

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**TO:** MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

**SUBJECT: APPLICATIONS TO UBCM CEPF FUNDING PROGRAMS**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT** staff be authorized to submit a grant application to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) program for the Emergency Support Services Equipment and Training funding stream in the amount for \$30,000; and

**THAT** staff be authorized to submit a grant application to the UBCM CEPF program for the Emergency Operations Centre Equipment and Training in the amount of \$30,000.

**REPORT**

The Public Safety Committee, at its meeting held on November 7, 2023, received and adopted the attached report seeking Council approval to apply to UBCM CEPF funding programs.

On behalf of the Public Safety Committee,

Councillor J. Wang  
Chair

Councillor M. Santiago  
Vice Chair

**TO:** PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (PSC)  
**FROM:** GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITY SAFETY  
**SUBJECT:** **APPLICATIONS TO UBCM CEPF FUNDING PROGRAMS**  
**PURPOSE:** To obtain endorsement to apply to UBCM CEPF funding programs.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT** staff be authorized to submit a grant application to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) program for the Emergency Support Services Equipment and Training funding stream in the amount for \$30,000; and

**THAT** staff be authorized to submit a grant application to the UBCM CEPF program for the Emergency Operations Centre Equipment and Training in the amount of \$30,000.

### **1.0 POLICY SECTION**

The Projects outlined in this report align with policy objectives contained in the City's Moving Forward initiative (2022) and the Burnaby Community Safety Plan (2020), Burnaby Emergency Plan (2019), Emergency Operations Centre Plan (2019), and Emergency Support Services Plan (2018).

### **2.0 BACKGROUND**

The Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF) is a suite of funding programs intended to enhance the resiliency of local governments, First Nations, and communities in responding to emergencies. Funding is provided by the Province of British Columbia and is administered by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM).

The application deadlines for the CEPF funding streams which staff wish to submit applications for are:

1. January 26, 2024 for the Emergency Support Services Equipment and Training funding; and,
2. February 23, 2024 for the Emergency Operations Centres Equipment and Training funding.

A Council resolution providing endorsement is a requirement of each CEPF application.

### 3.0 GENERAL INFORMATION

Extreme events in a changing climate have been occurring more regularly and with increasing severity. Response and recovery costs to emergency events in BC in 2021 alone have been estimated to range between \$10-17 billion<sup>1</sup>, making climate the most expensive cause of disasters in Canadian history. Earthquakes, while rare, have a devastating impact on the aging buildings and infrastructure constructed prior to modern codes.

Disasters whether natural, technological, or health-related, do not affect everyone equally: poor, elderly, very young, and marginalized populations are most affected and least able to recover.

The frequency and costs of disasters are expected to both continue and increase.

Investment in disaster and emergency preparedness and enhancing response measures serves to increase our capability and capacity to save lives, protect livelihoods and support our community.

#### 3.1. Emergency Support Services Equipment & Training

Emergency Support Services (ESS) is a First Nations Government and Local Authority based provincial emergency response program designed to meet the basic needs of British Columbians impacted by disasters by providing short-term support in a compassionate manner. ESS is designed to provide support for disasters ranging from a single house fire to provincial level events involving large evacuations. These supports enable people to re-establish themselves as quickly as possible after an emergency or disaster.

Under the Emergency Program Act, municipalities are responsible for responding to emergencies in their areas, including providing emergency support services.

The Burnaby 2050 Insights Report Issue 2<sup>2</sup> projects that 109,000 more people will be living in Burnaby increasing the total population to 360,000 people. SFU Burnaby 2065 Campus Master Plan provides planning elements for future student residence and amenity developments across the Burnaby campus, and the projections for the increase to the on-campus residential population.

The proposed ESS Project will involve collaboration between the City's Emergency Management division and Simon Fraser University (SFU) Safety and Risk Services (SRS) department. Elements of the project will include:

- 20' storage container and an 18' equipment trailer,

---

<sup>1</sup> Lee, M., & Parfitt, B. (2022, November 30). A Climate Reckoning The economic costs of BC's extreme weather in 2021. Retrieved from Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives: <https://policyalternatives.ca/climate-reckoning>

<sup>2</sup> Burnaby, City of, (2022, July 26). Burnaby 2050 INSIGHTS REPORT, Issue 2 Population growth trends in Burnaby, Retrieved from City of Burnaby: <https://www.burnaby.ca/sites/default/files/acquiadam/2022-07/OCP-Insights-Report-Issue-2.pdf>

- Reception Centre equipment and supplies,
- Group Lodging equipment and supplies, including cots, bedding and comfort supplies, to accommodate up to 75 individuals,
- Signage, ESS responder identification, supplies and resources,
- Training in ESS Reception Centre and Group Lodging, and,
- Applied learning exercise in Reception Centre and Group Lodging.

The ESS Reception Centre and Group Lodging, equipment, materials, and supplies will be stored on the SFU Burnaby campus at locations identified by SFU SRS. These ESS resources enhance local ESS capacity to Burnaby Mountain residents and the university.

**3.2. Emergency Operations Centre Equipment & Training**

An Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) is a designated facility established by an organization or jurisdiction to coordinate the overall organizational or jurisdictional response and support to an emergency response.

Under the Emergency Program Act, municipalities and regional districts are responsible for responding to emergencies in their area.

The City’s designated primary EOC is at the Laurel Street Works Yard. The building is a state-of-the-art, seismically resilient facility. The building features uninterrupted power supply, backup generators, and the EOC includes dedicated two-way radio and satellite communications systems, as well as IT infrastructure and cutting-edge audio/visual information display system.

The proposed EOC Project will include evaluation of existing EOC management software applications available in the market, and to procure and acquire the best application for the City. This software is intended to digitize existing emergency response and recovery paper-based processes, improve personnel and asset management and tracking, provide real-time situational awareness, foster cross-collaboration on tasks and assignments by incident site and EOC personnel, support ICS and EOC electronic documentation, enable easy access to situation awareness, expand incident site status, data-collection and analytics, and allow more efficient and effective EOC reporting. The application will be expected to be able to seamlessly integrate with existing City systems, such as ArcGIS, Alertable, Prism, Hansen, EnerGov, Microsoft 365, and others.

System training and applied learning simulations will be utilized to reinforce personnel familiarization and proficiency with the chosen application.

**4.0 COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Not applicable.

**5.0 FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Simon Fraser University and City of Burnaby Emergency Management will be cost-sharing the ESS Project, each contributing up to \$15,000 over the UBCM CEPF grant of \$30,000, for a total project maximum of \$60,000. The City of Burnaby’s contribution will be absorbed into existing 2024 budgets.

The EOC Project 2024 grant of \$30,000 will be supplemented by up to \$15,000 from existing 2024 budgets, for a total project maximum of \$45,000.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Critchley, General Manager Community Safety

**REPORT CONTRIBUTORS**

This report was prepared by Charmaine Pflugrath, Emergency Management Coordinator, and reviewed by Scott Houston, Senior Manager Risk, Insurance and Claims.