

Community Emergency Preparedness Fund

Public Notification & Evacuation Route Planning

2023 Application Form

Please complete and return the application form by **April 28, 2023**. All questions are required to be answered by typing directly in this form. If you have any questions, contact cepf@ubcm.ca or (250) 387-4470.

SECTION 1: Applicant Information	AP (for administrative use only)
Name of Local Government or First Nation: Regional District of Central Okanagan	Date of Application: April 25, 2023
Contact Person*: Sandra Follack	Position: Kelowna Fire Department, Deputy Chief, EPC for RDCO
Phone: 250-469-8629	E-mail: sfollack@kelowna.ca

* Contact person must be an authorized representative of the applicant (i.e. staff person or elected official).

SECTION 2: For <u>Regional Projects Only</u>
<p>1. Identification of Partnering Applicants. For regional projects, please list all of the partnering eligible applicants included in this application. Refer to Section 2 in the <i>Program & Application Guide</i> for eligibility.</p> <p>City of Kelowna, City of West Kelowna, Westbank First Nations, District of Peachland, District of Lake Country</p>
<p>2. Rationale for Regional Projects. Please provide a rationale for submitting a regional application and describe how this approach will support cost-efficiencies in the total grant request.</p> <p>The Emergency Operations Centre is a regional program and all local governments work collaboratively to identify where in the region support is required including best evacuation routes and communications to support during evacuations. The Central Okanagan is supported by one main hwy and will be significantly impacted during large wildfire events affecting each LG which includes; District of Peachland, City of West Kelowna, Westbank First Nations, City of Kelowna, District of Lake Country and the Regional District of Central Okanagan Boundaries. Applying as a regional grant will support each LG by using external agencies and internal staff to collaborate with framework specific to our area.</p>

SECTION 3: Project Information

3. Project Information

- A. Project Title: Public Notification & Evacuation Route Planning
- B. Proposed start and end dates. Start: April 28, 2023 End: April 28, 2024

4. Project Cost & Grant Request:

- A. Total proposed project budget: \$153,600.00
- B. Total proposed grant request: \$153,600.00
- C. Have you applied for, or received funding for, this project from other sources? If yes, please indicate the source and the amount of funding received or applied for.
NA

5. Project Summary. Provide a summary of your project in 150 words or less.

The RDCO is applying for funding for all stakeholders as a joint project to; Identify Planning Notification and Evacuation Route Planning framework for all Stakeholders.

Evacuation Route Planning will identify available routes, their capacity, and methods of how to evacuate using different modes of transportation.

Notification systems will identify the strategies, policies and/or processes for public alerting using current systems and identify areas requiring alternative methods of emergency alerting. Templates for notification and emergency alerting messaging wording specific to each community with limited access options.

Develop hazard-specific preparedness information guides for distribution in high-risk areas in preparation for hazard seasons.

SECTION 4: Detailed Project Information

6. Proposed Activities. What specific activities will be undertaken as part of the proposed project? Please refer to Sections 4 and 6 of the *Program & Application Guide* for eligibility.

Development of a new or updated Evacuation Route Plan and/or new or updated Public Notification Plan

Collaborative planning work with neighbouring jurisdictions

Preparation of maps, spatial data, and metadata (where applicable must meet Specifications for LiDAR for the Province of British Columbia and if applicable the Specifications for the Production of Digital Elevation Models for the Province of British Columbia)

Training, knowledge sharing, and exercising activities required to inform or test the Evacuation Route Plan and/or Public Notification Plan

Presentation of the Evacuation Route Plan and/or Public Notification Plan to Council, Board, Band Council, or Treaty First Nation government, community organizations, etc.

Amendments to relevant local plans, bylaws, or policies that are specific to evacuation route and/or public notification planning (e.g. Official Community Plan, land use plans, engineering and public works bylaws or policies)

- 7. Evidence & Rationale.** What is the rationale and evidence for undertaking this project? This may include evidence of local hazards (e.g., as identified in the local Emergency Plan); threat levels (e.g., as identified in Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Analysis, Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan and/or flood risk assessments) and previous emergencies (e.g., evacuations that were ordered, notifications were issued)

The Central Okanagan is a community based area surrounded by forests and lakes. Each community has their own specific hazards, including risks related to one-way out traffic, dense forested areas, and low lying flood plain areas. All stakeholders residential areas have experienced numerous evacuations due to wildfire, flooding, extreme heat, and other disasters.

- 8. Alignment with Recommended Content.** Refer to Table 1 in the *Program & Application Guide* and describe the extent to which the content identified in the guide will be included in the proposed project.

