



## COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

Date: March 11, 2025

From: Ron Bowles, Chief Administrative Officer

Subject: **2025 UBCM-CEPF Grant for EOC Training and Equipment**

Report Prepared by: Jason Brolund, Fire Chief

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### **RECOMMENDATION** to Consider and Resolve:

**THAT** Council support the Regional District of the Central Okanagan (RDCO) 2025 grant application to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) for Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and Training stream;

**AND THAT** the RDCO be authorized to apply for, receive and manage the grant funding on behalf of the City of West Kelowna.

### **STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS**

**Foster Safety and Well-Being** – We will pursue through direct action, advocacy, and collaboration with local and regional service providers, investments in community health, needs-based housing, emergency preparedness, policing, and other services that foster safety and well-being in West Kelowna.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Union of British Columbia Municipalities - Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (UBCM-CEPF) is a suite of funding programs intended to enhance the resiliency of local governments, First Nations, and communities in responding to various emergencies. This funding is provided by the Province of British Columbia and is administered by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM).

### **DISCUSSION**

With Councils approval, RDCO staff and/or contractors will make a joint application to the 2025 intake of the (UBCM-CEPF) under the Emergency Operations Centre Training and

Supports stream for a combined amount of approximately \$240,000. The combined funding will support the RDCO Emergency Operations Centre staff training and RDCO Emergency Operations Centre equipment.

This funding will help pay for specific training and technology required to support staff during the activation of the RDCO Emergency Program and the RDCO Emergency Operations Centre. The RDCO Emergency Operations Centre is activated in support of site level operations during a Local State of Emergency.

RDCO Emergency Operations Centre staff training and supporting technology are vital components of the RDCO Regional Emergency Program. This program offers cooperative support to local governments during emergencies such as wildfires and floods.

In the aftermath of the 2023 Wildfire Season, it was imperative that knowledge, capacity, resources, and community resilience be enhanced for the benefit of all residents, businesses, and visitors throughout the RDCO. By combining the capacity of all the First Nations and local governments within the RDCO, the Emergency Operations Centre can deliver a high-level of service, over extended periods of time in support of emergency response and emergency recovery.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The cost of training services and equipment will be 100% funded from the grant. An in-kind contribution of staff-time will be required to support training and/or the deployment of new technology and equipment.

## **REVIEWED BY:**

Warren Everton, Director of Finance/CFO

Mark Panneton, Director of Legislative & Legal Services

Trevor Seibel, Deputy CAO

## **APPROVED FOR THE AGENDA BY**

Ron Bowles, Chief Administrative Officer

Powerpoint: Yes  No