

# Report to Council



**Date:** September 26, 2022  
**To:** Council  
**From:** City Manager  
**Subject:** UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Support  
**Department:** Partnerships Office

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## **Recommendation:**

**THAT** Council receives, for information, the report from the Partnership Office dated September 26, 2022, with respect to UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Support.

**THAT** Council approves the Regional District of Central Okanagan applying for, receiving, and managing the UBCM Community Emergency Preparedness Fund grant funding to complete the Extreme Heat Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning project on behalf of the City of Kelowna.

## **Purpose:**

**To support the Regional District of Central Okanagan to manage a Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Extreme Heat Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning grant on behalf of Central Okanagan local jurisdictions.**

## **Background:**

The Central Okanagan Emergency Management Program is a regional service comprised of Westbank First Nation and all Central Okanagan municipal and electoral area jurisdictions. This program provides a coordinated emergency response through the Emergency Operations Centre for events such as forest fires, floods, landslides, and extreme heat events.

To support this regional program, the Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) has applied to UBCM for Community Emergency Preparedness funding to complete an extreme heat risk mapping analysis, risk assessments and a regional response plan and implementation strategy to help protect vulnerable populations in our communities. As part of applying for the grant, each partnering jurisdiction must submit a resolution that states their approval for the primary applicant, which in this case is the RDCO, to apply for, receive, and manage the grant funding on behalf of the region.

## **Discussion:**

As climate change is creating more frequent extreme heat events, identifying options to support our residents during times of extreme heat is becoming more vital. Under the Emergency Management Program, staff are seeking to coordinate an extreme heat risk mapping analysis, risk assessments and a

regional response plan and implementation strategy to help protect vulnerable populations in our communities.

Extreme heat risk mapping will identify high risk urban and interurban areas, determine the needs of neighborhoods with limited resources and/or transportation options and identify available resources and best locations for response preparedness. Risk assessments will identify the social, economic, and environmental impacts of extreme heat events including identifying urban heat islands, community and infrastructure vulnerabilities, and risk tolerance or “risk threshold” including populated areas proportionately at risk. A response plan will identify the needs of the most vulnerable populations and provide resources to support them during heat events, develop short and long-term extreme heat risk reductions goals, objectives, and strategies to meet the goals.

The extreme heat response planning and implementation project will include community engagement, data review relevant to areas from Interior Health mapping; considerations for heat-sensitive populations and targeted response actions to mitigate impacts with low to moderate income neighbourhoods.

**Conclusion:**

The Community Emergency Preparedness Fund can support our regional Emergency Management Program by providing funding to complete an extreme heat risk mapping analysis, risk assessments and a regional response plan and implementation strategy to help protect vulnerable populations in our communities.

**Internal Circulation:**

**Considerations not applicable to this report:**

*Legal/Statutory Authority:*

*Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:*

*Existing Policy:*

*Financial/Budgetary Considerations:*

*External Agency/Public Comments:*

*Communications Comments:*

Submitted by:

M. Kam, Grants & Special Projects Coordinator

**Approved for inclusion:**



BE

cc:

S. Follack, Deputy Fire Chief

Regional District of the Central Okanagan