



STAFF REPORT

DATE: January 17, 2025

FILE: 0550-04 Board

TO: Chair and Directors,
Regional Board

FROM: David Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer

RE: GRANT OPPORTUNITY: EMERGENCY SUPPORT SERVICES

PURPOSE/PROBLEM

To consider submitting a regional application with municipalities and First Nations within the Strathcona and Mount Waddington regional districts to the 2025 Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) Emergency Support Services (ESS) grant from the Union of BC Municipalities to be used for procuring group lodging supplies and conducting training using ESS administration and training contractors.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The CEPF is a suite of funding programs intended to enhance the resiliency of local governments and First Nations in responding to emergencies. The intent of this funding stream is to support eligible applicants to build local capacity for emergency support services through:

- training,
- volunteer recruitment and retention
- covering incremental staffing and administration costs; and
- the purchase of equipment.

The grant program can contribute up to 100% of the cost of eligible activities to a maximum of \$40,000 per applicant. All local governments (municipalities and regional districts) and First Nations (bands and Treaty Nations) in BC can submit one application per intake. The deadline for the next intake is January 31, 2025. Funding requests from two or more eligible project applicants for regional projects may be submitted as a single application for eligible, collaborative projects. The maximum funding available would be based on the number of eligible applicants included in the application.

In the Regional District's Strategic Plan an area of focus prioritized under climate resiliency is "*proactively preparing our communities and residents to adapt and respond to emergency events and climate change impacts*".

It is proposed that the Regional District apply for funding assistance for purchasing the supplies outlined below. If successful, the funding would help the Regional District to deliver a more effective response through its ESS teams. The proposal currently before the Board is that the Regional District coordinate grant activities on behalf of all local government and First Nations that have requested inclusion in this regional process as detailed in the background section of this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT the report from the Chief Administrative Officer be received.
2. THAT an application to the 2025 Emergency Support Services grant program for enhancing emergency response on behalf of the local governments and First Nations identified in the January 17, 2025 report from the Chief Administrative Officer be approved; and

THAT the Regional District commit to overall management of the grant if the application is successful.

Respectfully:



David Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

Emergency Support Services (ESS) is an emergency response program made up of dedicated individuals who share a common goal of assisting people in an emergency. It is one of several organizations operated under the Public Safety Lifeline Volunteer program. Services provided may include food, lodging, clothing, emotional support, information about the crisis and family reunification. This program depends on volunteers to plan and provide these services, including:

- identifying locations for reception centres and group lodging;
- finding other volunteers;
- working with local businesses, service organizations and government agencies;
- housing and feeding people forced from their homes;
- providing services to people who are unable to leave their homes; and
- supporting other emergency responders.

People forced from their homes in an emergency may be directed to group lodging facilities when commercial lodging is either not appropriate or unavailable. Group lodging is a safe place where people can go to sleep and eat, receive specialized care including multicultural services and transportation, and obtain health services such as first aid and emotional support.

POLICY ANALYSIS

It is suggested that the most appropriate use for a grant under this program would be to:

1. Host a Mass Care Exercise at the Campbell River Sportsplex.
2. Host volunteer appreciation dinners.
3. Contract with an ESS Administrative Assistant to assist with grant activities and be a resource for all communities included in this grant application.
4. Provide training such as Reception Centre, Registration and Referrals, Self-Care, Meet and Greet, and Group Lodging sessions to ESS team members.
5. Procure group lodging supplies including cots, 50-year shelf life water, generators, standup tents, and 25-year shelf life dehydrated food rations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Providing support for a CEPF grant indicates that the Regional District is prepared to accept responsibility for this project and to provide overall grant management.