The content of this project will include, but not be limited to: Evacuation Route Plans that identify capacity of available routes and alternative options, plus the methods of how each route will assist during an evacuation. Speed limits, modes of transportation (water and/or air), and notification systems will also support this plan.

The Public Notification Plans will include, but not be limited to: processes for public notification and emergency alerting during emergencies, which may include requesting a Provincial Intrusive Alert. Utilizing social media plans and templated information to support public notification emergency warning alerting and timeliness notification for immediate sharing of time sensitive material.

- 9. Engagement & Collaboration.**

- a. In addition to Section 2 (if applicable), describe how the proposed project will include engagement with First Nations and provide evidence of engagement that has taken place in advance of the application being submitted (e.g., collaborative planning tables; incorporating First Nation values and perspectives in proposed activities; existing outreach, plans, engagement reports, or processes; including First Nation engagement costs in the budget).

See Section 2.

- b. Describe how the proposed project will include engagement with neighbouring jurisdictions, and other impacted or affected parties as appropriate to the project.

This project will help to identify areas of uncertainty and challenges as well as identify potential solutions and strategies through a unified approach. The tabletop exercise will facilitate a discussion around what the group would find useful in future planning which helped identify priorities and inform the recommendations for subsequent phases of the Evacuation Route Planning process. Participants for the

project will include the RDOS, RDNO, BCEHS, RCMP, MoTI, ESS, Hydro, Fortis and Okanagan Indian Band.

- 10. Climate Change.** Describe how the proposed project will consider climate change in the project methodology and include the impacts of climate change in the Evacuation Route and/or Public Notification plan.

Evacuation Route planning has a substantial effect on the climate and the project will consider the potential impacts and the frequency, intensity and spatial distribution of the hazards. Assessment of the plan will help identify areas most at risk for climate change and assist to prioritize each route. Route selection will identify areas with high risk factors due to wildfire and flooding events and lesson damage to critical infrastructure.

- 11. Large Scale ESS Planning.** Describe the extent to which the proposed project will consider large scale Emergency Support Services scenarios.

This project will further the modernization of the EOC and ESS processes, and improve the ability of the EOC to practice responding to and be ready for various large scale emergency support services scenarios. The timing, duration, and context of emergency events is largely unpredictable, and planning allows the EOC staff to respond to emergencies in a timely and effective manner.

- 12. Emergency Plan.** Describe the extent to which the proposed project will specifically support recommendations or requirements identified in the local Emergency Plan.

The 2020 RDCO EOC Emergency Plan and Operational Guidelines note "the EOC must be able to function on a 24/7 basis from activation until de-mobilization as required to support the emergency response". In order to sustain 24/7 functionality, EOC processes must be flexible to allow for changes during an emergency. These actions support the following overarching Emergency Plan Response Goals:

1. Provide for the safety and health of all responders;
2. Save lives;
3. Reduce suffering;
4. Protect public health;
5. Protect government infrastructure;
6. Protect property;
7. Protect the environment; and
8. Reduce economic and social losses.

- 13. Transferability.** Describe the extent to which the proposed project may be transferable to other local governments and/or First Nations.

This plan will include templates which can be suited for each areas specific needs and accommodate standardized language supporting communication needs during an emergency.

14. Additional Information. Please share any other information you think may help support your submission.

SECTION 5: Required Attachments

Only complete applications will be considered for funding. The following separate attachments are required to be submitted as part of the application:

- ☐ Council or Board resolution, Band Council resolution, or Treaty First Nation resolution, indicating support for the current proposed activities and willingness to provide overall grant management.
- ☐ Detailed budget for each component identified in the application. This must clearly identify the CEPF funding request, applicant contribution, and/or other grant funding.
- ☒ For regional projects only: Council or Board resolution, Band Council resolution, or Treaty First Nation resolution from each partnering applicant that clearly states their approval for the primary applicant to apply for, receive, and manage the grant funding on their behalf.

SECTION 6: Signature Applications are required to be signed by an authorized representative of the applicant. Please note all application materials will be shared with the Province of BC and First Nations' Emergency Services Society.

I certify that: (1) to the best of my knowledge, all information is accurate, (2) the area covered by the proposed project is within the applicant's jurisdiction (or appropriate approvals are in place) and (3) we understand that this project may be subject to a compliance audit under the program.

Name: Corie Griffiths	Title: Deputy CAO
Signature*: Corie Griffiths <small>*A certified electronic or original signature is required</small>	Date: April 28 2023

Submit applications to:

Local Government Program Services, Union of BC Municipalities

E-mail: cepf@ubcm.ca