

DATE: March 5, 2021

FILE: 400-01

TO: Chair and Directors
Electoral Areas Services Committee

FROM: Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer

Supported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer

R. Dyson

RE: Veterans Homelessness Support - Funding Options

Purpose

This responds to the Electoral Areas Services Committee (EASC) request regarding funding options to support the work of the Royal Canadian Legion to end veteran's homelessness.

Recommendations from the Chief Administrative Officer:

THAT this report be received for information.

Executive Summary

The EASC directed staff to provide funding options to support the work of the Royal Canadian Legion to end veteran's homelessness.

- In 2015, the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) established the Homelessness and Supports Service (Function No. 451). Participants in the service are the Village of Cumberland, City of Courtenay, Electoral Area A (Vancouver Island portion), and Electoral Areas B, and C. The purpose of the service is to direct funding to member agencies of the Coalition to End Homelessness to address homelessness. The allocation of CVRD funding is based on the recommendations of the coalition and doesn't specifically target individual groups.
- Many groups that support homelessness work in the community and would be valuable partners for the Royal Canadian Legion to reach out to partner with.
- At this time, the only possible opportunity to support the request would be through Rural Community Grants. A review of Rural Community Grants (formerly grant-in-aid) from 2016 to present shows no obvious connection for grants supporting homelessness so if supported through this function it may be a new precedent setting approval and is not recommended.
- A suggested option is to send the Royal Canadian Legion a letter in response encouraging them to work with the Coalition to End Homelessness.

Prepared by:

D. DeMarzo

Doug DeMarzo
General Manager of Community Services