



REPORT

To: Committee of the Whole

Report Number: ADM-COW-004

From: Tyra Henderson, Corporate Officer

Date: April 29, 2021

Subject: Health Related Services Policy

RECOMMENDATION: [Corporate Unweighted]

That the Committee of the Whole receive the report titled "Health Related Services Policy – ADM-COW-004, which provides options for a draft Health Related Services Policy, for discussion.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

The Regional Board wishes to establish a service to authorize the provision of grants and scholarships that enhance the quality and availability of various health related services in the Region. On March 25, 2021, the Regional Board gave the Health Related Services Grant in Aid Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2445, 2021 first, second and third reading. Within that Bylaw, Under Section 3 – Purpose – Service Being Established in the Health Related Services Establishment Bylaw No. 2445, 2021, the following is listed:

The Health Related Services Grants in Aid Service may include:

- a) Grants in aid to not for profit societies qualified to operate air ambulance services;
- b) Grants in aid to not for profit societies offering search and rescue services;
- c) Grants in aid to not for profit societies offering accommodation or health related services for patients and family members receiving health care services;
- d) Grants in aid to not for profit societies with mandates to recruit and retain health care professionals to work and remain working in the Peace River region;
- e) Scholarships awarded to students pursuing post-secondary training and certification, in the form of a diploma or degree, in a health care or medical field, in an effort to enhance recruitment and retention of medical staff and professionals in Peace River Region Hospitals and accredited medical facilities operated by Northern Health in the Peace River Region.

The Regional Board discussed how the funds under this new function would be distributed and the idea of implementing a policy to further define eligibility and grant parameters; therefore, the Regional Board passed an additional resolution:

MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED

That the Regional Board discuss the creation of a policy to define the health related services eligible under "Health Related Services Grant in Aid Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2445, 2021", at a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

Within the proposed Bylaw, eligibility for scholarships shall be as recommended by the Peace River Regional District Health Care Scholarship Committee and approved by the Peace River Regional District Board of Directors, with all eligibility requirements to be posted publicly on the Regional District website. The

Committee of the Whole may want to establish guidelines and eligibility criteria for all other applicants to the Health Related Services Grants in Aid.

A copy of Bylaw No. 2445, 2021 is attached to this report for reference.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Committee of the Whole provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- ☒ Organizational Effectiveness

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

Within Bylaw No. 2445, 2021, the maximum requisition limit that may be requisitioned in any one year for the service is the greater of \$750,000 or an amount equal to the amount that could be raised by a property value tax of \$0.05/\$1,000 when applied to the net taxable value of land and improvements in the service area. How the money collected is disbursed should be outlined within policy guidelines and eligibility criteria for applicants to the Health Related Services Grants in Aid.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

Currently, the PRRD has a Blanket Grant Application Process Policy, a Regional Grant-In-Aid-Policy, and a Search and Rescue Grants Policy. These current policies should be considered when the Committee of the Whole discusses guidelines and eligibility criteria to ensure consistent practice within the PRRD.

Attachments:

1. Health Related Services Grant in Aid Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2445, 2021
2. Blanket Grant Application Process Policy
3. Regional Grant-In-Aid-Policy
4. Search and Rescue Grants Policy