



REPORT

To: Rural Budgets Administration Committee

Report Number: FN-RBAC-019

From: Teri Vetter, Chief Financial Officer

Date: August 7, 2020

Subject: Grant Request – Peace Region Forage Seed Association, Pest Monitoring Project

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee authorize a grant in the amount of \$5,000, payable from BC Rail/Peace River Agreements in the amount of \$2,500 from Electoral Area B and in the amount of \$1,250 each from Electoral Area C and Electoral Area D, to be issued to Peace Region Forage Seed Association to support their Pest Monitoring project.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Peace Region Forage Seed Association (PRFSA) is requesting financial assistance to support pest monitoring in the BC Peace. The project will enable a significant increase in the number of samples collected and processed, as well as expand on the scouting and surveying of disease for certain crops and forage. It will also increase sector engagement through the establishment of pest updates, alerts and information sharing among a producers. An additional anticipated outcome of the project, as a result of the data analysis, is to be able to show a correlation between weather conditions and pests. A map outlining the locations of the monitors and a list of the types of pests being monitored has been included with this report.

PRFSA is a not-for-profit society in good standing with the *Societies Act of BC*.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee respectfully deny the grant application from Peace Region Forage Seed Association and provide no grant funding to support the Pest Monitoring project.
2. That the Rural Budgets Administration Committee provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

As of June 30, 2020 the balance available after remaining commitments in BC Rail/Peace River Agreements for each the three Electoral Areas is:

- Electoral Area B \$49,594.24
- Electoral Area C \$41,785.54
- Electoral Area D \$19,361.44

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

The applicant will be notified in writing of the Rural Budgets Administration Committee's decision and, if supported, be asked to recognize the Regional District for its contribution.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None.

Attachments:

1. Grant Application – PRFSA Pest Monitoring 2020