



STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 6, 2022 **FILE:** 0550-04 SGC

TO: Chair and Commissioners,
Strathcona Gardens Commission

FROM: Dave Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer

RE: STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FUND – PROJECT FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

PURPOSE/PROBLEM

To consider the process by which the Regional District will identify and select projects for possible funding under the Canada Community-Building Fund, Strategic Priorities Fund (SPF).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As outlined in the attached news release, applications that benefit local government and support national objectives are now being accepted under the Strategic Priorities Fund. The Fund focuses on initiatives that are large in scale, regional in impact or innovative. The deadline for receipt of applications is June 30, 2022.

Given the broad range of categories eligible for funding under this program, it is proposed that a report will be prepared for the Board's consideration prior to the application deadline that identifies projects that fall within the parameters of the funding program and could be supported. The Board will then be able to select those projects that it believes to represent the highest priority for the Regional District and authorize one or more applications to proceed.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report from the Chief Administrative Officer be received.

Respectfully:



Dave Leitch
Chief Administrative Officer

Prepared by: T. Yates, Corporate Services Manager

Attachment: April 28, 2022 media release "Strategic Priorities Fund intake underway"



Strategic Priorities Fund intake underway

Publishing Date: April 28, 2022

UBCM is now accepting applications for the Canada Community-Building Fund Strategic Priorities Fund (SPF). The SPF program will see an investment of up to \$100 million for local government capital and capacity building projects in BC outside of the Metro Vancouver region.

The CCBF fund – formerly the federal Gas Tax Fund – invests over \$300 million in federal funds annually to British Columbia for projects that benefit BC’s local governments and achieve the national objectives of building strong cities and communities, a clean environment and strengthen productivity and economic growth. UBCM administers the CCBF on behalf of Canada and the Province of BC.

The Strategic Priorities Fund is an application-based program that targets funds for investments that are large in scale, regional in impact, or innovative. The SPF program has invested nearly \$300 million to 170 projects since 2014.

Eligible investment categories include water and wastewater, solid waste, sport and recreation, culture and tourism, community energy systems, roads and active transportation, public transit, disaster mitigation, fire hall infrastructure as well as

planning projects such as asset management and long-term infrastructure planning.

Local Governments in BC outside of the Metro Vancouver region can access the SPF program guide and apply through the [UBCM website](#). Deadline to apply is June 30, 2022.

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> Strategic Priorities Fund intake underway