

February 4, 2021

Shawn Dahlen, CAO
Peace River Regional District
Box 810
Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8

Re: 2021 CRI FireSmart Community Funding & Supports – CONFIDENTIAL
Approval Agreement & Terms of Conditions of Funding

Dear Mr. Dahlen,

Thank you for submitting an application under the Community Resiliency Investment program for 2021 FireSmart Community Funding & Supports funding.

I am pleased to inform you **in confidence** that the Evaluation Committee and the BC FireSmart Committee recommended your project, *PRRD FireSmart Program - EA B, C, D and E*, for funding. A grant in the amount of \$150,000.00 has now been approved.

As outlined in the Program & Application Guide, grant payments will be issued when the approved project is complete and UBCM has received and approved the required final report and financial summary.

The Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development has provided funding for this program and the general Terms & Conditions are attached. In addition, and in order to satisfy the terms of the contribution agreement, the following requirements must be met in order to be eligible for grant payment:

- (1) This approval agreement is required to be signed by the CAO or designate and returned to UBCM within 30 days;
- (2) To provide the Province of BC with the opportunity to make announcements of funding approvals under this program, please keep information regarding this funding approval in confidence until February 26, 2021;
- (3) A post-grant approval meeting with the local BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer or FNESS Fuel Management Liaison/Specialist must be completed prior to commencing work. Please contact Bruce Raby at the Prince George Fire Centre to schedule this meeting.
- (4) The funding is to be used solely for the purpose of the above named project and for the expenses itemized in your approved application;
- (5) All expenditures must meet eligibility and funding requirements as defined in the Program & Application Guide (refer to Sections 6);

The Community Resiliency Investment program is funded by the Province of BC

- (6) All project activities must be completed within one year and no later than February 4, 2022;
- (7) The Final Report Form is required to be submitted to UBCM within 30 days of project end date and no later than March 4, 2022;
- (8) Any unused funds must be returned to UBCM within 30 days following the project end date;
- (9) Projects that include the development of a Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan must use the 2020 CWRP Template and follow the 2020 CWRP Supplemental Instruction Guide, including the guidance for establishing an area of interest and determining the wildland-urban interface;
- (10) Projects that include the development of a fuel management prescription must be consistent with BC Wildfire Service 2020 Fuel Management Prescription Guidance document;
- (11) Projects that include the development of a burn plan must use the template identified in the Program & Application Guide;
- (12) For projects that include a FireSmart rebate program, the requirements identified in Appendix 2 of the Program & Application Guide must be met;
- (13) For phased projects (which include prescription/burn plan development and fuel management treatment for the same treatment units), the completed prescription must be reviewed and supported by a BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer or FNESS Fuel Management Liaison/Specialist, and the interim reporting requirements identified in Appendix 3 of the Program & Application Guide must be met, prior to initiation of the treatment;
- (14) As both the FireSmart BC Symposium and the Local FireSmart Representative training workshops are virtual this year, no costs will be considered for these activities with the exception of the symposium registration fee and travel due to access to Internet or required technology;
- (15) FireSmart™ and FireSmart logos are registered trademarks of Partners in Protection Association, and FireSmart BC is governed by the BC FireSmart Committee. Use of the word FireSmart and associated logos is administered through licensing agreements. Any products/materials that are created using FireSmart brands must be reviewed and approved by the BC FireSmart Committee as the provincial agency representing FireSmart Canada. To request permission to use FireSmart brands, please email info@firesmartbc.ca.

If you ordered FireSmart materials as part of your application, please note that all orders are being processed and will be shipped to the staff contact identified on the application form as soon as they are ready.

Please review the attached FireSmart BC Information Sheet. It is expected that applicants will make use of available and free FireSmart resources and, for all in-school education activities, use education kits that are available from local Fire Centres.

Please note that descriptive information regarding successful applicants will be posted on the UBCM and/or provincial government websites, and all interim, progress and/or final report materials will be made available to the provincial government.

On behalf of the Evaluation Committee and BC FireSmart Committee, I would like to congratulate you for responding to this opportunity to reduce the risk and impact of wildfires in your community.

If you have any questions, please contact Local Government Program Services at 250 356-2947 or cri@ubcm.ca.

Sincerely,

Peter Ronald
Program Officer

cc: *David Sturgeon, Protective Services Manager, Peace River Regional District*
Bruce Raby, Wildfire Prevention Officer, Prince George Fire Centre

Encls.

Approval Agreement (to be signed by the CAO, Band Manager, or designate)

I, _____, have read and agree to the general Terms & Conditions and the requirements for funding under the 2021 FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program.

