



REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: ADM-BRD-406

From: Crystal Brown, Electoral Area Manager

Date: May 4, 2023

Subject: Community to Community Grant Application 2023

RECOMMENDATION #1: [Corporate Unweighted]

That the Regional Board authorize the submission of a grant application to the Regional Community to Community Forum Program for a grant of up to \$10,000 to be used to co-host a Community to Community Meeting with Doig River First Nation.

RECOMMENDATION #2: [Corporate Unweighted]

That the Regional Board cancel the June 22, 2023 Electoral Area Directors Committee Meeting and the Rural Budget Administration Committee Meeting as they fall on the same day as the Community to Community Meeting with Doig River First Nations.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

On March 9, 2023, the Regional Board passed the following recommendation:

MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED

That the Regional Board authorize Community to Community Forum invitations be sent to the following First Nation Communities:

- a. Saulteau First Nations,*
- b. West Moberly First Nations,*
- c. Doig River First Nation,*
- d. Halfway River First Nation,*
- e. Blueberry River First Nations,*
- f. Kwadacha Nation, and*
- g. Tsay Keh Dene Nation.*

The goal of a Regional Community to Community (C2C) Forum is to increase understanding and improve overall relations between First Nations and local governments. Forum events are intended to provide a time and place for dialogue to build on opportunities, support reconciliation efforts, resolve issues of common responsibility, interest or concern, and/or advance tangible outcomes.

Starting in 2023, the C2C Forum Program is expanding to support the advancement of First Nation and local government reconciliation and relationship building through the development of agreements (such as protocols, MOUs, and service agreements), joint plans and/or strategies and the joint review of bylaws or policies to develop recommendations for amendments or new bylaws or policies. Up to \$10,000 is available for these new activities.

To qualify for funding, C2C Forums must include direct dialogue between elected officials and/or senior staff of neighbouring First Nations and local governments and work toward one or more of the following objectives:

- Strengthening relationships and fostering future co-operative action by building stronger links between First Nation and local government elected officials and senior staff
- Supporting local reconciliation efforts, United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and shared capacity building
- Developing or improving coordinated approaches to emergency preparation, mitigation, response and recovery, including recovery from the impacts of climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Approved C2C Forum and Agreement Topics include:

- Reconciliation & Relationship Building
- Emergency Management
- Service Delivery & Planning
- Economic Development
- Community Development
- Infrastructure Planning

Eligible Applicants for funding include local governments (municipalities, regional districts or the Islands Trust) and all First Nations (Treaty First Nation, Band, Tribal Council or National Government) in BC are eligible to apply. **Eligible applicants can submit one application per intake.**

In order to qualify for funding:

- Activities must be completed within one year from the date of grant approval;
- Willingness of the elected officials and/or senior staff of the partnering community to participate in the activities must be confirmed and provided in writing to UBCM;
- Activities must include direct participation by the elected officials and/or senior staff from both First Nation(s) and local government(s);
- The communities engaging in dialogue must be neighbouring; and
- Activities must comply with all applicable privacy legislation under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* in relation to the collection, use, or disclosure of personal information while conducting funded activities.

The Peace River Regional District (PRRD) and Doig River First Nation have tentatively scheduled a C2C meeting for June 22, 2023. The purpose of the C2C meeting is to come together for an educational History of the Beaver People in North East BC, the Past, Present and Future, and will provide the historical timelines for the region. There will be many other topics covered of which will make it an extremely educational and informative session, including:

- The Treaty 8 document;
- Treaty Land Entitlement;
- Opportunities for Business and economic partnerships; and
- Indigenous/Non Indigenous Relationships.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- ☒ Collaboration and Cooperation with First Nations
 - ☒ Advance the Development of Individual MOU's
 - ☒ Share PRRD Strategic Goals with First Nations to Identify Opportunities for Cooperation and Collaboration

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

Eligible expenses for the grant application include:

- Meals and snacks
- Venue rental
- Facilitation and consultant services
- Preparation of materials
- Expenses related to local cultural protocols
- Transportation between communities as required to attend a forum

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

If approved, the PRRD will be responsible for submitting a final report within 30 days of the C2C meeting. The final report will contain the following:

- Completed and signed Final Report Form;
- Financial summary;
- Attendance list, including name, title and organization of each participant; and
- Final agenda, session summaries or minutes and other documents/presentations.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

The deadline for the grant submission is May 5, 2023.

External Links:

1. [C2C Program and Application Guide](#)
2. [C2C Application Form](#)