



# REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: CS-BRD-374

From: Community Services

Date: January 9, 2025

**Subject: Emergency Operations Centre - NDIT Grant Application**

---

## **RECOMMENDATION: [Corporate Unweighted]**

That the Regional Board authorize that the Peace River Regional District submit a grant application to the Northern Development Initiative Trust – Northern Healthy Communities Fund for a grant of up to \$500,000 to be used towards the completion of the building of the standalone Emergency Operations Centre.

## **BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:**

On November 16, 2023, the Regional Board passed the following resolution:

*MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED,*

*That the Regional Board allocate \$750,000 of the Growing Communities Fund to Function 300 – Emergency Planning for the design and construction of a standalone Regional Emergency Operations Centre.*

On April 18, 2024, the Regional Board passed the following resolution:

*MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED,*

*That the Regional Board award RFQ 01-2024 “Architectural Services (QBS) for a Standalone EOC” to McElhanney Ltd. for land investigative works, detailed design of an Emergency Operations Centre, support in compiling tender documents for the procurement process, and construction quality assurance and oversight, at a cost of \$210,414.29 (excluding taxes).*

This report presents a new funding opportunity that would fund an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). As there are few funding sources that may be used for such construction projects, staff is recommending applying for the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) - Northern Healthy Communities Fund grant to ensure sufficient funding for the successful completion of the building. The Growing Communities Fund previous allocation is designated solely for building costs and does not include provisions for cost overruns, contingencies, or additional expenses, such as the necessary technological equipment and furnishings required. A successful application for this NDIT grant funding would address these essential costs.

## **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:**

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

**STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:**

- Asset and Infrastructure Management
- Emergency Management

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):**

If awarded, this NDIT Northern Healthy Community funding will be utilized to complement the previously allocated Growing Communities Funding which will allow for more flexibility in the use of these funds.

Current Funding Allocation:

Growing Communities Fund: \$750,000

2024 Spend: \$117,883

2025 Carry Forward: \$632,117 (\$92,521 Engineering, \$539,596 Construction)

**COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):**

None at this time.

**OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):**

If this grant application is unsuccessful, staff will seek alternative funding to cover the costs of a backup generator, necessary furnishings and equipment, and any unforeseen expenses related to construction or procurement.