Table 1: Proposed budget

Proposed Budget	Quantity	Estimated Cost
25-year Shelf-life Freeze Dried Food	43,200 Servings	\$117,500
Emergency Support Services Administration Assistant	1	\$75,000
Emergency Support Services Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reception Centre Applied Training • Group Lodging Applied Training • Handheld Radio Communications • Inclusion and De-escalation • Trauma / Stress Management • Pet Care / Pet First Aid • Standard First Aid • Psychological First Aid • Level 1 Response 		\$58,500
Seacans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yuquot site preparation, supply and delivery • Ehatis insulation and shelving 		\$50,000
ESS Facility WiFi / Internet capacity enhancements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Campbell River / Village of Sayward 		\$40,000
50-year Shelf-life Canned Emergency Water	750 Cases	\$38,000
Conference Fees & Support – 2025 Network of Emergency Support Services Teams conference in Prince George	6	\$15,000
Hoodies	150	\$15,000
Volunteer Appreciation Dinners	10	\$10,000
Blankets	600	\$9,000
Propane Stoves	40	\$9,000
Tahsis Staff Wages		\$7,000
Reception Centre Exercises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitator, food, accommodation, mileage reimbursements 	3	\$5,000
Weather Resistant Team Jackets	25	\$5,000
Extra Large Cots	12	\$4,200
Conference Fees – Network of Emergency Support Services Volunteers		\$3,800
Handheld Radios	10	\$3,500
Standup Shelters	8	\$2,000
Printers	2	\$2,000
Small ESS supplies & Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Aid Kits, Multitools, Comfort Kits, Pet Care Supplies 	Various	\$2,000
10,000 W Generator	1	\$1,700
Reception Centre Shelving	3	\$1,500
Mobile Handwashing Stations	10	\$1,000
Toques	30	\$900
Mobile Speakers	3	\$1,250
Total		\$479,850

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Section 2(3)(f) of BC Reg.380/95 (*Local Authority Emergency Management Regulation*) requires that local authorities coordinate the provision of food, clothing and shelter to victims of emergencies and disasters. The provision of these items is made possible by the efforts of Emergency Support Services volunteers.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Financial Services would provide overall supervision of the grant management. Emergency Services would provide overall supervision of the project.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL/REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

Moving forward with a regional approach presents an opportunity to build closer relationships with local government and First Nation entities. The following have passed resolutions in support of this regional grant application:

- City of Campbell River*
- Ehattesaht Chinehkint First Nation*
- Homalco First Nation
- Klahoose First Nation
- Mt. Waddington Regional District*
- Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation
- Nuchatlaht First Nation
- Town of Port McNeill*
- Village of Gold River*
- Village of Sayward*
- Village of Tahsis*
- Village of Zeballos*

* = Resolution Pending

Prepared by: S. Koopman, Manager of Emergency Services

Attachments: A: Council of Chiefs Resolution from the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation
B: Band Council Resolution from the Homalco First Nation
C: Tyee & Council Resolution from the Nuchatlaht First Nation
D: Band Council Resolution from the Klahoose First Nation

Attachment A - Council of Chiefs Resolution from the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Affaires indiennes et du Nord Canada
Indian and Inuit Affairs
Affaires indiennes et Inuit

chronological No. 2024-0032
File Reference MMFN

BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION

NOTE: The words "from our Band Funds" "Capital" or "Revenue" whichever is the case, must appear in all resolutions requesting expenditures from Band Funds.

THE BAND COUNCIL of:	Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation	Current capital balance : \$	_____
AGENCY:	Nanaimo	Committed - engage \$	_____
DISTRICT:		Current Revenue Balance : \$	_____
PROVINCE:	British Columbia	Committed - engage \$	_____
PLACE:	Tsaxana, Gold River		
DATE:	November 18/2024		

DO HEREBY RESOLVE THAT:

PURPOSE

To consider a regional grant application to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund 2025 Emergency Support Services Adaptation from the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM). This application would be in partnership with the Strathcona Regional District in order to procure mass care supplies for Yuquot.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) is a suite of funding programs intended to enhance the resiliency of local governments, First Nations and communities in responding to emergencies. The intent of the Emergency Support Services funding stream is to build local capacity through volunteer/responder recruitment, retention and training, and the purchase of ESS equipment. It is proposed that the Strathcona Regional District will be the primary applicant in a regional application with the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation as a partner applicant. The deadline submission for this grant is January 31, 2025. In order to be considered as a partner, the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation is required to submit a Band Council Resolution that clearly states that they authorize the Strathcona Regional District to receive and manage the grant funding.

The SRD would provide the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation with up to \$40,000 in order to:

- Procure and deliver a modified shipping container (seacan) to serve as a First Aid Room at Yuquot;
- Hire a helicopter to deliver the seacan to Yuquot;
- Install cement footings for the shipping container to rest on; and
- Procure mass care supplies such as a bed, blankets, freeze dried food, canned emergency water, and bandages to store in the shipping container.

RECOMMENDATION FOR RESOLUTION


THAT as part of the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation's ongoing work in relation to providing mass care during a disaster that an application for financial assistance under the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund 2025 Emergency Support Services grant be authorized for submission to the UBCM in collaboration with the Strathcona Regional District; and

THAT the Strathcona Regional District be authorized to receive and manage the grant funds on behalf of the Mowachaht/Muchalaht First Nation if the application is successful.

