

## UBCM 2023 Community Resiliency Investment, Grant Summary

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### **What is the UBCM Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) funding stream?**

UBCM Community Resiliency Investment program funding was announced in 2018 and aims to

- Reduce the risk of wildfires and mitigate their impacts on BC communities, and
- Increase community resilience to wildfire (living with fire) through fostering community adoption of FireSmart principles and activities.

### **What are the timelines for the next application intake?**

*2022/2023 Application Intake:* One application may be submitted between October 1, 2022, and December 31, 2023.

Applicants will be advised of the status of their application within 90 days (about 3 months) of submitting a complete, eligible application.

*Next Application Intake:* Applicants will be eligible to apply for future funding two years after the date of the approval agreement or after the project final report is submitted.

### **What are the activities UBCM CRI funding can support?**

UBCM will support activities that increase community resiliency. Eligible activities include-

- Hiring a FireSmart Coordinator/ Local FireSmart Representative/ Wildfire Forest Professional
- Establishing Community FireSmart & Resiliency Committee(s)
- Supporting FireSmart educational events & material – community preparedness days, wildfire evacuation checklist, banners, posters, tents, mascot, pamphlets, Fire Smart magnetic boards, wildfire resiliency literacy kits
- Amendments to Official Community Plans, landscaping zoning, development permits
- Interagency Co-operation & Emergency planning
- FireSmart Training – training for FireSmart position, cross-training for firefighters for structural fire and interface wildfire training.
- FireSmart Activities - implementing FireSmart improvements to local critical infrastructure, community assets and residential areas, establishing FireSmart Canada Neighborhood Recognition program.
- Fuel Management/Treatments – within municipal boundaries, regional district parks or First Nations land

### **What has the CRD Emergency Program Service achieved through this grant stream so far?**

- A Community Wildfire Protection Plan, 2019 Update (includes areas from fringe of 100 Mile House to Lac la Hache North in Area G and including unincorporated communities in Areas H & L).

## Eligibility for the next intake

Because the CRD has an approved CWPP (CRD Community Wildfire Protection Plan, 2019 Update), this next funding intake could include:

- Hiring/contracting a Fire Smart Coordinator / Local FireSmart Representative/ Wildfire Forest Professional (full time position)
- Undertaking FireSmart activities in the CWPP area, and beyond \*
- Establishing a Community Fire Smart and Resiliency Committee (CFRC) for the South Cariboo. \*\*

In line with the CRD CWPP 2019 Update, these activities may be conducted within the Community Wildfire Protection Plan, 2019 Update area of interest including 108 Mile Ranch, Lac La Hache, 93 Mile House (Electoral Area G); Lone Butte/ Horse Lake, Imperial Ranchettes (Electoral Area L); and Gateway/ Buffalo Creek (Electoral Area H).

## UBCM CRI Funding Opportunities and Challenges

Starting in 2024 (the next intake stream), it will be required for all applicants to have the following FireSmart components developed/active, and underway:

- FireSmart Staff/Contractor Position
- Community FireSmart & Resiliency Committee
- Current Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan (CWPP) or Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) that is acceptable to the BCWS Wildfire Prevention Officer/Prevention Specialist

With the CRD's approved CWPP in place, a CRD 2023 CRI application proposing to initiate the basic/minimum requirements (FireSmart Coordinator and Committee) will position the regional district to meet the eligibility criteria for future funding.

*\* The current CRI guidelines may allow for broader application of the program to areas outside of the CWPP area.*

*\*\* FireSmart BC does not set out criteria for a Community Fire Smart and Resiliency Committee (CFRC) but only gives suggestions regarding scale, structure, relationships, and activities that will help facilitate the creation and starting phases of a CFRC.*