K'omox First Nations consultation is underway. Procurement of design-build team delayed until 2018 due to grant funding timing and public assent process requirements.
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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'		Test well for the project has been drilled, with pump testing scheduled for the first week of October 2017. Procurement of engineering an design services of wellhead and associated infrastructure to be complete by November. Project is slightly behind schedule due to ongoing discussions and requirements for an access agreement with the Strathcona Regional District regarding the CVRD work within the Oyster River Nature Park.
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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		Application was approved September 14, 2017. Staff are evaluating the next steps.
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National Disaster Mitigation Program

The Justice Institute of British Columbia Foundation - JIBC Community Safety Award - Community Public Safety Training	\$2,000		This award will be used to provide the EOC Essentials course to CVRD staff as part of the emergency preparedness program.	Regional	1-Nov-17	Various staff have been selected to participate in the EOC essentials course. The training opportunity is an important component in the overall CVRD emergency management program.
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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 Oster 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	Consultant has been selected from the RFP process and the contract has been forwarded for signatures and insurance verification. Once documents have been received the consultant will begin the flood risk assessment.
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Other Grants

Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations-Administrative Invasive Plant Grant-Coordination & Awareness-Phase 5	\$12,500		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		The knotweed/hogweed treatment program is almost complete. The public information and educational program has been completed and the Weed Hotline will be shut down as of October 1. Treatment programs on Hornby and Denman Islands and the CVRD parks have been completed and staff are preparing the yearend summary reports.
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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	Project has been initiated with the first advisory committee meeting scheduled for October 2017. Advance funding of \$7,000 was received in May 2017, and an additional \$7,000 is scheduled to be received in the fall of 2017 pending the submission of the first scheduled progress report.
Ministry of Environment/BC Lung Association - Provincial Woodstove Exchange Program - Comox Valley Woodstove Exchange Program	\$17,100	\$17,100	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	12/31/17	Most of the 2017 woodstove exchange rebates have been claimed by residents. An application for further funding was submitted in September 2017

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	3/7/17	Outreach and incentive programs are underway. A new brochure has been developed and distributed. Smart burning demonstrations were held at the Comox Home Show. The "Smart Burning" advertising campaign is planned for late October 2017.
FortisBC Commercial Custom Design Program - Retrofit Projects - Capital Incentive Funding - Comox Valley Sports Centre Retrofit Project	\$92,184	\$362,592	Program facilitates existing facilities to minimize their operational costs and improve building performance through a more efficient use of natural gas for heat and hot water through heat recovery retrofits	Regional	6/15/2017 extension granted to December 2018	Commissioning of the project is starting on October 10, 2017. Fortis BC has granted an extension of 18 months to finish the project.
FortisBC Commercial Custom Design Program - Retrofit Projects - Implementation Bonus Funding - Comox Valley Sports Centre Retrofit Project	\$6,500	\$362,592	Program facilitates existing facilities to minimize their operational costs and improve building performance through a more efficient use of natural gas for heat and hot water through redesign and retrofit project	Regional	6/15/2017 extension granted to December 2018	Commissioning of the project is starting on October 10, 2017. Fortis BC has granted an extension of 18 months to finish the project.
BC Hydro Power Smart Incentive Fund - Comox Valley Sports Centre Retrofit Project	\$87,615	\$362,592	Program facilitates existing facilities to minimize their operational costs and improve building performance through a more efficient use of electrical energy consumption through heat recovery upgrade/retrofit project	Regional	11/24/17	Commissioning of the project is starting on October 10, 2017.

Completed Grants	Grant\$	Costs		Jurisdiction	Expiry	
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N/A

Applications Submitted /To be Submitted - No status received to date	Grant\$	Costs	Jurisdiction	Expiry	
Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) - Green Infrastructure Phase II - Next Generation Clean Energy Program - Comox Valley Civic Center	5,000,000.00	11,700,000	Regional	Application was submitted September 2017.	
Min. of Community, Sport and Cultural Development- Infrastructure Planning Grant Program- Five Year Effectiveness Review of the Comox Strathcona Solid Waste Management Plan	\$10,000	\$90,000	CSWM service area	Application was denied during round 1 however the program does allow for grant applications to be considered in more than one intake. The application has been re-submitted for the July 12, 2017 intake. As of September 30, 2017 the CVRD has not been notified of the application status.	
Union of British Columbia Municipalities - Strategic Wildfire Prevention Program - Community Wildfire Protection Plan	TBD	\$50,000	Regional	n/a	Application will be submitted to the October 2017 intake.
Federal Gas Tax, Strategic Priorities Fund - Community Energy Systems - Comox Valley Waste Management Centre Landfill Gas Beneficial End Use Project	\$6,000,000	\$8,452,000	CSWM service area	n/a	Submitted application is currently in the Ministry program evaluation phase. As of September 30, 2017 the CVRD has not been notified of the application status.
Federal Gas Tax, Strategic Priorities Fund – Comox Valley Water Treatment Project Phase 3 – Construction of Water Treatment Facility.	\$6,000,000	\$100,399,000	Regional	n/a	Application was submitted June 1, 2017 to the Strategic Priorities fund. As of September 30, 2017 the CVRD has not been notified of the application status.

Denied Grants	Grant\$	Costs	Jurisdiction	Expiry
N/A				