Signature

Date

Please return a scanned copy of the signed Approval Agreement to cri@ubcm.ca

The **FireSmart BC Information Sheet** was developed to provide an overview of resources, training and materials available to support communities that have been approved for funding through the [Community Resiliency Investment](#) program. [FireSmart BC's website](#), is a centralized resource dedicated solely to wildfire prevention through FireSmart activities for community members, local governments and First Nations throughout BC.

FireSmart BC Resources

All **FireSmart BC resources** are listed under the [Resources](#) section on the [FireSmart BC](#) website. You can find resource documents and information filed under the categories listed below. *Please note that new resource materials are added on an ongoing basis.*

- Assessments
- Community Resiliency Investment (CRI)
- Education Materials
- Factsheets
- FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program (FCNRP)
- FireSmart Research
- Guides and Manuals
- Photography
- Posters & Graphics
- Promotional Items
- Videos

The new [Local FireSmart Representative \(LFR\) Den](#) is dedicated to supporting LFRs. It contains a list of resource materials which support LFRs when working with local FireSmart Committees as they move towards becoming recognized as FireSmart neighbourhoods.

Printed resource materials (listed below) are available for local governments, First Nations and FireSmart Committees. For more information and to place your online order, visit [FireSmart BC](#).

[FireSmart Begins at Home Manual](#) - This manual outlines the FireSmart program and how each homeowner can make their property and neighbourhood FireSmart

[FireSmart Guide to Landscaping](#) - This manual includes an extensive list of fire-resistant plants and tips for landscaping material

[FireSmart Bookmark](#) - This bookmark provides QR codes for several online resources and is a quick handout for FireSmart information

[FireSmart Structure Ignition Zone Poster](#) - Learn the four priority structure ignition zones around a property

[FireSmart Critical Infrastructure Ignition Zone Poster](#) - Learn the four priority structure zones around Critical Infrastructure

[Blazing the Trail: Celebrating Indigenous Fire Stewardship](#) - Blazing the Trail: Celebrating Indigenous Fire Stewardship, is a beautiful, bound publication that recognizes the contributions to wildfire prevention of Indigenous communities in Canada

[FireSmart BC Approved Promotional Items](#) - Promotional items approved by the BC FireSmart Committee available for purchase through Queen's Printers.

Partner Initiatives Page

The [Partner Initiatives Page](#) features success stories about local communities and neighbourhoods that have taken key steps to FireSmarting the places that they call home. Learn what other communities are doing to promote FireSmart in their area.

FireSmart BC Education Kits

The goal of the [FireSmart BC Education Kit](#) is to provide BC Wildfire Service staff, educators and other members of the FireSmart community the tools they need to present a unified FireSmart message throughout British Columbia.

The education kit is designed to be an all-in-one teaching resource for Grades K-12 and can also be used at public events. This kit consists of the "hard copy" pieces in a tote and "soft copy" pieces on a USB drive. FireSmart BC Education Kits can be borrowed from the local provincial fire centre. Contact them directly to make arrangements to use the education kit in your community. FireSmart BC Education Kits are also available for purchase through [Queen's Printers](#).

FireSmart BC Training and Workshops

FireSmart 101

[FireSmart 101](#) is an online self-directed training course developed by the Partners in Protection Association to assist the general public, local government and First Nations community members to learn about becoming FireSmart in their homes and communities. The workshop targets the general public - anyone who is interested in learning about FireSmart, the seven disciplines and how to help mitigate wildfire threats around the home and in the community.

Virtual Local FireSmart Representative Workshops

The newly updated [virtual Local FireSmart Representative \(LFR\) workshop](#) was developed by the Partners in Protection Association to assist participants in becoming familiar with and implement all components of the FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program (FCNRP).

The training provided in this virtual one-day (*please note - delivered virtually in two half-day consecutive sessions*) equips LFRs with an understanding of current Wildland Urban Interface concepts and wildfire hazard assessments. It provides them with the tools and skills necessary to recruit and motivate volunteer community leaders and mentoring abilities to work with self-organized groups of citizens as they plan and implement wildfire mitigations in their own neighbourhoods. Participants will be required to have completed the FireSmart 101 Online Training Course prior to being accepted into the LFR workshops.

