

THE CORPORATION OF THE  
**CITY OF WHITE ROCK**  
CORPORATE REPORT



**DATE:** February 8, 2021

**TO:** Mayor and Council

**FROM:** Ed Wolfe, Fire Chief

**SUBJECT:** Community Emergency Preparedness Fund Application

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**RECOMMENDATION**

THAT Council support the submission of an application to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund by way of a resolution and direct staff to provide overall grant management.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The primary purpose of this funding application is to conduct instructor led Emergency Operations Center training and to design and facilitate an Emergency Management exercise. A requirement in the grant application process is that it be supported through a resolution of Council.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION**

Past practice has been to apply for relevant grants that are of a benefit to the City and the community.

**INTRODUCTION/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 BC and is administered by Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM).

An Emergency Operations Centre is a physical location where representatives come together during an emergency event to coordinate response and recovery actions and resources, support emergency response personnel in the field, and coordinate all official communications regarding the emergency. Under the *Emergency Program Act*, municipalities and regional districts are responsible for responding to emergencies in their area.

**Emergency Operations Centres & Training Funding Stream**

The intent of this funding stream is to support eligible applicants to build local capacity through the purchase of equipment and supplies required to maintain or improve Emergency Operations Centres (EOC) and to enhance EOC capacity through training and exercises. Ongoing operational costs are not eligible.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

This exercise is included in the 2021 – 2025 Financial Plan with the funding source defined as the UBCM grant.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

### **COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

The Emergency Operations Center training and exercise will enhance the City's preparedness and readiness to undertake emergency response and recovery including the dissemination of information to the public.

### **INTERDEPARTMENTAL INVOLVEMENT/IMPLICATIONS**

Pre-designated senior staff from all City departments will be invited to participate in the EOC training and emergency management exercise.

### **CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS**

Not applicable.

### **ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Currently identified as an operational focus area for Fire Services.

### **OPTIONS / RISKS / ALTERNATIVES**

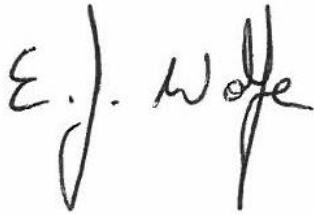
The following option is available for Council's consideration:

1. Direct staff to cease the application process and not pursue funding for this project.

## **CONCLUSION**

Moving forward with an application to the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund will provide an opportunity for senior staff to participate in instructor led Emergency Operations training that concludes with a functional emergency management exercise. The intention of the exercise is to apply the EOC training concepts to a realistic hazard scenario, while building the confidence and competence of staff designated with response support roles.

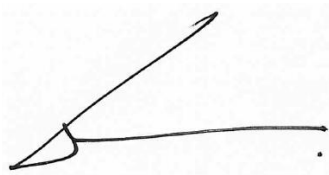
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E.J. Wolfe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "E.J." and the last name "Wolfe" clearly distinguishable.

Ed Wolfe  
Fire Chief

## **Comments from the Chief Administrative Officer**

I concur with the recommendation of this corporate report.

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Guillermo Ferrero  
Chief Administrative Officer