

January 20, 2024

Subject: Funding Increase Proposal for West Chilcotin Search and Rescue

Dear CRD Board,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing on behalf of the West Chilcotin Search and Rescue to address the urgent need for an increase in our annual funding. Currently, we receive \$5,000 per year, and we are seeking an adjustment to \$10,000 due to the significant rise in our operational costs.

Upon reviewing our financial records, it is evident that our expenses for the year 2024 have escalated considerably. The breakdown of our costs is as follows:

Tower and Radio Licenses: \$1,230.00
One Call Now (Call Out Service): \$600
Hydro: \$600
Hall Rental for Meetings: \$200
Insurance
Liability: \$2,700
Equipment: \$3,800
Vehicle: \$3,000
Star Link RV Internet: \$2,400.00
Total Operational Costs: \$14,530.00

As you can see, our current funding of \$5,000 falls significantly short of covering our operational expenses, leaving a deficit of \$9,530.00. This shortfall is impacting our ability to maintain essential services and respond effectively to emergencies in our community.

The increased costs are primarily attributed to essential elements of our operations, such as licenses, insurance, equipment, and vehicle maintenance. These expenses are crucial for ensuring the safety and efficiency of our Search and Rescue team.

In addition to covering our basic operational needs, the requested funding increase would also provide us with the flexibility to allocate other resources towards projects that enhance our capabilities and prepare us for unforeseen challenges.

We understand the importance of responsible financial management and assure you that any additional income beyond our operational costs will be prudently utilized for community projects and addressing unexpected expenses.

We kindly request your support in reviewing and approving the proposed increase in funding to \$10,000, allowing us to continue providing essential Search and Rescue services to the West Chilcotin community.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We are available to provide any further information or clarification required to support this request.

Sincerely,

Gerald Kirby
President, West Chilcotin Search and Rescue