



REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: CS-BRD-247

From: Sean Cairns, Protective Services Manager

Date: October 5, 2023

Subject: Moberly Lake Fire Department Grant Opportunities

RECOMMENDATION #1: [Corporate Unweighted]

That the Regional Board authorize the submission of a grant application to the Union of BC Municipalities Volunteer and Composite Fire Departments Training and Equipment grant program, in the amount of \$30,000 to be used towards the cost of replacing the Moberly Lake Fire Department 2011 GMC Squad 4 pickup truck.

RECOMMENDATION #2: [Corporate Unweighted]

That the Regional Board authorize the submission of a grant application to the Shell Canada – Shell in the Community grant program, in the amount of \$30,000 to be used towards the cost of replacing the Moberly Lake Fire Department 2011 GMC Squad 4 pickup truck.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Peace River Regional District took over the operation of the Moberly Lake Fire Department in January 2022. Shortly before the takeover date, the Moberly Lake Volunteer Fire Department Society purchased a used 2011 GMC pickup truck from the Fort St John Fire Department for use by the new Fire Chief. In the last 24 months, the PRRD has spent \$13,113 on repairs for this vehicle. There is currently approximately \$4,500 in outstanding repair work (front-end, brakes, and steering) that is expected to be needed in the coming year as well as further potential work to address rough idle and vibration issues. The vehicle is unreliable and has been out of service four times this year due to unexpected mechanical issues. The vehicle currently has over 160,000 km on the odometer.

- Staff have been made aware of two grant opportunities that may help fund a replacement vehicle:
- The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Volunteer and Composite Fire Departments Training and Equipment funding stream; and
- The Shell in the Community Grant program.

Due to the approaching grant submission deadlines, a resolution supporting these grant applications is necessary before a supplemental request or pre-budget approval is obtained. A pre-budget supplemental approval will be directed through the Electoral Area Directors Committee to the Regional Board for approval, as well as a request to the Rural Budgets Advisory Committee (RBAC) for a potential funding commitment. Should the balance of the funds needed for this project not be secured, or should the Regional Board decline approval to proceed with the replacement project, the purchase will not be completed, and any grant funding will be returned to the funder.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Regional Board decline to submit grant applications to UBCM and Shell Canada for the replacement of the Moberly Lake Fire Department 2011 GMC Squad 4 pickup truck.
2. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- Not Applicable to Strategic Plan

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

The estimated cost of the replacement vehicle is \$100,000. This would be a four-door 1-ton 4x4 pickup truck that can meet the Fire Department's needs, including future capacity to hold a wildfire skid unit. Where possible, existing equipment (emergency lights, sirens, and radios) will be removed from the existing truck and installed in the new vehicle to reduce costs.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.