

**REPORT TO ELECTORAL AREA SERVICES COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, 09 NOVEMBER, 2011**

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**SUBJECT      COMMUNITY RECREATION GRANT APPLICATION PROJECT SELECTION**

**ISSUE**

The CRD needs to identify up to a maximum of three (3) projects that can qualify for application to the BC Government Community Recreation Grant program.

**BACKGROUND**

The Community Recreation Grant program offers the CRD the opportunity to submit up to three (3) applications for infrastructure projects that increase community participation in recreational activity and thereby enhance community health.

This program is relevant to the Electoral Areas, Planning and Protective Services, and Parks and Recreation Services. Input from these areas was invited to help determine project possibilities that best match the grant criteria. Project proponents were asked to complete a "Project Qualifying Checklist" to provide information for shortlisting the most suitable projects.

In total, four (4) Project Qualifying Checklists were submitted:

- JDF – SEAPARC Multi-Use Sport Court
- SSI – Fernwood Playing Field Development Project
- SSI - North Ganges Transportation Plan – Cycling Lanes in North Ganges
- Regional Parks - Mount Work Regional Park Mountain Bike Facilities Improvement

**ALTERNATIVES**

1. That the CRD select three (3) projects that have the highest chance of being awarded a Community Recreation Grant:
  - JDF – SEAPARC Multi-Use Sport Court
  - SSI – Fernwood Playing Field Development Project
  - Regional Parks - Mount Work Regional Park Mountain Bike Facilities Improvement
2. That the CRD select three (3) projects strictly on the basis of geographical area.

**IMPLICATIONS**

Social Implications

All proposed projects are well supported by community groups. They fit the objectives of the grant well.

Economic Implications

All proposed projects are seeking levels of funding that are within the scope of the grant program. The projects that should be ranked the highest are those where all funding is secured, and project implementation is not contingent up other approvals (e.g. ministry, electorate).

Other Implications

Additional guidance from the Ministry to help CRD choose the projects with the best chance of success includes:

- The Ministry may not look favorably on multiple project submissions relating to a community or electoral area;
- The Ministry may take into consideration how much grant funding a community or electoral area has received in the past; communities and areas that have received more grants may be less likely to receive a grant under this program.

- The Ministry will be reluctant to select projects for which approvals and funding have yet to be confirmed; they want to focus on projects that are guaranteed to be completed by March 31, 2015.

### **CONCLUSION**

The CRD has the opportunity to submit up to three (3) applications to the Community Recreation Grant program. In total, four (4) qualified projects have been identified. While all projects meet the program criteria, additional guidance from the Ministry provides insight on which three projects have the greatest chance of success. It is advised that the CRD proceed with the projects in alternative 1:

- JDF – SEAPARC Multi-Use Sport Court
- SSI – Fernwood Playing Field Development Project
- Regional Parks - Mount Work Regional Park Mountain Bike Facilities Improvement

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Electoral Area Services Committee recommend to the Board:

That the CRD select three (3) projects that have the highest chance of being awarded a Community Recreation Grant:

- JDF – SEAPARC Multi-Use Sport Court
- SSI – Fernwood Playing Field Development Project
- Regional Parks - Mount Work Regional Park Mountain Bike Facilities Improvement

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