

**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BC
BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION**

TO: Tara Richards, Deputy Minister, EMBC

ISSUE:

2021/22 Year End Funding for Emergency Management Capacity Building Grants to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) and the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC)

BACKGROUND:

Since the program inception in 2017, the Province has provided^{s.13; s.17} to the Union of B.C. Municipalities to coordinate the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF). To date over^{s.13; s.17} disaster risk reduction projects have been undertaken by First Nations and local governments. Public messaging has been clear that CEPF is scheduled to sunset March 31, 2022, corresponding with the closure of the federal National Disaster Mitigation Program leaving communities anxious about potential funding options for disaster risk reduction activities.

There are currently seven streams of funding under CEPF:

- Flood Risk Assessments, Mapping and Mitigation Planning -^{s.13; s.17} projects
- Emergency Support Services (ESS) -^{s.13; s.17} projects.
- Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) -^{s.13; s.17} projects.
- Evacuation Route Planning -^{s.13; s.17} projects
- Volunteer and Composite Fire Departments Equipment and Training -^{s.13; s.17} projects
- Indigenous Cultural Safety and Cultural Humility Training -^{s.13; s.17} Projects
- Structural Flood Mitigation -^{s.13; s.17} projects

In developing the funding amounts per stream and intake, EMBC is able to adjust the funding amounts within each stream over time based on demand. UBCM and EMBC also work together to determine, in oversubscribed streams, if projects can be funded through the interest accumulated over time on the initial investment in the program.

CEPF is currently the most accessible disaster risk reduction federal or provincial funding program in B.C., after the federal First Nation Adapt Program and the B.C. Wildfire Service's Community Resiliency Investment Program. This is primarily due to 100% of project costs being funded up to the maximum determined by stream making the program more accessible to First Nations and remote local governments with small tax bases.

However, further work is required to ensure the equitable distribution of funds to communities as well as the embedding of climate change considerations into program design. A contract is currently under development, funded through CPAS Phase one, to provide recommendations for changes to the program design address the inequitable distribution of funds between Indigenous, rural and urban communities, and to bring Indigenous knowledge systems (and OCAP Principles) and future climate consideration into future funding programs.

Options:

s.13; s.16

Proposed Streams:

1. Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation: Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (Risk MAP)

Option 1 – 3

Proposed Funding: s.13; s.17

Community Grant Maximum: s.13; s.17

Potential Grant Result: s.13; s.17 community-led projects over three years.

This stream works to ensure communities have accurate knowledge of the hazards they face and can develop effective strategies to mitigate, prepare and adapt to those risks. Activities under this stream lay the foundations required to make informed planning decisions to protect lives, property, and critical infrastructure, and to apply for federal structural mitigation funding.

The scope of the original stream “Flood risk assessment, mapping and planning” would be expanded to include the Sendai Framework’s all hazards approach including climate risk considerations (e.g., extreme heat. ineligible expenses include the development of Hazard, Risk, and Vulnerability Assessments and activities eligible under existing disaster mitigation funding (e.g., Community Resiliency Investment Program).

There is the potential for the province and communities to leverage federal funding with this funding stream (e.g., Flood Hazard Identification and Mapping Program).

2. Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation: Non-structural and small-scale projects

Option 1

Proposed Funding: s.13; s.17

Community Grant Maximum: s.13; s.17

Potential Outcome: more than s.13; s.17 community-led projects over three years.

Options 2

Proposed Funding: s.13; s.17

Community Grant Maximum: s.13; s.17

Potential Outcome: more than s.13; s.17 community-led projects over three years

Option 3

Proposed Funding: s.13; s.17

Community Grant Maximum: s.13; s.17 (mid-sized to large communities) s.13; s.17 (small communities)

Potential Outcome: more than s.13; s.17 community-led projects over three years

This stream supports communities in preventing, eliminating, or reducing the impacts of hazards through the implementation of disaster mitigation and climate adaptation projects. This stream will work to address the gaps left with the sunseting of the National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP) stream 4b.

The proposed project must have a detailed implementation plan including the resources, time, costs, agreements, materials, and other factors required to complete the project. Eligible projects include proactive risk reduction investments, regulating land use, construction of small-scale structural mitigation projects, etc. Ongoing operational costs are ineligible under this stream.

