

Staff Report to Council

Emergency Management

FILE: 14-7130-01/22

REPORT DATE: February 22, 2022

MEETING DATE:

March 01, 2022

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Barbara Morgan, Emergency Program Coordinator

SUBJECT: UBCM Emergency Preparedness Fund – Reception Centre and Emergency Operations Centre Supplies

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW/APPROVAL:



RECOMMENDATION(S):

THAT Council:

- A. Approve and support a grant application to the UBCM Emergency Preparedness Fund in the amount of \$50,000 to fund Emergency Support Services Reception Centre Supplies; AND
 - B. Approve and support a grant application to the UBCM Emergency Preparedness Fund in the amount of \$25,000 to fund Emergency Operations Centre Workstation Chairs and Ham Radio Antenna to enhance communications and operations within the Emergency Operations Center ["EOC"]; OR
 - C. Other.
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PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information regarding the proposed UBCM Emergency Preparedness Fund – EOC Supplies and EOC Reception Centre Supplies grant to improve the City's capabilities and response in the event of a disaster.

☐ Information Report

☒ Decision Report

☐ Direction Report

DISCUSSION

Background:

The City of Pitt Meadows continues to build its Emergency Program. In the event of an emergency, it is imperative that we have the capacity to respond independently.

A. Reception Centre Supplies: An external project that involves research and development of a reception plan focusing on the vulnerable population such as elders, seniors, and people living with disabilities.

The City of Pitt Meadows has partnered with Katzie First Nation on this grant submission to purchase various items such as canes, eyeglasses , and specialized cots that are needed to support this vulnerable sector of Pitt Meadows' population.

B. EOC Supplies: The purpose of this project is to enhance the City's capacity to function independently in an emergency by improving the EOC's environment and communications. This includes the purchase of chairs for the EOC workstations and meeting room, along with improvements to the capacity and functioning of the ham radio program at the new fire hall.

Relevant Policy, Bylaw or Legislation:

N/A

Analysis:

A. Reception Centre Supplies: Involves the research and development of a reception centre plan that focuses on the needs of vulnerable populations like elders, seniors and those living with a disability. This project addresses a gap in emergency management and once completed will be shared nationally. This grant application includes the purchase of supplies to support a vulnerable population reception centre plan. With the help of this grant we can purchase items like canes, eyeglasses, signage and specialized cots.

B. EOC Supplies: The City of Pitt Meadows' Emergency Program continues to enjoy a collaborative relationship with Katzie First Nation and other surrounding communities especially those in the Tri-Cities. Pitt Meadow's EOC is quickly maturing and surpassing the capabilities of most. Should surrounding communities be activated, Pitt Meadows may find themselves in a supportive role and given a little more training will be prepared to do so.

The provincial investment for EOC resources and supplies in Pitt Meadows will be fully transferable throughout the greater region should we be required to assist another community. Notably, Amateur Radio is a regional service. The Maple Ridge Amateur Radio Club was established in 1964 and provides critical public communications during an emergency. This grant application will provide improvements to ensure that all equipment is readily functional.

COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

- ☐ Principled Governance ☐ Balanced Economic Prosperity ☐ Corporate Excellence
☒ Community Spirit & Wellbeing ☐ Transportation & Infrastructure Initiatives
☐ Not Applicable

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- ☒ None ☐ Budget Previously Approved ☐ Referral to Business Planning
☐ Other

The UBCM Emergency Preparedness Grant is a provincial grant that presents as 100% dollars.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- ☒ Inform ☐ Consult ☐ Involve ☐ Collaborate ☐ Empower

Comment(s):

The residents of Pitt Meadows will benefit from an organized effort to evacuate with expediency and effectiveness.

KATZIE FIRST NATION CONSIDERATIONS

Referral ☐ Yes ☒ No

The Katzie First Nation also participates in the regional emergency planning and training – their Emergency Response Plan is fully integrated with Pitt Meadows' plans. As such, the equipment, supplies, and training that are proposed as part of this project, will be of benefit to both communities.

SIGN-OFFS

Written by:

Barbara Morgan,
Emergency Program Coordinator

Reviewed by:

Bryan Vinje,
Deputy Fire Chief

ATTACHMENT(S):

None.