



GRANT-IN-AID APPLICATION

Fraser Valley Regional District, 45950 Cheam Ave, Chilliwack BC, V2P 1N6

Applicant Name: Post Creek Ratepayers Association (PCRA)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1058, Promontory Shoppers Drug Mart, Vedder Crossing, BC, V2R 3N7

Email Address: [REDACTED] (pres.) ; [REDACTED] (treas) ; [REDACTED]

Contact:

Ralph Belisle, President PCRA (Post Creek Ratepayers Ass'n) [REDACTED] (Ralph)
Name Telephone/Fax Number

Statement as to eligibility to apply for Grant-In-Aid Funds (Please attach a separate sheet if required):

PCRA is a registered non-profit society under BC's Societies Act, incorporated in 2019 after 'unregistered' operations since 1973.
PCRA is based in electoral Area 'E' within the FVRD, and provides benefits to Post Creek Subdivision and Upper Chilliwack Valley
PCRA is financially sound and responsibly administered. Its income is almost entirely through annual members dues of \$20.
PCRA has met the reporting requirement of previous FVRD Grants In Aid.

APPLICATION SUMMARY:

Project or purpose for which you require assistance (Please attach a separate sheet if required):

The project at hand is to create a centre for emergency resources and communications at Post Creek Subdivision. The centre will serve emergency
needs of Post Creek and the Upper Chilliwack Valley. Emergency preparedness and risk of wildfire and other emergencies and
public concerns are not being met due to the distance from emergency service providers and limitations of current resources.

Statement as to how these funds will benefit the community or an aspect of the community (Please attach a separate sheet if required):

The list of benefits and the list of purchases that the GIA will fund, is attached.

Amount of Grant Requested: \$ \$4,000

****Please note: grants over \$4,000 require a financial statement and/or report on the applicant to be provided with the application.**

To the best of my knowledge, all the information that is provided in this application is true and correct. Furthermore, I hereby certify that this application for assistance is NOT being made on behalf of an individual, industry, commercial or business undertaking.

Signature of Authorized Signatory and Title

Amount Approved:

Date: _____

Signature of Electoral Area Director

Attached to Grant-In-Aid application, Area 'E', Post Creek Ratepayers Association.

February 22, 2023

“Statement as to how these funds will benefit the community”.

The project to be funded is to improve emergency communications and emergency preparedness at Post Creek and the Upper Chilliwack valley. Ultimately, a new centre should be added to replace the existing Fire equipment Shed. That replacement will be a “**Community Resiliency Hub**” as described by **FVRD** Emergency Management. That centre is **not included** in the use of these GIA funds.

The Post Creek Subdivision and the Upper Chilliwack Valley in general are unprotected areas. There is only one way out and one way in—that being Chilliwack Lake Road.

Residents and regular users including numerous ‘homeless camp’ residents number in the hundreds.

During warm months, users of roads, trails, of regulated and ‘unregulated’ campsites, also lakes, river and creeks, can number in the thousands on a daily basis. This is not an exaggeration.

I have personally witnessed 3 helicopter evacuations from Post Creek in recent years. Each of those injured were without access to phone and waited far too long for help to arrive.

Every year, smoke is spotted on hillsides visible from Post Creek subdivision. Quick response from residents and emergency responders have kept damage low and kept the fires from spreading, to date.

In the 50-plus years that I have been part of Post Creek, there have been at least 5 structure fires within the subdivision or close to it. Due to luck and weather, none have spread to create a wildfire yet.

The Upper Chilliwack Valley is recognised as being at risk by PCRA’s many emergency response partners.

PCRA has, for the past 20-plus years used an 8’ X 10’ **wooden storage shed**, which is no longer suitable for efficient emergency response in 2023’s environment. Emergency crews told us it is not useful to them. This shed is used to store our safety and fire protection equipment and as a training base.

PCRA has an active group of volunteers who make efforts to secure materials by barter, friendly community relationships or by discount, whenever possible.

PCRA’s core group is formed by our Fire Safety Committee (FSC), who work with FireSmart BC, Chilliwack River Volunteer Fire Department (CRVFD), BC Wildfires Service, BC Parks operator, Forestry and others.

During 2023 and 2024, PCRA will seek other grant monies to advance this urgently needed project.

Clearly the available funds (maximum \$4000) for **this GIA could not cover** this entire project proposal.

Therefore, the near-term outcomes of this 2023 Grant in Aid will focus mainly on **A, B, C and D**, see Page 2 of this document.

These Grant funds will benefit the community by:

- A) Better storage access inside the existing wooden shed to PCRA equipment, such as;
 - 1. AED
 - 2. Level 1 first Aid kits
 - 3. Miscellaneous other safety equipment such as headlamps, Visi-vests, walkie-talkies etc
 - 4. Charging stations for walkies, lighting, etc
 - 5. As well as equipment that will be purchased via this Grant, mentioned below.

- B) Emergency communications equipment such as;
 - 1. 50-watt VHF Radio for emergency communications with Chilliwack River Valley Fire Department (CRVFD), BC Wildfire Service, Provincial Parks Operator, Ministry of Forests, RCMP, logging companies, Conservation Officers, and others,
 - 2. A One-Touch telephone to enable visitors to call for assistance in case of lost or injured hikers, road accident and boating emergencies. At present, when someone needs help they drive down the valley to the nearest cell service to call for help, which makes a dangerously long delay in getting help. The 1-touch button automatically **dials to 911 and to other** appropriate services. The phone does not access standard dial-out. The phone will be in a hardened **weatherproof case and mounted on posts.**
 - 3. Davis Weather Station and air quality monitor to provide real-time weather and air quality data through Post Creek Ratepayers Association website, Facebook, etc for residents and emergency services

- C) Back-up power such as a small generator to run equipment charging stations for walkie-talkies, VHF and others.
 - 1. Note; at the onset of a wildfire near BC Hydro power lines, Hydro cuts power as a safety measure to avoid sparks starting new fires. Near the Chilliwack Lake Road during a wildfire or any other emergency, all electric water pumps and communications will cease quickly.

- D) Thanks to FVRD 2022 GIA and volunteers from PCRA;s Fire Safety Committee, Post Creek will have two, operational 2000-gallon-plus water reservoirs for fire protection before May, 2023. CRVFD recommended these 2 tank locations and called for as many as 4 more for Post Creek.
 - 1. Grant funds will be used to buy more water tanks as they become available and affordable.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ralph Belisle,

President,

Post Creek Ratepayers Association

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