

To: Fraser Valley Regional District Board
From: Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services

Date: 2018-10-23
File No: 1850-20 / 002

Subject: Grant-in-Aid Request – Columbia Valley Volunteer Fire Department

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board authorize a grant-in-aid in the amount of \$1,000 to the Columbia Valley Volunteer Fire Department with the grant being funded from the Electoral Area "H" grant-in-aid budget and being used to help fund membership activities in appreciation of the volunteer work and dedication that the members provide to their communities.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

BACKGROUND

This grant application meets the eligibility requirements under the "Promotion of volunteer participation and citizen involvement" option of the Electoral Area Grant In Aid policy. As a result of the election and not having a November EASC meeting, this funding request is being brought directly to the October Board meeting for consideration. Additionally, the November Board meeting is the inaugural and mostly set aside for swearing in the new Board. The December Board meeting would be too late for considering this request.

DISCUSSION

The Columbia Valley Volunteer Fire Department provides fire/rescue services for all areas south of Cultus Lake, through Columbia Valley and up to the US Border. The department operational costs are supported through the FVRD's financial plan, which is funded by the properties benefiting from these services. In addition, the fire service has a member association whose main purpose is to support their membership outside of the regular firefighting duties.

The grant-in-aid requested would be used to support a variety of initiatives to recognize the volunteer firefighters in their respective areas for the work and the dedication the members provide to their community. These funds would not be used towards the fire service's operations.

Director Dixon is in support of this request.

COST

The \$1,000 cost will be funded from the Electoral Area "H" grant-in-aid budget which has sufficient funds to support this request.

CONCLUSION

Director Dixon has submitted a grant-in-aid application on behalf of the Columbia Valley Volunteer Fire Department in order to provide a grant to the Firefighter's Association that can be used towards membership recognition activities in appreciation of the volunteer work and dedication that members provide their communities.

COMMENT BY:

Paul Gipps, Chief Administrative Officer

Reviewed and supported.