



REPORT

To: Chair and Directors

Report Number: FN-BRD-031

From: Teri Vetter, Chief Financial Officer

Date: November 19, 2020

Subject: Funding Agreement – Farm Credit Canada and Sunset Prairie Recreation Commission

RECOMMENDATION: [Corporate Weighted]

That the Regional Board authorize entering into agreement with Farm Credit Canada and Sunset Prairie Recreation Commission for the purpose of receiving and dispersing a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from Farm Credit Canada's AgriSpirit funding program to Sunset Prairie Recreation Commission to support their Entertainment Stage project; and further, that the Chief Administrative Officer and the Board Chair be authorized to sign the agreement.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

Sunset Prairie Recreation Commission (SPRC) has been approved for a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from Farm Credit Canada (FCC) AgriSpirit funding program to assist with the Entertainment Stage project. The project involves the construction of a new band shelter as the current structure has aged out and is unstable due to rot. The total cost of the project is \$38,000. Sunset is a registered not-for-profit organization in good standing with the Societies Act of BC.

The AgriSpirit grant program is a federally funded program provided by FCC that assists not-for-profit organizations in rural communities to complete capital projects that help to develop the community and enhance the lives of its residents. FCC relies on the support of municipal bodies to partner with recipients by way of signing a funding agreement to receive and distribute the grant funds. The FCC implemented this, as part of their process to qualify for funding, since there is no national registry for not-for-profits. The responsibilities for the municipal body are outlined in Section 12 of the funding agreement, which states:

1. Monitor the society status of recipient non-profit organizations so that they remain in good standing with provincial guidelines;
2. Ensure that recipient organizations complete their projects within the required timeframe; and
3. Ensure that grant funds are utilized appropriately and for the approved project.

The Regional Board has previously supported this process and entered into agreements in 2018 with FCC and the Tomslake & District Volunteer Fire Department, who received a \$25,000 grant; and most recently in early 2020, with FCC and Cutbank Community Club, who received a \$23,000 grant.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Regional Board respectfully decline to enter into a funding agreement with Farm Credit Canada and Sunset Prairie Recreation Commission.

2. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

☒ Not Applicable to Strategic Plan.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

Due to the prescriptive nature of the FCC agreement, the only financial consideration for the Regional Board are the administrative costs associated with staff time based on Section 12 of the FCC Funding Agreement, which outlines the following responsibilities for the local government:

- receive and administer the funding amount on behalf of the recipient;
- ensure that the funding amount is used only for the project;
- send an email confirming receipt of funding amount; and
- complete and submit to the FCC the Project Completion Form, should the grant recipient fail to do so.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

Sunset Prairie Recreation Commission is required to work with the FCC to announce the project as per the attached Promotion Plan.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

Sunset Prairie Recreation Commission worked in collaboration with the PRRD Grant Writer to apply for a grant in the amount of \$25,000 and were successfully awarded \$10,000.

Once signed by the Regional District, Sunset Prairie is required to return the funding agreement to FCC by December 31, 2020.

Attachments:

1. November 24, 2020 Letter from SPRC
2. 2020 FCC AgriSpirit_SPRC Funding Agreement
3. FCC_SPRC AgriSpirit Promo Plan