

# Report

Date July 17, 2024  
Subject 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement

File: 2240-20

## PURPOSE

To consider approving the 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement and authorizing the Mayor and Corporate Officer to sign the Agreement.

## BACKGROUND

North Cowichan entered into a 10-year Community Works Fund Agreement in 2014 to administer the Federal Gas Tax Fund in British Columbia. Staff were notified of the need to renew the agreement by way of the attached letter from Brant Felker, Manager, CCBF Program Services, with the UBCM, dated June 21, 2024. (Attachment 1)

## DISCUSSION

The Community Works Fund (CWF) is a long-standing program of the [Canada Community-Building Fund](#) (CCBF). Under this program, local governments in British Columbia receive an annual base amount and per-capita allocation. These funds can be directed toward eligible costs associated with various projects, as outlined in the CWF Agreement (Attachment 2). Local governments are also required to provide annual reports on the progress and outcomes of these projects.

The CWF maintains all existing eligible project categories and introduces the following changes to enhance the program:

- (1) The Disaster Mitigation category has been expanded and renamed 'Resilience'. Eligible expenditures has been expanded to include new construction of public infrastructure, modification, or reinforcement of existing public infrastructure, including natural infrastructure that prevents, mitigates, or protects against the impacts of climate change, natural hazards, and extreme weather.
- (2) The 'Fire Hall' category has been broadened to include Fire Truck purchases as stand-alone projects.
- (3) Feasibility Studies and Detailed Design projects are now eligible for funding.
- (4) Housing planning is now eligible under Capacity Building.

North Cowichan's allocations for 2024-2028 are as follows:

- 2024 = \$1,520,040
- 2025 = \$1,520,040
- 2026 = \$1,520,040
- 2027 = \$1,580,841
- 2028 = \$1,580,841

To receive payments under the renewed program, local governments must enter into a CWF Agreement with UBCM, and Council must authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to sign the Agreement. The first CWF transfer is expected to occur in August 2024.

## OPTIONS

**(Recommended Option)** THAT Council approves entering into the 2024-2034 Canada Community-Building Fund Agreement and authorizes the Mayor and Corporate Officer to sign the agreement.

- This ensures that North Cowichan is enrolled in the renewed CWF program for the next 10 years.

## IMPLICATIONS

Under the renewed Canada Community-Building Fund Agreement, the CWF will continue to provide dedicated and predictable funds to North Cowichan for investments in local infrastructure and capacity-building priorities.

## RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approves entering into the 2024-2034 Canada Community-Building Fund Agreement and authorizes the Mayor and Corporate Officer to sign the agreement.

Report prepared by:



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Tricia Mayea  
Manager, Legislative Services

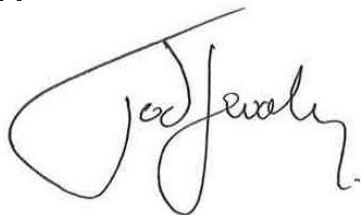
Report reviewed by:



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Bill Corsan  
General Manager, Corporate Services and Community Relations

## Approved to be forwarded to Council:



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Ted Swabey  
Chief Administrative Officer

## Attachments:

- (1) CWF 2024-2034 Agreement Letter
- (2) 2024-34 CWF Agreement