



REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: ADM-BRD-619

From: Rural Budgets Administration Committee

Date: July 17, 2025

Subject: Rural Budgets Administration Committee Recommendations from June 26, 2025

The following recommendation from the Rural Budgets Administration Committee meeting held on June 26, 2025 is presented to the Regional Board for consideration:

RECOMMENDATION: *[Corporate Unweighted]*

That the Regional Board temporarily suspend the intake for the Community Works Gas Tax Grant funding stream until staff can determine the requirements to implement the changes in the 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement and the Community Works Fund Program Guide.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The draft minutes of the Rural Budgets Administration Committee meeting held on June 26, 2025 are provided under the Consent Calendar on this meeting agenda.

Please [click here](#) to access the Rural Budgets Administration Committee Agenda and see Item 8.4 titled "Community Works Fund Update, FN – RBAC - 381" to review the report.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

The UBCM requires recipients to spend Community Works Fund (CWF) funding within 5 years of receipt unless longer timelines are identified in a long-term capital plan or long-term financial plan which has been submitted to UBCM in advance of the spending deadline.

Any unspent CWF funds held from the 2014-2024 programs will be required to be spent within five years of entering into the 2024-2034 CWF Agreement. On December 31, 2024 there was a balance of \$6,427,132.60 in the Gas Tax Reserve. This balance must be spent by April 2029.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

The Peace River Regional District (PRRD) will inform all current and future applicants of the updated eligibility and reporting requirements if the Board agrees that the Community Works Gas Tax Grant

funding stream has been temporarily suspended pending further clarification from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM).

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

Existing funds that are carried over are now considered “new” and subject to the terms and conditions of the new agreement. Projects that were started prior to March 31, 2024 (the end of the previous agreement) can still receive funding until completion.

The PRRD has nine projects that were approved on April 25, 2024, shortly after March 31, 2024 that do not include the required Board resolution. UBCM has stated that “3rd party projects approved, in good faith, in the time between agreements are ok to go ahead.”