

# Report

---

Date November 6, 2024 File:  
Subject Emergency Management Cowichan (CVRD) Grant Applications to UBCM

---

## PURPOSE

To seek Council's approval to support the Cowichan Valley Regional District in applying for grants from the Union of BC Municipalities Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Support Services, Emergency Operations Centre, and Evacuation Route Planning streams.

## BACKGROUND

In 2022, local authorities agreed to a regional approach to emergency management grant funding requests. When practical, Emergency Management Cowichan (EMC) applies for grants for the Cowichan region. A regional approach ensures consistency and cost-effectiveness for all four municipalities and the regional district.

The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD)'s EMC division has requested North Cowichan's support in applying for grants from UBCM's Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) Emergency Support Services, Emergency Operations Centre, and Evacuation Route Planning streams.

## DISCUSSION

### Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Emergency Support Services

The intent of this funding stream is to support eligible applicants to build local capacity through the purchase of equipment and supplies required to maintain or improve their Emergency Support Services (ESS) program, and to enhance capacity through training and exercises.

The CVRD intends to apply for CEPF funding up to \$200,000 to increase regional ESS capacity within the local authorities with:

- Sea-Can for Reception Centre supply storage (new site or existing site)
- Volunteer recruitment, response kits, training, and recognition events
- Reception Centre and Group Lodging deployable signage
- Mobile Unit generator (to support smaller community/ad-hoc reception centres)
- Sleeping unit supplies (cots, sleeping bags) to stock centres more appropriately to populations and risk

### Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Emergency Operations Centre

The intent of the CEPF Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) funding stream is to support eligible applicants to build local capacity through the purchase of equipment and supplies required to maintain or improve an EOC functionality and to enhance EOC capacity through training and exercises.

The CVRD intends to apply for EOC grant program funding up to \$200,000 to increase the Regional EOC (REOC) capacity with:

- Trainer – year two for a temp position (current position is unfilled, two-year opportunity may increase viability)
- Five (5) Table Top Exercises – food, facility rental, materials (printed)
- Partner Agency REOC Training (Fire Departments, RCMP, Ambulance)
- REOC staff 72-hour food and water supplies (restock)
- REOC Map Plotter

#### Community Emergency Preparedness Fund – Evacuation Route Planning

The intent of the Evacuation Route Planning funding stream is to support the development of Evacuation Route Plans that provide information for local governments, First Nations, and community members in the event of an emergency. In previous years, this grant was not eligible for products developed for public presentation (out-of-scope).

The CVRD intends to apply for up to \$200,000 to update and improve emergency planning in the Cowichan; the following route plans are proposed for development:

- Electoral Area A
- Electoral Area B
- Electoral Area C
- Electoral Area H
- City of Duncan
- South End/remaining areas of North Cowichan

These areas were selected based on known risk and event history and comprise the final 30% of areas requiring evacuation route planning.

Budgets and summaries of these projects/initiatives are found in detail in Attachment 1.

## **OPTIONS**

### **(Recommended Option)**

1. THAT Council support the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) to apply for, receive and manage the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Support Services 2025 Grant funding up to \$200,000 on behalf of the Municipality of North Cowichan.
2. THAT Council support the CVRD to apply for, receive, and manage the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Operations Centre 2025 grant funding up to \$200,000 on behalf of the Municipality of North Cowichan.
3. THAT Council support the CVRD to apply for, receive, and manage the 2025 UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Public Notification and Evacuation Route Planning grant funding up to \$200,000 on behalf of the Municipality of North Cowichan.

---

## IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to North Cowichan. EMC CVRD staff will administer the grant, which will include project administration and financial reporting.

## RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council support the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) to apply for, receive and manage the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Support Services 2025 Grant funding up to \$200,000 on behalf of the Municipality of North Cowichan.
2. THAT Council support the CVRD to apply for, receive, and manage the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Emergency Operations Centre 2025 grant funding up to \$200,000 on behalf of the Municipality of North Cowichan.
3. THAT Council support the CVRD to apply for, receive, and manage the 2025 UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund for Public Notification and Evacuation Route Planning grant funding up to \$200,000 on behalf of the Municipality of North Cowichan.

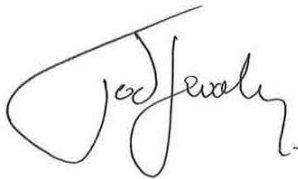
Report prepared by:



---

Terri Brennan  
Executive Coordinator

## Approved to be forwarded to Council:



---

Ted Swabey  
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment:

- (1) EMC 2025 Emergency Management Grants