A QUORUM FOR THIS BAND
pour celle bande le quorum est



CONSISTS OF 3
sont

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
membres de conseil:


Chief Dan Savey

Chief A Patrick James


Chief Mike Maquina


Chief Jerome Jack

Chief Nathan George

Attachment B - Band Council Resolution from the Holmaco First Nation



Indigenous Services
Canada

Services aux Autochtones
Canada

PROTECTED B (when completed)

BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Chronological number
File reference number

Note: The words "from our Band Funds" "Capital" or "Revenue", whichever is the case, must appear in all resolutions requesting expenditure from Band Funds.

The Council of the Homalco First Nation		Cash free balance
Duly convened meeting date (YYYYMMDD) 2024/12/03		Capital account (\$)
Province/Territory British Columbia		Revenue account (\$)

Do hereby resolve
SUBJECT: Authorization for Submission and Management of Emergency Support Services Grant

WHEREAS the Homalco First Nation is committed to enhancing its capacity for emergency planning and preparedness to ensure the safety and well-being of its members and community;

AND WHEREAS funding is available under the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund 2025 Emergency Support Services grant through the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) to support such initiatives;

AND WHEREAS the Homalco First Nation recognizes the value of collaboration with the Strathcona Regional District to strengthen emergency planning and service delivery;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Homalco First Nation authorizes the submission of an application for financial assistance under the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund 2025 Emergency Support Services grant to UBCM, in collaboration with the Strathcona Regional District; and The Strathcona Regional District is authorized to receive and manage the grant funding on behalf of Homalco First Nation, should the application be successful.

Quorum 3	Chief signature
Councillor signature 	Councillor signature
Councillor signature 	Councillor signature
Councillor signature	Councillor signature
Councillor signature	Councillor signature

ISC USE ONLY					
Expenditure	Authority (Indian Act Section)	Source of funds <input type="radio"/> Capital <input type="radio"/> Revenue	Expenditure	Authority (Indian Act Section)	Source of funds <input type="radio"/> Capital <input type="radio"/> Revenue
Recommending officer Signature		Date (YYYYMMDD)	Recommending officer Signature		Date (YYYYMMDD)
Approved by Signature		Date (YYYYMMDD)	Approved by Signature		Date (YYYYMMDD)

Attachment C - Tye & Council Resolution from the Nuchatlaht First Nation



Nuchatlaht
P.O. Box 40, Zeballos B.C.
V0P 2A0
Phone: 250-332-5908
Fax: 250-332-5907



BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION passed at a duly convened meeting of the Chief and Council (the “**Council**”) of Nuchatlaht First Nation on December 21, 2024

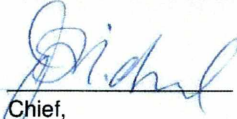
WHEREAS the Council considers it in the best interests of Nuchatlaht First Nation to approve an application for a regional grant application to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund 2025 Emergency Support Services program stream in coordination with the Strathcona Regional District;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT as part of the Nuchatlaht First Nation’s ongoing work in relation to emergency management that an application for financial assistance under the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund 2025 Emergency Support Services grant be authorized for submission to the UBCM in collaboration with the Strathcona Regional District; and

THAT the Strathcona Regional District be authorized to receive and manage the grant funding on behalf of the Nuchatlaht First Nation if the application is successful.

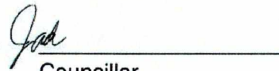
Quorum for the Council is 2 members.



Chief,
Jordan Michael



Councillor,
Eric Evans-Michael



Councillor,
Mellissa Jack

Attachment D - Band Council Resolution from the Klahoose First Nation



**Approval of Regional Grant Opportunity – Emergency Support Services
BCR-20242025-036
December 12, 2024**

RECOMMENDATIONS

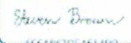
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

As part of the Klahoose First Nation’s ongoing work in relation to providing community mass care in the event of a disaster that a Band Council Resolution be passed in support of the Strathcona Regional District’s January 2025 Emergency Support Services grant and;

THAT the Strathcona Regional District be authorized to receive and manage the grant funding on behalf of the Klahoose First Nation if the grant application is successful.

Prepared by: S. Koopman, Manager of Emergency Services (SRD)

Quorum: 3

DocuSigned by


CHIEF STEVEN BROWN

DocuSigned by


COUNCILLOR EMILY WHITE

DocuSigned by


COUNCILLOR PATRICIA MCDUGALL

Signed by


COUNCILLOR JOHNATHAN HANUSE