The workshops target those individuals that are willing to serve as an LFR in their communities. They are open to local governments and First Nations, but are specifically suited for:

- Structural Firefighters
- First Nations and local government staff who are implementing FireSmart initiatives within their communities using CRI funding
- Wildfire Management staff
- Emergency management personnel
- Rural or urban planners or managers
- Office of the Fire Commissioner / Fire Marshall personnel
- Wildland Urban Interface specialists (e.g. RPF's, RFT's, other land specialists with wildland fire responsibilities)

To learn more about upcoming LFR workshops and/or other training available in your area, visit the [Courses Section](#) on the FireSmart BC website. For a list of workshops delivered by a certified LFR in support of the FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program, please visit the new [FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program](#) page.

How to Find Your Local FireSmart Representative

[Local FireSmart Representatives](#) (LFR) perform a variety of essential duties and are vital catalysts in assisting residents to establish and maintain FireSmart Community recognition status and reduce the potential for wildfire losses in rural and forest communities across Canada. To connect with an LFR in your area, visit [FireSmart BC](#).

Community FireSmart and Resiliency Committees (CFRC)

Community FireSmart and Resiliency Committees (CFRC) fill a key level of collaboration and organization on a scalable level that is currently missing across BC. It takes the collaborative efforts of multiple stakeholders working together to achieve wildfire resilient communities. This may include local fire departments, First Nations and/or local government staff and elected officials, provincial government organizations such as Emergency Management BC and BCWS, industry representatives and other community stakeholders. The [CFRC Guidance document](#) and the suggested [CFRC Terms of Reference](#) document will assist your community in forming a CFRC.

FireSmart BC Social Media Tools

Social Media is a primary community building resource that FireSmart BC uses to spread the FireSmart message across British Columbia. FireSmart BC social media tools include; Facebook (@FireSmartBC), Twitter (@BCFireSmart) and Instagram (@FireSmartBC). These social media platforms act as a primary community building resource used to spread the #FireSmart message. The engaging content is highly shareable and can be used to inform and engage the public in your community. For more information on FireSmart BC's social media tools, see the FireSmart BC Social Media Handbook available at www.firesmartbc.ca

Contact Information

Visit [FireSmart BC](#) to learn more about how to increase awareness about FireSmart BC, its disciplines and how FireSmart can contribute to increasing property, neighbourhood and community resiliency to wildfire.

For more information, contact FireSmart BC by email at info@firesmartbc.ca.



Introducing Ember, the official mascot of FireSmart Canada – Ember's primary job is to educate the public about how to apply FireSmart principles to their homes, properties and neighbourhoods to increase wildfire resiliency!

The **Local FireSmart Representative Information Sheet** was developed to inform FireSmart Neighbourhood Committees, local governments, First Nations, BCWS and FNESS staff of the updated requirements for Local FireSmart Representatives (LFRs) across British Columbia.

FireSmart BC Local FireSmart Representative Update

FireSmart BC is excited to announce that [FireSmart Canada](#) has now completed updates to the Local FireSmart Representative (LFR) workshop and program.

The new, eight-hour workshop includes revisions to the Neighbourhood Champion Workshop and introduces the new FireSmart Awareness Workshop as well as the FireSmart Program Information presentation.

To increase efficiency, all Neighbourhood Recognition Program documents have been simplified and are provided as fillable pdfs. In addition, a web portal to facilitate online submission of documents has also been developed by FireSmart Canada. The portal is being tested and will be ready for use later in 2021.

The LFR revision process also provided an opportunity to refresh the Community Recognition Program. Based on stakeholder feedback and for consistency, the newly named [FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program](#) (FCNRP) more accurately and appropriately reflects the mandates of FireSmart Neighbourhood Champions and Committees.

Given these significant developments and the importance of maintaining the integrity of the FireSmart brand and programs, FireSmart Canada has implemented a new national qualification standard for LFRs. The qualification standard will ensure a level of consistency and understanding among LFRs across Canada.

The new standard requires all LFRs to complete the following before April 30th, 2021:

1. [Online FireSmart 101](#)
2. Attend the updated [Virtual LFR Workshop](#)
3. Sign FireSmart BC Expectations Document

LFRs who do not complete online training and submit an expectations document by April 30, 2021 will not appear on the FireSmart BC and FireSmart Canada National Qualified LFR list and will no longer be able to act as a Local FireSmart Representative.

We recommend that you request a copy of the LFR's certificate of completion and FireSmart BC expectations document to ensure that your FireSmart work is being done by an LFR who has been trained or recertified as required by FireSmart Canada's national qualification standards.

FireSmart BC has communicated this new qualification standard to all LFRs in BC in December 2020 and January 2021.

Contact Information

Visit [FireSmart BC](#) to learn more about how to increase awareness about FireSmart BC, its disciplines and how FireSmart can contribute to increasing property, neighbourhood and community resiliency to wildfire.

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