Increased funding is offered to small communities in Option 3, as it is anticipated that high-capacity local governments will continue to access structural mitigation funding through programs such as Green-ARDM and DMAF which are often inaccessible to smaller communities (e.g., rural, remote and Indigenous communities).

3. Volunteer and Composite Fire Departments and Emergency Operations Centres: Training, Operations and Equipment

Options 1 and 3

Proposed funding: s.13; s.17

Community Grant Maximum: s.13; s.17

Potential Outcome: over s.13; s.17 community-led projects over three years.

Option 2

Proposed funding: s.13; s.17

Community Grant Maximum: s.13; s.17

Potential Outcome: more than s.13; s.17 community-led projects over three years.

This stream supports communities in building the resilience of volunteer or composite fire departments and the local capacity of their Emergency Operations Centres. Eligible expenses include the delivery of training and exercises and the purchasing or replacement of equipment and supplies.

The CEPF streams Emergency Operations Centers and Training, Volunteer and Composite Fire Departments Equipment and training would be merged to reduce the administrative burden on communities. s.13

s.13

4. Public Notification and Evacuation Planning

Options 1 – 3

Proposed funding: s.13; s.17

Community Grant Maximum: s.13; s.17

Potential Outcome: approximately s.13; s.17 community-led projects over three years.

This stream works to support communities who would otherwise be challenged to develop public alert education and communication capabilities and evacuation route plans. The construction of evacuation centres and routes is ineligible under this stream.

5. Emergency Support Services

Option 1 and 3

Proposed funding: ^{s.13; s.17}

Community Grant Maximum: ^{s.13; s.17}

Potential Outcome: approximately ^{s.13} community-led projects over three years.

Option 2

Proposed funding: ^{s.13; s.17}

Community Grant Maximum: ^{s.13; s.17}

Potential Outcome: approximately ^{s.13; s.17} community-led projects over three years.

This stream continues to build local capacity by providing emergency support services through training, volunteer recruitment and retention, and the purchase of Emergency Support Service equipment.

6. Indigenous Cultural Safety & Cultural Humility Funding

Option 1 – 3

Proposed funding: ^{s.13; s.17}

Community Grant Maximum: ^{s.13; s.17}

Potential Outcome: approximately ^{s.13; s.17} community-led projects over three years.

Established to enhance cultural safety and humility in the delivery of local emergency management programs and services. Activities include cultural safety and humility training, adapting emergency management tools to be inclusive of Indigenous peoples, and activities related to partnering with, or providing assistance to, Indigenous communities during emergency mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

s.13; s.17

s.13; s.16; s.17

OTHER MINISTRIES CONSULTED:

- FLNRORD (Flood Safety & BC Wildfire Service); ENV (Climate Action Secretariat)

**PREPARED BY:
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

REVIEWED BY:

	Initials	Date
DM		
ADM	AC	02/03/2022
EL	KF	02/02/2022
Pgm Dir	AB	02/02/2022

Appendix 1: Summary of Options

STREAM	Funding Allocated and Outcomes Achieved (Over 3 years)		
	Option 1 - s.13; s.17	Option 2 - s.13; s.17	Option 3 - s.13; s.17
Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation: Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u>	s.13; s.17	s.13; s.17
Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation: Non-structural and small-scale projects	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u>	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u>	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximums:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • s.13; s.17 for mid-sized to large communities. • s.13; for small communities.
Volunteer and Composite Fire Departments and Emergency Operations Centres: Training, Operations and Equipment	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u> s.13; s.17	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u> s.13; s.17	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u>
Public Notification and Evacuation Planning	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u> s.17	s.13; s.17	s.13; s.17
Emergency Support Services	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u>	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u> s.17	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u> s.13; s.17
Indigenous Cultural Safety and Humility Training	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u>	s.13; s.17	s.13; s.17
Addressing Unfunded Proposals from Prior Structural Mitigation Program Intakes	s.13; s.17	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u> s.13; s.17	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u> s.13; s.17
Funding for Indigenous Disaster Risk Reduction Priorities (Non-CEPF funding)	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u>	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u>	s.13; s.17 <u>Projects Funded:</u> s.13; s.17 <u>Grant Maximum:</u>